

Lebanon reels after multiple suicide attacks



The new V-Class Mercedes-Benz redefining MPV



Iceland heroes leave England in Euro turmoil



MEW: Electricity consumption hit a new record

Ramadan Timings

|          |       |
|----------|-------|
| Emsak:   | 03:06 |
| Fajer:   | 03:16 |
| Shrooq:  | 04:51 |
| Dohr:    | 11:51 |
| Asr:     | 15:25 |
| Maghreb: | 18:51 |
| Eshaa:   | 20:24 |

150 FILS  
NO: 16919  
40 PAGES

# ELECTION LAW CHANGES 'TARGET COUP PLOTTERS'

MPs HIT BACK AT CRITICS; CABINET ENDORSES AMENDMENTS



Min 33°  
Max 50°  
High Tide 06:23 & 18:46  
Low Tide 00:01 & 12:52

## THE BATTLE OF THE SOUL

Ramadan Kareem

By Hatem Basha

Fasting represents a unique form of worship that is found in all religions. The Quran says that fasting has been commanded to Muslims as it was commanded to all other faith communities prior to them "O you who believe, fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may guard against evil." (2:183).

It is not just a physical practice of endurance and self-restraint, but its real significance lies in the spiritual side. The human makeup of two different parts that are utterly disparate in nature and needs leaves most people in an inner conflict. We usually side ourselves with one at the expense of the other. Islam teaches us how to balance the needs of the body and the soul.

Fasting is an effective way to redress the balance and give the spirit a real opportunity to release itself from the fetters of the bodily desires, lusts and bad habits that draw us down to earth. Fasting is not restricted to refraining from eating and drinking, but also from every kind of selfish desire and wrong-doing. In essence, the fast encompasses not merely the body, but basically that of the spirit as well. The physical fast is a symbol and outward manifestation of the real, inner fast.

Muslims scholars assert that fasting has three levels; the fasting of appetites, the fasting of the senses, the fasting of the mind and the heart. Muslims are encouraged to ascend the ladder in a spiritual path to reach God. The highest level of the fast is the fast of the heart, which is the peak of spirituality.

Continued on Page 13



KUWAIT: Dhows sail off Kuwaiti beaches as Kuwait temperature soars above 50 degrees Celsius. —KUNA

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: A number of MPs who voted on controversial changes to the election law to deprive those insulting religion and the Amir from contesting polls, yesterday lashed back at critics of the law, with one lawmaker saying the amendments target those who plotted a coup detente against the regime. The new amendments bar those convicted in a final court ruling of insulting the Almighty Allah, the prophets and the Amir from contesting parliamentary polls.

This would amount to barring dozens of opposition leaders and activists, including former MPs, from running for office. Political groups and activists have criticized the change as a breach of the constitution and as an attempt to stifle democracy and freedom. To become effective, the new amendments must be endorsed by the government and signed by the Amir.

Al-Anbaa newspaper said yesterday that the Cabinet has endorsed the amendments in its meeting on Monday. MP Hamad Al-Harashani said in a statement that those opposing the new law means they support insulting the Almighty and the Amir. The lawmaker said that Islam, the constitution and the law explicitly call against violating the Sharia law or disobeying the leader of the nation.

He said that a 'deviant group' has exploited the so-called Arab Spring protests in several Arab countries and tried to agitate the people to take to the street in an attempt to carry out a coup detente. He said the wisdom of the Amir and others has foiled their plot. Harshani said that approving the law came to safeguard the security of the country and strike those who may plot to disrupt national security or instigate people against the regime by organizing demonstrations for the aim of scoring political gains.

Meanwhile, Islamist Salafi MP Abdulrahman Al-Jeeran blasted a statement by the Muslim Brotherhood-linked Islamic Constitutional Movement for criticizing the amendments, saying the change aim at stability in the country.

## JABER HOSPITAL 'EXCLUSIVE FOR KUWAITIS'

KUWAIT: The highly anticipated Jaber Hospital will be allocated for Kuwaiti citizens once it opens later this year, Health Minister Dr Ali Al-Obaidi confirmed. The top-notch facility will be run by an international administration "to guarantee a more ideal way to manage this international hospital," he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, the minister reiterated that a tender has been awarded to a company to build three hospitals accessed only by expatriates covered by medical insurance. He said that the hospitals will finish 'soon' without giving a date. Works to build the Jaber Hospital started in 2009 as Kuwait looked to expand its free-of-charge medical services provided to Kuwaiti citizens at its overcrowded public hospitals that are

accessed by both Kuwaiti and expatriate patients.

Jaber Hospital is considered the largest hospital in the Middle East with a total of 1,168 beds. The hospital also has three helipads, a parking lot with a 5,000 car capacity in addition to 50 ambulances. It also has a protective shelter. The hospital covers an area of 220 meters squared with a construction area reaching 725 meters squared. The minister said the hospital is considered an integrated health center.

It has five towers of patients rooms at a height of nine floors and each tower can be expanded in the future. He added that the hospital has eight entrances, 150 elevators, a catastrophe center which is considered the first of its

Continued on Page 13



Photo shows a model of Jaber Hospital

## YEMEN COUNTER-TERRORISM MISSION SHOWS UAE AMBITION

ABU DHABI: The United Arab Emirates, one of Washington's closest allies in the Middle East, is deploying its military against Al-Qaeda in Yemen, and in the process providing what some see as a badly-needed new template for counter-terrorism in Arab lands. UAE Special Forces are orchestrating the hunt for Al-Qaeda in remote deserts and mountains, adding the capability of Arab troops seasoned in war zones like Afghanistan and Somalia to a campaign long the preserve of the US and Yemeni militaries.

Suicide attacks killing 38 in Mukalla on Monday show the challenge. While the UAE helped to eject Al-Qaeda from

the southern coastal city in April, militant threats persist - the latest attack was claimed by Islamic State, in Yemen a lesser force than Al-Qaeda. The Emiratis deployed initially against a different foe - Yemen's Houthi group, joining a Saudi-led campaign last year to try to reverse a bid for national power by a group seen by many Gulf Arabs as a proxy for regional arch-rival Iran.

The war weakened the Houthis, but in the resulting turmoil Al-Qaeda swept across the eastern side of the country, seizing more land than it had ever held and raising tens of millions of dollars

Continued on Page 13



SANAA: Yemenis sell goods and offer to wash car windscreens on the street in the capital Sanaa. Yemen is regarded as one of the poorest country in Arabian Peninsula. — AFP

## News

in brief

### Kuwait's banks to be closed July 5-9 for Eid

KUWAIT: All local banks will be closed starting Tuesday July 5th to Saturday July 9th for the Eid Al-Fitr holiday, Kuwait Banking Association (KBA) announced yesterday. According to a notice by the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK), all banks will resume their normal operations on Sunday July 10th, KBA Secretary General Hamad Al-Hassawi said in a press statement. The Civil Service Commission (CSC) had announced that the Eid Al-Fitr holiday starts on July 5th and ends on July 9th, irrespective of whether Ramadan totals out to be 29 or 30 days.

### Bahrain's oppn defense lawyers quit in protest

DUBAI: Defense lawyers for Bahrain's main Shiite opposition bloc Al-Wefaq withdrew yesterday from court proceedings to dissolve it in protest at the government's push to accelerate the process. The Administrative Court had already suspended all of Al-Wefaq's activities on June 14, ordering its offices closed and assets frozen in a move that drew concern from the United Nations and the United States. The bloc was the largest in parliament before its lawmakers resigned in protest at the crushing of 2011 protests calling for an elected government. "The defense team is finding it impossible to carry out its duty legally and professionally in light of the very short period" given to prepare, the three lawyers said in a joint statement. They said the authorities had also refused to allow them access to documents at the bloc's headquarters.

### Egypt deports Lebanese political talk show host

CAIRO: Egypt on Monday arrested and deported popular talk show host Liliane Daoud, security and airport sources said, hours after the Lebanese journalist announced the cancellation of her TV program. Daoud's deportation comes amid a growing crackdown on media that has seen scores of journalists tried in court and jailed. Her show, on the privately owned OnTV network, disappeared from airwaves after the channel was sold by billionaire Egyptian investor Naguib Sawiris in May. "This is a campaign against respectable media and free journalism ... all we were doing was presenting a respectable show ... so we don't know what we are being punished for," said Amer Tamam, the program's Editor-in-Chief.

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**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Vice President of the Khair Al Kuwait Charity Foundation Sheikhha Mariam Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah and a number of its members and a group of orphan children. — Amiri Diwan and KUNA photos



**His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with members of the executive authority of the National Union of Kuwaiti Students.**

## AMIR RECEIVES CHARITY FOUNDATION OFFICIAL

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Seif Palace yesterday Vice President of the Khair Al Kuwait Charity Foundation Sheikhha Mariam Mohammed Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah and a number of its members and a group of orphan children. His Highness the Amir stressed keenness of the state to provide all the care and attention to orphans to ensure a better future for them, wishing them success and all the best. Deputy Minister of Amiri Diwan Affairs Sheikh Ali Jarrah Al-Sabah attended the meeting. Meanwhile, His Highness the Amir and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah have separately received the outgoing Armenian Ambassador Fadey Charchoghlyan. Also, His Highness the Amir received His Highness Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

In other news, His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah received at Seif Palace yesterday members of the executive authority of the National Union of Kuwaiti Students (NUKS), who congratulated His Highness on the holy month of Ramadan.

The meeting was attended by undersecretary for local affairs at the Diwan of His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. His Highness also received Assistant Undersecretary for Mosques Affairs at the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Waleed Al-Shuaib and chairman of Hawalli Governorate mosques Khaled Al-Hais. — KUNA



**His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with the outgoing Armenian Ambassador Fadey Charchoghlyan.**



**His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets with Assistant Undersecretary for Mosques Affairs at the Awqaf ministry Waleed Al-Shuaib and chairman of Hawalli Governorate mosques Khaled Al-Hais.**

## AMIR DRAWS UP ROAD MAP FOR PARLIAMENT: SPEAKER

By A Saleh and KUNA

**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah has drawn up a "road map for the National Assembly and set guidelines for the people of Kuwait," National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem said yesterday.

His Highness the Amir has called for adhering to the national unity and taking lessons from the raging regional events, said the parliament speaker, reacting to the Amir's address to the people of Kuwait on Monday, marking the blessed last ten days of the holy month of Ramadan. The parliament speaker affirmed that the legislators would abide by the national approach, boosted with the Amir's stances.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad's recent re-inauguration of Al-Sadeq Mosque and his recall of the martyrs who had fallen in the crime that had been perpetrated at the mosque reflected His Highness' sensing of his sons' pain, he said, also noting the humanitarian aspect of Sheikh Sabah's personality. He pledged to implement the guidelines declared by His Highness and turn them into legislations and laws for sake of security,



**National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem**



**MP Ahmad Al-Azmi**



**MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi**

stability and prosperity for the Kuwaiti people.

The parliament speaker lauded His Highness' keenness on adopting the youth causes, noting that the parliamentarians have abided by this approach through enacting laws that serve this segment of the society. He underscored Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad's admiration of the Kuwaiti media and his call on the organizations and outlets to play a constructive role at the national level.

Moreover, Ghanem praised

Sheikh Sabah's recollection of the late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad and the Father Amir Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah. He expressed gratitude for the support given to the assembly by Their Highnesses the Amir and the Crown Prince, congratulating both on advent of the last ten days of Ramadan.

### Wise instructions

Meanwhile, MP Ahmad Mutee Al-Azmi highly appreciated His Highness the Amir's speech and described it as one from a father to

his children that included valuable advice and wise instructions. Azmi added that by commemorating the Al-Sadeq Mosque victims, the Amir urged the Kuwaiti people to consolidate and show more solidarity in view of the difficult regional circumstances. Commenting on the same speech, National Assembly observer MP Abdullah Al-Tamimi praised the Amir's wisdom and described the speech as a "minaret for the future." "The speech included both reminders and warnings," he underlined.



**KUWAIT:** His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah chairs the cabinet's meeting Monday. — KUNA

## CABINET HOLDS WEEKLY MEETING

**KUWAIT:** The cabinet held its weekly meeting at Seif Palace on Monday, headed by His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. Following the meeting, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah said the cabinet was briefed with the letter sent by Yemeni President Abd Rabbuh Mansur Hadi to His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, where he expressed appreciation for the Kuwaiti role and efforts exerted to bring peace to Yemen.

The cabinet was also briefed with a letter sent by Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi to His Highness the Amir that highlighted bilateral relations and ways to develop them. Later, First Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah briefed the cabinet with the outcome of his talks with Arab League Secretary General Nabil Al-Araby, during his recent visit to the country, which highlighted development in the Arab world. Afterwards, Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled briefed the cabinet with

the visit by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon to the country. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled highlighted the outcome of his meeting with the UN chief and efforts in bringing agreement to the Yemeni talks hosted by Kuwait, as well as efforts on the latest development in Syria and the global fight against terrorism to achieve world security and stability.

### Brexit effect

Later, the cabinet was briefed by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Acting Oil Minister Anas Al-Saleh on the repercussions of United Kingdom withdrawal from the European Union, affirming the solid nature of Kuwaiti investments in Britain, especially in real estate, infrastructure and government bonds, but noted the affects could reach in the near future the currency rates of the Euro and interests rate prices. Saleh also said that Kuwait Central Bank is following up closely all developments and repercussions in Europe.

The cabinet was then briefed by Minister of Information and Minister of State for Youth Affairs Sheikh Salman Sabah Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah

with a study about sustaining national identity; put by the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters. The study included identifying major challenges facing identity and national belonging in the State of Kuwait, as well as providing vision to instill such virtue in youth.

The study also touched upon impact of social media in buttressing national identity among Kuwaiti youth in order to limit its negative consequences, in addition to programs and projects that could contribute in materializing it. The cabinet then reviewed National Assembly affairs and issues listed on its agenda. In the political realm, the cabinet condemned the terrorist attack that took place in the Jordanian al-Rakban refugee camp near borders with Syria last Tuesday, which resulted in the killing and injury of many members of the armed forces. The cabinet reiterated the State of Kuwait's stance of denouncing such terrorist acts that go against teachings of all faiths; extending at the same time condolences to King Abdullah II of Jordan on the casualties and wishing speedy recovery for the injured. — KUNA

## FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS BOMBINGS IN LEBANON

**KUWAIT:** The Foreign Ministry yesterday expressed strong condemnation of the terrorist blasts that occurred close to the Lebanese custom checkpoint in the border town of Al-Qaa, leaving a number of people dead or wounded. A ministry official source expressed the State of Kuwait siding alongside Lebanon in facing such terrorist operations and sup-

port for all measures authorities will take to deal with the situation. He re-affirmed Kuwait's unwavering stand against terrorism and support for the international community's efforts against it. The official source expressed deep sorrow to families of the victims, the government and the people of Lebanon and wished the injured quick recovery. — KUNA

## CHARITY OFFERS EID AID TO SYRIAN REFUGEES IN JORDAN

**AMMAN:** Kuwait-based Al-Najat Charity yesterday started offering relief aid to Syrian refugees in Jordan for the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan and Eid El-Fitr. The delegation distributing the aid is led by head of the Kaifan Zakat Committee at Al-Najat Oud Al-Khamis, chief of the relief aid projects at the society Eng. Thamer Al-Suhib and head of the Sham Zakat committee Sami Bunashi.

The campaign, being carried out in cooperation with the Jordanian Mohsnin (benefactors) Charity, includes 640 food packages to be given to Syrian refugees in different parts of the Amman, Suhib said. Cash aid will be presented to some 516 orphans, and Eid clothes will be provided

for 1,165 ones, he added. Moreover, 8,000 Ramadan iftar meals will be offered, and aid will be extended to patients, he added.

Meanwhile, Khamis, pointed to the significance of the relief aid offered by the Kuwaiti society to the Syrian refugees in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon, as well as inside Syria, to alleviate their sufferings and help them survive the hard conditions they have been facing since the eruption of the crisis. According to Khamis, Al-Najat is sponsoring up to 1,200 orphans in Jordan. During the meeting, the delegation will meet with refugees suffering chronic diseases, as Al-Najat is supporting 200 of them, who cannot afford treatment. — KUNA





## JAHRA MAN ARRESTED WITH UNLICENSED WEAPONS, AMMO

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** As part of their efforts to collect all unlicensed weapons and ammunition, weapons detectives arrested a Kuwaiti citizen with unlicensed weapons and ammunition in the Naseem district in Jahra. Case papers indicate that weapon detectives had been tipped off concerning a 25-year-old citizen who possessed some weapons.

On raiding his house, the suspect confessed and said that he had been hiding some weapons at his ranch in Salmi. On searching the ranch, detectives found a Kalashnikov, five magazines, a large amount of ammunition, a shotgun and a carton of cartridges. Detective also found three bottles of imported liquor and 110 illicit pills. A case was filed and the suspect was referred to relevant authorities.

# NEW ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION RECORD AT 12,900 MEGAWATTS

## MINISTRY REDUCES FUEL BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

By Meshal Al-Enezi and A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** Electricity consumption hit a new record for daily use by reaching 12,900 megawatts yesterday, The Ministry of Electricity and Water (MEW) announced. It is the first time in Kuwait's history that electricity loads reached such levels, a statement issued by the ministry said. The previous highest consumption rate was 12,810 megawatts recorded last summer, the ministry added. MEW also expected consumption rates to continue rising over the coming few days due to the rise in temperature, which recorded a maximum of 49 C degrees yesterday, and the resulting rise in electricity demand. Accordingly, the ministry urged all consumers to rationalize consumption and to switch off all unnecessary appliances, especially during peak consumption hours. The ministry had raised the daily production capacity to 13,000 megawatts before the beginning of summer, while an additional 2,000 megawatts can be added through emergency generators.



**Budget cut**  
Meanwhile, MEW has reduced the budget allocated for fuel, oils and power at power and water distillation plants by KD 515 million in its new budget, said informed sources, noting that the budget would be KD 1.035 billion compared to last year's budget of KD 1.550 billion. The sources linked the reduction to the new rationalization plans by hiring some private companies and setting new conditions for public tenders.

Separately, MEW announced filling three top positions in the technical services and main work-

shops sector after applicants passed written tests and interviews. Assistant undersecretary for technical services and main workshops sector affairs Mohammed Al-Sharhan said the top three scorers out of 45 applicants were selected to head the operations and maintenance sections in Mubarak Al-Kabeer, Ahmadi and Farwaniya.

**Labor demands**

In other news, Head of MEW employees'

syndicate Abdullah Al-Hujailan said the syndicate's board of directors met Undersecretary Mohammed Boshehri and discussed a number of employee demands. "The syndicate's board highly appreciates the efforts exerted by employees in various ministry sectors," Hujailan added, noting that all MEW sectors are currently fully alert to face any overload on the electricity grid during the summer.

## FIREWORKS CONFISCATED AT BIRDS MARKET IN RAI

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Municipality Director Ahmed Al-Manfouhi stressed that he had instructed the Capital municipality emergency teams to confiscate all dangerous fireworks on sale at the birds market in Rai. Manfouhi added that many complaints had been made about the sale of hazardous fireworks and stressed that all vendors and owners would be held accountable and that inspection teams would tour and inspect the market.

industrial land plots totaled KD 10 million, including KD 6.18 million in debts by governmental bodies, with whom coordination was in progress to collect the debts. Ajmi stressed PAI's keenness on protecting public funds and setting a special mechanism to collect fees from users of industrial land plots.

**Patients in Germany**

Kuwait's health office in Germany announced that all Munich public hospitals agreed to resume receiving Kuwaiti patients based on the financial guarantee of the health office. The office explained that previous delays in payment were the result of collective billing instead of sending each individual patient's bills separately.

**Overdue debts**

The Public Authority for Industry's (PAI) acting chairman Mohammed Al-Ajmi said that overdue debts of beneficiaries of



# INTERIOR MINISTER CHECKS AIRPORT SECURITY MEASURES

**KUWAIT:** Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Khaled Al-Sabah visited Kuwait International Airport Monday evening to check readiness levels in light of the current security developments and the advent of the summer holidays' season.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled was received upon arrival at the airport by the ministry's

Undersecretary Lieutenant General Suleiman Al-Fahad, Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative and Financial Affairs Major General Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Khalifa Al-Sabah, the head of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation Fawwaz Al-Farah, Chairperson of Kuwait Airways Rash Al-Roumi and other top airport officials.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled's tour included checking the luggage weight process, as well as stopping buy Kuwait Airways and other airline lounges. He also checked security measures, on which he commented by saying that hiring specialized security companies for searching does not undermine the efforts exerted by official security authorities.



## THIRD KUWAITI STUDENT DIES IN LA ROAD ACCIDENT

**WASHINGTON:** Kuwait General Consulate in Los Angeles said a third Kuwaiti student, identified as Abdul-Rahman Hamed Ali, succumbed to the fatal injuries he sustained in a road accident in Woodland Hills neighborhood, Los Angeles, California state.

The tragic accident, which occurred on Saturday night, has also claimed the lives of Abdul-Wahab Hamed Al-Ali and Mubarak Al-Qashout Al-Otaibi, according to a press release by the Consulate late Monday. The Consulate added that it informed the families of the victims of the details of the accident and the procedures relating to sending the bodies of the three victims back home.

Kuwait Ambassador to United States

Sheikh Salem Abdullah Al-Jaber Al-Sabah had earlier asserted the keenness of Kuwaiti diplomatic missions in following up investigation on the road accident in the Woodland Hills neighborhood of Los Angeles. In a statement on behalf of the embassy in Washington, General Consulate in Los Angeles and Kuwait Health Office, Ambassador Salem Al-Sabah said they are monitoring closely development of the tragic accident.

The ambassador also affirmed that all Kuwaiti diplomatic missions in the US will work closely with the US correspondents to complete official procedures and return the deceased's bodies back home. Sheikh Salem also conveyed his deep condolences to the victims' families. — KUNA

## FLIGHTS FROM KUWAIT TO FOUR TURKISH CITIES START SOON

**ISTANBUL:** Turkish Airlines will soon be launching flights from Kuwait to the Turkish provinces of Trabzon, Izmir, Bursa and Antalya, four of the country's most popular tourist destinations. The decision to launch the flights from Kuwait these provinces is part of the company's efforts to develop its itineraries and increase its

presence in the region, a statement by Turkish Airlines noted. Moreover, the first flight from Kuwait to Trabzon will take place on Monday while flights to Izmir and Bursa will start on June 30 and July 1, respectively. In addition, flights from Kuwait to Antalya are slated to begin on July 3. — KUNA

## COMMERCE MINISTRY LAUNCHES ONLINE FIRM FOUNDING SERVICE

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Commerce and Industry has commenced an online service for founding one-person companies and issuing trade licenses through its single-window website, a senior official said yesterday.

The service would undoubtedly contribute to serving the society in general and young owners of small and medium-sized enterprises in particular, and reducing time-consuming procedures, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Khaled Al-Shamali told a press conference at the Central Agency for Information Technology.

Relative applications could be submitted to the ministry through the following website: www.kbc.gov.kw, he added. He expected an imminent ministerial decree suspending the procedures of founding single-person and limited liability companies at the ministry's headquarters and using the single-window department instead.

The official highly commended the online corporate founding service as a "very ambitious project and quantum leap", noting that more similar services would be

provided in the near future.

The single-window service is headquartered at Ashbilia area and more offices will be opened gradually in all other governorates, Shamali added. The new system would surely serve young people who own small and medium-sized enterprises by means of cutting the license-issuance procedure period, he pointed out.

Meanwhile, Acting Director-General of the Central Agency for Information Technology Qusai Al-Shatti stressed the significance of the new service which would surely serve a large number of dealers, including businesses and individuals. He added that this service would directly contribute to boosting the competitive edge in the country, making it certain that his agency has taken steps to link this service to the country's official portal.

He noted that the fresh service is the fruit of one-year work and sincere efforts as well as directives from Minister of Commerce and Industry Yousef Al-Ali and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Chairman of the Agency Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah. — KUNA





## OOREDOO EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT PARTICIPATES IN IFTAR DISTRIBUTION

IN COOPERATION WITH MEMBERS OF OOREDOO VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

**KUWAIT:** A team of Ooredoo Kuwait's executive management participated in distributing meals in the company's iftar tent, located across on Soor Street across its head office. The management team was led by the company's General Manager and CEO Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani.

Attending this event stems from the management's deep-rooted belief in participating in all events across the organization, especially the ones related to its social responsibility program which is built on caring, con-

necting and challenging. Commenting on this visit, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani said: "We're very happy to be interacting with different segments of society in our various year-round activities, especially the underserved communities in our iftar tent, which is one of our key initiatives every year."

Earlier this month, Ooredoo announced that it will be distributing 17,000 iftar meals during the Holy Month of Ramadan through a distribution center outside its head office and

in its iftar tent, which Ooredoo is running for the second consecutive year. The tent is located opposite Ooredoo's head office on Soor Street in Kuwait City. The meal distribution drive is fully operated by Ooredoo's volunteer program members, after the great success of the program last year. In addition to the iftar distribution drive, Ooredoo is conducting several charitable events, such as visits to nursing homes, orphanages and patients at different hospitals across Kuwait to celebrate girgian.



## OOREDOO EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT JOIN 121 AGENTS FOR IFTAR

**KUWAIT:** A team of Ooredoo Kuwait's executive management joined the company's call center 121 for iftar recently. The management team was led by the company's General Manager and CEO Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Thani.

The visit comes as part of the company's ongoing efforts to support its employees and express gratitude to their dedication, especially during the holy month of Ramadan. Commenting on this, Senior Director of Customer Care Wael Al-Sultan said: "Our support to our front-liners comes from our belief in their efforts and the tremendous effort they put into their day-to-day tasks,

working around the clock to support our customers. Joining them for iftar at their offices is our way of expressing our gratitude to them, and we are certain it will boost their morale and reflect positively on them."

Ooredoo's call center and customer care department have recently collected a haul of trophies for excellence in customer centricity and employee engagement from The Global Association for Contact Center and Customer Engagement Best Practices at its annual Contact Center World Awards held in London last week. These included individual awards for leadership as well as trophies for implementing best-practice and operational excellence.



# Ramadan Quiz

2016

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## 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.

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**Kuwait Times Ramadan Quiz Answer & Win**

24. The distance between Makkah and Madinah is...

**420 kilometers**

YES  NO

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Civil ID.: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## ZAWARAH CELEBRATES GIRGIAN



— Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

**KUWAIT:** Zawarah restaurant at the Avenues Mall held its annual girgian ceremony for children and their families recently, in continuation of its social message and contribution to protect Kuwait's heritage. The guests were welcomed by General Manager Mohammad Tal'at, who was keen on attending the event himself. Participants included a number of social media

celebrities, their children, journalists and several media personalities who all enjoyed recreational activities and interactive competitions for both children and adults.

The ceremony also included special traditional music (bagpipes), Henna tattoos, a magician show, traditional costumes and girgian gifts distributed to all children.



### Photo

of the day



A scene from the Shuwaikh seaport of Kuwait, which was called in the past 'Al-Furda.' The image dates back to the 1950s, and shows many aspects of commercial activities including daily import and export of goods such as sugar, tea, coffee, timber and others. — Photo prepared by Mahmoud Zakaria Abu Alella, Researcher in Heritage, the Ministry of Information. (Source: A total of commemorative printed images to the Ministry of Information in the sixties and seventies)

### Young Voices

## 'MY MOTHER STAYS WITH ME LONGER IN RAMADAN'

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.



Leedia Ken is a 5-year-old girl studying at Indian Community School.

**Kuwait Times: Do you know what Ramadan is?**

**Leedia:** No, I do not. But what I know is that my mother stays with me longer in Ramadan.

**KT: What is your favorite toy?**

**Leedia:** I like Barbie a lot. I have many of them and my parents see to it that I have them with me, because when anything happens to my Barbie, I cry.

**KT: What is your favorite place in Kuwait?**

**Leedia:** I like the zoo a lot. I love to see giraffes, elephants, monkeys and birds. I also like to be with my parents playing and on an outing. I also like the Marina seaside. I like to play with other kids there.

**KT: Do you have any pets?**

**Leedia:** I would love to have a dog and a duck, but it's not allowed in my building.

**KT: What activities you do outside school?**

**Leedia:** Playing games and singing. I like to sing in the church.

**KT: What do you like in Ramadan?**

**Leedia:** It is like Christmas - I get candies, so I love it!

Al-Anbaa

## A DANCER IN PARLIAMENT

By Saleh Al-Shayegi

A belly dancer ran for the recent Egyptian parliamentary elections and this angered some people who roared with objections and criticism that poured on her from everybody and everywhere. She was looked down upon, offended and insulted because she chose a constituency known to contain religious monuments and dominated by historic atmospheres. She was also criticized on grounds that as a belly dancer, she cannot represent Egyptian women. Those objecting to her nomination did not also forget to consider her nomination as a conspiracy.

Naturally enough, the worst and most corrupt men, be them thieves, corrupt or men without any traces of conscience, would never be criticized if they run for the same elections simply because they are not belly dancers. But what is wrong with a belly dancer?! For them, a belly dancer reveals her flesh and uncovers great parts of her body before others, who are lustily watching her.

They never question whether she received any bribes, violated or stole public funds, corrupted others and made broken promises and oaths just the way many non-dancers do! The only fault of this poor

### Democracy was made to improve the conditions of those worse off

nominee was that she was a belly dancer. Running for parliamentary elections is a democratic practice and democracy was not made for and limited to the elite. It is the other way round. It is not restricted to better off people. Democracy was made to improve the conditions of those worse off.

Unfortunately, as Arabs, we always demand custom-tailored things that fit our retarded ideologies. We demand and call for democracy, and once it is achieved, we turn into dictators, excluding everybody else and make conditions about who has the right to enjoy democracy and who does not. I do not know what she is capable of doing in case she wins. But I am writing about a human being's right to practice his/her rights under the umbrella of the law and the constitution. That woman met all the conditions for nomination and the elections department approved her. So, she has every right to run for the elections and the final word then would be for voters themselves!

— Translated by Kuwait Times



Al-Qabas

## THE TRAFFIC PROBLEM

By Dr Salah Al-Ateeqi

A chronic problem that the old and the new could not solve. And to be fair, many countries suffer from the same problem - I noticed this in Riyadh, Dubai and even in London, but the difference is that they work on solving them, and we do not see a similar move here. The traffic capacity of the streets has not increased for 30 years, public transport has not developed, car prices are affordable by all and driving licenses are sold and bought, while the society has not accommodated alternatives such using bicycles and various public transport means.

I read a proposal by a foreign writer, and I think it is beneficial to try it. It has been said that it was applied in Athens, which is the restriction of traffic flows, ie have a day for cars with odd-numbered plates and a day for even-numbered ones. People were angry at the start, then they got used to the system and agreed to commute with their neighbors to go to work, while the

youth who were driving around all day long got used to these restrictions, as well as some women whose hobby is shopping.

Traffic jams reduced by 40 percent, and so did environment pollution, and there was fuel saving too, as well as savings in the family budget because of not shopping daily in co-ops and malls. The decision exempted ambulances, public transport and taxis from the rules, so can we attempt to try it?

I am sure that after two or three years, if this problem is not solved, streets will freeze with cars and we will not be able to move, except in extreme difficulty, and walking will become faster than riding in a car. Finally, we need creativity in finding solutions to our daily problems, and whoever has a proposal to elevate this suffering should come forward, and we will thank him very much.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

### People were angry at the start, then they got used to the system

## Crime

Report

### Youngster stabbed, left to die in extreme heat

**KUWAIT:** Mubarak Al-Kabeer detectives are waiting for the condition of a Kuwaiti youth to improve after he was stabbed and left to die under temperatures that exceeded 50 degree C. A security source said the young man was rushed to Adan Hospital and admitted to the ICU, adding he knows the suspects, but cannot speak. The young man arrived at the hospital stabbed in the head. A pickup driver saw him and took him to hospital.

### Forgery suspects released

The criminal court released two Syrian brothers, one a student and another an employee at an oil company, on KD 300 bail each, in a case of forging Kuwaiti nationality. Residency detectives had earlier learned that two citizens registered a Syrian on the file of the first as his son, then the Syrian left the country after becoming a Kuwaiti, while his two brothers were registered in the file of the first citizen.

### Thieves sentenced

The criminal court sentenced an Egyptian gang of four to 10 years in jail after convicting them of stealing education ministry power cables in Ahmadi governorate at gunpoint. The public prosecution accused the gang of the thefts and firing in a residential area. The first, second and third suspects were sentenced to 10 years, while the fourth was sentenced to one year. All will be deported after serving their sentences.

### Indecent acts

A bedoon man led Ahmadi police to a cabin in a cafe where indecent acts were committed. A security source said the bedoon gave information that an expat woman asked him for KD 50 to enter a cabin where he could have sex. An Omani woman was found in the cabin. Meanwhile, an Egyptian woman was found wanted on three debt cases, and her residency permit had expired last year.

### Brothel busted

A security campaign in Jleeb Al-Shuyoukh resulted in arresting five women and five men, including an Arab expat. Farwaniya Security Director Brig Saleh Al-Enezi received tips about a house used as a brothel, so information was gathered. He led the raid where five women, all absconding, were found, along with the five men, two of whom were found wanted.

### Fight

Two citizens who were drinking got into an argument as they recalled old disputes, and things escalated to a fight that continued outside the flat. Neighbors called police, who rushed to the building and arrested the two.

### Blackmail

A female citizen who was blackmailed by a man she knows lodged a complaint at Mubarak Al-Kabeer police station. The woman went to the police after being fed up with the citizen who threatened her with personal images to extort money, and after paying him several times, he wanted more and did not keep his promise to leave her alone. Police are investigating. — Al-Anbaa

## DASMAN DIABETES INSTITUTE RECEIVES INTERNATIONAL QUALITY SUMMIT AWARD

**NEW YORK:** Dr Qais Saleh Al Duwairi, Director-General of Dasman Diabetes Institute, recently attended the International Quality Summit, organized by Business Initiative Directions (BID) One Group, on May 30, 2016 in New York, to receive DDI's International Quality Summit in the Platinum Category Award. Dasman Diabetes Institute (DDI) was recognized for its commitment to quality, leadership,

DDI is focused on its holistic approach of integrating all the different aspects of promoting health awareness, offering educational programs, and providing training opportunities for both healthcare professionals and the public in general. DDI is keen on spreading awareness throughout the country in order to decrease the prevalence of diabetes in Kuwait. Ensuring the health status of the people is an important task

their primary goals to continue furthering the education of healthcare professionals. This is promoted in order to ensure the availability of qualified specialists, and to guarantee that the patients in Kuwait are receiving the high quality care they deserve. This is why the Institute invests much of its time and effort in creating partnerships with several reputable institutions, both, locally and internationally, forming networks and collaborations in order to keep developing as a nation.

Dasman Diabetes Institute has always taken great pride in its commitment towards providing the utmost quality care, and has been awarded by prestigious entities for its excellence. In 2014, the Institute received official accreditation and recognition as a Referencing Collaborating Center. This was declared by the Executive Board of the Health Ministers' Council for Cooperation Council States. DDI is now recognized as a Center of Excellence and Reference for diabetes mellitus in the GCC countries. In early 2016, DDI was accredited with Platinum Level with its second award from Accreditation Canada International (ACI). And most recently, the International Quality Summit presented DDI with the International Quality Summit in the Platinum Category Award. As a result, the Institute continues to be recognized for all of its hard work, dedication, and sincere commitment to its people and country for its excellence and perseverance in the healthcare sector.



technology, and innovation in the pursuit of excellence. This merit is internationally acknowledged through the 2016 International Quality Summit Award, and was awarded to DDI by the President of BID, José E Prieto. Receiving this award demonstrated the Institute's keen interest on maintaining its focus on total quality management for continuous improvement, in order to preserve its leadership skills in the healthcare sector.

DDI tackles. The Institute aims to nurture its future generations by educating and leading them towards a healthier lifestyle. This stems from the Institute's mission: "To prevent, control and mitigate the impact of diabetes and related conditions in Kuwait through effective programs of research, training, education, and health promotion and thereby improve quality of life in the population."

The Institute also makes it one of



## KFH VISITS PALLIATIVE CARE CENTER

**Kuwait:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) has organized a visit to Palliative Care Center as part of its social responsibility and its effective role to stimulate all society components to enhance contributions for the objective of comforting the patients and alleviating their pain. The visit was also part of the bank's eventful Ramadan program.

The visit was accompanied by several activities and events for the patients. It witnessed the distribution of girgian, competitions, and some other activities that aim at bringing hope to the patients and granting them the feeling that they are part and parcel of the society. At the conclusion of the visit, KFH was honored in recognition of its commitment towards optimally assuming the social responsibility, while participating in all activities of interest to the society.



**KUWAIT:** Kuwait National Guard (KNG) recently celebrated the graduation of students nominated for the Lieutenant rank. The ceremony took place under the patronage of KNG Vice Commander Sheikh Meshaal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and was attended by KNG Secretary Lieutenant General Hashem Al-Refai'e.





**Cameron faces EU music after shock Brexit vote**

**ISRAEL CAUSES SUMMER WATER SHORTAGES FOR PALESTINIANS**



**QAA, Lebanon: Lebanese Christian women hold weapons as residents of this Christian village near Lebanon's border with war-ravaged Syria secure the area yesterday after two waves of suicide bombings struck the village, killing and wounding several people. —AFP**

**LEBANON FEARING MORE ATTACKS**

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS ATTACKERS CAME FROM SYRIA, NOT CAMPS

**BEIRUT/QAA, Lebanon:** The Lebanese government warned yesterday of a heightened terrorist threat after eight suicide bombers targeted a Christian village at the border with Syria, the latest spillover of its conflict into Lebanon. The village of Qaa was targeted on Monday in two waves of suicide attacks that killed five people. The first group of bombers attacked before dawn and the second later at night, two of them blowing themselves up near a church.

Security officials believe Islamic State militants were behind the attack. There has been no claim of responsibility. In reference to the number of attackers, the Lebanese government said the attack and the "unfamiliar way" it was carried out represented a new phase of "confrontation between the Lebanese state and evil terrorism". Prime Minister Tammam Salam "expressed his fear that what happened in Qaa is the start of a new wave of terrorist operations in different areas of Lebanon," Information Minister Ramzi Jreij said in televised comments after a cabinet meeting.

Sunni Islamist militants have repeatedly struck in Lebanon since the eruption of the war in neighboring Syria, where the powerful Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah is fighting in support of President Bashar Al-Assad. Interior Minister Nohad Machnouk, speaking from Qaa, said most of the attackers had come from inside Syria, and not refugee camps hosting Syrian refugees who number more than 1 million in Lebanon according to the UN refugee agency UNHCR.

Local authorities imposed curfews on Syrian refugees in the area following the attacks. The Lebanese army said it had mounted dawn raids on Syrian refugee camps, detaining 103 people for being illegally present in the country. The majority of Syrian refugees have no legal status in Lebanon due to the complications and costs of obtaining or renewing residency rights under rules imposed by the Lebanese government, aid agencies say.

In Qaa, residents armed with assault rifles fanned out in the streets for several hours yesterday, citing the need to protect the area. They later dispersed when the army asked them to go home. The head of the Qaa local council had on Monday night urged residents to shoot anyone suspicious. Security sources said Hezbollah deployed dozens of armed men in nearby villages to help secure the area. "We are not leaving for sure, we are staying here ... we are not afraid. We are not leaving our land," Maher Rizk, a cafe owner, said.

Qaa lies on a main road linking the Syrian town of Al-Qusayr to Lebanon's eastern Bekaa valley. Its 3,000 residents are predominantly Christian, but the Masharia Al-Qaa district is home to Sunni Muslims and some 30,000 Syrian refugees live in a makeshift camp on the edge of the village. "The army has deployed a large force to Masharia Al-Qaa and is carrying out widespread searches in the displacement camps, looking for weapons or wanted people," the state National News Agency reported.

**Show of Force**

"The whole village is mobilizing. Everyone - men and women - are sitting in front of their homes to protect them after the terror that we lived yesterday," said local official Mansur Saad. One man with silver-grey hair and clad in a black vest poured himself a small cup of coffee, his assault rifle lying in his lap. Several women strolled through the street and posed in front of cameras, smiling and gingerly carrying weapons. "We haven't been scared or terrified like that in our whole lives," said resident Yola Saad. "All the guys from the village came out with their guns to protect their neighborhoods," she added.

Salam urged residents not to take up arms and to leave the military work to the security forces. In Baalbek, an eastern city known for its ancient ruins, soldiers "carried out raids in the refugee camp... and arrested 103 Syrians who were on Lebanese territory illegally," an army statement said. Lebanon is host to more than one million Syrian refugees, roughly a quarter of the small Mediterranean country's population.

Hezbollah has set up informal checkpoints along the road to Baalbek area "to search cars," a Hezbollah official told AFP. Suicide blasts in the area have typically targeted checkpoints or military installations and rarely included more than one attacker. In Aug 2014, the army clashed with the IS and Al-Nusra Front, Al-Qaeda's affiliate in Syria, in the border town of Arsal. —AFP

**FRANCE CHARGES ASSAD UNCLE WITH CORRUPTION**

**PARIS:** Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad's uncle, suspected of using ill-gotten gains to build a real estate empire in France, has been charged with corruption, a judicial source said yesterday. Rifaat al-Assad, 78, who commanded Syria's notorious internal security forces in the 1970s and early 1980s, was charged on June 9 with receiving embezzled funds and tax fraud, the source told AFP.

In the probe, headed by prominent political graft buster Renaud van Ruymbeke, investigators estimated that Rifaat and his family amassed 90 million euros (\$100 million) worth of real estate in France, mainly through companies registered in Luxembourg, between 1984 and 1988. The properties include a chateau and stud farm north of Paris, two mansions, two apartment blocks and a plot of land in the French capital as well as offices in southern Lyon.

Rifaat, who has four wives, told investigators he "had nothing" when he left Syria, having always given his wages away to the poor, according to a source close to the investigation. His lawyers declined to comment when contacted by AFP. Rifaat has been ordered to remain in France except for travel to Britain for medical treatment, according to Sherpa, an activist group that represents victims of financial crime and lodged complaints against him in 2013 and 2014.

Rifaat headed Syria's notorious internal security forces at the time of the 1982 Hama massacre, which crushed a

Muslim Brotherhood-led uprising, and killed between 10,000 and 25,000 civilians, according to Amnesty International. He denies responsibility for the massacre. He was forced into exile in 1984 for trying to overthrow his older brother, the late Syrian dictator Hafez Al-Assad. Then French president Francois Mitterrand invited Rifaat to France, awarding him the Legion d'Honneur two years later.

French investigators have told AFP that Rifaat has since divided his time between homes in Paris, London and the southern Spanish resort city of Marbella. Sherpa claims Rifaat's fortune was stolen during his time at the heart of the Syrian regime. Syrian foreign minister Abdel Halim Khaddam, who also resides in France, told investigators that Hafez Al-Assad gave his brother some \$300 million in 1984 to get rid of him. Of that, \$100 million was in the form of a loan from the Libyan government, a source close to the probe told AFP.

**Saudi Interest Questioned**

The Assad family claims the fortune was the result of gifts from wealthy Saudi supporters, including former king Abdullah, with whom he shared a love of horse-racing. Van Ruymbeke, whose high-profile cases have included the tax fraud trial of France's former budget minister Jerome Cahuzac, has said Rifaat has provided proof only of a \$10 million gift from Abdullah in 1984, the source told AFP. —AFP

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## TURKEY, ISRAEL SIGN DEAL TO NORMALIZE TIES AFTER 6 YRS

**ANKARA/JERUSALEM:** Turkey and Israel signed a deal yesterday to restore ties after a six-year rift, formalizing an agreement which UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said sent a "hopeful signal" for regional stability. The accord, announced on Monday by the two countries' prime ministers, was a rare rapprochement in the divided Middle East, driven by the prospect of lucrative Mediterranean gas deals as well as mutual fears over growing security risks.

It was formally signed yesterday by Turkey's Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Feridun Sinirlioglu in Ankara and Israel's Foreign Ministry Director General Dore Gold in Jerusalem, officials said. Relations between Israel and what was once its principal Muslim ally crumbled after Israeli marines stormed an activist ship in May 2010 to enforce a naval blockade of the Hamas-run Gaza Strip and killed 10 Turks on board. Under the deal, the naval blockade of Gaza, which Ankara had wanted lifted, remains in force, although humanitarian aid can continue to be transferred to Gaza via Israeli ports.

Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said late on Monday the two countries might appoint ambassadors "in a week or two". Israel, which had already offered its apologies for the 2010 raid on the Mavi Marmara activist ship, agreed to pay out \$20 million to the bereaved and injured. The deal requires Turkey pass legislation indemnifying Israeli soldiers. "This is an important and hopeful signal for the stability of the region," Ban said at a meeting with Israel's president in Jerusalem on Monday.

Visiting a UN-run school and a Qatari-built rehabilitation hospital in the Gaza Strip yesterday, he also called for an end to the Israeli blockade. "The closure of Gaza suffocates its people, stifles its economy and impedes reconstruction efforts. It is a collective punishment for which there must accountability," Ban said. Israel says the Gaza blockade is needed to curb arms smuggling by Hamas, an Islamist group that last fought a war with Israel in 2014. — Reuters



**ANKARA:** Turkey's Prime Minister Binali Yildirim addresses lawmakers at the parliament a day after he announced the details of an agreement reached with Israel yesterday. — AP



**JERUSALEM:** Masked Palestinian protesters wearing pieces of cloth around their bodies read the Holy Quran following clashes with the Israeli police at Jerusalem's Al-Aqsa mosque compound for the third consecutive day yesterday. Israeli authorities announced they were closing the Al-Aqsa mosque compound to non-Muslim visitors. The decision will apply until the end of the holy month of Ramadan next week. — AFP

## ISRAEL CAUSES SUMMER WATER SHORTAGES FOR PALESTINIANS

### UNFAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WATER FROM AQUIFER BLAMED

**SALEM:** As Palestinians in the West Bank fast from dawn to dusk in scorching heat during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, tens of thousands of people have been affected by a drought that has greatly reduced the flow to their taps. Israel admits it's been forced to cut water supplies to the parched area, saying that nearby Jewish settlements have also been affected. But Palestinian areas appear to have been hit much harder, and both sides are blaming each other.

The water shortage has harmed farmers, forced people to bathe less and created a booming business for tanker trucks that deliver water. Israel blames it on the unusually early summer heat and the Palestinians' refusal to cooperate with Israel on renovating their leaky pipe system. Palestinians say the shortage is evidence of the uneven distribution of water from an underground aquifer - which was enshrined in an outdated peace agreement.

The shortages come as Israel has made great strides toward water independence through a fast-growing desalination program, which today provides about 30 percent of Israel's water and has reduced the country's dependency on meek rivers and sparse rainfall. But the Palestinian villages in the West Bank and some isolated Israeli settlements are not connected to the national water grid, relying instead on local underground supplies.

Israeli environmental advocate Gidon Bromberg says the water shortage is "outrageous". "The fact there is excess water in Israel means for very first time, the natural water can be shared at low cost to Israel and high gain to Palestinians and Israelis

together," said Bromberg, the director of EcoPeace Middle East, a group that promotes region-wide environmental cooperation.

In Salem, a village of 7,000 people in the northern West Bank, Israel has slowed the water flow by two-thirds for a month now, said local water engineer Wahed Hamdan. What remains is further diminished by a leaky pipe system installed in 1982, he said. To cope with the diminished flow, Salem has instituted a rotation regime between neighborhoods, Hamdan said. Residents use pumps to bring the trickle to storage tanks on their roofs but the weak stream cannot reach homes on the outskirts of the village.

When the water runs out, Mohammed Fahmi, 22, does a brisk trade supplying the village homes via 800-gallon (3,000-liter) tankers, which he delivers for about \$20 per truck - which can quadruple a family's monthly water bill. The water comes from wells drilled by the Palestinian Authority. But there's often not enough for everyone. "Some people wait two days until I can deliver," Fahmi said. Suleiman Hasan, a driver from Salem, said he is showering less to save water. His garden has dried up, and his olive tree has turned yellow.

#### Aquifer

By contrast, in the West Bank's political center of Ramallah, water is delivered twice a week, and the pressure is high enough to reach rooftop storage tanks without extra pumping. Usually, supplies last until the next delivery. The problems with the current system of water distribution in the West Bank are rooted in the 1967 Mideast war, when Israel con-

quered the territory from Jordan and took control of the Mountain Aquifer. The aquifer straddles the frontier between the West Bank and Israel and is a major source of water to both sides.

Under interim peace accords signed in 1995, Israel controls 80 percent of the aquifer while the Palestinian Authority is allocated 20 percent. Israel also draws water from the Sea of Galilee and from desalination, sources that are not available to the Palestinians. Israel is required by the peace accords to sell additional water to the Palestinians. The Oslo Accords, which divided up the natural water resources, were intended to last for five years, pending a final peace agreement. But they remain in effect after two decades of failed peace efforts.

Israel Water Authority spokesman Uri Schor said Israel sells the Palestinians 64 million cubic meters of water each year, double the amount stipulated in the 1995 accords. He said that to protect the groundwater, Israel has reduced supplies to both Palestinian and Israeli communities in the West Bank, without providing exact figures.

Schor accused the Palestinians of refusing to convene the Joint Water Committee, a body established by the Oslo Accords to manage the shared water resources. Without the committee, Schor says, it's impossible to approve repairs to infrastructure - and damaged pipes can drain away up to a third of supplies. "The Palestinians are taking advantage of this to say Israel is taking our water," he said. "This is rubbish. The area has a problem and this can be solved by upgrading all the infrastructure, but the Palestinians veto this." — AP

## EGYPTIAN ANTI-GRAFT TSAR IS PUBLIC ENEMY NUMBER ONE

**CAIRO:** Within three months, Egypt's anti-corruption chief Hisham Geneina has been fired, charged with spreading false information and tried. His mistake, he says: Reporting corruption at the heart of the state. "It's as if uncovering corruption has become a crime," Geneina, who headed Egypt's Central Auditing Authority, says in his villa in a plush Cairo suburb. President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, who had promised to tackle corruption, abruptly sacked the 62-year-old retired judge in March.

Since then, an intense campaign by Egyptian media, which rarely dares to criticize Sisi's governance, has now seen Geneina and his family accused of tarnishing the country and having links with the banned Islamist opposition. Quoting a study by the authority using reports between 2012 and 2015, Geneina calculated the cost of corruption at about 600 billion Egyptian pounds (\$66 billion).

The study highlighted the allegedly illegal acquisition of state-owned land by senior officials and businessmen from the tenure of toppled president Hosni Mubarak. Geneina is convinced that his sacking and trial is based on an erroneous media report which suggested he attributed the 600-billion figure to 2015 alone. He is accused of "spreading false news with the goal of harming public interest," and the prosecution claims Geneina used "baseless calculations" to exaggerate the cost of corruption. "Where were you all these years if I was dangerous to the state?" he asks. "Why wasn't I unmasked earlier by security and intelligence agencies?"

Watchdog Transparency International ranks Egypt as 88th on its corruption perceptions index, and Sisi has publicly launched a crackdown on the wide-

spread graft that dogged the Mubarak years. In September, he sacked his agriculture minister who was later sentenced to 10 years in prison for taking bribes. Geneina, who rose through judicial ranks in his 34-year legal career, believes Egypt's fight against widespread corruption has been piecemeal. "We can't set an example with words alone. We need action," he says. "Could (my trial) be because the studies implicated bodies that were never named until now?"

The charges against Geneina came during a crackdown on opposition groups overseen by Sisi since the then-army chief toppled Egypt's first democratically elected president Mohamed Morsi in July 2013. The former magistrate, whom Morsi had appointed to head the anti-corruption authority, criticized the "stranglehold" that security agencies still have over Egyptian state institutions.

#### 'Settling Scores'

Geneina's fall from grace now also risks bringing his eldest daughter down with him. Shorouk, 27, a former employee of the international law firm Baker and McKenzie, was last month sacked from the administrative prosecution after sharing a cartoon on Facebook of a former justice minister. "This is part of a score settling," Geneina says, his daughter by his side. Amr Adly, an economist at the Carnegie Middle East Centre, says Geneina's calculation of the cost of corruption is flawed, but the authorities' reaction has been "disastrous on a political level". Even if the figures provided in Geneina's study were inaccurate, prosecuting him "gives the impression that the executive takes revenge on those who talk about corruption," Adly says. — AFP



**CAIRO:** Egyptian judge Hisham Geneina, the former head of Egypt's Central Auditing Authority, the country's anti-corruption agency, talks during an interview on June 23, 2016. — AFP

## KREMLIN DENTS TURKEY HOPES FOR QUICK RESTORATION OF TIES

**MOSCOW/ANKARA:** The Kremlin sought to dampen Turkey's hopes for a swift restoration of normal relations yesterday, a day after Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan expressed regret over the downing of a Russian warplane last year. The Russian jet was shot down, with the loss of the pilot, in November while taking part in the Kremlin's military campaign in Syria. Ankara said it acted lawfully because the plane had crossed into Turkish air space; Moscow denied that happened. The incident triggered Russian sanctions against Turkey that have damaged trade and tourism.

After writing to Russian President Vladimir Putin to voice his regret on Monday, Erdogan said he believed Ankara would normalize relations with Moscow "rapidly". But the Kremlin struck a more cautious tone yesterday. "One should not think it possible to normalize everything within a few days, but work in this direction will continue," spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters at a conference call. "President Putin has expressed more than once his willingness to maintain good relations with Turkey and the Turkish people," Peskov said. "Now a very important step has been made."

Putin and Erdogan will hold a telephone conversation at Moscow's initiative today, Peskov said. Putin has said an apology from Erdogan was necessary to repair relations. Erdogan spokesman Ibrahim Kalin said the Turkish president had expressed regret over the shooting in a letter to Putin, but

added that this was not an apology. Even as ties between the two countries improve, Kalin added, sticking points over Syria and other issues would continue.

"In the coming period, Turkey's ties with Russia will enter a normalization phase. Our policies on Ukraine, Syria and Crimea will not change, we don't agree with Russia on these areas but we will continue to discuss these issues," he told reporters. In the Syrian conflict Russia backs President Bashar Al-Assad while Turkey and its Western allies support groups opposed to him. Ankara said it shot down the plane because it entered Turkish airspace, an allegation Moscow denies. The Russian pilot ejected from the plane but was killed by gunfire from rebels on the ground in Syria as he parachuted down to earth.

#### Sanctions, Tourism

As well as an official apology, Moscow has also said it wants Turkey to pay compensation for the incident, in which the Russian pilot ejected but was killed by rebel gunfire on the ground in Syria as he parachuted down to earth. Kalin said Turkey may pay aid to "relieve Russian pain" over the shooting but he said that would not constitute compensation, which would require a legal ruling or an agreement. Turkey says legal proceedings are underway against an individual allegedly responsible for the killing of the pilot. Turkey has been hard hit by the Russian sanctions, particularly in its key tourism sector. — Reuters

## YAZIDI DEMANDS IS GENOCIDE TRIAL

**GENEVA:** Nadia Murad, a slight, soft-spoken Yazidi woman from Iraq, endured a three-month nightmare as a sex slave of the Islamic State (IS) group. After her harrowing escape with the help of a fake religious ID nearly two years ago, Murad has a message for world leaders striving to crush the extremists: IS leaders must stand trial for genocide. "Genocide must be recognized," the 23-year-old told AFP through a translator in Geneva. As Iraq wages an offensive against IS, with government forces retaking full control of the jihadist bastion of Fallujah on Sunday, UN investigators are mak-

ing a renewed push for justice for the jihadists' victims.

The Yazidis, neither Muslim nor Arab, are an ancient religious minority of more than half a million people concentrated near the Syrian border in northern Iraq. The IS group has said it despises the Kurdish-speaking group because Yazidis are not "people of the book", meaning their faith does not adhere to the theological tradition that begins with Abraham of the Old Testament and extends through the Holy Quran. In 2014, IS jihadists massacred Yazidis in Sinjar, forcing tens of thousands of them to flee, and capturing thousands of girls

and women as spoils of war. The UN Commission of Inquiry (COI) for Syria earlier this month said it had compiled evidence proving that IS was continuing a genocide against the Yazidis. With Iraqi leaders hailing their recent victories over IS in Fallujah and weighing a new operation to flush them out of their northern strongholds like Mosul, Murad insisted that the need for accountability should not be forgotten.

#### Forced Islam Conversion

She was taken by IS from her home village of Kocho near Iraq's northern town of Sinjar in August 2014 and brought to Mosul. "The first thing they did was they forced us to convert to Islam," she said. "After conversion, they did whatever they wanted to do." In a December speech at the UN Security Council, Murad recounted her so-called "marriage" to one IS captor, who subjected her to horrific abuse. "I was not able to take any more rape and torture," she told the council, so she decided to flee.

On the run in Mosul, Murad said she was terrified that no one would take her in, but she ultimately found shelter with a Muslim family in the city. "They made me an Islamic ID," she said, which she used to cross the border into Iraqi Kurdistan. There she lived in a camp for displaced people and, with the support of the Yazidi

welfare organization Yazda, relocated to Germany, where she now lives with her sister.

#### 'Roadmap for Prosecutions'

The United Nations and several Western powers first suggested last year that the IS assault on the Yazidis amounted to a premeditated, genocidal effort to exterminate an entire community. The evidence presented by the COI earlier this month was more conclusive. COI member and former international prosecutor Carla del Ponte described the commission's report as "a roadmap for prosecutions". Supported by witness testimony, the COI found that IS "sought to erase the Yazidis through killings, sexual slavery, enslavement, torture and inhuman and degrading treatment".

Referring heinous, mass crimes to the International Criminal Court often meets obstacles in the UN Security Council for political reasons. But COI members expressed hope that the Yazidi case could be investigated by The Hague-based ICC, because the IS group has no public political support. Murad, one of 376 people and organizations nominated for this year's Nobel Peace Prize, broke down in tears as she told a UN audience the extent to which her people felt abandoned by the international community. — AFP



**WASHINGTON:** This photo taken on June 21, 2016 shows Nadia Murad, a human rights activist, arriving at a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearing on Capitol Hill. — AFP





**MONROVIA:** US First Lady Michelle Obama (left) looks on as she visits with Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (center) a woman education program on Monday. —AFP

## MICHELLE URGES LIBERIAN GIRLS TO STAY IN SCHOOL

**KAKATA, Liberia:** US First Lady Michelle Obama told girls in Liberia on Monday to fight to stay in school, as she visited the west African country where the vast majority drop out due to financial pressures. Obama launched her "Let Girls Learn" education initiative in March 2015, and has since travelled the globe to call for greater support for the millions of girls kept away from school or forced to abandon their studies. After being greeted by hundreds of singing children lining the road from Monrovia's airport, Obama met girls and young women at a project named GLOW (Girls Leading Our World) aimed at boosting active citizenship, run by the US Peace Corps in Kakata, east of the coastal capital.

She was accompanied by her two daughters Malia, 17, and Sasha, 15 and her mother, whom she referred to as her "special girl power crew". President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf welcomed the American visitors once they had landed. Speaking about the value of women's leadership and access to education, the Harvard-trained lawyer said she was "here to shine a big bright light on you". "I want you to keep fighting and stay in school," she told the girls. "You are going to be leaders tomorrow; you are going to be mothers; you are educating yourselves to achieve that. That is why I am proud of you," she said to the assembled group.

Her venture has particular poignance in Liberia, where just 37 percent of 15 to

24-year-old girls are literate, according to UN figures, and enrolment at the secondary level hovers close to 40 percent, with real participation much lower. She later discussed the ongoing challenges faced by the young women in this community at a nearby school in Reunification Town, including paying school fees and dealing with "jealous" young men.

### 'School Seen as a Cost'

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) meanwhile announced Monday millions more dollars of funding would be made available to support the Let Girls Learn Initiative's projects. Sheldon Yett, UNICEF representative for Liberia, told AFP many parents see school as a luxury they can ill afford. "Often families see it as a cost, losing labor by sending children to school," Yett said. And for female pupils in particular, "roughly half of schools don't even have basic sanitation, so that's a particular issue for girls," he added.

Some 62 million girls around the world, half of them adolescents, are not in school. Obama will continue her tour in Morocco on June 28 and 29, accompanied by actress Meryl Streep, to participate in a conversation with adolescent girls. She will deliver a speech in Madrid on June 30 about the education initiative before meeting Spain's Queen Letizia. —AFP

**CINCINNATI:** Liberal Elizabeth Warren attacked Republican Donald Trump on Monday during her first campaign appearance with US Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton, calling him an "insecure money grubber" who is driven by greed and hate. Warren, a leader of the Democratic Party's progressive wing and a potential vice presidential pick, said Clinton had spent her career fighting for liberal values while Trump, a wealthy real estate developer, was focused on boosting his bottom line.

The US senator from Massachusetts appeared with Clinton before a raucous, enthusiastic crowd in Cincinnati, Ohio, targeting a battleground state in a potential preview of a Clinton-Warren campaign team. She repeatedly accused Trump of looking out for himself instead of for average Americans. "When Donald Trump says he'll make America great, he means make it even greater for rich guys just like Donald Trump," Warren said, standing shoulder to shoulder with a cheering Clinton.

Clinton has struggled to win over some liberal backers of rival Bernie Sanders, a democratic socialist US senator from Vermont, since beating him for the Democratic nomination this month. She hopes the support of Warren can help her in that effort as she campaigns against Trump for the Nov 8 election. Warren, who has vigorously attacked Trump in recent weeks, called him "a small, insecure money grubber who fights for no one but himself" and warned: "He will crush you into the dirt to get whatever he wants. That's who he is."

The capacity crowd repeatedly roared its approval, and a line of supporters who could not get inside stretched out the door and down the street. At one point, Warren stopped her speech to turn and applaud Clinton, a former secretary of state. "She knows what it takes to beat a thin-skinned bully who is driven by greed and hate," said Warren, known for calling for reining in Wall Street and eradicating income inequality.

### Warren 'a Sellout' - Trump

In a statement, Trump called Warren "a sellout" for backing Clinton, who has taken donations from Wall Street interests and once backed the Trans-Pacific Partnership, the Asian trade deal. Clinton has since reversed her trade stance. In an interview with NBC News, Trump called Warren "a fraud" and "a racist", accusing her of mak-

and defended Warren's record. "That's what he does, he attacks people. He acts like he's attacking their character - he's attacking his own character when he does that," Brown told Reuters. "You can't believe anything Donald Trump says. Period," Kaine told Reuters.

**Ohio Pivotal**  
Taking the microphone in

ful presidential nominee since 1964 and no Republican has won the White House without carrying the state. Warren's calls to rein in corporate excess could resonate with two groups Clinton must court in the election - Sanders supporters and those anxious about the economy who are drawn to Trump's promise to toss out international trade deals.

# IN CAMPAIGN DEBUT, WARREN SAYS TRUMP DRIVEN BY GREED

## MOGUL SLAMS 'POCAHONTAS' AS A 'FRAUD'



**CINCINNATI, Ohio:** Democratic Presidential candidate Hillary Clinton (left) and US Sen Elizabeth Warren wave to the crowd before a campaign rally at the Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal on Monday. —AFP

ing up claims about her Native American heritage to advance her career. He again called Warren "Pocahontas", the name of a 17th-century Native American figure, to draw attention to a controversy first raised during Warren's 2012 Senate race in Massachusetts. "She is one of the least productive senators in the United States Senate," Trump told NBC. "We call her Pocahontas for a reason."

Two other potential Clinton vice presidential picks - US senators Tim Kaine of Virginia and Sherrod Brown of Ohio - rejected Trump's assertion

Ohio, Clinton said she liked Warren's aggressive approach to her Republican rival, who has sprayed rivals and critics with insults throughout his campaign. "I just love how she gets under Donald Trump's skin," Clinton said. Clinton's decision to campaign with Warren for the first time in Cincinnati, a city on Ohio's southwestern border with Kentucky and Indiana, underscored the swing state's vital role in the November showdown with Trump.

Ohio has backed every success-

ful manufacturing base has taken a hit in recent economic slowdowns, and Trump has identified it as a state where his anti-free trade rhetoric could resonate with alienated blue-collar voters.

Since becoming the presumptive Democratic nominee, Clinton has repeatedly tried to portray businessman Trump as fundamentally unfit for the presidency. Clinton said Warren's long history of fighting for progressive economic values made her a perfect messenger for that critique. —Reuters

## HOUSE REPUBLICANS' REPORT FAULTS OBAMA ON BENGHAZI

**WASHINGTON:** Republicans on the House Benghazi Committee faulted the Obama administration yesterday for what they said was a slowed response to help Americans under attack in Benghazi, Libya, in 2012. Four Americans, including US Ambassador Chris Stevens, died in two assaults at the diplomatic facility and CIA annex. The panel's chairman, Rep Trey Gowdy of South Carolina, said the panel's report, being released yesterday, was not aimed at Hillary Clinton, secretary of state at the time. Democrats have said the goal of the report is to undermine Clinton's presidential bid.

Gowdy said yesterday that the report documents that the US was slow to send help to the Americans in Benghazi "because of an obsession with hurting the Libyans' feelings". He

said the report was not aimed at Clinton, but portrays "series of heroic acts" by Americans under attack "and what we can do to prevent" other assaults. The Libya attacks became immediate political fodder, given their timing in the weeks before President Barack Obama's re-election, and that has not abated despite seven previous congressional investigations. There has been finger-pointing on both sides over security at the US diplomatic outpost in Benghazi and whether the White House initially tried to portray the assault as a protest over an offensive, anti-Muslim video, instead of a calculated terrorist attack.

Democrats released a report Monday saying that while the State Department's security measures in Benghazi the night of Sept 11, 2012,

were "woefully inadequate", Clinton never personally turned down a request for additional security. Democrats said the military could not have done anything differently that night to save the lives of the Americans.

Yesterday, the panel's Democrats denounced the Republicans' report as "a conspiracy theory on steroids - bringing back long-debunked allegations with no credible evidence whatsoever". The statement added: "Republicans promised a process and report that was fair and bipartisan, but this is exactly the opposite."

The State Department also issued a statement yesterday, saying that the "essential facts" of the attacks "have been known for some time," and have been the subject of numerous reviews, including one by an independent review board. Spokesman Mark Toner said the department had implemented most of the recommendations of the independent review board and was continuing to expand security at its facilities and improve its threat assessment. "We have made great progress toward making our posts safer since 2012," Toner said in a statement. "Our priority continues to be carrying out our national security mission while mitigating the risks to our employees."

Toner said the department cooperated extensively with the House panel, providing more than 50 current and former employees for interviews and over 100,000 pages of documents. Rep Jim Jordan, who helped write the Republican report, told CNN that "too little effort was made to protect" Stevens and the others. "We didn't move Heaven and Earth to get help to the people who were fighting for their lives," he said. —AP



**WASHINGTON:** House Benghazi Committee Chairman Rep Trey Gowdy gestures during a TV news interview with MSNBC on Capitol Hill yesterday. —AP

## OBAMA WARNS AGAINST BREXIT 'HYSTERIA'

**WASHINGTON:** US President Barack Obama yesterday warned against international "hysteria" following last week's vote for Britain to leave the European Union. In an interview with National Public Radio, the US president said that he respected the results of the referendum. However for Obama, the vote means that "a pause button has been pressed on the project of full European integration". "I would not overstate it," he added.

"There's been a little bit of hysteria post-Brexit vote, as if somehow NATO's gone, the trans-Atlantic alliance is dissolving, and every country is rushing off to its own corner. That's not what's happening," Obama said the vote "speaks

to the ongoing changes and challenges that are raised by globalization". He described the results as a reaction to a rapidly growing European Union "that was probably moving faster and without as much consensus as it should have."

"I think this will be a moment when all of Europe says, 'Let's take a breath and let's figure out how do we maintain some of our national identities, how do we preserve the benefits of integration and how do we deal with some of the frustrations that our own voters are feeling,'" Obama told NPR. The president added that he doesn't anticipate "major cataclysmic changes" as a result of the vote. —AFP

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## TOWN THAT VOTED BREXIT 'OUT OF LOVE'

**REDCAR, United Kingdom:** "This whole seaford was packed with boats," said Vicky Thwaites, surveying the broad beach at Redcar, a once-prosperous town that voted overwhelmingly for Britain to leave the EU. "Now we call it Deadcar. We just feel that nobody cares." Thursday's dramatic vote to quit the European Union was driven by millions of people in the post-industrial north and centre of England, in working-class towns like Redcar, on the northeast coast.

The strength of feeling may have stunned metropolitan Britain, but came as no surprise in places like Redcar, where 66.2 percent ultimately voted to leave the EU. The town's century as a seaside holiday destination died out with the 1960s; after Britain joined the European common market in 1973 its fishing fleet was next; and its skyline-dominating steelworks, which produced the steel for Sydney Harbour Bridge, was mothballed by its Thai owners in 2015.

"My dad had two boats," said Thwaites, who volunteers at the Zetland Lifeboat Museum, a local history treasure trove which houses the world's oldest surviving lifeboat, built in 1802. "We all thought being in the Common Market was brilliant. Then the boats were decommissioned. They couldn't sell the fish anymore. They took our fishing from us and took our steel. The backbone of Britain. They've raped the northeast. We're left with nothing. We're all just fed up and want Britain back. We are lovely, friendly people. But we just feel that we've lost this country," she said, the deep emotion evident in her voice. Thwaites, a former nurse said people had voted Leave "out of love" for Britain.

### Sense of Loss

With a population of 36,000, Redcar, sits on the River Tees estuary. The Teesside skyline is punctuated



**REDCAR, England:** "Say No Believe in Britain" boards are displayed on a building in this town in northeast England on Monday. — AFP

ed with chimneys, bright flames and electricity pylons. Redcar originally boomed as a seaside resort from the 1850s. Archive photographs in the museum show a jolly world of bandstands, swimming baths, promenades and piers, entertainers, rollercoasters and small fishing boats. The Yorkshire town's historic clock tower centerpiece is dedicated to King Edward VII, who liked to visit.

Now its high street resembles many in provincial England: a mixture of bakeries, cafes, betting shops, England flag-bedecked pubs showing foot-

ball, tattoo parlors and charity shops. Walking past the clock tower, Keith Robson, 60, was proudly wearing an England football shirt signed by several players. "I voted Leave on the principle that the Prime Minister David Cameron promised us that he wasn't going to let more than 100,000 immigrants into this country," he said. "A lot of the people coming in are from poorer nations and willing to work for less money. I think that's all wrong. In the northeast, we've lost the mines, the shipbuilding and now the steelworks." — AFP

## BORIS LEADERSHIP DREAMS HAUNTED BY BITTER EU RIFTS

**LONDON:** Popular British MP Boris Johnson is one step away from his dream of becoming prime minister, but the shadow of the ill-tempered EU referendum campaign looms large over his leadership bid. The Conservative former London mayor once again proved he had the Midas touch with voters as the focal point of the "Leave" campaign that sensationally snatched victory in last week's referendum on Britain's European future. But victory came at a cost, with many in his party blaming him for stoking internal warfare between those wanting to remain, such as prime minister and former schoolfriend, David Cameron, who resigned shortly after the result was announced.

The leadership ambitions of the former Brussels-based journalist have been the worst-kept secret in British politics, ever since victory in London's mayoral race eight years ago sent his profile skyrocketing. However, there are those within the party who feel naked ambition drove him to join the "Leave" campaign, against the best interests of the party, and are determined to halt his rise. A poll of grassroots members, who will decide the next leader by Sept 2, showed Tuesday that interior minister and "Remain" campaigner Theresa May would be a slight favorite to edge him out, despite the members being in favor of leaving Europe.

### 'Court Jester'

The campaign forced Johnson into some uncomfortable areas, notably over the issue of ending mass migration from the EU, which became the "Leave" camp's key argument. Johnson took a pro-immigration stance as London mayor and supported an amnesty for illegal migrants - positions he insisted he maintained, but which sat uncomfortably with other members of the Brexit side. He had also previously endorsed Turkey's bid to join the EU, but during the campaign repeated his colleagues' warnings about tens of millions of Turks flocking to Britain.

His high profile made the 52-year-old Johnson a target for attacks from the "Remain"



**Boris Johnson**

camp, including fellow Conservatives. Former prime minister John Major dismissed the mope-haired Johnson as a "court jester" with no hope of leading the Tories. But the public appears to be able to forgive his inconsistencies and buffoonery, twice electing him as a Conservative mayor of London - a Labour stronghold - and helping him to defy the odds and lead Britain out of the EU.

Despite constant speculation, Johnson has always batted away speculation about his political ambitions, once saying that his chances of being prime minister were on a par with "my being reincarnated as an olive". If he were to succeed, Johnson would face a difficult task in uniting the Tory party behind him following a bitter campaign. His aura could also be tarnished if his airy predictions of relative post-Brexit calm were blown away by continued financial turmoil.

Johnson had said before the referendum he would publicly apologize if Britain were plunged into recession by a vote to leave the EU. He told LBC radio: "Of course I will. I'm not certain what my political career holds anyway. This is far more important than any individual political career." — AFP

## THERESA MAY MAKES QUIET PROGRESS TOWARDS NO 10

**LONDON:** Britain's interior minister Theresa May has avoided the Conservative party infighting that has dominated the EU referendum campaign, making her a strong contender to replace leader David Cameron as premier when he steps down. Despite being a long-standing eurosceptic and hardliner on immigration, May declared herself officially in favor of Britain staying in the European Union, but kept a low profile during the divisive referendum campaign. The 59-year-old trod a fine line between remaining loyal to Prime Minister Cameron and the "Remain" campaign, while appeasing Tory core members who wanted to quit the EU and clamp down on immigration.

In a late campaign intervention, she criticized the EU's freedom of movement rules, saying: "I understand people have concerns over immigration" - music to the ears of grassroots supporters. However, May added that she was "in no doubt that we should Remain", highlighting the "potential risks to jobs, the uncertainties for our economy if we are to leave the EU". According to the bookmakers, the tactic of conciliation could see her replace Cameron following his resignation in the wake of last week's seismic result.

Standing in her way is the formidable presence of "Leave" champion Boris Johnson, the charismatic former mayor of London. The battle is now on to convince the party that it needs a unifying presence to lead the way, rather than a clique of Leave campaigners who may blame for sowing discord in the party.

### Thatcher Comparisons

According to The Sunday Times, many of



**Theresa May**

the party's MPs and ministers think May is the only figure capable of uniting the warring factions. Meanwhile, centre-right newspaper The Daily Telegraph said May's "silence speaks volumes about her leadership ambitions." "This could all be part of Mrs May's plan to cast herself as the Brexit-friendly Remainder who can appeal to her colleagues in the Out camp with her toughness on immigration," said the paper.

"Britain may be about to vote for Brexit, and Theresa May hasn't been rushing to stop it. She won't be too upset if it does happen, as the fallout from it could clear her way for the Conservative leadership," it concluded. She is a slight favorite with bookmakers, and also edged ahead in a poll of party members - who will elect the new leader - published in the Times on Tuesday. — AFP



**BRUSSELS:** British Prime Minister David Cameron (left) shakes hands with European Union Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker prior to a meeting at the European Union Commission headquarters yesterday. — AFP

## CAMERON FACES EU MUSIC AFTER SHOCK BREXIT VOTE

EUROPE PASSES BRITAIN FOR QUICK EXIT

**BRUSSELS:** British Prime Minister David Cameron arrived for a grim EU summit in Brussels yesterday, where angry European leaders tightened the screws to hurry Britain's exit from Europe. Five days after Britons stunned the European Union by voting to quit the 28-nation bloc, key European leaders bluntly told Britain they wanted it to leave quickly - and not expect special treatment. European President Donald Tusk said the bloc was ready to start divorce proceedings with Britain "even today" and the European Parliament called on Britain to initiate the departure process "as soon as possible."

In Berlin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel warned Cameron could not "cherry-pick" in the exit negotiations - and there would be a price for Britain to pay. "Anyone wishing to leave this family cannot expect to lose all the obligations but keep the privileges," Merkel told the German parliament. The summit, starting mid-afternoon, takes place amid deep anger among the 27 other European leaders over Cameron's decision firstly to call the 'Brexit' referendum - and secondly his handling of the campaign itself.

That resentment has been compounded by fury over suspicions that Britain will now drag its feet over leaving, which would boost rising eurosceptic

forces within the EU. Cameron, who had fought to remain in the EU and has said he will step down, told his parliament on Monday that he will not yet start the two-year countdown on leaving the EU. It begins when Britain formally invokes Article 50 of the EU's Lisbon Treaty. His successor is not expected to be appointed until September.

But European Commission chief Jean-Claude Juncker, speaking in a stormy session of the European Parliament where he was heckled by Brexitite Nigel Farage, told Cameron to waste no time, adding: "No notification (of Article 50), no negotiation." "It is we who must decide what happens, not just those who wish to leave the European Union," Juncker said, echoing comments on Monday from Merkel, French President Francois Hollande and Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi in Berlin.

### No 'Secret' Talks

Juncker said he had banned officials from holding "secret" talks with Britain. "There will be no informal or formal talks on the exit of Britain until an application has been filed to leave the European Union," Merkel has said. Stoking the pressure, the European Parliament yesterday passed a resolution at an emergency session calling for Britain to trigger

Article 50 - which initiates the Brexit process - "as soon as possible."

Facing boos and jeers from fellow MEPs, Farage said he had had the last laugh and predicted Britain would not be the only state to leave the EU. "Isn't it funny. When I came here 17 years ago and I said I wanted to lead a campaign to get Britain to leave the EU, you all laughed at me but you are not laughing now," said Farage, who nevertheless shared a hug with Juncker. But Britain's decision has also put the remaining 27 members of the EU - who will meet without Cameron today - under pressure to come up with an adequate response to stop other countries following Britain out of the door.

Germany, France and Italy have urged steps among the rest of the EU jointly to boost cooperation on security as well as programmes to boost economic growth and youth employment. Tusk yesterday proposed holding a meeting in September to discuss the bloc's future.

### Turmoil in Britain

The referendum result has caused an earthquake in British politics. It has not only forced Cameron to quit but also left opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn fighting for his political life. Around 20 members of Corbyn's shadow cabinet have resigned and the result of a secret ballot of Labour MPs on a no-confidence motion on his leadership is expected to be announced later Tuesday. Jockeying has meanwhile begun within the Conservatives to replace Cameron, with former London mayor and key Brexit proponent Boris Johnson and interior minister Theresa May considered front-runners. The winner may call a general election later this year.

### Markets Spooked

Investors, meanwhile, remain deeply unsettled at the prospect of one of the EU's biggest economies leaving the bloc, wiping billions off stocks worldwide since the shock referendum result - markets had banked on "Remain" - last Friday. Late Monday, Standard & Poor's slashed Britain's cherished triple-A credit rating by two notches with a long-term negative outlook, while Fitch cut its rating from 'AA+' to 'AA', with a negative outlook. Both ratings agencies listed a possible second referendum on Scottish independence as a significant risk. Britain as a whole voted by 52 percent to 48 percent to leave the EU but 62 percent of Scots voted to stay.

The pound actually rose slightly yesterday, but this came after sterling hit a new 31-year low in New York and analysts warned the currency could face fresh selling as the crisis develops. Similarly Asian stocks rallied and Europe's main indices rebounded Tuesday from recent Brexit-driven heavy losses, with London's FTSE 100, Frankfurt's DAX 30 and the CAC 40 in Paris all rising more than two percent. — AFP

## BRITAIN PARTIES IN LEADERSHIP TUMULT AFTER BREXIT SHOCK

**LONDON:** Britain's two main political parties were in Brexit turmoil yesterday as the race to succeed Prime Minister David Cameron began in earnest and opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn faced a no-confidence vote from Labour MPs. Five days after the shock vote for Britain to leave the EU, the two parties that have dominated Westminster for nearly a century were in almost complete disarray. Pro-EU finance minister George Osborne, long tipped to succeed Cameron, ruled himself out yesterday.

That left former London mayor and "Leave" figurehead Boris Johnson - but now a bogeyman for many in the "Remain" camp - tipped as the most likely candidate. The Conservatives have set a Thursday deadline for nominations, with Home Secretary Theresa May the other frontrunner.

### Corbyn Defiant

On the opposition side, Corbyn has said he will not stand down and does not have to even if Tuesday's no-confidence vote goes against him since it would then be up to the party's 150,000 members to vote on a new leader if he puts himself forward again. Over half of Corbyn's shadow

cabinet - the leadership of his party - have stepped down since Sunday in a coordinated series of resignations against the 67-year-old, who only became leader in September.

Corbyn, a veteran socialist and eurosceptic who voted against EU membership in a 1975 referendum, has come under heavy criticism from pro-EU lawmakers for his lukewarm campaigning in favour of Britain staying in. Many experts have blamed the strong anti-EU vote in Labour heartlands in northern England on Corbyn. But Corbyn himself has blamed Conservative austerity measures for creating disenchantment in many working-class areas and said the media had not covered Labour's referendum campaign, focusing instead on rifts within the ruling Conservatives.

Corbyn - who blasted "internal manoeuvring" within his party - was defiant on Monday at a rally organized by the grassroots Momentum movement, largely made up of the far-left campaigners who helped get him elected. "Don't let the media divide us. Don't let the people who wish us ill divide us. Stay together, strong and united for the kind of world we want to live in," he said. — AFP

## GEORGE OSBORNE: UK'S 'KAMIKAZE CHANCELLOR'

**LONDON:** Finance minister George Osborne, who ruled himself out of the race to be Britain's next premier yesterday, played a key role in warning against Brexit, heading a campaign rivals dubbed "Project Fear". The Daily Telegraph dubbed him the "kamikaze chancellor", in reference to his formal title as chancellor of the exchequer, suggesting he would stop at nothing to secure a vote to stay in the EU and aid his political mentor, Prime Minister David Cameron.

He drew particular anger from eurosceptics in his Conservative party, who accused him of scaremongering - to which he countered that those wanting to leave the European Union were "economically illiterate". His warning in the final days that a "Leave" vote would force him to rip up his current budgetary plans, slash funding to schools and hospitals and raise taxes, prompted a rebellion among dozens of Conservative MPs who said they would block him.

After the shock result of Thursday's referendum - a 52 percent vote to leave the European Union - Osborne, 45, remained noticeably quiet, making his first public comments only on Monday in a failed attempt to reassure jittery financial markets. Writing in The Times newspaper yesterday, Osborne said he was not the right person to lead the party because of his support for the "Remain" vote. "I fought the referendum campaign with everything I've got. I believed in the cause and fought hard for it," wrote the London-born minister. "While I completely accept the result, I am not the person to provide the unity the party needs."

### Double Downgrade

Osborne has been finance minister since Cameron was first elected in 2010, overseeing



**George Osborne**

a program of spending cuts and tax rises intended to eliminate the budget deficit following the global financial crisis. But he was already widely predicted to miss his target of balancing the books by 2020, and the economic shock caused by the referendum result could make his goal even harder. Two ratings agencies on Monday downgraded Britain's credit rating, with Standard & Poor's removing the country's coveted AAA status.

"The Brexit result could lead to a deterioration of the UK's economic performance, including its large financial services sector, which is a major contributor to employment," it said. A shrewd political operator, Osborne worked closely with Cameron to make the Tories electable after years in opposition and has long been viewed as a potential successor, including by the prime minister himself. — AFP

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You will be responsible for generating new business to achieve defined targets in terms of no. of customers, volumes and revenue, achieving the targets set in terms of product mix, active/passive ratio, liability targets, no. of transactions, achieving the budgeted cross sell targets, consistency and penetration, and ensuring coverage of customer base

Apply Now **JB3546031**

**Plastic Surgeon**  
Faisal Polyclinic  
Kuwait

You will be responsible for performing a wide variety of tasks, and are expected to have a wide degree of creativity and latitude, reporting to the chief of surgery or work independently, as well as, performing a variety of surgical procedures.

Apply Now **JB3545887**

**Senior Decision Analyst**  
Sofomation FZ  
Kuwait

You will be responsible for helping adapt, build and QC the economic model used for development planning strategic insights and valuations for all parties, ensuring decision quality going into and coming out of the process of strategic and development options valuation, as well as, working with the Project Director, Facilities Manager, Business Services Manager, etc.

Apply Now **JB3545828**

**Brand Manager**  
SOS HR Solutions  
Kuwait

You will be responsible for analyzing how the brand is positioned in the market and crystallize targeted consumers insights, taking brand ownership and providing the vision, mission, goals and strategies to match up to, as well as, translating brand strategies into brand plans, brand positioning and go-to-market strategies.

Apply Now **JB3545817**

**Neurologist**  
Alia International Hospital  
Kuwait

You will be responsible for planning, directing, administering, and supervising patient care activities for patients suffering from disorders of the nervous system in accordance with Ministry of Health regulations, Hospital Medical Staff bylaws, rules & regulations and Medicine Department policy & guidelines.

Apply Now **JB3545092**

**Assistant Pastry Chef**  
Jamal Confectionery and Catering Co. - Kuwait

You will be responsible for preparing cakes and decorating all designs and customized cakes for all occasions, preparing icings for cakes and working with fondant easily, baking and filling a variety of sweets dishes, helping with budget preparation, as well as, developing, testing and costing our new recipes and menu items for the Pastry Shop/Bakery.

Apply Now **JB3545813**

**Key Account Manager**  
Mindfield Resources  
KSA

You will be responsible for developing and maintaining a number of retail accounts in the Eastern region, working closely with the National Account Manager to influence business and driving relationships between you and the customer, as well as, assisting in all elements of the business processes including forecasting, promotional planning/evaluation, etc.

Apply Now **JB3546244**

**Accounting Analyst / Financial Accountant - Saudi Airlines Cargo Company - KSA**

You will be responsible for carrying out the daily accounting tasks, routine and non routine reports according to the procedures and financial systems to be reviewed by the direct manager to make sure of its accuracy, as well as, executing regularity accounting financial analysis by using methods and accounting systems

Apply Now **JB3546224**

**Manufacturing Engineer - Sheet Metal - Michael Page International Limited - KSA**

You will be responsible for developing manufacturing planning, initial tooling requirements and costs, capability requirements, control plans, standard works and assessments, as well as, interpreting and collaborating closely with design/test engineering, product engineering, new product program management and support functions.

Apply Now **JB3546154**

**Information Security Governance Chief Analyst**  
Iadawul - KSA

You will be responsible for reviewing the Information Security Policy and Procedures and continually updating them periodically and when needed, conducting Information Security Awareness, training and effective communication, as well as, evaluating the customized Information Security Awareness and Training requirements.

Apply Now **JB3545878**

**Assistant Project Manager**  
Agility Global Logistics  
UAE

You will be responsible for overseeing the complete planning & execution procedures and operations, defining, managing and ensuring task completion of the Project Planning and Execution team, as well as, setting, agreeing, implementing and monitoring the processes and their execution with all support functions.

Apply Now **JB3545854**

**Property Consultant/ Real Estate Agent**  
Algebra Real Estate - UAE

You will be responsible for being knowledgeable about property, sales and leasing brokerage, discussing conditions of sale with prospective clients, promoting sales of properties through advertisements, open houses, and participation in multiple listing services and coordinating appointments to show homes to prospective buyers.

Apply Now **JB3544859**

**Manager - Windows**  
Huxley Banking & Financial Services - UAE

You will be responsible for ensuring the service level is maintained and security and integrity of data are preserved, enhancing and growing infrastructure and shared services, achieving targeted metrics relating to cost, productivity, growth, retention, services levels and service quality, as well as, delivering all Windows OS, Virtualization and Core infrastructure services.

Apply Now **JB3545260**

**Trade Marketing Executive**  
Lime Sourcing  
UAE

You will be responsible for managing the point of sales material including (the quotations, I POs, distribution, budget, record & Inventory), coming up with more efficient solutions for POSM and source for the best suppliers, building a good relationship with the suppliers and coming up with creative solutions for POSM Collaborates with marketing team.

Apply Now **JB3545476**

**Sales Account Manager**  
Torch Security  
Qatar

You will be responsible for acquiring companies that have no significant revenue history with our organization by selling our products and services, initiating and developing a strong relationship with companies, determining customers' needs, and preparing proposals to sell services that address these needs.

Apply Now **JB3302845**

**Business Analyst**  
il horizons  
Qatar

You will be responsible for gathering, analyzing, and prioritizing system detailed and operational requirements, providing Consultancy services by gathering, and analyzing customer and business requirements, as well as, conducting a Vision/scope document that states business opportunities, scope, feature list, and solution design strategies.

Apply Now **JB3546040**

**Respiratory Therapist**  
BPO+  
Qatar

You will be responsible for assessing cardio-respiratory status including physical assessment, response to treatment, non invasive monitoring, laboratory and radiological data, assessing appropriateness of clinical and/or technical support and treatment as related to respiratory therapy, as well as, anticipating and identifying crisis situations arising from specific illness.

Apply Now **JB3477882**

**Executive - Transaction Real Estate**  
Ernst & Young - Qatar

You will be responsible for participating in engagements related to strategic real estate advisory services, transaction support, asset management, project management, Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A), preparing reports, presentations and summaries of memos, as well as, preparing final meetings with the client and performing detailed reviews of the working papers prepared by consultants and other senior consultants.

Apply Now **JB3545871**

## PAK MILITARY COURTS CHALLENGED OVER ABUSE CLAIMS

**ISLAMABAD:** Pakistan's Supreme Court is expected to rule soon on whether secret military tribunals set up in early 2015 to try civilians accused of terrorism have violated the constitutional rights of 12 people convicted by these courts. The military tribunals were established after the massacre in December, 2014, by Islamist militants of 134 students at an army-run school in the northwestern city of Peshawar. Lawmakers authorized the courts in January last year, handing over significant judicial control to a military that is already powerful and has ruled the country of 190 million people for about half of its existence.

They have so far convicted 81 people, 77 of whom were sentenced to death, according to the military's press wing. There have been no acquittals, the military says. At least 27 convicts have filed appeals with civilian courts, alleging coercion of confessions and denial of access to lawyers and to evidence used against them, according to Reuters research and local media reports. Of the 12 cases that have come before the Supreme Court, the legal arguments have concluded in nine. The court has been hearing the case for the remaining appellants, and is expected to give a verdict on all 12 cases together, possibly in the coming weeks.

Lawyers and relatives of 10 convicts contacted by

Reuters have all complained of abuse by the military courts while in custody and of serious procedural shortcomings. Of those 10, three are before the Supreme Court, one is at Islamabad High Court and six at Lahore High Court. Reuters was unable to independently verify any of the accusations. Reuters provided written details of the specific allegations in all 10 cases to the military's public relations wing. The office declined to respond.

### Disappeared

One of the convicts, Sabir Shah, was already on trial for murder in a civilian court when he disappeared from Lahore's central jail in April 2015, according to his family and lawyers. Five months later, his family read a press release saying he had been sentenced to death by a military court. His lawyers say they still do not know what evidence was used against him. Shah was originally on trial for murder as an alleged member of a sectarian group's hit squad, and that process had not been concluded.

Even after the family filed an appeal with the Lahore High Court, Shah's lawyers said they were not allowed to view the military's evidence. "All of these things will only become clear to us when we are provided the (military) judgment," said Malik Adeel, who has filed an appeal

with the Lahore High Court. The military said in a press release that Shah confessed to having been involved in the murder of Lahore lawyer Syed Arshad Ali.

Parliamentarians have explained that the courts were borne out of necessity in the face of the militant threat, because Pakistan's judicial system was inefficient and some judges were afraid to take on cases for fear of retaliation. "It was endorsed by the parliament. If the normal courts could do the job, why would the military want to do it?" said a senior security official, who asked not to be named because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

At a recent Supreme Court hearing challenging the military tribunals, Pakistan's chief justice questioned whether convicts should be allowed basic legal rights. "Terrorists are challenging the constitution and the law of the land, but their counsel are citing fundamental rights in their defence," said Anwar Zaheer Jamali, adding that international war crimes precedent allows summary trials and executions. At a separate hearing, he added: "There are exceptional circumstances, therefore exceptional measures have to be taken by the state for proper dispensation of justice." The senior security source added: "If someone kills 30 people, you are telling me I should give him justice? Justice should be

given to those 30 people killed."

### 'Coerced' Confessions, Threats

All the lawyers representing the 10 convicts whose cases Reuters examined said they were denied access to court records and were not allowed to meet their clients for the duration of the military trial. They also said their clients were either coerced into confessing or deny confessing at all. According to the military's press wing, 78 of 81 accused were convicted on the basis of confessions. Human rights lawyer Asma Jehangir, counsel for two people who have appealed their death sentences, said her clients were forced to affix a thumbprint to a blank sheet of paper, which was later turned into a confession. The military declined to comment on those allegations.

Two families and one lawyer also said they had been harassed or threatened after filing appeals. The father of one convict told Reuters that four family members were abducted by men in military uniform and beaten. "They said that we have dishonoured them and the army as an institution, and that it would be better for us if we withdraw the," said the father, who spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisals. Reuters could not independently verify his account, and the military declined to comment. — Reuters

## PHILIPPINES' DUTERTE LOOKING TO DESTROY 'IMPERIAL MANILA'

### PRESIDENT-ELECT VOWS TO REWRITE CONSTITUTION

**MANILA:** Philippine president-elect Rodrigo Duterte takes office this week looking to end the domination of "Imperial Manila" with a radical shift to federalism that he says is vital to fighting poverty and ending a deadly Muslim separatist insurgency. Duterte, who won last month's elections in a landslide, has vowed to have the constitution rewritten to achieve his bold plans - which would see power devolved from the central government in the capital to newly created states governing the current 81 provinces.

"It (the current system) is an excuse for them to hang onto power in Imperial Manila. They have always been there in one single office, running the Philippines," Duterte said in a speech during the election campaign. Such comments are typical fare for Duterte, an anti-establishment figure who relentlessly rails against the elites who have mostly ruled the Philippines since independence from the United States after World War II.

Duterte will on Thursday take over from Benigno Aquino, who remains a generally popular figure but nevertheless comes from one of the remarkably small number of wealthy clans that have long dominated national politics and overseen one of Asia's biggest rich-poor divides. Duterte will become the first president from the vast southern region of Mindanao, which is one of the nation's poorest areas and home to decades-old communist and Muslim insurgencies that have claimed tens of thousands of lives.

Highlighting his antipathy for Manila rule, Duterte snubbed his proclamation by Congress as the winner of the elections - an event normally rich in tradition and ceremony. Duterte has also travelled to the capital just once since winning the election, and vowed to spend the bulk of his six years as president based in Davao, which has less than two percent of the nation's population and is 1,000 km from Manila.

### Peace, Poverty Hopes

Under Duterte's federal set-up, the states will be largely autonomous and allowed to retain most of their income, rather than remitting it to the central government, which he believes will be a key driver of economic growth in the impoverished countryside. He has said the central government would retain essential national functions, such as defence, foreign policy and customs. Duterte has repeatedly said one of the main benefits of federalism would be to end separatist rebellions waged by the country's impoverished Muslim minority because they would in effect have autonomy in the new states. "Nothing short of a federal structure will give



**DAVAO CITY:** This photo taken on June 27, 2016 shows Philippines president-elect Rodrigo Duterte gesturing as he speaks before city hall employees in this city on the southern island of Mindanao. — AFP

Mindanao peace," Duterte said on the campaign trail, and broadly supportive comments from Muslim rebel leaders in recent weeks have indicated they are receptive to the plans. Amending the constitution is a highly sensitive subject in the Philippines. Lawmakers have not touched it since it was rewritten in 1987 following the "People Power" revolution that overthrew dictator Ferdinand Marcos the previous year.

The constitution was redrawn to put in place safeguards to avoid another dictatorship, including limiting presidents to a single term of six years. Tentative attempts by previous presidents to revise the constitution failed amid strong opposition from groups that feared the leaders were merely seeking to extend their reigns.

### Riding High

However Duterte, flush with his election success that has seen political opponents swiftly shift allegiances to him, is confident of enjoying big majorities in both houses of congress, as well as broad popular support, to propel his push. With Duterte due to turn 77 at the end of his presidential term, many voters do not see him as someone

who will want to extend his rule. Seeking to capitalize on his early-term popularity, Duterte is aiming to lay the framework for a referendum to change the constitution in the first half of his presidency, according to his allies.

Still, what would be the biggest shake-up to Philippines' democracy since 1987 is by no means assured, and political analysts say opposition could build. Critics have accused Duterte of being very vague about his plans, questioned whether federalism is indeed the panacea to the nation's woes, and warned that it could cause more problems than it solved.

In a nation which already has issues with weak governance like the Philippines, federalism might result at worst in the breakup of the country, according to Temario Rivera, chairman of the Center for People Empowerment in Governance think-tank. He said federalism could strengthen the hold of political dynasties or clans that already monopolize power in local governments, often through the use of private armies, with a weakened central authority unable to respond. "Shifting to a federal system will have uncertain and unpredictable results," Rivera said. — AFP

## EMPTY HOUSES AND JOBLESS MAIDS: INDONESIA EXPAT EXODUS QUICKENS

**JAKARTA:** Foreign workers are leaving Indonesia at an increasing rate due to the slump in commodity prices that has forced resource companies to slash jobs at a time when the government has also introduced tighter regulations on expatriates in Southeast Asia's biggest economy. The number of temporary residential permits issued to foreigners, including renewals, has fallen for the past few years to 171,944 in 2015 from 194,162 in 2013. In the first five months of this year, there were 72,399 issued but many of those who provide services to expats say they expect a further drop over the whole of 2016 as they are seeing very few new arrivals.

As a result, rents on upmarket homes in Jakarta have plummeted and enrolment at international schools has fallen. "The expat drought has been really noticeable in 2016," said Deborah Minicola, a Jakarta-based technical advisor at international relocation company Allied Pickfords. "This time the expat community has been hit from so many angles." The outflow is likely to dent higher-end consumption and drive up unemployment, economists say, as big-spending expats tend to hire multiple workers ranging from housemaids and drivers to gardeners and bodyguards.

Some workers who recently lost their jobs are finding it difficult to get new employment. Christiana Ambar Putriani is one example. She has been looking for a job as a part-time housekeeper in Jakarta after her former bosses left for South America a few weeks ago. She hopes to work for an expat family again as foreigners tend to pay higher wages but it is getting tougher to find such jobs, she says.

The Australian Independent School in Balikpapan, a city in Indonesia's resource-dependent province of East Kalimantan, expects a 36 percent reduction in its student body this year, said human resources officer Ni Ketut Novia. Three international schools in the city have shut over the past 2-3 years due to the mass layoffs at mining contractors and a drastic cut in expat allowances, she said. The expat exodus will also create skill shortages that could hold the country back when the commodity downturn is reversed.

Low resource prices and a slowdown in demand from China, one of Indonesia's top export markets, have reduced the incentive for exploration or production in the oil and gas and mining sectors, forcing companies to hack back on staff costs. The mining, oil and gas and geothermal sectors accounted for 7.62 percent of Indonesia's gross domestic product in 2015, down from 11.81 percent in 2011. Drilling contractors and exploration site surveyors are among the worst-hit, industry experts say.

Oil and gas companies operating in the country include Chevron Corp, Total SA and Exxon Mobil Corp. Total's Indonesia spokesman said the company has "manpower planning which is in line with our evolution of activities." Chevron, which is selling assets in Asia including some in Indonesia, declined to comment. Exxon also did not comment.

### Policy Confusion

A PwC survey of 53 firms in the oil and gas sector, released in May, found that almost three-quarters of respondents expected a smaller expat workforce in future, partly because of tighter controls on hiring foreigners. Indonesia opened up dozens of business sectors recently to foreign investors in a move described by President Joko Widodo as a "Big Bang" liberalization of the economy. Yet business groups say there are mixed signals from the government, which imposes restrictions apparently under pressure from protectionist voices around the president.

The manpower ministry is encouraging companies to hire more Indonesian workers and is tightening its scrutiny of the work permit applications from foreigners, said Ratna Agustina, a director at a firm that provides services to expats. The government also sets an age ceiling of 55 years for foreigners employed by oil and gas contractors, downstream businesses and supporting service providers - with certain exemptions for top executives or those with skills deemed crucial. "If they are above 55, the assumption is that many have ailments and are less productive," said Taslim Yunus, a spokesman for the energy regulator.

Adding to the regulatory uncertainty, the government last year introduced requirements for foreigners to be proficient in Indonesian and for companies to hire 10 locals for every expat, only to backtrack less than 12 months later after businesses raised strong protests. The manpower ministry did not respond to requests for comment. The expat exodus hasn't hit the rest of the region as hard.

In neighboring Singapore, the number of foreign professionals, managers and executives earning at least \$53,300 (\$2,500) a month actually rose 5 percent to 187,900 as of December 2015 from a year earlier, the latest official data show. Banks are hiring more compliance professionals in the city-state, but many condominium units have been left empty and office vacancy rates are near their highest level in almost a decade, partly due to the departure of expats from the energy and commodities sector, property agents say. — Reuters

## JAPAN REVAMPS CHILD WELFARE, BUT SCORES INSTITUTIONALIZED

**TOKYO:** A baby lies in a metal-bar cot drinking from a bottle perched on his pillow in a Tokyo orphanage. There's no one to hold and feed him or offer words of comfort. The director of the institution, nurses scurrying busily around him, says he would like extra time and staff to pay more attention to the 70 babies and toddlers under his care, but it's not going to happen. "I wish we could hold them in our arms, one by one," says Yoshio Imada. "Some people call this abuse. It's a difficult situation."

Japan last month passed a bill overhauling its 70-year-old Child Welfare Law, recognizing a child's right to grow up in a family setting. It is short on specific, immediate measures, but experts say it's a first step to making institutions a last resort, rather than the default position. A staggering 85 percent of the 40,000 children who can't live with their parents in Japan are institutionalised, by far the highest ratio among rich countries and prompting repeated warnings from the United Nations. Even with the revised law, Japan's goal isn't lofty: family-based care for a third of those children by 2029.

The statistics raise the question: where can foster parents be found for tens of thousands of children in need? "We do the best we can but it's obvious that a one-on-one relationship that foster parents provide is better," says Kazumitsu Tsuru, who heads another infant institution in Tokyo. "All children need someone who is dedicated only to them." A major hindrance is a lack of awareness about the fostering system - there are just 10,200 registered foster families, while adoptions are even rarer, at 544 last year. And in a society that treasures uniformity and blood ties, fostered or adopted children are often stigmatized.

A rise in reports of child abuse has also

proved a stumbling block. Welfare workers are too busy taking children out of immediate harm. Placing them in institutions is faster than finding a foster family. Too busy with the next victim, welfare workers also have little time to follow up with those children, leaving them to languish for years.

### Starved of Attention

One foster mother knows all too well how harmful institutionalization can be. Now 16, her foster son lulls himself to sleep by pounding his head against his pillow for several minutes. It's a habit he picked up as an attention-starved child growing up in institutions until he turned six. He is a charming boy, his foster mother says, but erratic. "When I call him out on something he does wrong, he lashes out at me as if he can do whatever he wants," she says. "He'll do hateful things and at other times he'll say, 'Mummy, I love you,' in a childish voice that's not normal for a teenage boy. The emotional ups-and-downs wear you out."

Another mother describes a child she took in from an institution at age five, just when he was beginning to realize he had no family. He flew into fits of rage at school and was afraid to leave the house. Needing to test his new family's affection, he would ask: "Mummy, what would you do if I died?" At other times, he would beg to be fed milk out of a bottle in his foster mother's lap.

The warehousing of Japan's most vulnerable highlights the paradox in a country struggling with a stalled birthrate and ballooning social welfare costs as the population ages. Experts say institutionalization costs three times as much as fostering, and that Japan's tight job market would be better-served by shifting those caregivers to daycare services to allow more women to work. — Reuters

## BABY STEPPES: MONGOLIAN WOMEN FACE POLL BATTLE

**ULAN BATOR:** Mongolian pop singer and single mother Nara swapped her trademark miniskirt for a traditional "deel" to campaign in tented slums for a seat in parliament, but would-be female parliamentarians face an uphill challenge as the country goes to the polls today. Women politicians have been making strides in Asia in recent years, and on some measures Mongolia fares well on gender equality, but weeks ago mostly male MPs voted to reduce a quota for female candidates.

Nara, 33, whose full name is Munkhturiin Narantuya and who has a two-year-old son, aspires to "change the system, involve myself to influence how the system should work", she told AFP as she walked past open drains in Mongolia's capital Ulan Bator. Best known for her hit single "Discovering Myself", she has 175,000 Facebook fans and has used social media to highlight her experiences of domestic violence.

But she has faced an onslaught of gender-related insults during her campaign, with one video posted online pillorying her for working as a "hostess" at a bar in Japan. "I am frustrated about why we can't improve our health care, why can only rich people go abroad and be treated," she said. "My competitors try to slander me based on who I was and how I acted." In some areas Mongolia is unusually progressive - more than two-thirds of the country's higher degrees go to women, according to the ministry of human development and social welfare.

The education gap starts at a young age, with rural families sending school-aged girls to towns for schooling while boys are kept at home to help with herding livestock. But conservative attitudes endure and discrimination is still rife, with women's wages on average 19 percent lower than men's, according to a survey by Mongolia's National University.

### Share Power

Women have been swept to power in recent

years across Asia, most recently in Taiwan where Tsai Ing-wen was elected president in January. Park Geun-hye, daughter of a former dictator, has led South Korea since 2013 and Yingluck Shinawatra was prime minister of Thailand from 2011 to 2014. In the last election, Mongolia had a quota requiring 30 percent of candidates to be female, which saw 11 women elected to the State Great Hural out of 76 seats.

Female lawmakers have been credited with pushing forward legislation which improved women's lives, including increased punishments for domestic violence and more childcare centres, helping mothers enter the workforce. "Problems that usually affect women such as kindergarten and other social issues cannot be solved without women,"

said Luvsangiin Erdenechimeg, head of the women's caucus in parliament. "We solved a number of important legal issues that were never allowed in the previous parliaments where only men were members," she told AFP.

She is standing for a second term with the ruling Democratic party, but with the female candidate quota cut to 20 percent this year, she says that there is "no will" to bring women into political leadership. The rule change "reveals that the majority (men) don't want to share power with women", Zolzaya Batkhuyag, director at advocacy group Women for Change, told AFP. Some women are campaigning on issues beyond gender, in a country whose rich resources have yet to fulfil its people's hopes for higher living standards. — AFP



**ULAN BATOR:** This picture taken on June 22, 2016 shows Baatarjaviin Munkhsoyol, an independent candidate, delivering a speech during a campaign event in the Sukhbaatar district of the capital ahead of parliamentary elections today. — AFP



ISLAMABAD: Pakistani Muslims eat to break their fast during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan in grand Faisal mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan. Muslims across the world are observing the holy fasting month of Ramadan, where they refrain from eating, drinking and smoking from dawn to dusk. —AP

EMIRATI WOMAN JAILED

ABU DHABI: An Abu Dhabi court has jailed the wife of a prominent Emirati for 10 years after convicting her of spying for Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement, local media reported yesterday. The Emirati woman of Lebanese origin was found guilty of "handing over classified information about top leaders, including how political and economic decisions are made at the highest authorities in the country, to two members of the intelligence wing of Hezbollah," Gulf News reported.

She had also provided "sensitive information" on meetings of senior officials in the United Arab Emirates, exploiting her marriage to "a very important person and her relationships with men and women in political circles close to the decision-making authority in the country," the daily added. Local media said the woman was a 48-year-old television presenter they identified by her initials RMA. They did not elaborate on her husband's position but said he had been unaware of her activities.

The state security court in Abu Dhabi convicted her of "putting the country's interests and security at risk by delivering such classified information to the Iranian intelligence through agents of Hezbollah," Gulf News said. The UAE and other Gulf Arab states have blacklisted Hezbollah as a "terrorist" group. In April, the court sentenced three Lebanese, including a Canadian dual national, to six months in prison on charges of forming a local affiliate of Hezbollah. Hezbollah is fighting in Syria in support of the government of President Bashar Al-Assad. Gulf Arab states have backed rebels fighting to oust him. — AFP

YEMEN COUNTER-TERRORISM MISSION SHOWS UAE AMBITION

Continued from Page 1

from running Mukalla, the country's third largest port. The UAE's Al-Qaeda push meets a demand made repeatedly by Washington that Gulf Arabs do more to ensure their own security. But a so-called "Obama Doctrine" of relying on local allies instead of big US military deployments abroad to fight militant jihadis has been seen as stumbling in Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan, despite funding and training of local partners. Yemen may prove a happier example, its supporters hope.

Stamina to endure

The UAE response is to use Special Forces to try to sharpen a long-running push against Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), seen as one of the jihadi network's most capable. The Emiratis are working with the United States to train, manage and equip Yemeni fighters in that effort, signaling they have the stamina to stick with a campaign that could last long after the separate confrontation with the Houthis is resolved.

Risks involved

After months of preparation the UAE orchestrated the ousting of Al-Qaeda from Mukalla by Yemeni allies in a complex operation backed by US intelligence support and aerial refuelling. While Al-Qaeda said it staged a tactical retreat without losses, it in fact took a beating, coalition sources said. Coalition forces estimate al Qaeda lost 450 fighters, while the coalition lost 54 Yemeni fighters. Al-Qaeda fled inland. "The focus is on not allowing al Qaeda to recover. Our

intent is to keep them on the back foot," said a senior coalition military official, who declined to be named.

"They are the most capable counter-terrorism force on the ground in Yemen," said a US counter-terrorism official familiar with Yemen, who requested anonymity. Some in the US government initially doubted the UAE's sincerity in attacking AQAP, he said, but the Mukalla operation showed that "that's not the case". The UAE's counter-terrorism gambit comes with risks. By taking such a central role in Yemen the UAE places itself in the middle of its turbulent politics. In particular its presence mainly in the south risks entanglement in possible unrest arising from a re-energized separatist movement, whose demands for independence for the south are growing louder.

Despite their cultural affinities, UAE officers must take care not to get on the wrong side of tribes for whom short-term alliances with jihadis are a survival tactic. Militants continue to assassinate coalition-backed military officers and stage suicide bombings of Yemeni army and police compounds. And while the UAE has poured in more than \$400 million in humanitarian aid, Yemenis remain impatient for reconstruction.

"Most people still think that Saudi Arabia and the UAE are angels because they saved us from the Houthis," said Nisma Al-Ozebi, a 21-year-old civil engineering student in Aden. "But some people are coming to think they came to Yemen not because they love us and want to help us, but because they have their own interests here." For now, Abu Dhabi is undaunted by the challenge and insists its campaign protects the whole region. It suggests it has the Gulf Arab heritage to help navigate complex tribal networks. "As non-Westerners we're able to operate with Yemeni fighters and gain their trust," the coalition official said.

Washington is paying attention. US action against Al-Qaeda was at first disrupted by the war with the Houthis,

which forced the evacuation in early 2015 of the program's US personnel. But after the Mukalla operation, the Pentagon said a small number of military personnel were deployed to help UAE counter-terrorism efforts, in a possible sign of increasing US willingness to re-engage on the ground. The Pentagon said last week that this support mission, initially seen as short term, is being extended.

Michael Morrell, former deputy director of the CIA, wrote in Politico that the UAE's Mukalla assault was a "text-book solution of dealing with terrorist groups that hold territory". From the Yemen war's outset, the UAE took on a big role. Days after hostilities began, an eight-person Special Forces team of forward air controllers landed discreetly in a CH-47 Chinook helicopter on Aden's Little Aden peninsula on April 13-15, 2015, the senior coalition military official said.

The team linked up with a Yemeni agent on the ground, part of the anti-Houthi southern resistance, the official said. Within 10 days there was an amphibious landing to insert more troops. In ensuing weeks, 4-to-6 man teams of UAE Special Forces trained groups of 50 Yemenis and provided leadership, building a 2,000-strong team of resistance fighters in Aden. In July 2015, after months of preparation and liaison with Saudi-led partners, the force drove the Houthis from Aden and from a big air base nearby. The UAE went on to train 4,000 Yemeni fighters in Assab, Eritrea, as a force to help prevent lawlessness in the sprawling city.

In the autumn the UAE smoothly rotated thousands of its troops in-theatre, while planning for the Mukalla operation. "The Emiratis has played an exceptional role," Mahmoud Al-Salmi, a professor at Aden University, said of the UAE's rebuilding of hospitals and schools. The coalition initially seemed to tolerate jihadis in the south, as they shared its anti-Houthi agenda, but later cracked down on them, he said. — Reuters

THE BATTLE OF THE SOUL

Continued from Page 1

When the heart is fasting, one finds solitude even when in a crowd, feels closeness to Allah as never before.

Fasting is the best expression of true devotion to Allah. Allah Almighty says, "Fasting is for me and I will personally reward it." On the surface, it seems irrational to deprive oneself of bodily basic needs for an indefinite purpose. However, it is an opportunity to nourish the thirsty soul that is crumbling in the pursuit of material desires. Fasting helps us summon our spiritual powers to experience of spiritual enlightenment and communion with Allah. Muslims are asked to reverse the routine and to give supremacy for the spirit over the body. They leave and step away from the desires and demands of the flesh to sustain their spiritual independence and growth.

It is the love and pursuit of material things that often makes us forget Allah and become distanced from Him. Ramadan is an opportunity to reverse this reality. It is done out of true love to get closer to Allah. The purpose of fasting is to make the awareness of God and the relationship between the human self and the divine more acute and more conscious. When satiated by food and drink, an unsightly metal statue is seated where your spirit should be. When fasting, good habits gather like helpful

friends. [Rumi, Divan: Ghazal 1739]

Fasting can effectively bring and foster a whole range of concepts and senses for the spirit and the heart. It teaches us observance based on sincere love and devotion, purity of the heart, self-restraint, patience, tolerance, thankfulness for blessings, closeness to Allah, humility and seeking refuge in God only, compassion for the poor, brotherhood, the transience of life and the futility of self-desires and greed. In a nutshell, we realize that we need God more than we need all worldly pleasures and that maintaining a closer connection with Allah brings about unparalleled comfort and happiness.

Ramadan is a battlefield to regain the captive spirit and liberate it to rise to higher horizons. Fasting is an act of cleansing for the body, the mind, and the heart. It is such a tremendous upheaval for our complete being, a release from all the negativity that we carry within our flawed lives, and a push towards the spiritual growth we often fail to initiate before Ramadan.

Courtesy of the TIES Center, whose mission is to empower Kuwait's expats through social and educational services that promote a positive and productive role in society, and to facilitate opportunities for intra- and interfaith interactions that promote social solidarity. For more information, please call 25231015/6 or e-mail: info@tiescenter.net.

JABER HOSPITAL 'EXCLUSIVE FOR KUWAITIS'

Continued from Page 1

kind in Kuwait in addition to a medical mall that is one kilometer long, containing various shops and resting areas for patients and visitors.

Last year, Kuwait established a shareholding company through the public-private-partnership (PPP) system, to service expatriates health needs. The company intends to build three 700-bed hospitals that provide integrated medical services to foreigners in Kuwait. The company also sells health insurance policies inside and

outside Kuwait. Expatriate health insurance would rise to KD 150 per person from the KD 50 per person per year. Meanwhile, MP Khalil Al-Saleh has praised Health Minister Ali Al-Obaidi for making the new hospital named as Jaber Hospital exclusively for Kuwaiti citizens, barring expatriates from medical treatment there. He described the decision as brave and will contribute to boosting the public health services provided to Kuwaiti citizens. The lawmaker called for expanding this experiment by allocating one public hospital in each governorate for Kuwaiti patients only.

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## Issues

US-UK ALLIANCE SEEN  
OUTWEIGHING BREXIT  
TRADE CONCERNS

By David Lawder

The United States looks unlikely to follow through on a threat to relegate Britain to second-class trade status once its ally leaves the European Union, as it weighs the potential costs of undermining the countries' close diplomatic and military ties. President Barack Obama had warned ahead of Thursday's "Brexit" referendum that Britain would move to the back of the queue on US trade priorities if it voted to leave the bloc, well behind a much-larger US-European trade deal now under negotiation. But in the face of a severe financial market reaction to the vote to leave the EU, US officials are making more supportive statements about the strength of the US-UK "special relationship" and stressing that they are still analyzing the impact of "Brexit" on the European trade talks.

Security and trade experts said Washington is wary of adding to Britain's economic pain, which could hamper its ability to maintain its commitments to NATO and U.S.-led efforts to fight terrorism. A poorer Britain may not be able to afford its pledge to spend 2 percent of its GDP on defense at a time of increasing threats from Russia, nor a new fleet of nuclear submarines that form a key part of the West's nuclear missile deterrent.

"The UK could become smaller and weaker. If that happens, then you wonder if they can sustain the defense spending and the effort to be globally oriented," Nicholas Burns, a former US ambassador to NATO, told reporters after an Atlantic Council event on Monday. "That's what we worry about with Britain leaving. Britain was the strongest American partner inside the EU." Some trade experts also said that a deal on the US-European Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) was unlikely for years now without Britain at the table, which could open an opportunity for a separate deal with the UK.

"The 'back of the queue' statement will be forgotten by the next administration, if not sooner," said Gary Hufbauer, a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute of International Economics. "In my view, TTIP is either dormant or dead in the wake of Brexit." It may be easier for Washington to negotiate a bilateral trade deal with Britain, a "like-minded" country that is more open to free trade than the 27 remaining EU members, said Miriam Sapiro, a former deputy US Trade Representative. "A US-UK agreement could create leverage to get TTIP done more quickly, and it's an easier agreement to do," Sapiro said.

## Calming words

As US Treasury Secretary Jack Lew and Secretary of State John Kerry sought to contain the damage from Brexit in public appearances on Monday, they both refrained from repeating Obama's trade warning. Lew told CNBC that a trade deal with the EU remains a priority because it has been under negotiation for several years, but he did not rule out the possibility of separate talks with Britain once Europe and the UK agree on separation terms.

"Any separate negotiation with the UK will have to take a course in part determined by what happens between the UK and EU," Lew said. "So it is, I think, very much in the interest of all parties to maintain open trade relationships. The US and the UK have a special, deep relationship that will continue." White House spokesman Eric Schultz added that the administration was "working through" how the "Brexit" vote would affect the TTIP talks.

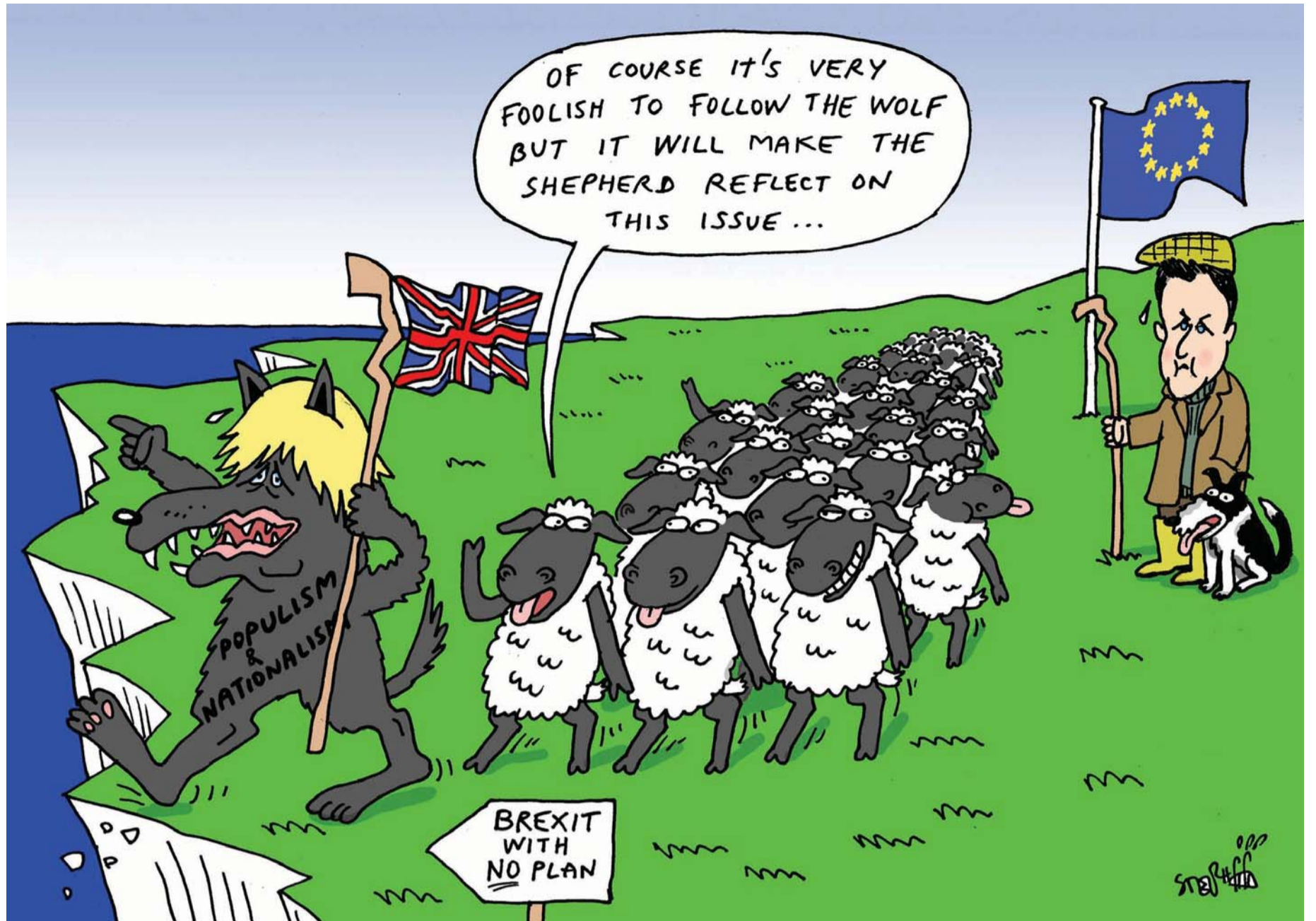
"If we have to start negotiating separately with the United Kingdom, that's going to start from a different vantage point, especially because we've had years of progress," Schultz said that US-UK economic ties "remain strong and vibrant as they have been, and the special relationship had not suffered because of the vote. The more conciliatory tone is about stabilizing the economic situation," said Heather Conley, European Program Director at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington think tank. She added that since markets were "already punishing" Britain for the vote, there was no need for the Obama administration to pile on.

## Recession threatens budget

Goldman Sachs' top economists told clients that they expect Britain to enter a recession within the next year as investment plans shrink and credit tightens in the vote's wake. Both Standard and Poor's and Fitch Ratings cut their credit ratings for Britain, anticipating damage to its economy from Brexit, while the shares of British homebuilders have tumbled as much as 40 percent in two days.

The British government is scheduled to make a final decision this year on replacing the four aging submarines that carry its Trident intercontinental nuclear ballistic missiles, a program that could cost as much as \$167 billion. British Defense Minister Michael Fallon told parliament on Monday that the government maintains its commitment to the BAE Systems program and hoped a vote on the decision would be held "shortly." In another twist, Britain's submarine fleet is based at Faslane on Scotland's west coast. Should Brexit prompt Scotland to make a second, successful bid for independence, Britain may be faced with having to spend billions to build a new submarine base. —Reuters

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## BREXIT CASTS DOUBT OVER EU, NATO DEFENSE STRATEGY

By Robin Emmott

Britain's departure from the European Union risks undermining Europe's new defense strategy, days before NATO and EU governments sign a landmark pact to confront a range of threats from Russia to the Mediterranean, officials say. The European Union and the United States plan to use two separate EU and NATO summits in the coming days to push reforms of the West's two main security pillars, aimed at reducing Europe's reliance on Washington in its own neighborhood. "Things are going to be a lot harder," said a senior Western defense official involved in EU-NATO cooperation. "NATO planned on linking itself up to a stronger European Union, not being the default option for a weakened, divided bloc."

Facing a more aggressive Russia, a migrant crisis and failing states on its borders, the European Union needs to "act autonomously if and when necessary," EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini will tell EU leaders on Tuesday as she unveils a five-year global strategy plan seen by Reuters. That symbolic step, which urges governments to coordinate defense spending, has strong support from Germany and France. But it could look hollow without Britain, which has the largest military budget in the EU, diplomats say.

One of five EU countries with the resources to command an overseas military mission for the bloc, Britain has been a big contributor to EU-led operations, paying about 15 percent of the costs and providing assets. Britain also leads the EU's counter-piracy "Operation Atalanta" mission off the Horn of Africa, has ships patrolling the Mediterranean and is committed to providing troops for EU battle groups, although they have never been deployed. Mogherini's proposals to EU leaders will include a call for EU-led missions to work with a new EU border guard to control migrant flows. That could be harder without British ships.

"What Britain does matters," said NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg. "Britain is the biggest security provider in Europe." But fearing plans for an EU army, Britain has resisted closer European defence cooperation. British Defense Secretary Michael Fallon told Reuters this month: "Nobody wants to see their troops controlled from Brussels." Some hope that, without London blocking EU plans, France and Germany could lead what Berlin calls a "common defence union" to develop and share assets. France has pushed the idea of an EU military headquarters, independent of NATO, to run missions.

**No 'little England'**  
After financial crises that have cut defense spending and

Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimea, EU governments have said they will do more to guarantee their own security and cannot rely on the United States indefinitely. As part of that, NATO and the European Union will cement their growing cooperation from the Baltics to the Aegean at a NATO summit in Warsaw in July.

At the EU level, governments are discussing a common defense fund to pool resources to develop helicopters, drones, ships and satellites. Until Britain's referendum vote to leave the EU, the United States had been looking to Britain, its main ally in Europe, to act as a bridge between NATO and the EU in the process. That was designed to allow Washington to focus on other worries, including a resurgent Taliban in Afghanistan and China's militarization of islands in the South China Sea.

Such concerns were underscored by US Secretary of State John Kerry on Monday, who flew to Brussels to meet Mogherini and Stoltenberg. "The United States cares about a

strong EU," Kerry said. Immediately after Britain's referendum last week, Stoltenberg said Britain had assured him it remained committed to upholding Western stability. Stoltenberg said Britain's Fallon had told him London would not jeopardize joint EU-NATO efforts to counter potential Russian cyber attacks, joint naval operations in the Mediterranean to stem an influx of migrants into Europe or plans to soon begin enforcing a UN arms embargo on Libya.

Britain could also join EU missions, even outside the bloc, as Canada and non-EU member Norway have done, although it would not be able to shape long-term strategy. For now, the United States' focus appears to be urging Britain to take an even bigger role in NATO and avoid isolation. The alliance's summit in Warsaw will be London's first chance to reaffirm its Atlanticist credentials. "NATO becomes even more important to keep Britain engaged internationally," the senior Western official said. "We don't want Britain to become a Little England." —Reuters



**BRUSSELS:** Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron arrives before an EU summit meeting yesterday at the European Union headquarters in Brussels. —AFP

## FROM CLEANING CORPSES TO SEX WITH STRANGERS, WIDOW RITUALS FUEL DISEASE

By Josiane Kouagheu and Kieran Guilbert

When Clarisse's husband died of malaria last year in the Cameroonian city of Douala, she was kicked out of their home by his family and forced to marry his brother. After having sex with her new husband, the 34-year-old discovered she had syphilis, a sexually transmitted disease that can lead to blindness and stroke if untreated.

"He accused me of infidelity. He called a meeting of our families and told them I was a prostitute," she said tearfully, fiddling with the gold wedding ring from her first marriage. "Everyone accused me of being a witch and said it was me who had killed my husband ... my stepmother threatened to kill me," added Clarisse, who fled with her daughter to the outskirts of Douala, where she lives in an old wooden shack on a riverbank.

Millions of widows in sub-Saharan Africa are left destitute after being disinherited and robbed of their property, women's rights campaigners said ahead of International Widows' Day on Thursday. Many, like Clarisse, are abused and exploited by their in-laws, forced to undergo cleansing rituals or marry one of their husband's relatives in a practice known as widow inheritance. Traditional cleansing rituals are intended to rid a widow of her husband's spirit. In some communities widows are forced to have sex with a stranger, in others they have to clean their husband's

corpse and then drink the dirty water.

Widow inheritance, cleansing rites and the eviction of women from their homes are fuelling the transmission of HIV across the continent, and may have contributed to the spread of the world's worst Ebola outbreak in West Africa, experts say. "Widows are damned if they go through the rituals and damned if they don't," Karen Brewer of Widows Rights International (WRI) told the Thomson Reuters Foundation by phone from London. "If you accept these inhumane and degrading rituals, you run the risk of disease. If you don't, you are condemned for not saying goodbye to your husband, and are abused and ostracized."

## HIV threat

Widows across Africa are often kicked out of their homes by their in-laws because national and community laws do not allow them to inherit their husband's property, or because women do not know if they have rights to the land, campaigners say. In Cameroon's capital Yaounde, Berthe sits outside her flimsy house, watching her two sons play football as she recalls the beautiful home they lived in before her husband's death. After the funeral last year, her husband's brother and sister asked Berthe if they could see the deeds for the house.

Without thinking, the newly widowed mother handed them over. A year later she was told the house had been sold. "When I threatened to complain, they beat me nearly to death saying I was just a poor woman

married to a rich man," said Berthe, who now carries facial scars and walks with a limp. Fearing the consequences, many widows decide not to pursue their land rights, said lawyer Yveline Ntanga Bandji, director of the Douala-based Women's Counseling and Information Center. Yet widows are entitled to live on their late husband's land until they die, and their children, not the in-laws, are the legal heirs, she said.

With no income or possessions, widows forced out of their homes are vulnerable to rape and may resort to selling sex to survive, putting them at greater risk of HIV, experts say. Many women in Africa are widowed very young after marrying much older men. If they cannot support their children they may in turn marry off their own daughters early, said Bethany Brown, an expert on widows at Human Rights Watch. "There is a vicious cycle of widowhood and early marriage - impoverishment among widows is a major factor in perpetuating child marriage," she added.

## Neglected

There are more than 258 million widows worldwide, nearly 10 percent of whom live in sub-Saharan Africa, according to the Loomba Foundation's 2015 World Widows Report. Around one in 10 African women are widows, yet there is little data on their lives or well-being. Widows are often overlooked because they do not know their rights, or feel compelled to stay silent about the abuse they face, said Naana Otoo-Oyortey, head of women's rights

charity FORWARD.

"Widows may not see the rituals as violating their rights, but as a normal way to honor their husband. Even if they want to speak out, they know there will be repercussions," she said. While many African countries such as Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Ghana have laws to protect widows' rights, these are often trumped in rural areas by customary laws, campaigners say.

Widows' rights activists across Africa are now pushing to change harmful cleansing rituals. Rather than having sex with a relative of her late husband, many widows in Zimbabwe offer a bowl of water if they want to stay with the family. In Sierra Leone, women were encouraged to wash stones instead of corpses during the Ebola outbreak to avoid spreading the virus. "Traditional cleansing rites helped spread Ebola until they were halted and changed ... there is no reason these alternative mourning rites could not become common," said WRI's Brewer.

Several civil society groups across sub-Saharan Africa work to inform widows of their rights, support their inheritance claims, and provide refuge for those evicted or ostracized. But Marthe Chantal Nguouassa, president of the Cameroonian charity Widows in Distress, said governments too often neglected widows and ignored the hardships they faced. "All widows have the same problem - they are marginalized, stigmatized and abused," she said. "The death of the widow begins with the death of the husband." —Reuters

### INJURY FORCES IRELAND'S FITZGERALD TO RETIRE

**DUBLIN:** Ireland international wing Luke Fitzgerald announced yesterday he will retire from professional rugby with immediate effect because of injury. The 28-year-old's provincial team Leinster said Fitzgerald had been advised to retire on medical grounds after suffering a neck injury in the PRO12 final against Connacht last month. The 34-times capped player won a Grand Slam in 2009, a Six Nations in 2015 and three European Cup titles and toured South Africa with the 2009 British and Irish Lions, but has been hampered by injury throughout his career. "I've had a wonderful rugby career, which makes it easy for me to move on to the next stage of my life," Fitzgerald told [www.leinsterrugby.ie](http://www.leinsterrugby.ie). "It's been an amazing journey in which I got to experience the highs and lows that come with professional sport, and I have learned a huge amount from each experience. I'm now building on that foundation through completing my business degree. "It has been an honour and a privilege to represent my province, my country and the British and Irish Lions during my career, and I'm glad to finish my career as a 'one club man'. "The support I got while playing for all three teams during the good times and the tough times is something I will cherish and never forget for the rest of my life." —AFP



### SEVILLA CONFIRM SAMPAPOLI AS EMERY'S REPLACEMENT

**MADRID:** Sevilla have appointed Jorge Sampaoli as their new manager after the Spanish side confirmed that the former Chile coach has agreed a two-year deal with the Europa League champions to replace Unai Emery. "Sevilla are counting on the best coach of America in 2015, who begins his first adventure in Europe," Sevilla said in statement of the man who led his country to their first Copa America triumph last year. The 56-year-old, out of a job since stepping down as Chile coach in January, lost out to Barcelona coach Luis Enrique for the 2015 FIFA World Coach of the Year award after making the three-man shortlist following his Copa America success. Emery, who steered the team to the last three Europa League crowns, was under contract with Sevilla until June 2017 but negotiated a release from his contract. "With 106 victories, he is the coach with the most wins at Sevilla in domestic and international competition and the second coach behind Joaquin Caparros with the most games managed, 205," Sevilla said in a statement. "We wish Emery the best of luck in his next adventure." — Reuters

### SHEARER KEEN FOR ENGLAND ROLE DESPITE FA SNUB

**LONDON:** Alan Shearer is eager to be involved in the England set-up, saying his international experience would prove vital to the side after manager Roy Hodgson quit in the wake of the country's humiliating Euro 2016 exit to Iceland on Monday. The 45-year-old, who scored 30 goals in 63 caps for England and featured at four major tournaments, revealed that the Football Association (FA) rejected him over a lack of managerial experience prior to Hodgson's appointment in 2012. England under-21 coach Gareth Southgate has been made favourite by British bookmakers to take over from Hodgson, who resigned minutes after the 2-1 second round loss to Iceland, with Crystal Palace's Alan Pardew also at fairly short odds. "I went to see the FA and said I wanted the job. They just looked at me and said, 'No, it's a lack of experience,'" Shearer, whose managed Newcastle United for eight games in 2009, said on the BBC's 'Match of the Day'. "I said, 'Well, you've hired experience, you pay them an absolute fortune, I could not have done any worse than those guys.'" "I would offer my services again, even if Gareth Southgate got the job, I would offer my experience of tournaments, for him to take players who have been there and done it has to be of benefit." —Reuters



CINCINNATI: Jason Heyward #22 of the Chicago Cubs slides home with a run after a double by Kris Bryant against the Cincinnati Reds in the first inning of the game at Great American Ball Park on Monday in Cincinnati, Ohio. —AFP

## CUBS' BRYANT BECOMES FIRST WITH 3 HOMERS, 2 DOUBLES

**CINCINNATI:** Kris Bryant became the first major leaguer to hit three homers and two doubles in a game, and Jake Arrieta added a solo shot in the ballpark where he threw a no-hitter in April, leading the Chicago Cubs to an 11-8 victory over the Cincinnati Reds on Monday night. The Cubs pulled out of their 1-6 slide behind a tandem that's had some huge moments in Cincinnati. Arrieta (12-2) threw his second career no-hitter on April 21 during a 16-0 win over the Reds. Bryant led the way with two homers in that game, including a grand slam that gave him a career-high six RBIs. Arrieta struggled in his return to Cincinnati, giving up a season-high five runs in five innings, but Bryant drove in six again to back the right-hander. Bryant's 16 total bases were a Cubs record, and his five hits marked a career high. Bryant homered twice off Dan Straily (4-5) and once against Ross Ohlendorf, who also gave up a homer to Anthony Rizzo. Arrieta hit an opposite-field drive - his fourth career home run - off Michael Lorenzen. The reigning NL Cy Young Award winner became the league's first 12-game winner despite his worst outing of the season.

#### INDIANS 8, BRAVES 3

Lonnie Chisenhall hit a three-run homer, Trevor Bauer (6-2) gave up two runs in six innings and Cleveland beat Atlanta for its 10th straight win. Jason Kipnis added a home run in the ninth. The AL Central-leading Indians extended the majors' longest winning streak of the season. It is Cleveland's longest run since closing the 2013 regular season with 10 straight wins. The Indians have outscored opponents 68-21 and hit 21 homers during the streak. They had 14 hits and scored at least six runs for the seventh straight game. Chisenhall homered in the fourth off Tyrell Jenkins (0-1). He relieved Braves rookie John Gant, who exited in the third with a left oblique strain.

#### RANGERS 9, YANKEES 6

The Texas Rangers wrapped up a weird win at 2:44 am Tuesday, rallying after a rain delay of more than 3 1/2 hours in the ninth inning to beat New York with maybe 100 fans left in the stands. Yankee Stadium was so deserted that shouts from Texas players cheering in the dugout for Adrian Beltre's go-ahead, two-run single could easily be

heard bouncing around the ballpark. Texas trailed 6-5 when Kirby Yates replaced closer Aroldis Chapman after the delay with a runner on first and no outs. Yates (2-1) hit three batters, and Beltre and Elvis Andrus each hit a two-run single. By then, the cleaning crews had already started their work in the upper decks. Rain-themed songs waffled over the sound system while showers fell during the break of 3 hours, 35 minutes. Tony Barnette (5-2) got the win and Sam Dyson earned his 16th save as Texas won its third in a row. Ian Desmond and Rougned Odor homered for Texas, which owns the

Washington. The Nationals increased their lead over idle Miami to 3 1/2 games, while the Mets are four games back. The Nationals stole six bases, matching their most since the franchise moved to Washington in 2005. Five steals came against Syndergaard (8-3), who had won six consecutive decisions and had not lost since May 6. He lasted only three innings, surrendering season highs in runs (5) and walks (3).

#### DODGERS 5, PIRATES 4

A.J. Ellis hit a tiebreaking, two-out infield single that capped a four-run fifth

#### RAYS 13, RED SOX 7

Nick Franklin homered and drove in a career-high five runs to help Tampa Bay end an 11-game losing streak with a victory over Boston. Franklin had his first three hits of the season, and Logan Forsythe and Desmond Jennings also homered in support of rookie Blake Snell (1-2), who allowed four runs over 5 1/3 innings to get his first big league win. Tampa Bay's skid matched the longest in the majors this year. Forsythe finished with three of Tampa Bay's season-best 18 hits, including a two-run homer off Eduardo Rodriguez (1-3) that gave Snell a 9-0 lead in the third. Logan Morrison drove in two during a five-run first. Rodriguez gave up nine runs and 11 hits in 2 2/3 innings.

#### ROCKIES 9, BLUE JAYS 5

Carlos Gonzalez hit a three-run homer, Jon Gray tossed seven solid innings and the Rockies beat Toronto to spoil Troy Tulowitzki's return to Colorado. Tulowitzki went 0 for 4 in his first game at Coors Field since Toronto acquired him from the Rockies last July 27. He received a standing ovation when he batted in the second inning. He stepped out of the batter's box and doffed his helmet to the 36,491 fans. Edwin Encarnacion homered twice and Devon Travis also went deep for the Blue Jays. Gray (5-3) allowed four runs and struck out eight. Colorado rallied for six runs in the seventh off three relievers. Drew Storen (1-3) hit two straight batters with pitches ahead of Nolan Arenado's two-run single.

#### ROYALS 6, CARDINALS 2

Danny Duffy matched a career best with eight sharp innings and Kansas City defeated St. Louis to open a four-game, two-city series between cross-state rivals. Kendrys Morales went 4 for 4 and drove in two runs, and Eric Hosmer also had a pair of RBIs as the Royals roughed up Adam Wainwright (6-5) to snap a four-game losing streak to the Cardinals. Duffy (3-1) served up a two-run homer to Matt Holliday in the first before settling into a nice rhythm. The left-hander struck out eight and didn't walk a batter. It was Wainwright's first loss in six starts at Kauffman Stadium.

#### ATHLETICS 8, GIANTS 3

Daniel Mengden pitched into the eighth

inning for his first major league win, backed by Marcus Semien's three-run homer and four RBIs, and Oakland beat San Francisco to open the Bay Bridge Series. Semien connected in the second, and Jed Lowrie and Khris Davis added RBI doubles against Jeff Samardzija (8-5) during a five-run inning. Semien added a run-scoring double in the sixth, and Davis hit an RBI single in the seventh. Mengden (1-3) retired his first 13 batters before Angel Pagan's one-out single in the fifth. He was pulled in the eighth after losing his shutout bid. Oakland won for the fourth time in five games, handing the Giants just their third defeat in 16 games and fourth in 17 at AT&T Park.

#### PHILLIES 8, DIAMONDBACKS 0

Vince Velasquez threw five strong innings in his return from the disabled list, and Philadelphia beat Arizona. Velasquez (6-2), who hadn't pitched since June 8 because of a right biceps strain, gave up five hits and struck out seven with no walks. The 24-year-old right-hander threw 84 pitches before he was removed as a precaution. Robbie Ray (4-7) blanked the Phillies through five innings before getting tagged with two runs in the sixth and two in Philadelphia's six-run seventh. The Diamondbacks were just back from a 7-3 road trip that included a four-game sweep of the Phillies. Odubel Herrera had four hits, and Maikel Franco drove in three runs.

#### ASTROS 4, ANGELS 2

Carlos Correa snapped a ninth-inning tie with a sacrifice fly, and Will Harris pitched out of a major jam moments later to preserve Houston's victory over Los Angeles. After the Angels loaded the bases with nobody out in the bottom of the ninth, Harris struck out Jett Bandy and snagged Andrelton Simmons' comebacker to start a 1-2-3 double play that ended the game. Houston scored its second run in the ninth on a wild pitch by J.C. Ramirez. The surging Astros have won six straight against the Angels and eight of nine overall. Mike Trout homered in his third consecutive game for Los Angeles, which has lost seven of eight. He had three hits and scored twice. Luke Gregerson (3-1) tossed a scoreless inning for the win, and Harris earned his seventh save in as many chances. Fernando Salas (3-5) took the loss. — AP

### MLB Results/Standings

LA Dodgers 5, Pittsburgh 4; Washington 11, NY Mets 4; Texas 9, NY Yankees 6; Tampa Bay 13, Boston 7; Chicago Cubs 11, Cincinnati 8; Cleveland 8, Atlanta 3; Kansas City 6, St. Louis 2; Colorado 9, Toronto 5; Philadelphia 8, Arizona 0; Houston 4, LA Angels 2; Oakland 8, San Francisco 3.

| American League   |    |    |      |      | National League  |    |    |      |      |
|-------------------|----|----|------|------|------------------|----|----|------|------|
| Eastern Division  |    |    |      |      | Eastern Division |    |    |      |      |
|                   | W  | L  | PCT  | GB   |                  | W  | L  | PCT  | GB   |
| Baltimore         | 45 | 30 | .600 | -    | Washington       | 45 | 32 | .584 | -    |
| Boston            | 41 | 35 | .539 | 4.5  | Miami            | 41 | 35 | .539 | 3.5  |
| Toronto           | 41 | 37 | .526 | 5.5  | NY Mets          | 40 | 35 | .533 | 4    |
| NY Yankees        | 37 | 38 | .493 | 8    | Philadelphia     | 33 | 45 | .423 | 12.5 |
| Tampa Bay         | 32 | 43 | .427 | 13   | Atlanta          | 26 | 50 | .342 | 18.5 |
| Central Division  |    |    |      |      | Central Division |    |    |      |      |
| Cleveland         | 45 | 30 | .600 | -    | Chicago Cubs     | 49 | 26 | .653 | -    |
| Kansas City       | 40 | 35 | .533 | 5    | St. Louis        | 39 | 36 | .520 | 10   |
| Chicago White Sox | 38 | 38 | .500 | 7.5  | Pittsburgh       | 37 | 40 | .481 | 13   |
| Detroit           | 38 | 38 | .500 | 7.5  | Milwaukee        | 34 | 41 | .453 | 15   |
| Minnesota         | 24 | 51 | .320 | 21   | Cincinnati       | 29 | 48 | .377 | 21   |
| Western Division  |    |    |      |      | Western Division |    |    |      |      |
| Texas             | 50 | 27 | .649 | -    | San Francisco    | 49 | 29 | .628 | -    |
| Houston           | 40 | 37 | .519 | 10   | LA Dodgers       | 42 | 36 | .538 | 7    |
| Seattle           | 38 | 38 | .500 | 11.5 | Colorado         | 37 | 39 | .487 | 11   |
| Oakland           | 33 | 43 | .434 | 16.5 | Arizona          | 36 | 43 | .456 | 13.5 |
| LA Angels         | 32 | 45 | .416 | 18   | San Diego        | 33 | 44 | .429 | 15.5 |

best record in the AL. Mark Teixeira homered for the second straight day and got three hits for the Yankees.

#### NATIONALS 11, METS 4

Ben Revere had four hits and three steals as Washington handed Noah Syndergaard his first loss in more than a month, beating New York in the opener of a three-game series between NL East rivals. Nationals starter Joe Ross (7-4) gave up four early runs, then retired 11 of his last 12 batters. Anthony Rendon had three RBIs for

inning, and Los Angeles rallied past Pittsburgh to salvage the finale of a four-game series. Scott Kazmir (6-3), who entered with an 11.17 ERA at PNC Park, won despite allowing four runs, four hits and four walks in five innings. Kenley Jansen, the Dodgers' sixth pitcher, got four outs for his 22nd save in 25 chances. Francisco Liriano (4-8) led by four runs early and took a two-hitter and a 4-1 lead into the fifth, when he was chased by Yasiel Puig's two-run single.

## BUDDY RYAN, NFL COACH, DEFENSIVE MASTERMIND, DIES AT 82

**KENTUCKY:** Buddy Ryan, the pugnacious coach who masterminded two fierce defenses that won Super Bowl titles and whose twin sons have been successful NFL coaches, died yesterday. He was 82.

His death was confirmed by the Buffalo Bills, who are coached by Rex Ryan. James Solano, Buddy Ryan's agent, said he died in Kentucky but did not give a cause. Ryan lived on a ranch in Shelbyville.

"Buddy was a legend in our league in so many ways," the Bills said in a statement. "His defenses were innovative and he was a master at putting his talented and tough players in a position to succeed. He was a real game changer, and much of his philosophies and defensive tactics are still utilized effectively by teams today."

Ryan was a linebackers coach for the 1968 New York Jets and coordinated the ground-breaking 46 defense for the '85 Chicago Bears, one of the NFL's greatest defenses. He was a head coach for the Philadelphia Eagles from 1986-90, and for the Arizona Cardinals in 1994-95, compiling a 55-55-1 overall record.

A few years ago, Ryan attended a

Cowboys-Jets game, traveling to New Jersey despite cancer to see then-Jets head coach Rex go against then-Dallas defensive coordinator Rob. James David Ryan was a Korean War veteran who went to Oklahoma State, then earned a master's degree from Middle Tennessee State even while coaching. He got his first major job in the pros in New York, then of the AFL, in 1968. Ryan was the linebackers coach for the Joe Namath-led Jets, a boastful, confident team that fit his personality.

Those Jets led the AFL in defense in his first season on staff, then shocked the Colts in the Super Bowl, 16-7. "That's something my dad was very proud of," Rex said. "When (former Jets coach Weeb) Ewbank hired him, he had to make a difference. If he felt he wasn't making a difference, then his career as a professional coach would be short." Instead, it was very long. Ryan's first job as a defensive coordinator came in 1976 with the Vikings under Bud Grant, like Ewbank a Hall of Fame coach. He spent two years there before moving to the rival Bears, where he concocted the 46 defense that overwhelmed the league with its

aggressiveness and unpredictability.

Ryan's defenders, featuring such Hall of Famers as linebacker Mike Singletary and ends Dan Hampton and Richard Dent, came from all angles and was nearly impossible to budge on the ground. Not that teams had more success in the air, either. "Some say the 46 is just an eight-man front," said Ryan, who named the scheme after safety Doug Plank, who wore that number. "That's like saying Marilyn Monroe is just a girl."

Ryan and head coach Mike Ditka often feuded during that 15-1 season and Super Bowl run. They nearly slugged it out at halftime of Chicago's only defeat, at Miami on a Monday night in December. (Ryan would punch offensive coordinator Kevin Gilbride on national TV on Jan. 2, 1994 when both were assistant coaches in Houston.) His work in Chicago got Ryan the Eagles job. At a meeting the night before the Bears beat New England in the 1986 Super Bowl, Dent said a teary Ryan informed his players that he was going to Philadelphia: "You guys are going to be my champions. Let's kick some tail," Ryan said.

Hampton then kicked a film projector out of defensive line coach Dale Haupt's hands, and defensive tackle Steve McMichael flung a chair across the room, its legs impaling a chalkboard.

Such was the devotion players felt for Ryan, who guided the Eagles to the playoffs in 1988, '89 and '90. But they lost all three playoff games, and he was fired after the 1990 season by Eagles owner Norman Braman despite a 43-35-1 record.

Earlier that season, Ryan bragged that his Eagles would so badly beat up the Redskins in a Monday night game "they'll have to be carted off in body bags." The Eagles' defense scored three touchdowns in a 28-14 win and knocked nine Redskins out of the game, including two quarterbacks. A year earlier, Philadelphia routed the Cowboys 27-0 on Thanksgiving Day with hardly any holiday feelings in the air. Cowboys kicker Luis Zendejas claimed Ryan put a \$200 bounty on him, something Ryan laughed off as ridiculous.

Arizona hired Ryan as head coach in 1994 and the Cardinals went 12-20 in his two years there. He never coached again,



Buddy Ryan

letting Rex and Rob carry on the family legacy. "Buddy's influence will be carried on by defensive coaches for generations to come, but none more so than by Rex and Rob," the Bills said. Ryan also is survived by another son, Jim, the Eagles said. — AP

## SERENA WILLIAMS STARTS BID FOR 22ND GRAND SLAM

**LONDON:** Serena Williams begins her bid for a seventh Wimbledon title and record-equalling 22nd Grand Slam crown yesterday against a player who was once so disillusioned by tennis that she quit. World number one and top seed Williams won her 21st major at the All England Club 12 months ago by beating Garbine Muguruza. But the 34-year-old's hopes of going level with Steffi Graf's Open era record of 22 has stalled since that day.

She went down to a US Open semi-final loss to Italy's Roberta Vinci followed by defeat in the Australian Open final to Angelique Kerber and then to Muguruza in the French Open final earlier this month. "It was a great accomplishment to win four Grand Slams in a row twice in my career. It's pretty cool," said Williams.

"This year I don't feel as much tension as I usually do." Her opponent on Tuesday is Swiss qualifier Amra Sadikovic, a Macedonian-born world number 148 who quit tennis in 2014 to work as a coach. Persuaded to return to the game, she has now qualified for a major for the first time.

"I worked with kids, adults, good juniors at a club in Basel. It was so much fun. It's something that I really want to do later on again," she said. "But after a while I started missing competition. When you turn on the TV and you see the players playing the Grand Slams and you've beaten them, that hurts."

Second up on Centre Court is Andy Murray, the world number two and 2013 champion who tackles compatriot Liam Broady.

Murray has lost the Australian and

French Open finals to Novak Djokovic this year and has since rehired Ivan Lendl as coach. The two worked together when the British world number two won Wimbledon in 2013 and the US Open the year before.

They celebrated their renewed partnership with Murray claiming a record fifth Queen's Club title on the eve of Wimbledon. "The last weeks have gone extremely well," Murray said.

"I don't feel any added pressure working with him again. "It actually give a bit of extra confidence because I know last time we worked together, it was very successful. I trust in what he says. Broady, 22, is ranked 234 in the world. He has won just one match on the main tour in his career and that was at last year's Wimbledon. Also in first round action Tuesday are fourth seed Stan Wawrinka, who has hired 1996 Wimbledon champion Richard Krajicek to work with him. Wawrinka faces American 18-year-old Taylor Fritz, the youngest player in the men's draw.

Two-time champion Petra Kvitova, the 10th seeded Czech, faces injury-plagued Sorana Cirstea of Romania. Combustible Australian duo Nick Kyrgios and Bernard Tomic are in action on Court Two.

Kyrgios, the 15th seed and regarded as a dark horse for the title, faces 37-year-old Radek Stepanek, the oldest man in the draw. Tomic, seeded 19, plays experienced Fernando Verdasco of Spain. Former runner-up Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland, the third seed, faces Ukraine's Kateryna Kozlova. Juan Martin Del Potro, the former US Open champion meets France's Stephane Robert. — AFP



LONDON: Christina McHale of the US plays a return to Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia during their women's singles match on day two of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, yesterday. — AP

## FEDERER FAN OF WILLIS WIMBLEDON FAIRYTALE

**LONDON:** Roger Federer hailed Marcus Willis as one of the great Wimbledon fairytales after the British qualifier set up a dream clash with the seven-time champion. Willis is ranked 772 in the world and just months ago the 25-year-old, who works as a coach to amateur players, was considering calling time on a professional career that appeared to be going nowhere.

But, persuaded to give tennis one last shot by his new girlfriend, Willis battled through to the main draw at Wimbledon via a series of qualifying matches before claiming a stunning first round win over world number 54 Ricardas Berankis on Monday.

As if that wasn't enough to get Willis pinching himself, just hours later Federer defeated Guido Pella to give the unknown Briton an unthinkable meeting with the legendary Federer. Asked if he had been the following the story of Willis, who set up a crowd-sourcing website in a bid to fund his career, the 17-time Grand Slam champion

admitted he was as spellbound as the rest of the All England Club.

"Yes I have followed it actually before I even saw him in my section of the draw. It's one of the best stories in a long time in our sport," Federer said. "This is the kind of story we need. I think it's great. I'm very excited to be playing him actually. It's not something I get to do very often."

Federer has rarely faced a player of Willis's modest stature, but he admires the underdog's commitment to the lost art of serving and volleying. "I'm not sure I've played someone this low in the rankings," he said.

"It does happen sometimes with wild cards in some events but the guys who get wild cards are not usually coaching. They go to true professionals. "This is definitely the first on this level. This match is different. It's picked up momentum.

"People will hear about it and naturally they are going to support him, rightfully so because it's a very cool story. "It's going to make the

match difficult. He plays well. It's not like he couldn't play or he wouldn't be where he is.

"It's going to be very interesting. Plus he is serve and volleying which I love to see. He came up with some great shots. "His game is perfectly suited to the conditions right now."

Willis had will pick up £50,000 for his Wimbledon heroics after just collecting \$65 at a tournament in Tunisia in February. Federer is used to having the adoration of crowds whenever he plays but he believes Willis deserves to take the plaudits when they meet. "If he gets the support that's awesome. I hope he can play as good as he can and that I also can play a good match and everybody enjoys themselves," he added. "Of course it's not going to be Wimbledon every week for him but let's not care what's after this. "He should just play with everything he's got and enjoy it. It was cool to see how pumped up he was. That's how you are when you make your breakthrough." — AFP



WIMBLEDON: US player Serena Williams (L) and Switzerland's Amra Sadikovic (R) shake hands at the net after Williams won their women's singles first round match on the second day of the 2016 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, yesterday. — AFP

## LEGENDARY US WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COACH PAT SUMMITT DEAD AT 64

**TENNESSEE:** Pat Summitt, the winningest coach in US Division I college basketball history, died yesterday at the age of 64, the University of Tennessee said. Summitt, who coached the University of Tennessee's Lady Vols women's team and helped build women's college basketball into a national sport, announced in August 2011 that she had been diagnosed with early-onset dementia.

"Pat was the greatest coach of all time," university Chancellor Jimmy Cheek said in a statement. "Her fierce spirit will live on through her players and through all of us who were inspired by her on a daily basis."

Summitt died at Sherrill Hill Senior Living in Knoxville surrounded by her family, son Tyler Summitt said. "Since 2011, my mother has battled her toughest opponent, early onset dementia, 'Alzheimer's Type,' and she did so with bravely fierce determination, just as she did with every opponent she ever faced," he said in a statement. "We can all find peace in knowing she no longer carries the heavy burden of this disease."

Summitt was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest U.S. civilian honor, by President Barack Obama four years ago.

"Coach Summitt is an inspiration, both as the all-time winningest NCAA coach, and as someone who is willing to speak so openly and courageously about her battle with Alzheimer's," the president said at the time. Summitt was born on June 14, 1952

in Clarksville, Tennessee, the youngest of five children. Growing up on a family farm, three older brothers taught her to play basketball, "a game that would later become a passion and profession for her," the Pat Summitt Foundation said. Summitt received a bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of Tennessee-Martin in 1974, the same year she started coaching.

"People would refer to me as her boss and I always remarked, Pat Summitt has no boss," said Joan Cronan, the University of Tennessee director of women's athletics. Known for her steely sideline demeanor and intense glare, Summitt recorded 1,098 career victories, the most in Division I college basketball history for a men's or women's coach, before stepping down in 2012. She coached the Lady Vols to eight national championships in her 38 seasons at the school. She was named NCAA Coach of the Year seven times and the Naismith Coach of the Century in 2000.

Summitt and University of Connecticut women's basketball coach Geno Auriemma, who has won 11 titles, engaged in a storied rivalry for decades that elevated the sport to new heights. During the period from 1995 to 2010, the two schools combined to capture 12 championships.

"Lots of people coach the game. Very few get to define it," Auriemma said in an interview on ESPN yesterday. Summitt also coached the 1984 US Women's Olympic team, which won the gold medal. — Reuters

## KYRGIOS LOSES COOL, WINS ON WIMBLEDON RETURN

**LONDON:** Nick Kyrgios was back in trouble on his return to Wimbledon as the Australian rowed with umpire Mohamed Lahyani and told his entourage to get out during a stormy 6-4, 6-3, 6-7 (9/11), 6-1 win over Czech veteran Radek Stepanek yesterday. Kyrgios has earned a reputation as one of the most volatile players on the men's tour after a series of distasteful antics, including briefly appearing to stop trying during his Wimbledon defeat against Richard Gasquet last year. The temperamental 21-year-old, who was hit with a \$2,000 fine for swearing during the same last 16 clash with Gasquet, lost his cool yet again on his first return to the All England Club since that meltdown 12 months ago.

He was warned for bad language by Lahyani following an audible rant that included telling his support team to stop watching him after he lost the third set. Despite his latest petulant display, Kyrgios insisted he provided great entertainment for fans. "The crowd likes the way I play here, I entertain. I'm comfortable here and they know the tennis I bring every day," he said. "I knew I had to be on my game, I couldn't lapse at all. It was a tough match."

Kyrgios has struggled to stay out of trouble through his career, so there was plenty of attention on the world number 18 when he strolled onto Court Two — also the venue for the Gasquet incidents.

He didn't take long to live up to his rep-

utation when he began complaining and audibly groaned "diabolical call" after being told to replay one point in the first set.

Stepanek, the world number 129, is also known as a difficult personality on court and he apparently recognised a kindred spirit in Kyrgios, offering to help him with his problems this year.

On this evidence, Stepanek's advice may not have sunk in yet. Kyrgios was on course for a routine win as he overwhelmed Stepanek with a barrage of winners including a brilliant between-the-legs lob.

But he was broken when serving for the match and then failed to take a match point in the third set tie-break, prompting a stream of invective that ended with the Australian telling his entourage to leave.

"I'm serious, get out, get out," he ranted before being warned for bad language by Lahyani. Kyrgios continued to complain to Lahyani throughout the fourth set. "You're telling me that every single person who has said that word in this chair has got a code violation, in the history of tennis," he said.

But, despite the histrionics, Kyrgios was playing some superb tennis and he surged to victory in emphatic fashion.

The 15th seed, hoping to emulate his run to the quarter-finals in 2014, could be facing another financial penalty from All England Club chiefs before he plays German wildcard Dustin Brown for a place in the last 32. — AFP



WIMBLEDON: Australia's Nick Kyrgios returns against Czech Republic's Radek Stepanek during their men's singles first round match on the second day of the 2016 Wimbledon Championships at The All England Lawn Tennis Club in Wimbledon, southwest London, on Monday. — AFP



## BIRD HOPES LONDON CAN KEEP FORMULA E RACE

**LONDON:** Britain's Sam Bird was a winner when the electric Formula E series made its London debut last year and hopes to repeat the feat this weekend in a season finale facing an uncertain future. Formula E is seeking a new venue in the capital, following an agreement not to return to Battersea Park after this year's event in the face of stiff local opposition to motor racing on their doorstep.

There has been talk about staging a race on the city streets but a draft calendar for the 2016-17 circulating in recent weeks had Montreal and New York as the final rounds of the third season and

London omitted.

"I think it's disappointing," Bird, a former Mercedes Formula One test driver who now races in Formula E for the DS Virgin Racing team, told Reuters.

"I think it is a shame that we are going to be leaving Battersea Park.

"As a British driver, driving for a semi-British team with the Virgin connection, we would love to have a race in London. Most teams are based in the UK, so I think it's a big hub for Formula E. To do it in the heart of London makes sense."

Formula E chief executive Alejandro Agag told Reuters that talks were ongoing with the Mayor of London's office

about alternative venues.

"How quick that can happen, or if ever that can happen, we don't know yet. We are working on it," he said, expressing optimism that a race might be possible for season four but also sounding a note of caution.

### GREAT VENUES

"London is really important for us and we want to be here but you can only do what you can do. If we don't find the right venue, we're not going to force it. We're not going to try at any price to be here," Bird, who competes in the World Endurance Championship with a Ferrari

team, is committed to the electric series with its unique features such as fan-boost-fans voting via twitter to give their favourite driver a power boost. He remained hopeful.

"We've been able to secure other venues around the world that Formula One hasn't been able to achieve, like New York, so why not London as well?" he said. "(Racing) around some of the great venues of London. That would be phenomenal."

Bird heads into the weekend third in the championship, with Brazilian Lucas Di Grassi and Switzerland's Sebastien Buemi fighting for the title, and con-

vinced he is in the right place.

"I see it as a very stable, secure series now," he said. "I think it did well in season one, it's done even better in season two. It's going from strength to strength... I want to be a part of it, to see it grow until it's a really big series."

"It's got such a unique selling point that I don't see why it can't."

"It's got quite a lot of momentum already so if we keep on evolving, coming up with new technologies, new and exciting ways to race and new cities to go to, making good spectacles in these cities, there's no reason why we can't be a globally massive series." — Reuters

## LIVERPOOL SIGN STRIKER MANE FOR UNDISCLOSED FEE

**LONDON:** Senegal striker Sadio Mane has joined Liverpool from Premier League rivals Southampton on a "long-term contract" for an undisclosed fee, the Anfield club announced yesterday.

British media reports suggested Mane had signed a five-year contract in a deal worth some £30 million (\$40 million, 36 million euros).

That would make Mane, who scored 25 goals in 75 appearances for the Saints, Liverpool's third-most expensive signing behind fellow strikers Andy Carroll (£35 million) and Christian Benteke (£32.5 million). "Today is a big day and I am very happy to sign for one of the biggest clubs in Europe," Mane told Liverpool's website. "It's a club that has won a lot of trophies and has a big history. Now I am looking forward to meeting all the staff and my teammates and starting the season."

Southampton finished sixth in the Premier League last season, two places above Liverpool. But in terms of history, supporter base and finance, five-time European champions Liverpool remain a significantly 'bigger' club than the Saints.

Mane is the fourth player signed by Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp in pre-season, with the striker following centre-back Joel Matip, midfielder Marko Grujic and goalkeeper Loris Karius to Merseyside.

There have been reports that Liverpool are prepared to help finance the Mane deal

by selling Belgium forward Benteke, who failed to sparkle last term following his transfer from Aston Villa.

Mane—who will bring Southampton a huge profit on the £10 million they paid Austrian side Salzburg in 2014 — is the fifth Saints player to leave the south coast club for north-west side Liverpool in the past two seasons.

He will now find himself sharing a changing room at Anfield with fellow Southampton 'old boys' Adam Lallana, Dejan Lovren and Nathaniel Clyne.

Rickie Lambert, another former Southampton player, was also at Liverpool but has since moved on.

Mane, who scored 11 goals last term, is the second star name to leave managerless Southampton in the past week after Kenyan midfielder Victor Wanyama joined Tottenham Hotspur for £11 million.

Southampton, who did dip into the transfer market on Saturday by buying winger Nathan Redmond for £10 million from relegated Norwich City, have been without a manager since Dutch boss Ronald Koeman left to take over at Liverpool's city rivals Everton earlier this month.

Liverpool players who have not been involved in the European Championships are due to return for pre-season training on Saturday, with their first friendly the following Friday at nearby Tranmere. — AFP



**OMAHA:** Katie Ledecky of the United States celebrates after winning a final heat of the Women's 400 Meter Freestyle during Day 2 of the 2016 US Olympic Team Swimming Trials at CenturyLink Center on Monday in Omaha, Nebraska. — AFP

## LEDECKY BLAZES PATH TO RIO WITH 400M FREE WIN

**OMAHA:** Freestyle phenomenon Katie Ledecky is on her way to the Rio Olympics after blazing victory in the 400m freestyle at the US swimming trials in 3min 58.98sec. She was on pace to break her own world record of 3:58.37 much of the way before settling for the third-fastest time in history. It was the first step toward what could be an historic Rio campaign. The 19-year-old, who exploded on the international scene with an 800m free triumph in London four years ago, is entered in the trials in every freestyle event from 50m through 800m.

Leah Smith, a relay gold medalist at last year's world championships, clung to Ledecky's heels all the way, slicing nearly three seconds off her personal best to finish second in 4:00.65.

That makes her the fourth-fastest performer ever and promises a formidable US one-two punch in Rio. Kelsi Worrell earned her ticket to Brazil with a 100m butterfly victory in a sizzling 56.48sec. That made her second-fastest in the world this year behind Sweden's Sarah Sjöström. Worrell, who won gold at the Pan American Games last year in her first international meeting, powered past 2012 Olympic gold medalist Dana Vollmer on the second lap, but Vollmer locked up second place and a chance to repeat in Rio in 57.21.

The 28-year-old Vollmer, who took time off after London to give birth to her son Arlen, now 15 months old, exchanged a long hug with her 21-year-old rival across the lane ropes at the finish.

Kevin Cordes won the men's 100m breaststroke. His time of 59.18 didn't match his blazing semi-final showing of 58.94, but it was enough to hold off a charging Cody Miller by eight hundredths of a second.

The ailing Ryan Lochte, vying to make a fourth Olympic team, made it safely into the 200m freestyle final with the fifth-fastest time in the semis. Lochte, who missed out on a chance to repeat his 400m medley victory of 2012 when he finished third in that final on Sunday while nursing a groin injury, clocked 1:47.58 to finish third in his heat, won by Conor Dwyer in 1:46.96, the evening's fastest time. Lilly King, 19, led the way in the women's 100m breaststroke final with an impressive semi-final swim of 1:05.94. — AFP



**Micky Arthur**

## PAKISTANI COACH ARTHUR UNDAUNTED BY AUSTRALIA AXE

**SOUTHAMPTON:** Pakistan coach Mickey Arthur has arrived back in England saying that while he may have learnt from his time in charge of Australia it will not alter his fundamental approach to the job.

Arthur's last tour of England saw him sacked as Australia coach just weeks before the start of the 2013 Ashes following the team's unsuccessful Champions Trophy campaign.

But many believed Arthur, who made his name internationally as coach of his native South Africa, was paying the price for the so-called 'homework-gate' affair in March that year after four players, including all-rounder Shane Watson, were dropped for the third Test after failing to complete a written assignment.

Now his major challenge is to get the best out of a talented Pakistan that includes Mohammad Amir, with the left-arm paceman set to return at Lord's next month for his first Test since the 2010 spot-fixing scandal on the ground which led to five-year bans and jail terms for him, new-ball colleague Mohammad Asif and then captain Salman Butt.

Arthur, speaking at Hampshire's headquarters ground where the Pakistan squad were training on Monday, believes he has absorbed the lessons of his Australia exit, even if he is unhappy with the way it was portrayed in public.

"You go back and analyse and think about it, and I've obviously learnt a hell

of a lot from that experience," said Arthur. "But I haven't changed my style, because I don't think you could compromise on what you think is the right way to work ... on your core values and principles."

The 48-year-old added: "I am sick and tired of talking about 'homework-gate', and the way it's been reported is totally way off the pace of what happened."

"But in terms of running teams, there are ways of doing it and that's how you get your ultimate success." The rest of the world has long admired the sheer depth of natural cricket talent in Pakistan and, having had a few weeks in his new job, Arthur is no exception.

"It has been an eye opener," he said. "The skill levels the Pakistan team have are unbelievable. The ability to do things the other two (international) teams I've coached couldn't do is incredible." Arthur added: "What the other teams (South Africa and Australia) had was fitness levels, structures and self-discipline in knowing their own game."

"I'm trying to get patience into the skills. I was watching Mohammad Amir and Sohail Khan yesterday (Sunday) — and they went outswinger, outswinger, inswinger-I said 'just hold those lines a little bit longer.' The patience isn't where the other teams are, but the skill levels are higher. I'm trying to bring that patience to the skill levels and together you'll have something very very good." — AFP

## N ZEALAND TO BEGIN INDIA TOUR WITH KANPUR TEST

**MUMBAI:** New Zealand will begin their five-week tour of India with the opening test of the three-match series at Kanpur from Sept. 22, the Indian cricket board (BCCI) said yesterday.

Test cricket will return to Kanpur's Green Park Stadium after a gap of seven years while Kolkata's Eden Gardens will stage the second test against the Black Caps from Sept. 30, though the BCCI did not clarify if it would be a day-night test as has been recently reported in local media. The BCCI said last week they would wait for the players' feedback from September's Duleep Trophy in which pink balls would be

used. The central Indian city of Indore will make its debut as a test match centre in the third and final test, starting on Oct. 8. The BCCI issued a revised schedule after originally saying the second test would be in Indore and the third in Kolkata, but gave no explanation for the change.

New Zealand will also play five one-day internationals between Oct. 16 and 29. India are set for a bumper season at home when they will be playing 13 test matches, eight ODIs and three T20 Internationals.

England and Australia will also visit India to play five and four tests respectively, while

Bangladesh will play a one-off test at Hyderabad.

India v New Zealand tour schedule:

Tests  
Sept. 22-26 - First test, Kanpur  
Sept. 30-Oct. 4 - Second test, Kolkata  
Oct. 8-12 - Third test, Indore  
ODIs  
Oct. 16 - First ODI, Dharamsala  
Oct. 19 - Second ODI, Delhi  
Oct. 23 - Third ODI, Mohali  
Oct. 26 - Fourth ODI, Ranchi  
Oct. 29 - Fifth ODI, Vizag. — Reuters



**BRAKPAN:** This file photo taken on May 13, 2016 shows JP Kruger (L) and Yannick Bahati (R) facing off during their Middleweight Extreme Fighting Championship title match at Carnival City in Brakpan, South Africa. Formed in 2009, the EFC is now a launchpad for fighters across the continent — where traditional sports like football dominate — and other parts of the world. EFC may be a small player compared to the US-based Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) but it has helped transform the little known sport once dogged by an image of thuggery and unlicensed violence. — AFP

## CONTE THEATRICALS A BOON FOR ITALY AND CHELSEA FANS

### FAN FERVOR



**MONTPELLIER:** A "great" Italian feat toppled Spain at Euro 2016, but Antonio Conte's touchline theatrics were just as dramatic for Italy and Chelsea fans during an emphatic 2-0 win over the defending champions.

Former Juventus coach Conte was widely applauded on Tuesday for transforming a "mediocre" squad of players into contenders for this summer's European Championship in France.

But as Italy's fans hailed a brilliant collective performance that avenged their 4-0 hammering to Spain in the 2012 final, Conte's energetic, and sometimes hilarious touchline antics had Chelsea fans champing at the bit. As Spain coach Vicente del Bosque sat on the bench patiently waiting for a reaction to Giorgio Chiellini's 33rd-minute opener, Conte was constantly on his feet, screaming at players and officials and gesticulating wildly at almost every kick of the ball.

When a UEFA official was slow to respond to Conte's request to help him make a substitution in the second half, the Italian unashamedly screamed at him: "Faster! Faster!"

Conte's emotions ran over in hilarious fashion in the 75th minute when an angry reaction saw him take a dramatic swipe at the ball and kicking it into touch. And when Graziano Pelle hit Italy's second goal to seal their win at the death, Conte's epic celebration saw him sprint to jump on to the roof of the dugout to salute fans. It was later jokingly suggested he had covered as much ground as his players on their way to ending Spain's hopes of a historic third consecutive trophy. Conte admitted: "Our fitness coach did suggest hooking me up to GPS to see how many kilometres I cover, and at what intensity!"

It is no wonder, after Chelsea finished the Premier League season in 10th place to miss out on Europe, Blues fans can't wait for his arrival. "Don't think I've been this excited to see a manager at Chelsea in a long time!!!" said Twitter user TweetChelseaFC. "Start the season now please," begged another Chelsea follower, @CFCinAmerica. Another is already looking forward to a potentially combustible Premier League rivalry between Conte and newly-appointed

Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho. "Oh Dear, #Conte v #Mourinho will be good for the eyes. Touchline drama!!!" said @julietbawuah.

### NOT 'SACRIFICIAL LAMBS'

Conte may no longer have the legs that helped Juve to the Champions League crown and five Serie A titles during a 12-year playing spell that forged his reputation as one of the Turin giants' most tenacious and hard-working captains. But as a coach, the 46-year-old has energy to spare, and his trademark tenacity is intact.

After his distinguished playing career, Conte took over as coach of Juventus in 2011 and led them to three consecutive Serie A crowns. Despite lingering doubts over his appointment after Italy suffered their second successive first-round exit from the World Cup two years ago in Brazil, Conte has been quick to silence his detractors.

Italy had not beaten Spain at a major finals since their 2-1 quarter-final win over 'La Roja' at the 1994 World Cup, when the Azzurri were beaten on penalty kicks by Brazil in the final. Having admitted Italy no longer boast world-class players, Conte struck a defiant psychological blow in the lead-up to the match against Spain.

"If Spain want to stop us from going through, they're going to have to work hard. We won't be sacrificial lambs for anybody," said Conte. After an epic last 16 clash that ended Spain's long reign as the European champions, even Del Bosque tipped his hat. "We didn't score and for sure Italy played better," said the Spain coach. Conte now faces the "titanic" task of beating Germany in Bordeaux for a place in the semis. But fans, of Italy and Chelsea, would endorse his philosophy. "Since I took over, right from the start I said the only way we could achieve a semblance of success is to try and be like a club team," said Conte. "There is no point in hiding it, this is not the rosier period for Italy in terms of talent. "Given the fact we can't fall back on a selection of good players we have to be a collective." — AFP



**BORDEAUX:** Italy coach Antonio Conte attends a training session at the Bernard Gasset center in Montpellier, France, yesterday. Italy will face Germany in a Euro 2016 quarter final soccer match in Bordeaux on Saturday, July 2, 2016. —AP

## GERMANS HAVE NO ITALIAN COMPLEX, INSISTS LOEW

**EVIAN:** Germany coach Joachim Loew insists the world champions have no Italian complex as die Mannschaft attempt to break their Azzurri curse in Saturday's Euro 2016 quarter-final. In eight previous attempts, Germany has never beaten Italy in the finals of a major tournament and will need to make history Bordeaux to reach the semi-finals.

German fans will at least take heart from a 4-1 rout of a lacklustre Italy in their most recent meeting in a friendly in March. But Loew knows Saturday's clash with a place in the last four at stake will be an utterly different proposition.

"We have no Italian trauma," Loew told reporters at the German's training base in Evian.

"We don't have any fear of them, just trust in our own skills. "For me that's cold coffee. I'd rather have a fresh espresso. We'll see how it tastes on Saturday," he added when reminded of Germany's previous results against Italy on the big stage.

Loew has experienced Germany's pain first hand as assistant manager when Italy spoiled their World Cup party on home soil in 2006 and four years ago when a Mario Balotelli double took the Azzurri to the final of Euro 2012 at Germany's expense.

Yet, Loew says he learnt his lesson from that semi-final defeat and, in particular, his inability to restrict Italian playmaker Andrea Pirlo, before leading Germany to a fourth World Cup two years later. "Everyone makes mistakes, I wanted to shut Pirlo down and looking back, one must say the plan didn't work," admitted Loew. "I have to take responsibility for that, none of us put in the performances we should have."

"The defeat helped in my personal development, especially for the 2014 World Cup. It was a good lesson for me."

Neither Balotelli nor Pirlo are with the Azzurri in France, but Loew knows the challenge Antonio Conte's side will post. And he insisted the experience of an Italian side captained by veteran goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon and the presence of Daniele de Rossi in midfield must be respected.



**EVIAN:** Germany's head coach Joachim Loew addresses a press conference at Germany's training grounds in Evian, eastern France, yesterday, during the Euro 2016 football tournament. — AFP

"Form on the day will make the difference, it's going to be a tight game and the outcome is open," said Loew.

"This is a much better Italian than in 2008 or 2010. "They have mentally strong players. "They can switch quickly from defence to attack, it's auto-

matic, even without Pirlo. "Buffon brings tremendous calm and their experienced defence is well co-ordinated."

"In midfield, they have players who defend well, like Daniele de Rossi, who is intelligent and finds the balance." — AFP

## POGBA YET TO LIVE UP TO FRANCE'S EXPECTATIONS

**PARIS:** The day Euro 2016 kicked off, Paul Pogba's youthful face featured on the front page of L'Equipe, flanked by pictures of France's all-time greats Michel Platini and Zinedine Zidane.

It was the French sports daily's way of illustrating just how much the host nation was expecting from the 23-year-old midfielder—maybe too much.

A couple of weeks later and Pogba has shown only glimpses of his talent on the pitches of France, with some people starting to wonder whether he was worth all the hype.

"Is Pogba the world's most over-rated player?," former England captain turned pundit Gary Lineker tweeted after Pogba again looked ordinary in France's laboured 2-1 win over Ireland for a place in the quarter-finals.

It was a different story at the start of the year when Pogba humbly took his mother, Yeo, to a glitzy FIFA gala. Wearing a flashy, gold-flowered jacket, the Juventus player looked proud to feature in the governing body's World XI alongside players such as Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

Pogba was fresh from a scintillating season in which he had scored 10 goals to help Juventus

win a domestic double and go all the way to the Champions League final, his heroics earning him the right to be granted the number 10 shirt once graced by Platini.

"I have played with some great young players but Pogba is the best young player I have ever seen," former Juventus and Italy midfielder Andrea Pirlo said at the time.

Unlike Platini or Zidane, Pogba is not a true playmaker, and nor is he a genuine defensive midfielder. Similar in many ways to Patrick Vieira, fondly remembered by France and Arsenal fans, he needs space to express his rare mix of athleticism and skills to the full.

### RARELY CONVINCING

Highly successful at club level with four Serie A titles under his belt, he has rarely been entirely convincing for France since earning the first of his 35 caps in a 3-1 win over Georgia in March 2013, even if he was named the 2014 World Cup's best young player.

"Paul, of course, can play better than that," France coach Didier Deschamps said after substituting Pogba in his side's opening 2-1 win over Romania at this tournament. "I'm not going to be

too hard on him but his potential is such that he can contribute more than he showed tonight."

Deschamps, who dropped Pogba to the bench for Les Bleus' second game against Albania, still has to figure out what is the best position for his versatile player, recent outings suggesting it could be on the left side of midfield.

It is not only Deschamps who is frustrated with Pogba, so are the French fans who have never had a chance to watch him at club level since he was only 16 when he left the renowned Le Havre academy for Manchester United before moving to Juventus in 2012.

Lineker's comment suggested Pogba's agent, Mino Raiola, was being greedy to ask for more than 100 million euros for his player, who is reportedly being courted by both Manchester United and Real Madrid. With a quarter-final tie against Iceland approaching on Sunday, Pogba has little time left to stamp his authority on Euro 2016 the way Platini and Zidane did at the 1984 European Championship and 1998 World Cup respectively. "I'm not worried," said France goalkeeper and captain Hugo Lloris. "Great players often wait for important moments to show their class." — Reuters



# BELGIUM WANT TO MAKE LILLE HOME TERRITORY FOR WALES CLASH

## FAN FERVOR



**TOULOUSE:** Kevin De Bruyne wants Belgium's Euro 2016 quarter-final clash with Wales to be like a home game—the Lille stadium is just 100 kilometres from the Belgian border. A huge wave of Belgians is expected to cross the frontier to invade the French city to watch their country take on opponents that De Bruyne called "a technically and defensively astute side."

Belgium are on a high after their 4-0 rout of Hungary on Sunday that saw Chelsea forward Eden Hazard produce an inspirational display as captain. De Bruyne is counting on the Red Devils to produce more of the same. "I can't wait for this match, which will be like a home match for us because it's right on the Belgian border."

"We're expecting a lot of fans. We hope we can go all the way in this tournament." The one-sided performance against Hungary in Toulouse has encouraged Belgian hopes that they can emulate their 1980 feat of reaching the final, when they lost to West Germany.

Against Hungary, De Bruyne swung in a free kick for Toby Alderweireld to give Belgium a 10th-minute lead. Hazard dazzled fans with some mazy runs, dribbles, and sublime passes that carved open the Hungarian defence with stunning regu-

larly. Belgium scored three goals in a purple 12-minute patch to close the game. The Chelsea star dribbled past two players to set up second-half substitute Michy Batshuayi to score with his first touch of the game on 78 minutes.

### Nervous favourites

Hazard scored his maiden goal of the tournament after running across the edge of the area unchallenged to fire a shot that beat Gabor Kiralyi low at his far post.

Late substitute Yannick Carrasco added the fourth in the first minute of added time when he powered down the middle on the counter to beat Kiralyi. As plaudits poured down on Belgium, coach Marc Wilmots was quick to send a word of caution. "We're into the quarter-finals, but we've done nothing yet," said Wilmots, who will be without defender Thomas Vermaelen after he picked up a yellow card to trigger a one-match suspension. But Belgium head to Lille as favourites—and Wales manager Chris Coleman is happy about that after his side laboured to a 1-0 win over Northern Ireland when they were favourites.

"We were edgy going into the Northern Ireland game as we were expected to win and we work

better as the underdog," said Coleman. "We have proved that—and people will expect Belgium to win. They had some criticism coming into the tournament and they lost the first game (against Italy)."

"But if you have a squad with that quality then any team you play against, apart from maybe two or three, Belgium are favourites." But after some topping their group ahead of England, and brilliantly beating Russia 3-0, Wales will fancy their chances, and Belgian star Carrasco agrees.

Belgium, who played Wales both in the 2014 World Cup and Euro 2016 qualifying, failed to win any of their last three meetings against the British side. Wales also held Belgium twice in Brussels and won 1-0 in Cardiff just over a year ago when Gareth Bale's winner all but booked their place at the European Championship finals.

As a striker with Atletico Madrid, Carrasco knows Real Madrid forward Bale well.

Carrasco said Hungary was "a great result" for Belgium "but we won't be getting carried away—we haven't won the Euro yet." "Every match is different. Against the Welsh, we have to produce the same performance. They're a compact and well-drilled side. "They're not going to give us a lot of space. And of course, they have Bale." — AFP



# SOUTHGATE FAVOURITE TO REPLACE HUMILIATED HODGSON

**LONDON:** National Under-21 coach Gareth Southgate is the early favourite of a not very long list of mooted candidates to replace Roy Hodgson as coach of England following their embarrassing exit at Euro 2016. Having flirted with foreign coaches such as Sven-Goran Eriksson and then autocratic Italian Fabio Capello before bringing in the vastly-experienced Hodgson, the Football Association (FA) are likely to go for an Englishman if the bookies are to be believed.

But none of the small list of leading English contenders have won a major trophy, something which does not augur well for their hopes of rebuilding the morale of a side beaten 2-1 in such abject fashion by Iceland on Monday. Southgate—perhaps best known for missing a spot-kick in the Euro 96 semi-final penalty shoot-out defeat against Germany at Wembley—restored some of his reputation with victory at the prestigious Toulon tournament in May having had a disappointing European Under-21 campaign last year. The 45-year-old—who has been in charge of the England Under-21 side since 2013 — has managed just one club, Middlesbrough. He kept them in the Premier League for two seasons before they were relegated in the 2008/09 campaign.

Southgate is now 6/4 favourite with British bookmakers, having been 6/1 on Monday night once Hodgson's assistant, former Manchester United star Gary Neville, also resigned following the Iceland defeat.

### 'PERFECT' HODDLE

Former England captain Alan Shearer, who said the team were "pretty pathetic" and "clueless" against Iceland, has indicated he would like a go but his sole experience at managerial level is an unhappy spell at his beloved Newcastle United.

But Shearer, who said "he hasn't got a cat in hell's chance" of getting the England job, subsequently called for Southgate to work under Glenn Hoddle, a former England manager.

Hoddle was in charge of England from 1996-1999, a spell that included the 1998 World Cup in France where the team reached the second round before losing on penalties to Argentina.

But the former Tottenham Hotspur and England midfielder lost the post in bizarre fashion after the FA sacked him following a newspaper interview in which



**CHANTILLY:** England soccer coach Roy Hodgson leaves the team hotel in Chantilly, France, yesterday. England's soccer team was knocked out of the Euro 2016 by Iceland in a round of 16 match on Monday. — AP

he suggested disabled people were being punished for "sins in a former life".

Shearer, who played under Hoddle, 58, told BBC Radio yesterday: "I would back Gareth Southgate if he was to go in there. But I would also look at getting experience around him like Glenn Hoddle. "Glenn was brilliant as a coach for England in my opinion, he has got so much to offer and is still young enough so I would totally back Gareth and Glenn."

Veteran manager Harry Redknapp, considered for the job before Hodgson was appointed in 2012, went even further by telling talkSPORT radio: "Glenn is your man. Why is Gareth the favourite and more suited? "I think we have got the perfect man, Glenn fits the bill for me. "He said something, but that was a long time ago. He deserves another chance."

Others in the frame include the combative Alan Pardew, who guided Crystal Palace to the FA Cup final

last term, losing 2-1 to Manchester United in extra-time. The young hope is Eddie Howe, who has impressed at Bournemouth, the 38-year-old taking them into the Premier League for the first time in their history and retaining their status last season.

But his inexperience at the top level may mark him out as an England manager of the future rather than Hodgson's immediate successor. Scotsman David Moyes and Northern Irishman Brendan Rodgers have also been mentioned, but the former has not flourished since early promise at Everton while Rodgers has just taken over the reins at Scottish champions Celtic. Perhaps the man that a few years ago England and the FA would have yearned for, Arsenal's long-serving Frenchman Arsene Wenger, still figures on the bookies' lists.

But would he, at 66, really want the extraordinary pressure that the England job brings? — AFP

# IT'S ALL STARTING TO CLICK FOR PORTUGAL, SAYS NANI

**MARCOUSSIS:** Portugal's experienced winger Nani says team unity is a key asset for the national team ahead of tomorrow's Euro 2016 quarter-final against Poland.

The Portuguese have had their backs to the wall in the competition so far, with goals generally hard to come by, but the players have dug in and appear to be starting to come alive.

"We have shown camaraderie and that we are all rowing in the same direction," Nani said at Tuesday's news conference. "I can certainly say that for me, this is the best time in the national team for the group that we have."

"This has been one of the factors that has proved that we are much stronger than before and that we are in a good condition to go as far as possible."

Portugal have gone from a team who squeezed into the last 16 after three consecutive draws in Group F to one that upset in-form Croatia, 1-0, in the last round.

Nani, who is playing in his third European Championship since making his senior international debut in 2006, has started every game in France, scoring twice.

Portugal's battling, resilient performance against Hungary, when they came from behind three times to draw 3-3, seems to have been a turning point.

"I think we have played good games, like against Hungary, where we scored lots of goals and gave an attacking exhibition," said Nani, whose 100 appearances make him the fourth-most capped player in Portugal's history.

"But it's clear that it can't always be like that."

If Portugal have to eschew attractive football to win, Nani says they will. "Our aim is to go as far as possible and if we need to sacrifice playing well in order to do get a result, we will do so," the Fenerbahce winger said.

Unbeaten Poland, who defeated Switzerland on penalties on Saturday, will be a big hurdle to clear. "There are no favourite teams in this tournament," Nani said.

"We know that Poland is a strong side, with experienced players, and we will have to be at our best to go through."

Monaco midfielder Joao Moutinho joined training

yesterday morning after missing Monday's session, while Raphael Guerreiro and Andre Gomes did gym work for a second successive day after suffering knocks against Croatia. — Reuters



**MARCOUSSIS:** Portugal's forward Nani leaves after a press conference at the team's base camp in Marcoussis yesterday, during the Euro 2016 football tournament. — AFP

# Sports

**Serena Williams starts bid for 22nd Grand Slam**



**Ledecky blazes path to Rio with 400m free win**



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NICE: Iceland's defender Ragnar Sigurdsson (center) has an attempt on the goal during the Euro 2016 round of 16 football match between England and Iceland at the Allianz Riviera stadium in Nice on June 27, 2016. — AFP

## ICELAND HEROES LEAVE ENGLAND IN TURMOIL

NICE: No one thought they stood a chance, but Iceland stuck to their guns and pulled off one of football's biggest shocks, dumping England out of Euro 2016 and forcing their manager Roy Hodgson to quit in disgrace. Ragnar Sigurdsson and Kolbeinn Sigthorsson claimed their place in sporting history with the goals that secured a 2-1 win on a hot, humid night in Nice for the smallest nation ever to play in a major tournament.

"They thought this would be a walk in the park," said Sigurdsson of England's attitude. But Iceland, with a population of just 330,000, joyously claimed a quarter-final match against hosts France, just after Italy beat Spain 2-0 to set up a last eight clash with Germany. The exit from the European Championship finals left fans of England-population 53 million and with the world's wealthiest football league-reeling with a similar sense of desperation as the loosing "Remain" camp of Britain's 'Brexit' referendum.

England's players were stunned. Hodgson read out his resignation statement within minutes of the final whistle. Iceland's players celebrated in joyous disbelief with their 3,500 fans in the stadium.

utes of the final whistle. Iceland's players celebrated in joyous disbelief with their 3,500 fans in the stadium.

Captain Aron Gunnarsson, who plays for Cardiff in the English league, said Iceland had been turned "upside down" by the win.

### TAME LIONS

"It's just a proud moment and something we'll treasure for the rest of our lives," he said. "We always believe. That's our attitude."

Wayne Rooney put England ahead from the penalty spot inside five minutes. But Sigurdsson equalised within 75 seconds and Sigthorsson shot Iceland ahead with a goal that embarrassed England goalkeeper Joe Hart. England never showed any belief and Hodgson, 68, had to take responsibility.

"I'm extremely disappointed of course about tonight's result and ultimately our exit from the competition. We haven't progressed as far as I thought we were capable of, and that's obviously not acceptable," he said in his resignation statement.

"We are in the results business," he added. "Now is the time for someone else to oversee the progress of this young, hungry and extremely talented group of players."

England's performance ranks alongside some of the most dismal at major tournaments. England already feature on the list of shame with their 1-0 defeat to an amateur United States side at the 1950 World Cup.

England, ranked 11th in the world, were left cursing by Hart's blunder that led to Iceland's second goal as Sigthorsson's tame shot could easily have been stopped.

"We will get a lot of flak and we deserve it," Hart said. "We will learn from this and try and bring English football back to where it belongs. We have put it in a low place."

"The next manager has a tough job on his hands. We worked hard but with no success. That is how this team will be remembered." Hart was by no means the only one to blame for the defeat to the world 34th-ranked Icelanders however. "It's embarrassing for us," admitted England captain Rooney. "We know

we're a better team. We're the ones on the pitch. You can't just say it's Roy Hodgson's fault or one player's fault. We're all in it together so we all have to share that responsibility."

### DEL BOSQUE FACES QUESTIONS

The English Football Association quickly said it was "disappointed" by the defeat. "We back Roy Hodgson's decision to step down as England manager and will discuss next steps imminently," the FA said in a statement. Former England captain Gary Linker called the result "the worst defeat in our history". He added on Twitter: "England beaten by a country with more volcanoes than professional footballers. Well played Iceland."

Earlier, Italy dumped defending champions Spain out of the contest. Their 2-0 triumph ended a 22-year run without a win over their rivals. They face world champions Germany on Saturday in Bordeaux.

Spain's coach Vicente del Bosque was also forced to fend off questions about his future after watching Giorgio Chiellini and

Graziano Pelle goals sink his side and take revenge for their 4-0 hammering by Spain in the Euro 2012 final.

Chiellini forced home the first goal from close range after goalkeeper David de Gea could only parry Eder's fiercely struck free-kick. Pelle volleyed in a deflected cross in injury time. "It has been and is a great era for Spanish football," said del Bosque defiantly. "We have Italy ahead of us for the World Cup qualifiers in Russia and we have to prepare for that," he added.

"I don't think an era has ended. Spanish football is very well structured there are good academies, very good players and very good clubs." Italy manager Antonio Conte said team work and a united spirit had inspired their win. "Right from the outset since I took over I have said that the only route forward to achieve a semblance of success is to try and be a like a club team," said Conte, who will take over Chelsea at the end of the tournament. "We have to be a collective." — AFP

## ARGENTINA BEGS MESSI NOT TO QUIT

BUENOS AIRES: Argentine football legend Diego Maradona and the country's President Mauricio Macri urged Lionel Messi on Monday not to leave the national team despite his vow to quit after a humiliating defeat.

The Barcelona superstar left the field in tears after missing a spot-kick in the Copa America Centenario final shootout against Chile on Sunday. He promptly told reporters he was quitting, throwing Argentine football into turmoil ahead of the 2018 World Cup in Russia. "He has to stay because he still has playing days ahead of him," Maradona was quoted as saying by La Nacion newspaper online. "He will go to Russia in form to be world champion." Messi, 29, is widely rated as the best player in the world, but Sunday's loss was his fourth defeat in an international final for Argentina. After an outpouring of disappointment by fans online, Macri joined the calls for the Barcelona superstar to stay with Argentina. "He called him and told him how proud he feels of the national team's performance and asked him not to listen to the criticism," a spokesman for Macri told AFP by telephone.

### ARGENTINE FOOTBALL 'DISASTER'

The 1986 World Cup winner Maradona, 55, blamed Argentina's recent lack of trophies on the country's football association (AFA). He accused it of not supporting Messi and letting him take the blame for Sunday's defeat.

"Those who are saying he should quit are doing it so that we won't see what a disaster Argentine football has become," La Nacion quoted Maradona as saying. Messi and the squad landed back in Buenos Aires on Monday evening after the tournament in the United States.

Television cameras followed their coach but the players had yet to make any comment to the media.

### 'SATURATED WITH CRITICISM'

Messi is loved in Barcelona but his friends complained of how harshly he has been judged in his homeland.

"This lad is just saturated with criticism and being so badly treated," said Ernesto Vecchio, who was Messi's first coach in his native city of Rosario. "I don't want him to quit but when I put myself in his shoes it seems unfair that they should look to him as the savior when there are 11 players on the team."

Messi's cool head on the pitch makes him an efficient goalscorer, but his reserved manner has drawn criticism. Ahead of this month's Copa, Maradona himself accused Messi of having "no personality" for a captain. Messi has been named FIFA World Player of the Year five times. But he has been haunted by comparisons with Maradona, who led Argentina to World Cup triumph in 1986.

### PLAYERS 'DEVASTATED'

The star's departure could herald a broader change in the Argentina line-up. Manchester City star Sergio Aguero warned other players could also quit the national side.

"We were all devastated in the dressing room, particularly Leo, I'd never seen him in such a state," he said.

"Several players are wondering whether to continue." Aguero did not say whether he would follow Messi in quitting but he, Javier Mascherano and Gonzalo Higuain were mentioned in media reports.

### STRING OF DEFEATS

Argentina were beaten 1-0 by Germany in the final of the 2014 World Cup and lost on penalties, also to Chile, in the 2015 Copa America final. Messi also tasted defeat with Argentina in the final of the 2007 Copa America.



BUENOS AIRES: Two young women hold signs asking Lionel Messi not to quit, while waiting for the arrival of Argentina's football team from the Copa America Centenario held in the United States, on Monday in Buenos Aires. Argentina lost the final against Chile 4-2 in the penalty shoot-out. Argentines begged Lionel Messi - who tearfully decided to quit the international team after missing a spot-kick in the shootout - not to leave the national team despite its traumatic final. — AFP

In this month's Copa semi-final win over the United States, he became Argentina's top international scorer of all time with his 55th goal. But after Sunday's final, his typical composure gave way to tears of frustration.

"I've done all I can, I've been in four finals and it hurts not to be a champion," Messi told reporters.

"It's a hard moment for me and the team, and it's difficult to say, but it's over with the Argentina team."

His departure left many fans no longer thinking about the Copa. "Losing a final is something that happens in sport," wrote one fan, Fede Ruiz, on Twitter. "But losing you is the most painful defeat of all." — AFP

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LONDON: Union flags fly as banners across a street in central London yesterday. EU leaders attempted to rescue the European project and Prime Minister David Cameron sought to calm fears over Britain's vote to leave the bloc as rating agencies downgraded the country. — AP

## BRITONS ALREADY FEELING PINCH FROM BREXIT

### BOE PUMPS 3.1 BILLION POUNDS INTO LENDERS

LONDON: Holidays abroad are already more expensive and supermarket food prices will rise. Britons are feeling the pinch from Brexit, analysts say. Britain voted last week to quit the European Union, despite the government's warnings of a potential recession and hefty price hikes for consumers. Since the shock vote outcome, perhaps the most dramatic fallout has been the collapse in the pound.

The value of sterling has tumbled since Friday by up to 12.6 percent against the dollar and by up to 10.2 percent against the European single currency. For Britons planning travelling abroad for their summer holidays, their slumping currency means that the pound in their pocket has lost purchasing power. "The fall in value of the pound will have an immediate impact on holidaymakers and their spending power overseas," the Association of British Travel Agents said.

Ahead of the vote outcome, Britons had flocked early last week to foreign currency dealerships to sell their pounds in case of a currency crash. In chaotic trade on Monday, the unit tanked to

\$1.3121 — its weakest level since September 1985 — while it forged two-year lows versus the euro. The plunging pound also means imported goods like fresh produce will cost more, pushing consumer price inflation higher, experts warn. "The prices of fresh produce will definitely go up as much of this is sourced from the EU," said analysts at Kantar research consultancy. "In the case of (British supermarket giant) Tesco, for example, almost 50 percent of butter and cheese consumed in the UK comes from milk sourced from EU markets."

#### Consumers will pay more

Anastasia Alieva, head of fresh food research at the Euromonitor consultancy, added rising prices would curb consumers' spending power. "Overall, the weakness of the pound is likely to generate price increases for many food products which will have a negative impact on disposable income," Alieva wrote in a note. She added: "Those who source their produce from the UK will be in a stronger position than those sourcing from outside

the UK. "Prices of fish and seafood imported from the EU are set to rise, but it is unclear to what extent." Distributors-whose margins have already been squeezed by supermarket price wars and Britain's minimum wage-will meanwhile be forced to pass on their increased costs.

"Brexit isn't a good thing for the UK consumer," concluded Bernstein analyst Bruno Monteyne. "Consumers will end up paying for the extra inflation," he added. At the height of the referendum battle, the government warned an EU exit would cost the average household £4,300 (\$5,700, 5,200 euros) per year by 2030, in claims rebutted by "Leave" supporters. The price forecast was almost impossible to verify because it remains unclear what the future relationship would be between Britain and the EU, nor the extent of the economic shock from Brexit. "Leave" campaigners argue Britain could negotiate deals to access the single market similar to those in place for like non-members Norway and Switzerland. However, the assertion is shrouded in uncertainty after European Commission chief Jean-Claude

Juncker declared that Brexit would "not be amicable". Dutch food and cosmetics giant Unilever has already forecast higher prices for its products like Magnum ice cream. "If you would have trade restrictions because undoubtedly if the UK will leave, the conditions will not be as good as if they stay in-you will have import duties on dairy," said Unilever chief executive Paul Polman earlier this month. "So the price of dairy products will go up (and) the price of ice cream will go up, and ultimately the consumer will pay the price for that."

#### BoE intervention

British banks yesterday tapped the Bank of England for £3.1 billion (\$4.1 billion, 3.7 billion euros) to help bolster their balance sheets in the wake of the shock Brexit vote. The central bank, which announced the news in a statement, has now injected more than £9.0 billion into lenders in three funding auctions aimed at calming markets around the June 23 referendum date.

It is the first time the BoE has ever held more

than one such auction in a month. In the "Indexed Long-Term Repo" operations, banks, building societies and broker-dealers can offer assets such as mortgage loans to the Bank of England in return for cash, which they repay six months later.

This helps banks and the wider financial industry to keep ticking over during periods of market turbulence or when there might be a risk of a "credit crunch"—a reduction in the availability of loans which can worsen an economic downturn. Similar emergency lending provided in 2008 during the global financial crisis, and the Bank of England currently holds one Indexed Long-Term Repo a month. Separately, BoE governor Mark Carney had pledged last Friday to pump at least £250 billion into money markets if needed to prevent a credit crunch amid heightened uncertainty following Britain's vote to leave the European Union. Banks in the UK already have a combined £600 billion in liquidity on their balance sheets, helping shield the sector from a repeat of the credit crunch seen at the height of the financial crisis. — AFP

## THOUSANDS MARCH IN LATEST FRENCH LABOR REFORM PROTEST

PARIS: Thousands of people took to the streets of Paris yesterday in the latest protest march in a marathon campaign against the French Socialist government's job market reforms. The march, along with a strike that shut down the Eiffel Tower, came as the French Senate prepared to vote on the hotly contested reforms aimed at reining in unemployment by freeing up the job market.

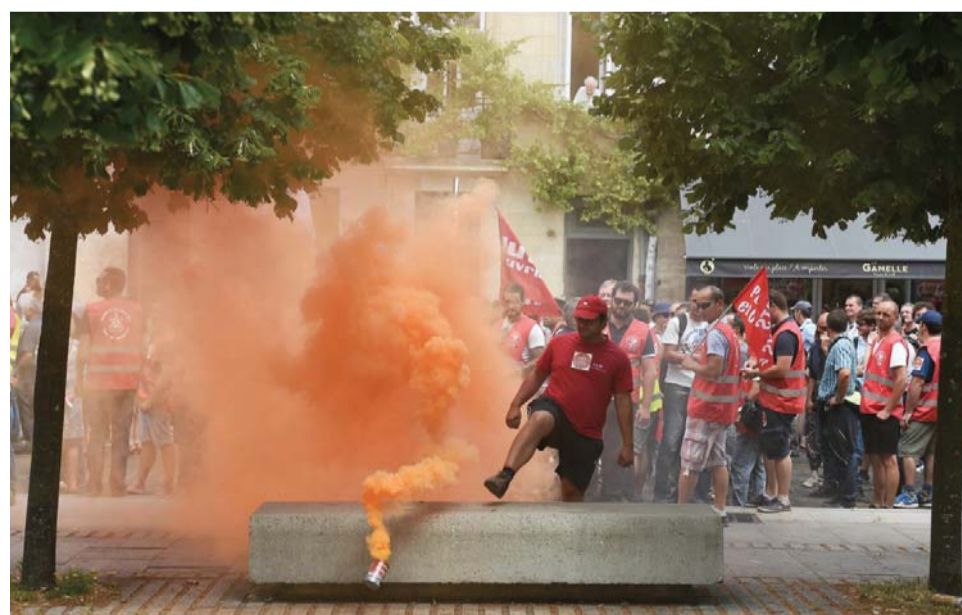
Seven unions on Tuesday submitted what they called partial results from a public survey on the draft law, with 92 percent of 700,000 respondents calling for its withdrawal.

French President Francois Hollande said last week that his government would "go all the way" to enact the reforms, which are seen by critics as too pro-business and a threat to cherished workers' rights. "It is essential not only to allow businesses to be able to hire more" but to step up training that will lead to more jobs, he said.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls will meet union leaders today and tomorrow but has already signalled he is not open to further modifying a text that has already been watered down.

Valls, who has been a lightning rod for criticism because of his unrelenting stance on the reforms, conceded little by agreeing to the meetings. The prime minister's office said they would "review" the situation but "it is not a matter of reopening a cycle of negotiations."

Philippe Martinez, secretary general of the hardline CGT union, said he hoped the meeting would not be a mere "courtesy call just to have a coffee". Unions say the main sticking point is a measure giving precedence to agreements negotiated between companies and their staff over deals reached with unions



BORDEAUX: Demonstrators walk in an orange smoke cloud during a demonstration against proposed labor law reforms in Bordeaux yesterday. — AFP

across entire industrial sectors—notably on working hours. The two sides have not met since early March, though Valls telephoned union leaders on May 28. Yesterday afternoon saw the 11th demonstration against the reforms since the wave of protests began on March 9. Many of the protests have descended into violence, reaching a peak in Paris on June 14, just four days after the start of the Euro 2016 football championships in France. Hundreds of masked protesters and police fought running street battles, and police used water cannon to quell rioters who hurled pro-

jectiles at them and bashed in storefronts, with 40 people hurt and dozens arrested.

The unrest led to a tug-of-war last week when the government initially banned a planned march before allowing it to take place along a shortened route. Tens of thousands took part in the march, which passed off peacefully under the close watch of 2,000 riot police and after 100 people were arrested for carrying potential projectiles or face coverings. A longer march was authorized for yesterday, with a beefed-up security contingent of 2,500. — AFP

## GULF MIXED IN QUIET TRADE

### MIDEAST STOCK MARKETS

DUBAI: Stock markets in the Gulf were mixed in quiet trade yesterday as global markets stabilised following the shock of Britain's vote to leave the European Union. With oil prices rebounding, investors feel Brexit may have little impact on Gulf economies, although weakness in the pound and euro could affect Dubai's real estate and tourism sectors. Brent oil was up 1.7 percent to \$47.95 a barrel in Asian trade.

Ramadan and summer holidays are limiting activity, however, and deterring investors from taking large positions given the risk of more global market instability. Saudi Arabia's market will be closed throughout next week for Eid Al-

Fitr. The Saudi index was up 0.2 percent in the first 15 minutes of trade yesterday, largely because of second- or third-tier stocks favoured by local retail investors such as Tihama Advertising, up 4.6 percent.

Dubai's index was flat, with activity also focusing on smaller stocks such as HITS Telecom, the most actively traded share. It was up 2.3 percent. In Dubai, a 0.7 percent decline by Aldar Properties helped to pull the index down 0.3 percent, but most of the 10 most heavily traded stocks barely moved.

Qatar edged down 0.1 percent but Qatar National Bank, the Gulf's largest listed lender, climbed 0.6 percent. — Reuters

## FITCH DOWNGRADES BAHRAIN TO JUNK ON WIDENING DEFICIT

DUBAI: Fitch Ratings downgraded Bahrain's debt by one notch to junk status yesterday, leaving all three of the world's big rating agencies assessing the kingdom below investment grade as low oil prices undermine its finances. "Lower oil prices are causing a marked deterioration in Bahrain's fiscal position," Fitch said as it cut Bahrain to "BB-plus" with a stable outlook.

"There is progress in fiscal consolidation, but not a clear path towards reaching a more sustainable position." Ratings agencies have also downgraded or assigned negative outlooks to the debt of the other five oil exporters in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), but Bahrain, which lacks the ample hydrocarbon and financial reserves of its neighbors, is the only GCC member to be given junk status. S&P rates Bahrain "BB" with

a stable outlook and Moody's Investors Service "Ba2" with a negative outlook. Both are one notch below Fitch. Fitch predicted Bahrain's general government budget deficit would widen to 15.4 percent of gross domestic product in 2016 from 14.8 percent in 2015, assuming an average Brent oil price of \$35 a barrel.

It said unrest among the kingdom's Shi'ite population meant Bahrain's political situation was more unstable than 85 percent of all countries rated by Fitch. However, Bahrain has remained able to issue debt in the international markets, partly because of its close political links to Saudi Arabia. "Were Bahrain to find itself in trouble, we suspect that the rest of the Gulf, particularly Saudi Arabia, would step in with financial support," commented Jason Tuvey, Middle East economist at London-based Capital Economics. — Reuters



# US ECONOMY GREW FASTER AT 1.1% IN FIRST QUARTER

## HOME PRICES CLIMB IN APRIL; 7 CITIES SET NEW RECORDS

**WASHINGTON:** The US economy grew slightly faster at the start of the year than previously estimated, even though consumer spending posted the smallest gain in two years. The gross domestic product expanded at an annual rate of 1.1 percent in the first quarter, an improvement from the 0.8 percent rate released last month, the Commerce Department reported yesterday.

While growth prospects for the spring look even better, the shockwaves from Britain's decision to leave the European Union could spread to the US economy in the coming months. Economists forecast growth of around 2.5 percent in the current quarter. The latest revision reflected stronger export sales and less drag from business investment. The boost in export sales helped to turn trade from a drag on growth into a small positive to growth of 0.1 percentage point. Offsetting those gains, consumer spending growth was revised down to 1.5 percent. That was the weakest showing since the first quarter of 2014. The result primarily reflected a slowdown in services such as health care.

"Because this revision was largely due to new March data, this suggests that the pace of growth increased slightly at the end of the quarter," economists at Contingent Macro Research said in a note to clients. The first quarter represented the second quarter in a row of slower growth, the result of a number of factors including a harsh winter that sapped consumer spending. It followed the pattern of the past few years in which growth nearly stalled out in the first quarter only to show a solid rebound in the second quarter.

Economists are looking for a similar outcome this year with analysts predicting growth in the current quarter will be more than double the first quarter pace. Analysts had been expecting further acceleration in the second half of this year, with some economists predicting growth could rise close to 3 percent. However, after the vote in Britain, many analysts have trimmed their forecasts for the second half to between 2 percent to 2.5 percent growth due to turbulence in financial markets that could depress consumer and business confidence. They also believe US growth will be hurt by a further rise in the value of the dollar, which will hurt exports. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 611 points on Friday, the first trading day after the British vote, the biggest loss since last August. The Dow fell another 260.51 points on Monday.

The impact from the British vote is expected to keep the Federal Reserve on hold. The Fed raised its key policy rate by a quarter-point in December and had expected to raise rates another four times this year. But after markets went into a tailspin at the beginning of the year, the Fed moved to the sidelines. Various Fed officials a month ago had signaled they could be ready to raise rates again in



**DORMONT:** Auto mechanic Joe Valenti changes a battery in a Honda Acura at his garage in Dormont, Pa. — AP

June but then a dismal May jobs report put the Fed back on hold. While some economists had forecast a possible July rate hike, the British vote has many analysts believing the Fed could leave rates unchanged for the entire year or at most will hike only one time, probably in December.

### Home prices

US home prices scaled new heights in April, with seven cities - including Boston, Charlotte, Portland, Oregon, San Francisco and Seattle - setting record highs. The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index increased 5.4 percent in April compared with a year earlier, just a tick down from the 5.5 percent annual gain in March. Home values are now just 9.6 percent below their peak nearly a decade ago, according to the report released yesterday. Shrinking inventories of homes for sale have boosted prices, while a healthy job market and historically low mortgage rates have kept demand from potential buyers strong during the spring months associated with

the highest volume of sales. The number of listings has fallen 5.7 percent from a year ago, the National Association of Realtors said last week.

Home prices rose in all 20 major housing markets, with double-digit annual increases in Portland and Seattle. In addition to the other five cities at record home values, Dallas and Denver, continue to be well above their historic peaks. Overall home ownership rates have dropped near a 48-year low in the aftermath of the housing bust that began in 2007. But sales have improved as the broader economy has slowly healed. Sales of existing homes improved 1.8 percent last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.53 million, the best pace since February 2007, according to the Realtors.

Providing the foundation for much of that growth has been a solid 4.7 percent unemployment rate that points to a stable period for workers. Rising prices have also been tempered by low mortgage rates that are holding monthly ownership costs in check. — AP



**CHENGDU:** People in panda costumes pose with air stewardess in front of a Chengdu Airlines ARJ21-700 plane before its first commercial flight at Chengdu Shuangliu International Airport in Chengdu yesterday. — AP

## MADE IN CHINA PLANE MAKES ITS FIRST FLIGHT

**BEIJING:** China's homegrown regional jet made its first commercial flight yesterday, operator Chengdu Airlines said, after years of delays raised questions about the country's ambitious plans for domestically-produced planes.

Chengdu Airlines flew the ARJ21 from its eponymous home base, the capital of the southwestern province of Sichuan, to the commercial hub Shanghai carrying 70 passengers. More than half were paying customers who were aware they were flying in a new plane, an airline spokesman told AFP.

The ARJ21 — which stands for Advanced Regional Jet for the 21st Century — will ferry flyers on the Chengdu-Shanghai route three times a week, he added.

The inaugural flight was the culmination of a 14-year program to make China a commercial aircraft manufacturer capable of competing with dominant foreign players Boeing and Airbus.

But the aircraft still lacks the crucial US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) certification that would allow it to fly in US skies, and most manufacturers do not yet view the COMAC plane as a competitive threat. Even so,

the Chinese commercial aircraft market is already Asia's largest and crucial to aerospace plans over the next decades.

Pictures of the ARJ21 inaugural flight showed a patriotic spirit among the passengers, with some waving Chinese flags and signing their names on a memorial banner, flanked by people in panda costumes. First formally approved by the government in 2002, the plane was shown to journalists five years later, when officials confidently predicted deliveries in late 2009.

Chengdu Airlines finally received the aircraft from manufacturer the Commercial Aircraft Corp. of China (COMAC) last November, and it made several "demonstration" flights without passengers in January. While the debut commercial flight is a landmark for COMAC, the ARJ21's quality and reliability still have to be established to win over customer and passenger confidence. The plane can seat 78-90 passengers and has a range of 2,225-3,700 kilometres (1,380-2,294 miles).

State-owned COMAC has claimed more than 270 orders for the ARJ21, mainly from domestic customers. — AFP

## BRITAIN 'REMAINS PART OF OUR FAMILY': AIRBUS CEO

**BLAGNAC, France:** Airbus CEO Tom Enders pledged yesterday that the aircraft manufacturer's British operations would remain "integral and indispensable" to the company despite a vote to quit the European Union. Speaking at the opening of the company's new global headquarters in Blagnac, near Toulouse in southwest France, Enders said that "Britain remains a member of our family" and home to "some of the most competitive sites of Airbus in the world".

Around 10,000 of Airbus' 135,000 employees worldwide are located in the UK, and the company claims on its website that its operations in north Wales and northwest England support up to 100,000 jobs in its supply chain. Around 1,000 wings for the European aerospace giant's civil aircraft are built in Britain each year before being shipped by sea for assembly in France.

Airbus had already said on Friday, the day after British voters backed a referendum to leave the EU, that it would seek to minimize the effect of Brexit although it was "disappointed" with the result.

While it promised to continue its UK operations, the group said that it would investigate the long-term con-



**TOULOUSE, HAUTE-GARONNE, France:** Chief Executive Officer Tom Enders poses as he arrives for the inauguration ceremony of the new headquarters of Airbus Group yesterday in Blagnac, on the outskirts of Toulouse. — AFP

sequences for its British sites. Airbus was also one of a swathe of French businesses that begged the UK public to vote to stay in an open letter published in several newspapers days before Thursday's ballot. "We love

you, but we are in business not just in love," the letter published in the Sun, Telegraph and Times dailies read. "We invest because you are a leader in Europe's single market and we all trade freely within the EU." — AFP

## INDONESIA INTRODUCES TAX AMNESTY TO BOOST ECONOMY

**JAKARTA:** Indonesia yesterday launched a tax amnesty in a bid to give Southeast Asia's top economy a multi-billion-dollar boost, defying criticism the move will let evaders off the hook.

The government believes the amnesty can bring in 165 trillion rupiah (\$12.4 billion) of additional revenue this year by offering low rates to those who come forward to declare untaxed wealth.

Wealthy Indonesians have long chosen to stash billions of dollars abroad, particularly in neighbouring city-state Singapore, to keep it out of reach of the taxman. Parliament approved a bill finally bringing the amnesty into effect after months of wrangling, with all but one of the 10 parties in the legislature backing the controversial measure. Finance Minister Bambang Brodjonegoro said he hoped capital owned by Indonesians currently parked overseas would now "enter Indonesia's financial system and boost economic growth" during the nine-month amnesty.

President Joko Widodo is desperate for extra money to fund infrastructure projects as investment falls due to a slowing global economy, and the government believes improving its historically poor tax revenues will help. Only 30 million Indonesians are registered taxpayers out

of 90 million registered workers, and the country collects less tax as a proportion of GDP than many countries in Southeast Asia. But the bill has faced criticism from political parties and among the public who believe it means tax evaders will go unpunished, and that it is unfair to those who have honestly paid their taxes.

"The tax amnesty bill is extraordinarily offensive to our sense of justice it turns criminals into good guys," lawmaker Yandri Susanto of National Mandate Party told parliament.

His party eventually backed the bill. The Prosperous Justice Party, an Islamist party, was the only one in parliament that did not support the measure. People who come forward with their untaxed wealth at home and abroad will be offered a rate of between two percent and 10 percent, far below the 30 percent top income tax rate for individuals.

Under the amnesty, those wishing to declare their untaxed wealth will have until March 2017 to do so. An individual can get better rates by reporting earlier, and by agreeing to send their money back to Indonesia. Indonesian stocks closed up 0.95 percent after the amnesty bill was passed, while the rupiah strengthened 1.2 percent to 13,188 to the dollar. — AFP

اتحاد مصارف الكويت  
Kuwait Banking Association

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Kuwait Banking Association (KBA) would like to draw the attention of all local banks' clients as well as clients of other banks operating in the State of Kuwait, that in the near future, all banks will no longer accept processing cheques, issued in Kuwaiti Dinars, that do not conform with the standards and security features as prescribed by the Central Bank of Kuwait. Banks will advise clients' beneficiary of these types of cheques to go to the issuer Bank to cash their cheque or deposit it in their accounts - if available with the issuer Bank.

Accordingly, KBA would like to urge banks' clients who print their cheques directly through press companies and not through their bank; to print their cheques at the earliest only through authorized entities and by taking into consideration that they need to refer back to their bank to provide them with the mandated standards and security features before printing these cheques.

It is important to note that in addition to the cheques conforming to the standards and security features, the following instructions are followed by all clients to facilitate the clearing of their cheques through the new Kuwait Electronic Cheque Clearing System (KECCS), in which the clearing cycle of cheques has been reduced from 3 days to the same day for certain cases or to the next working day in other cases.

- They need to ensure that the MICR line that is printed at the bottom of the cheque.
- Avoid writing or signing over the MICR line at the bottom of the cheque.
- Keep the cheques in a good condition by avoiding folding, damaging, stapling or tearing cheques.
- Avoid storing cheques in places that are warm or under direct sunlight (e.g. car) as it can damage the cheques and will not be accepted for processing.
- Ensure the availability of sufficient funds in the account before issuing the cheques (Cheques returned due to insufficient funds may lead to criminal persecutions).

Adherence to the above mentioned by all Banks' clients are strongly recommended to ensure the acceptance and processing of the cheques under KECCS and to highly benefit from the new system.

EUROPE SHARES VENTURE FIRST POST-BREXIT GAINS

LONDON: European stocks rose for the first time yesterday since Britain's shock vote to quit the EU...

Trading floors appeared to have put the initial panic of Brexit behind them, picking up bargains after two days of heavy losses...

anywhere near going away: The country is still without its next prime minister, the Labour party is in disarray...

The outcome of the June 23 referendum also caused an earthquake in British politics, forcing Prime Minister David Cameron to resign...

'Political vacuum'

Despite all the uncertainty, however, "the panic is behind us," said Christopher Dembik, a Saxo

Banque economist. London's benchmark FTSE 100 surged 2.5 percent, while the CAC 40 in Paris was 2.7 percent ahead...

World stock markets had plunged on Monday, extending Friday's dizzying losses which saw \$2.1 trillion wiped off international equities...

"The political vacuum in Westminster continues to suck sterling downwards," Moneycorp dealers said in a note to investors.

the lows of Monday evening the pound has lost ground to every other major currency."

And further falls for the pound are on the cards, analysts said. "It might look very attractive to buy a major currency which has fallen by more than 11 percent in two trading days...

Bonds haven

British government bond prices, meanwhile, also fell after ratings agencies SP Global Ratings and Fitch both cut their ratings for the United Kingdom's sovereign debt...

German bond yields, however, remained in negative territory as investors seeking a safe haven investment away from the British turmoil favoured the solidity of German sovereign bonds...

Asia leads way

Asia led the bounce earlier, with analysts pointing to traders having started to bet on a fresh round of stimulus to mitigate the effects of Britain's decision...

Tokyo ended up 0.1 percent, having fallen two percent in the morning, while Shanghai recovered to end 0.6 percent higher...

"The medium-term impact on Asia-Pacific markets, however, is likely to be limited as investors make decisions based more on economic and financial fundamentals rather than just sentiment."

Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report

Tuesday 28 June 2016

Table with 5 columns: Index, Change, Closing, Last Closing, High, Low. Includes Price index, Weighted Index, and KSX 15.

Table with 2 columns: Volume, Value (KWD), Number of Trades.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes Oil & Gas and Basic Materials.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes Real Estate.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KFOUC, BPCC, ALKOUT.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KCEM, REFRI, CABLE.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes SHIP, PCEM, PAPER.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes MRC, ACICO, GGMC.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes HCC, KHMCM, NICBM.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes EQUIPMENT, NCCI, GYPSUM.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes SALBOOKH, AGLTY, EDU.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes CLEANING, KGL, KPCP.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes HUMANSOFT, NAFAS, SAFWAN.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes GFC, MAYADEEN, CGC.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes MTCC, UPAC, ALFAFCO.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes MUBARRAD, LOGISTICS, SCEM.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes GCEM, QIC, FOEM.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes RWKC, SPEG, Industrials.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KSH, NSH, PAPCO.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes DANAH, POULT, FOOD.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes Consumer Goods, MHC, ATC.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes YIACO, Health Care, KCIN.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KHOT, SULTAN, CABLETV.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes EFYAS, IFAHR, OULAFUEL.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes MUNTAZAHAT, JAZERA, SOOR.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes FUTURKID, ALRAI, ZIMAH.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes UFIG, Mezzan, Consumer Services.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes ZAIN, OOREDOO, HITSTELC.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes VIVA, Telecommunications, NBK.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes GBK, CBK, ABK.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes ALMUTAHED, KIB, BURG.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KOFIN, BOURYAN, ITHM.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes AUB, WARBABANK, Banks.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KING, GINS, AINS.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes WINS, KUWAITRE, FTI.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes WETHAQ, BKIKWT, Insurance.

Table with 8 columns: Security, High, Low, Volume, Value (KD), Trades, Last, Change. Includes KING, GINS, AINS.

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National Bank of Kuwait Financial Markets Daily Report

Table with 6 columns: Index, Previous Close, Last Price, Change, Daily Performance, Yearly Performance. Includes Dow Jones, NASDAQ, SP500.

Table with 6 columns: Index, Previous Close, Last Price, Change, Daily Performance, Yearly Performance. Includes Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Dubai.

Table with 8 columns: Currency, Kuwaiti Dinar, Saudi Riyal, US Dollar, Euro, Sterling Pound, Swiss Franc, Japanese Yen, Australian Dollar.

Table with 8 columns: Currency, US Dollar, Kuwaiti Dinar, Saudi Riyal, Bahraini Dinar, Qatari Riyal, Omani Riyal, Emirates Dirham, Egyptian Pound.

Table with 6 columns: Currency, 1-Week, 1-Month, 3-Month, 6-Month, 1-Year. Includes Kuwaiti Dinar, US Dollar, Euro.

Table with 5 columns: Country, 2-Year, 5-Year, 10-Year, 30-Year. Includes United States, Europe, United Kingdom.

Table with 6 columns: Index, Previous Close, Last Price, Change, Daily Performance, Yearly Performance. Includes Kuwait Oil, Brent, West Texas.





## The new V-Class

# Mercedes-Benz redefining multi-purpose vehicles

**KUWAIT:** Mercedes-Benz is redefining the multi-purpose vehicle (MPV) segment with the new V-Class. Now available at A RAlbisher & Z Alkazemi Company, the Authorized General Distributor of Mercedes-Benz in Kuwait, the largest member of the passenger car family from Stuttgart sets new benchmarks in its segment with its design and host of innovations. The new V-Class combines room for up to eight people and exemplary functionality with the high-class appeal, comfort, efficient driving pleasure and safety that

wheelbases and many optional extras. For the first time in this segment, Mercedes-Benz will also offer the AMG Line equipment package, ensuring the new MPV can be individualised to suit any taste and requirement. As a result, it meets a wide variety of customer needs and is just as attractive for families as it is for people who need a variable and spacious interior for their leisure and sports activities. Even more than that, it is ideally suited to use as a luxurious VIP or hotel shuttle.

"The new V-Class is addressing a completely

ably a member of the Mercedes-Benz passenger car family and an emotional highlight of its segment. The new V-Class demonstrates that an elegant and dynamic appearance is also possible in size XXL. The V-Class is a versatile, multitasking vehicle which offers value, efficiency and safety at the highest level.

### Mercedes-Benz Intelligent Drive - exemplary safety

A high level of driving comfort and an exemplary standard of safety are ensured through a total of eleven innovative driver assistance systems. They are based on state-of-the-art radar, camera and ultrasound sensors, which were introduced in the new E-Class and S-Class under the name "Mercedes-Benz Intelligent Drive". Standard equipment includes Crosswind Assist, which helps the driver to stabilise the V-Class in strong, gusting crosswinds, and ATTENTION ASSIST, which can warn of inattention and drowsiness. An available option is Active Parking Assist which makes parking the new MPV as easy and convenient as parking a compact car.

Also optionally available are the 360° camera, DISTRONIC PLUS adaptive cruise control with COLLISION PREVENTION ASSIST, Traffic Sign Assist with wrong-way warning function, Lane Keeping Assist, Blind Spot Assist, the LED Intelligent Light System and Adaptive Highbeam Assist. Most of these assistance systems are available in this segment for the first time.

The PRE-SAFE system, familiar from the passenger car models, is available as an optional extra to further enhance safety. When an accident threatens, it initiates protective measures to ensure that the belts and airbags offer optimum protection during a collision.

### New standard of agility and driving pleasure

To enhance personal driving pleasure, the V-Class is the only vehicle in its segment to offer the AGILITY SELECT function in conjunction with the automatic transmission. At the push of a button the driver can select from four driving modes: economical, comfortable, sporty and manual. Engine, accelerator and transmission response are then adapted accordingly.

### Modern style and high-class appeal

The interior of the V-Class is a completely new MPV experience, not only because it is pleasantly quiet. High-quality materials offer a pleasant touch and feel, while a harmonious colour concept, intricate details and a progressive and sensuous design idiom convey outstanding high-class appeal in the segment - as well as that hallmark "welcome home" feeling typical of Mercedes-Benz cars. Fine nappa leather is also available for the seats, steering wheel and shift lever. This inviting atmosphere is rounded off by subtle ambient lighting in three colours.

### A new dimension in comfort

The V-Class also sets new standards in comfort and variability with a host of innovations. The Mercedes-Benz MPV is the only vehicle in the segment to offer optional 4-way lumbar support and active seat ventilation with reversing fans to ensure a consistent relative humidity at the contact area with the leather seat for driver and front passenger. Also unique in this

class of vehicles is the enhanced THERMOTRONIC automatic climate control system, which is available in addition to the standard-fit TEMPMATIC system. It has various ventilation modes to offer individual climate control. The FOCUS, MEDIUM and DIFFUSE climate modes have distinct settings for air flow and distribution. Even for the hot climate regions, V-Class climate control system ensures pleasant temperatures both in the front and in the rear part of the vehicle. New optional extras like, large panoramic roof,

folding table can be installed between the single seats, as an option.

As an alternative to the individual seats, a two-passenger bench seat with two-piece, individually folding backrest, or a three-passenger bench seat with two-piece seat cushion and three-piece backrest is available for both rear rows. The outer right-hand seat of the three-seater bench can be folded forward or taken out separately. The entire bench can be folded forward to create space for large items,



distinguish automobiles bearing the three-pointed star. This makes the Mercedes among MPVs the perfect vehicle for everyone who appreciates great spaciousness, but does not want to sacrifice style and comfort.

Whether off on a shopping spree or travelling with the whole family, embarking on a holiday with friends or driving prominent guests to a red carpet event, the new V-Class provides optimum flexibility when it comes to use of the interior, cutting an elegant figure at the same time. The V-Class has arrived with equipment lines V-Class and V-Class AVANTGARDE, an Exterior Sports package and Interior Design package for each line, two

new customer segment - those who desire ample space and versatility but who never wanted to compromise style, comfort or driving pleasure. Revolutionizing spacious travel in the premium passenger car range, the stylish new MPV offers seating for up to eight people, a host of intelligent drive systems and ride comfort that has so far been lacking in this segment," said Michael Ruehle, Chief Executive Officer, Abdul Rahman Albisher & Zaid Alkazemi Company.

### Emotional, dynamic appearance - size in a new guise

Even at first glance, the V-Class is unmistak-



iPad holders in rear, LED-illuminated thermo cup holders and large centre console with integral cooler compartment make all V-Class passengers feel as comfortable as if in their own living rooms.

### Numerous seating and loading configurations

The seating in the rear allows numerous configurations to meet any requirements. As standard, the MPV is equipped with four individual luxury seats with armrests in two seat rows. Thanks to improved technology and operating logic, they can be folded forward intuitively to afford fast and easy access to the rear, while a

such as sports equipment or newly purchased furniture. Moreover, like the individual seats, all bench seats are fitted with integral three-point seat belts.

### Engines available at a glance

V250 155 kw ( 211hp)  
4 cylinder petrol engine  
Displacement: 1991 cc  
Torque : 350 Nm

The new Mercedes-Benz V-Class is now available at A.R.Albisher & Z.Alkazemi Company's showroom in Shuwaikh. Call to avail your test drive today.



## NISSAN CREATES HIGH-PERFORMANCE, HIGH TECHNOLOGY GT-R DRONE GT-R DRONE: 0-100 KM/H IN JUST 1.3 SECONDS

**DUBAI:** Nissan recently unveiled the GT-R Drone - one of the fastest accelerating FPV (First Person View) racing drones in the world.

Built to be able to keep up with the new 2017 Nissan GT-R while filming on the track, the drone features the very latest in performance-enhancing technology, just like its automotive equivalent.

Custom designed by World Drone Prix Champions, Tornado XBlades Racing, the GT-R Drone uses a special race tuned configuration and low-drag canopy to reach 100kph from a standstill in just 1.3 seconds.

engineering to extract the maximum performance, both in a straight line and through corners. The GT-R car transfers power from its twin-turbocharged 3.8-liter 24-valve V6 to all four wheels; the GT-R Drone delivers incredible acceleration via four propellers mated with 2000kV XNova motors and race specification Sky-Hero quadcopter frame.

The race saw Nissan NISMO driver Ricardo Sanchez take the wheel of the new GT-R with James Bowles, the 2015 British National Drone Racing champion, piloting the GT-R Drone around a purpose-built 1.2-mile course at Silverstone.



To show off the talents of both machines, the GT-R Drone took on the road-going supercar around the challenging Silverstone circuit. Both machines use incredible technology and

The new 2017 GT-R represents the most significant changes to the car since the R35 model was first introduced in 2007. Unlike the drone, the GT-R features new aerodynamic features, which are



designed to keep it firmly on the ground. While the drone can out accelerate the car, wheels soon catch up with rotors: The GT-R Drone has a top speed

of approximately 185kph, versus 315kph for the European model car.

Even the incredible four-wheel-drive system of the GT-R can't match the ultimate agility of the drone, which has a turning circle of just 0.3 meters. Its custom setup allows it to perform heart-stopping maneuvers with incredible precision and agility.

Both machines were on display at Goodwood Festival of Speed recently.

Nissan is a global full-line vehicle manufacturer that sells more than 60 models under the Nissan, Infiniti and Datsun brands. In fiscal year 2015, the

company sold more than 5.4 million vehicles globally, generating revenue of 12.19 trillion yen. Nissan engineers, manufactures and markets the world's best-selling all-electric vehicle in history, the Nissan LEAF. Nissan's global headquarters in Yokohama, Japan, manages operations in six regions: ASEAN & Oceania; Africa, Middle East & India; China; Europe; Latin America and North America. Nissan has a global workforce of 247,500, and has been partnered with French manufacturer Renault under the Renault-Nissan Alliance since March 1999.

## AHLI UNITED BANK OFFERS SPECIAL SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES

**KUWAIT:** Ahli United Bank (AUB) announced yesterday that it is offering customers the chance to book their special safety deposit boxes to safely place their items of value. The service is part of the Bank's preparations to accommodate customers' needs throughout the summer and holiday seasons.

Ahli United Bank stated that the Bank's safety deposit boxes service is the ideal choice to provide an increased measure of protection and security in which to hold customers' valuable items while on vacation abroad or, indeed, anytime during the year. The safety deposit boxes enjoy a diversified array of benefits that position it as the ideal service for customers. The Bank provides multiple storage areas in four sizes to meet customer requirements, and

these are small, medium, large and extra-large sizes. Customers can also obtain more than one safety deposit box as required.

In addition the safety deposit boxes from AUB are accessible during official working hours.

The Bank provides the service with minimal charges in an effort to facilitate the overall process for customers wishing to safely deposit their valuable items and important documents in trusted safety boxes.

The service is provided in the Bank's main office and throughout its branches in Ahmadi, Salmiya, Jabriya, Yarmouk, Salwa, Sabah Al Salem, South Surra, Shamiya, Mishref, Reqqa, Andalus, Sabahiya, Jaber Al Ali, Ferdous, Ardia, Qadseya, Dahar, Sulaibikhat, Rabya, Khaitan, and Oyoon.

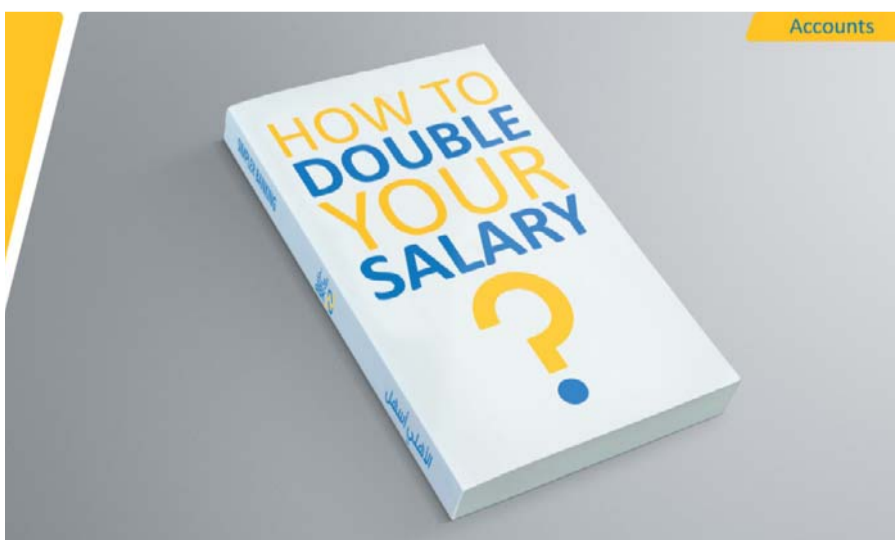
## مقتنياتك الثمينة بأمان



تربية وحسن معاملة  
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البنك الامتداد المتحد  
ahli united bank

## ABK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF 'DOUBLE YOUR SALARY' DRAWS



**KUWAIT:** Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait (ABK) held its ninth 'Double Your Salary' weekly draw on 28 June, 2016 at the Bank's Head Office in the presence of a representative from the Ministry of Commerce, announcing the names of the winners for this week. The new promotion includes weekly draws, with two winners per draw and will run from 1 May to 30 September, 2016.

**The winners this week are:**  
1) Sahar Naseraldeem Naseraldeem, Salmiya Branch  
2) Nawaf Basheer Al-Shammari, Jahra Branch  
New customers who transfer their salary

to ABK will receive KD 100 and will automatically be entered into the weekly draws to double their salaries. Existing customers who are already transferring their salary to ABK will be entered into a separate draw.

The Bank's next draw will be held on 5 July, 2016 where two new lucky winners will be announced subsequently. All winners will be contacted personally and a weekly announcement will be made through the media with the winners' names.

For more information on Al-Ahli Bank of Kuwait please visit eahli.com or contact an ABK customer service agent via 'Ahlan Ahli' at 1899899.



**ULAN BATOR:** A woman walks away from a yurt on a goat farm on the outskirts of Ulan Bator, Mongolia. Mongolians vote in parliamentary elections today with sentiment weighed by a sharp downturn in the landlocked Asian nation's crucial mining sector, rising unemployment and political disillusionment. — AP

## ECONOMIC CRISIS CASTS SHADOW OVER MONGOLIAN ELECTIONS

**ULANBATOR, Mongolia:** Mongolians vote in parliamentary elections today with sentiment weighed by a sharp downturn in the landlocked Asian nation's crucial mining sector, rising unemployment and political disillusionment. The Democratic Party could lose its majority in parliament, known as the State Great Khural, to the opposition Mongolian People's Party a year ahead of the 2017 presidential election. But with no major policy offerings on the table and an economy pummeled by the global slump in commodity prices, it's unclear what options Mongolia has for reviving its fortunes.

The parliamentary elections are the seventh since the country made a peaceful transition to democracy in 1990. Yet disillusionment with the political process in the country - recently dubbed "an oasis of democracy" by US Secretary of State John Kerry - is growing among younger voters, whose turnout has steadily declined in recent years.

Amgalan Sukh-Ochir, 30, who works in marketing, said he plans to boycott the elections. "In the last elections when the DP made all these great promises for prospering, I decided to support them, but look where we are now. I don't think they've achieved much," he said. Mongolia's mining- and animal herding-dependent economy has been dragged down by weak domestic demand and a sharp decline in exports, impoverishing thousands

of former herders who had moved to its few cities looking for jobs. Economic growth has slipped from 17.5 percent in 2011 to just 2.3 percent last year in the resource-rich nation of 3 million people, one-fifth of whom live in poverty.

Both the ruling Democratic Party and its main rival have campaigned on the promise of more jobs. "The main issue is, No. 1, to revive the economy," said Bulgantuya Khurelbaatar, secretary of the opposition Mongolian People's Party. She said the party aims to build 100 factories in 21 provinces that would create about 40,000 new jobs, though she didn't say how.

It's unclear what measures or resources are available to stimulate the flagging economy. Coal, copper and other mineral resources make up 94 percent of Mongolia's exports. But with demand in China weakening as its economy cools, Mongolia's own growth is forecast to fall below 1 percent this year. Foreign investment in the country has slowed to a trickle, though mining giant Rio Tinto announced in May the launch of the next stage of a multibillion-dollar gold and copper mine. Still, critics of government agreements with mining companies complain that too little of Mongolia's mineral wealth benefits the general public.

Some observers see recent changes to the electoral process as handicapping smaller parties and

female candidates. "They have closed some space for smaller political parties, as majoritarian systems do tend to benefit two main political parties," said Ashleigh Whelan, country director for the International Republican Institute, a US-based group with the stated aim of promoting democracy globally.

"This can reduce the opportunity for lesser-known candidates, new candidates, youth, women and those candidates who may not be a guarantee in terms of winning," Whelan said. Her organization does not expect either party to secure an overwhelming majority.

In its latest National Human Development Report, the United Nations Development Program found that only about 45 percent of Mongolians aged 18-34 have voted in recent elections, compared to an overall turnout of 65 percent in 2012.

Skepticism has grown after the ruling party recently offered citizens 300,000 tugriks (\$155) to sell 30 percent of their promised shares in the state-owned coal mine, Erdenes Tavan Tolgoi. So far 1.2 million of 1.65 million shareholders have applied to sell their shares to the government. "I think it's illegal to tell you the truth," said Khurelbaatar of the opposition party. "This is right before elections. It seems to all political parties that they're actually trying to buy off votes." — AP

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

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank has announced that it will be holding its monthly Salary Account draw and Red Account draw on June 30, 2016 at 2pm live on Marina FM's famous Diwaniya show. The Salary & Red Account will have cash draw prize of KD 1,000 for each account and a chance to win a brand new Cadillac SRX. The draws will be held under the supervision of a Ministry of Commerce representative.

The new 2016 Kuwaiti salary offer provides customers upon transferring their salary, a guaranteed cash gift of up to KD 200 or up to 60,000 Gulf Reward Points upon their first salary transfer as well as receiving a Gulf Bank Signature Credit card free for life.

Furthermore quarterly car draws with the chance to win a new 2016 Cadillac.

The new 2016 red account is designed for high school, college and university students aged 15 to 25 years old. Amongst the benefits is a monthly cash draw prizes of KD 1,000 and in addition a quarterly car draw will be for 1 lucky winner who will have a chance to win a new 2016 Cadillac. Account holders receive an ATM card and there is no minimum deposit



required to open the account or a minimum balance charge  
For further information about the Salary, Red accounts and prize draws, visit one of Gulf Bank's

56 branches, or call Gulf Bank's Customer Contact Center on 1805805. General information about Gulf Bank's products and services can also be found at the Bank's website

## SINGAPOREAN WEBSITE OWNER JAILED FOR ANTI-FOREIGNER CONTENT

**SINGAPORE:** A Singaporean man behind a defunct website that published made-up articles stirring hatred against foreigners in the city-state was jailed for eight months yesterday for sedition.

State prosecutors had pushed for a strong deterrent sentence on Yang Kaiheng, owner of The Real Singapore (TRS) website, saying the articles on which the charges were based were "designed to provoke hatred against foreigners in Singapore."

Yang, 27, had earlier claimed trial but later pleaded guilty to six charges of sowing discord between locals and foreigners in a series of articles, three of which state prosecutors said contained "blatant falsehoods designed to insert prominent xenophobic" references. One article falsely said that a Filipino

family instigated a fracas at a Hindu festival in 2015. Another fabricated article alleged that a Chinese woman made her grandson urinate into a bottle inside a metro train. The articles were mostly designed to inflame hatred against Filipino, mainland Chinese and Indian nationals working in labour-starved Singapore, the prosecutors said. Prosecutors described Yang as a "calculating opportunist, who realised that by generating a groundswell of resentment towards foreigners, he could attract readers to the TRS website and thereby generate vast sums of advertising revenue." Yang's Australian wife, Ai Takagi, who wrote or edited the articles, was sentenced in March to 10 months in jail also for sedition.

The popular website, which earned the duo hun-

dreds of thousands in advertising revenue, was shut down after Takagi and Yang were arrested while visiting the island last year. Both were based in Australia. Takagi's sentence is the stiffest so far ever imposed for sedition in the strict city-state, which clamps down hard on any activity seen as promoting racial and class hatred. State prosecutors described Yang as the "proprietor" and "distributor" of TRS and said a tough sentence on him "must reflect the fact that this is the most serious case of sedition to date in Singapore."

District court Judge Chay Yuen Fatt noted that Yang had pleaded guilty on Friday, the day results showed that Britain had voted to bolt out of the European Union. "To put it bluntly, nationalism can

degenerate very rapidly into xenophobia, racism, intolerance and violence," the judge said.

"Brexit is an example and a reminder of how strong, uncertain and unpredictable these emotions can be and the ramifications that these feelings can and have caused."

Sedition laws in Singapore make it an offence to promote hostility between different races or classes in the multiracial society, which is mainly ethnic Chinese with large Malay and Indian minorities.

Critics, however, say sedition laws, dating back to British colonial rule, can be used to restrict free speech. About 40 per cent of the city-state's 5.5 million people are foreigners, many of them from China, India and the Philippines. — AFP



**ILE:** In this Wednesday, June 1, 2011, file photo, a figure of Jake Sully's avatar character from the movie "Avatar," is on display at the Experience Music Project in Seattle. Before moviegoers return to Pandora, they'll be able visit the exotic alien world from "Avatar" on their smartphones. — AP

## 'AVATAR' MOBILE GAME LANDING AHEAD OF FILM SEQUELS

**LOS ANGELES:** Before moviegoers return to Pandora, they'll be able visit the exotic alien world from "Avatar" on their smartphones.

Lightstorm Entertainment and 20th Century Fox have enlisted game studio Kabam to develop an "Avatar" mobile game for release ahead of the next four film sequels. "The idea is to extend the world beyond the big screen and create an experience that will be true to what James Cameron did in making the most technologically advanced film of its time," said Kabam COO Kent Wakeford. "That's what we want to do with this game."

The multiplayer strategy game is set for release in 2018 before the second "Avatar" film hits theaters. Wakeford said Kabam plans to update the game as "Avatar" sequels unfurl every other year through 2023.

Kabam previously released mobile games based on such franchises as "Star Wars," Marvel and "Fast & Furious." Wakeford said the budget to produce the "Avatar" game will be sustainably more than \$14 million, the average cost of Kabam's previous titles.

The original 2009 film centered on the conflict between the human-led Resources Development Administration and the blue-skinned alien race Na'vi of Pandora. The film sequels will explore Pandora's other environments and cultures.

"For us, to be able to come out ahead of the movie and start to introduce a whole new set of characters and experiences when the movie releases and then again and again and again as the new films roll out, it'll allow us to create a really engaging game," said Wakeford. The game won't only rely on the first movie for inspiration. For the past year, the developers at Kabam have been collaborating with artists and others working on the next "Avatar" installments at Lightstorm.

"There might be a creature or RDA aircraft

that was not in the first movie that we designed for the sequels that's part of the texture of the films," said "Avatar" producer and Lightstorm COO Jon Landau. "If it doesn't reveal a story point from the films, why not share that with Kabam and allow them to use it in that space?" The four sequels are slated to be simultaneously filmed. Landau said screenwriters are close to finishing their scripts and filming with the principal cast, which includes Sam Worthington and Zoe Saldana, is set to begin in early 2017.

Landau said the mobile game's plot will be separate from the "Avatar" films and will allow players to align together and make decisions that will affect the narrative.

"I think science fiction can be a great metaphor for the world in which we live," said Landau. "As people play this game, I want them to have choices, just like they have in life. The choices you make in a game create different experiences for you - some for the better, some for the worse. It's about engaging people in this world but never losing sight of the ethos of 'Avatar.'"

A series of "Avatar" games, including mobile editions and a console game developed by Ubisoft Entertainment, were released alongside the first "Avatar" movie and received a mixed reaction from critics and fans. Landau said the partnership with Kabam doesn't mean Lightstorm has ruled out developing another console game.

While filmmaker James Cameron's sci-fi saga remains the biggest blockbuster of all time with \$2.8 billion at the worldwide box office, "Avatar" has mostly been away from cultural consciousness except for a touring exhibit and Cirque du Soleil show. Walt Disney World is set to open an "Avatar"-themed land in 2017, while Dark Horse Comics is working on an "Avatar" series. — AP

## LONDON START-UP SCENE WEIGHS THREAT OF BRITISH TECHXIT

**FRANKFURT:** Britain's tech start-up scene was having a bumper year in terms of new company creation, fresh funding and acquisitions by global tech players before voters decided to leave the European Union in Thursday's referendum.

Now high-profile companies are threatening to pull out or slow down plans to enter the UK market, international employees are second-guessing their immigration standing and investors could cut new funding that is the lifeblood of young tech firms.

Market researchers are predicting a sharp slowdown in UK technology and advertising spending and the longer-term threat that sizeable portions of these budgets will move to the continent. "Nothing's changed yet but everything's changed," said Taavet Hinrikus, the Estonian CEO and co-founder of cross-border money service Transferwise, which is based in London.

London has become a magnet for tech entrepreneurs looking to do business in the European Union and a global launch pad for firms aiming to compete with US and Asian web giants. Half the founders of London's top tech start-ups come from outside Britain.

One-third of recent European investments by venture capitalists, who are often drawn to tech startups, were made in Britain. In the first quarter, UK firms drew in \$1.3 billion (984 million pounds) in funding, while the rest of Europe took \$2.2 billion, according to research firm CBInsights.

"The two main benefits of being part of the EU are access to talent because of the free movement of labour and the fact that you can 'passport' regulation so if you're regulated in the UK, you're regulated across the EU," said Hinrikus. "We don't know what's going to happen with either of those."

The Transferwise CEO now says "it's too early to say" what the company may do but said before the referendum that his company could scale back further investment in London and consider moving its headquar-

ters if Britain voted to leave the EU. (<http://reut.rs/1UUA5qC>)

### BODY BLOWS

Number26, a Berlin-based start-up offering Internet banking services over smartphones in eight European countries, is now reconsidering its planned entry into the UK market.

"We are probably going to consider other markets first," said co-founder and chief executive Valentin Stalf, citing separate bank licensing requirements likely to be required once outside the EU. "The UK market suddenly became a much more expensive proposition." Detached from the EU, London could lose some key advantages: its status as a world financial centre, European talent, and the uniformity of regulations that allowed London-based companies to cater to the European market.

Its international employee base may leave the city amid uncertainty about future immigration laws, creating shortages in retail, hospitality, healthcare and financial services, Forrester Research analyst Laura Koetzle said.

Questions about who will have the right to stay "will both drive footloose talent to look for jobs abroad and dissuade others from coming," she said, as employers likely face tougher work visa regimes.

Berlin, London's biggest rival for new tech firms, is likely to become more attractive as a European base, nearly a dozen entrepreneurs told Reuters. Aspiring fintech hubs including Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Dublin and Switzerland also could see more investment shift in their direction, financial services players said. (<http://reut.rs/28UJKE7>)

Matthias Kroener, head of Munich-based Internet bank Fidor, which entered Britain only last year, said: "Fintechs with the European market in their sights, may pull the plug on London because as young companies with the smallest roots they can react fastest and move first." — Reuters

## US NAVY TURNS TO CLOUD TECH TO REDUCE DRUNKEN DRIVING

**TOKYO:** An American sailor has tapped a cloud-based technology for mobile phones to make it easier to have volunteers take turns driving drunk friends home, an initiative that has curtailed drunken driving among the Navy ranks.

The effort, tested at the Naval Sea Systems Command in Charleston, South Carolina, from February, could also help ease tensions on the southwestern Japanese island of Okinawa, where most of the U.S. troops in Japan are assigned.

Public outrage has flared on Okinawa because of the perception that the large military presence has led to more crime.

In the past month, a civilian worker and a sailor at an Okinawan base were arrested on suspicion of drunken driving after their cars crashed. That followed an arrest of a former U.S. Marine, suspected of raping and killing a woman on Okinawa.

Petty Officer Michael Daigle started his Saferide service, using San Diego-based Voxox's Cloud Phone, which costs just \$15 a month.

It has been very successful so far, and Daigle expressed hopes it will be used throughout the Navy, including aircraft carriers that may dock at various ports around the world, as well as overseas bases.

"In the military, DUI tends to be a big issue mostly because it ruins your career and so we end up losing a lot of sailors," he said in a telephone interview Tuesday, using the acronym for "driving under the influence" of alcohol.

Across the military, a person caught drinking and driving can get kicked out, he said. The technology works like a hotline, allowing intoxicated sailors to call a single number, which has been set up digitally so that the call goes to the various numbers of those sailors on standby, who have volunteered ahead of time to drive.

The volunteers are rewarded by getting better parking spaces. Other perks are being considered such as gift cards for gas, Daigle said. The system allows for up to 10 telephone numbers to work as an extension for that single telephone number.

Saferide is handy for the Navy because sailors aren't allowed to have mobile phones on the job. And so it has been hard for them to call up friends or colleagues to pick them up from bars



**OKINAWA:** In this Sept. 23, 2001 photo, flags of US and Japan flutter in US Kadena Air Base on the southern island of Okinawa in Japan. An American sailor has tapped a cloud-based technology for mobile phones to make it easier to have volunteers take turns driving drunk friends home, an initiative that has curtailed drunken driving among the Navy ranks. The effort, tested at the Naval Sea Systems Command in Charleston, South Carolina, from February, 2016 could also help ease tensions on the southwestern Japanese island of Okinawa, where most of the US troops in Japan are assigned. — AP

or other places after a night drinking.

"The Navy has discussed it on a higher level about potentially in the long run considering implementing it Navy-wide, based on its success," said Daigle.

Daigle experimented previously with an outside taxi service, but that proved difficult to monitor, and service members were misusing it for other purposes, such as rides to airports.

The problems in Japan caused the U.S. military on June 6 to ban off-base drinking, but on Tuesday the US Naval Forces Japan lifted the ban, noting "the performance of sailors across Japan has been outstanding."

Drunken driving is a serious problem, both in

and outside the military, being behind more than 10,000 crash fatalities a year in the U.S., and costing nearly \$50 billion in damages, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Daigle said five or six drunken driving cases were found over the last year at his naval command. Since Saferide started, there have been no cases. Ron Kinkade, vice president of marketing and product strategy at Voxox, said Daigle was not a typical customer, which tends to be small businesses, such as online sellers, consultants, realtors, marketing services and others needing an easy to manage cloud-based system to connect remote employees. — AP

## YOUNG TURKS: E-COMMERCE START-UPS BET ON ENVIABLE DEMOGRAPHICS

**ISTANBUL:** When Demet Mutlu dropped out of Harvard six years ago to found an online fashion retailer in her native Turkey, friends thought she was crazy to leave the world's top business school for a leap into the unknown. But more than her chutzpah, it is the 34-year-old's unshakeable faith in the young Turkish consumer that seems to be paying off: Her company, Trendyol, is now one of Turkey's best known online fashion retailers and has drawn backing from foreign investors.

Last year, Trendyol had sales of 550 million lira (\$188 million). While that represents just 2 percent of Turkey's fragmented e-commerce market, Trendyol is growing fast and Mutlu expects sales to almost double to 1 billion lira this year and grow another 50 percent in 2017.

"News about Turkey is very negative recently, but if you set up the right business model and target young people, there is tremendous growth potential in e-commerce, even more so than in the U.S. or Europe," Mutlu said. "I believe in Turkey's young population and its vibrant economy."

Global investor enthusiasm for Turkey has cooled in recent years due to rising security concerns and worries about President Tayyip Erdogan's growing authoritarianism. This year Turkey has been hit by a string of suicide bombings and it is battling a renewed Kurdish insurgency in the southeast. Consumer confidence has been rising from a six and a half year low last September but there are still more pessimists than optimists.

But despite those worries, Turkey's demographics and growth potential are the envy of Europe. The country is home to 79 million people with a median age of just over 30, younger than anywhere else in Europe. By 2050, the population is expected to swell to 93 million, while much of the rest of Europe ages. Young Turks are tech savvy and early adopters of technology. The country boasts a wealth of home-grown phone apps and mobile penetration is nearly 94 percent.

"Our website averages 35 million visitors a month, which is 20 times more than the busiest shopping mall in the country," Mutlu said.

At 24.7 billion lira last year, Turkey's e-commerce market is small, accounting for only 2 percent of total retail revenue, according to Turkey's Informatics Industry Association. Growth, however, was an impressive 31 percent. Travel sites account for a big chunk of that revenue with nearly 36 percent, online retailers account for another 34 percent, marketplaces 15 percent and the rest is split among niche players, the data showed.

### GROWTH POTENTIAL

In 2002, Turkey's per capita gross domestic product averaged \$3,600, just ahead of Equatorial

Guinea, an African oil producer. By 2015 it was \$9,261, not far behind Malaysia. Today, Turkey sits comfortably among the world's top 20 economies. In developed markets, e-commerce accounts for about 7.1 percent of total retail revenue, and 5.1 percent in emerging markets, or more than twice Turkey's current level. "Looking at the share of e-commerce in the rest of the world, Turkey's market is not saturated. Therefore, there is a lot of space to expand the sector," said Hakan Orhun, the head of the Electronic Trade Operators Association.

Turkey's e-commerce market has grown about 22 percent annually over the last five years, said Burak Tansan, senior managing partner at Boston Consulting Group in Istanbul. "For the growth to continue, consumer confidence in online shopping needs to increase."

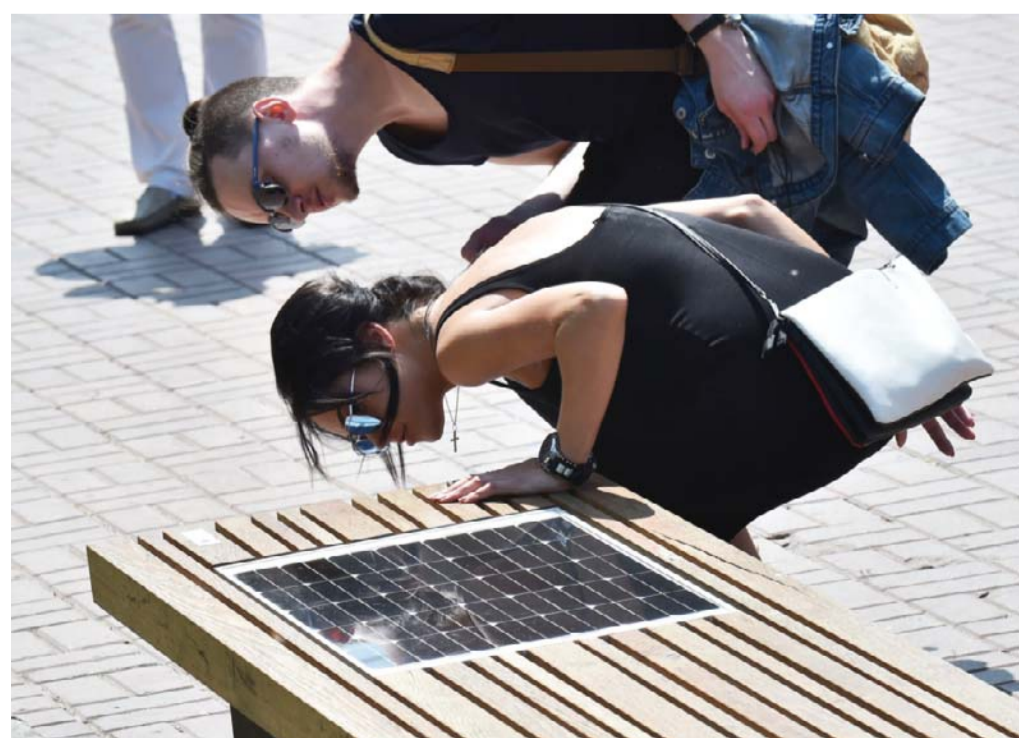
Around 40 percent of consumers are receptive to online shopping but they have not tried it at all," he said, adding that Boston Consulting studies show consumers still prefer to do research online and then buy at stores.

The potential for online retail growth has, nevertheless, attracted overseas players and investors. Tiger Global Management LLC, a fund known for its early bet on Facebook, has invested in Trendyol - which sells more than 2,000 local

and global brands including luxury labels such as Prada and Versace. Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development have also invested in Trendyol. Together with Tiger Global, they own 80 percent of the company, having invested \$60 million over the last four years.

Naspers, the South Africa-based, emerging markets-focused e-commerce and media giant, bought Trendyol rival Markafoni from its founder in 2014. Private equity firm Abraaj took a minority stake last year in online retailer Hepsiburada.com, one of Turkey's best known e-commerce sites. Auction site eBay has invested in GittiGidiyor, another online retailer, and Amazon.com has an investment in Ciceksepeti.com, a flower delivery site. The investor interest is helping to create a vibrant start-up culture, said Cem Sertoglu, a partner with European venture firm Earlybird Venture Capital.

Earlybird raised \$150 million 2-1/2-years ago and has invested in several Turkish firms, including online furniture seller vivense.com and real-estate marketplace tapu.com. "We are supporting early stage startups that aim to meet local demands through high technology solutions and run by first-class teams," Sertoglu said. — Reuters



**KIEV:** People examine the first bench with a built-in solar panel installed in the center of Kiev for the free charging of mobile devices using USB ports. The city authorities plan to install more of the benches if the idea takes hold. — AFP

## US MEDICAL SCHOOLS EXPAND TRAINING TO CURB PAINKILLER ILL-TREATMENT

**WORCESTER, Massachusetts:** At first, the woman tried to hide her painkiller problem. She told the doctor that she still had pain from her past pregnancy, and that she just wanted a refill on her pain medication. After a few questions, though, she admitted that a friend had sold her some OxyContin, and that she'd stolen pills from another friend. The interaction was all staged, with the patient played by an actor and the doctor played by a medical student last month.

The exercise was part of a daylong boot camp at the University of Massachusetts Medical School designed to help physicians in training identify and fight opioid abuse. "There's a lot at stake here. We have a public health epidemic, and it's not getting better, and the health care profession is part of the problem," said Michele Pugnaire, the medical school's senior associate dean for educational affairs. Medical schools nationwide are rethinking their training on opioids amid rising overdose deaths.

Schools are taking action after critics said they had inadvertently contributed to addiction problems. Federal health experts say that physicians have been prescribing addictive opioid painkillers too often, and that poor training is frequently to blame. According to federal data, opioid painkillers were responsible for nearly 19,000 deaths across the US in 2014, an increase of more than 400 percent since 2000. Heroin, by

comparison, killed 10,000 people in 2014.

### 'Sense of urgency'

"We are over 10 years into this epidemic, and I don't think we've seen a robust enough response from the medical community," Michael Botticelli, the White House's drug czar, told reporters in Boston last month. Studies have found that medical students at American schools spend far less time learning to treat pain than their peers in other countries, or even veterinary students in the US. Even at top schools like Harvard, students say they aren't trained enough. A group of students there organized their own clinic on addiction treatment this year to fill gaps in the curriculum.

"There's a sense of urgency to tackle this issue from all fronts, and I think medical schools and teaching hospitals are really committed to doing their part," said Tannaz Rasouli, senior director of public policy and strategic outreach for the American Association of Medical Colleges. Under pressure from the White House, more than 60 US medical schools pledged in April to teach new federal guidelines for prescribing opioid painkillers.

In Massachusetts, Governor Charlie Baker rallied the state's four medical schools to develop a uniform curriculum on opioids and addiction that's being unrolled this year. Lawmakers in Pennsylvania are pushing for a similar effort there. Dozens of



**MASSACHUSETTS:** In this photo, University of Massachusetts Medical School medical student Melanie Dubois, standing, speaks with an actor-patient coping with addiction during a simulation at the medical school in Worcester, Massachusetts. — AP

schools, including Brown and Columbia universities, have received federal grants to teach a standard interviewing method that helps screen patients for drug abuse. "Students are expected to be able to identify and address that as well as they would someone's diabetes or hypertension," said

Dr Frances Levin, a professor of clinical psychiatry at Columbia's medical center.

### 'Standardized patients'

The goal is partly to cut down on opioid prescribing. At Boston University, for example, students learn alternative ways to treat

pain such as relaxation therapy and breathing exercises. But students are also being taught that some populations have been turned away from painkillers too often because of stereotypes. Black men, for example, have likely been under prescribed opioids "because clinicians fear that they're maybe going to abuse those drugs," said Dr Douglas Hughes, the associate dean for academic affairs at the Boston University School of Medicine.

Many schools are also adding more training simulations like the one at the University of Massachusetts, using trained actors known as "standardized patients." The idea is to put students through complex cases that they'll face in practice, and to help gauge whether students are asking patients the right questions in the right way. At the end of those exercises, students learn whether they made the right decision.

Duke University's medical school plans to increase its use of standardized patients, too. But some professors there stress to students that, in the real world, there's often no way to know if they made the right choice. "I talk to medical students about my own uncertainty and my own doubts," said Dr Nancy Weigle, who teaches about community and family medicine at Duke University. "In medicine, we operate in a lot of gray areas. And this is an area that can be really tricky, and there's not always one right answer." — AP



**WASHINGTON:** Reagan Barklage of St. Louis, center, and other anti-abortion activists demonstrate in front of the Supreme Court in Washington, as the justices struck down the strict Texas anti-abortion restriction law known as HB2.

## SUPREME COURT RULING IMPERILS ABORTION LAWS IN MANY STATES

'FAR TOO MANY WOMEN STILL FACE INSURMOUNTABLE BARRIERS'

**NEW YORK:** By striking down tough abortion restrictions in Texas, the US Supreme Court has emboldened abortion-rights activists nationwide and imperiled a range of anti-abortion laws in numerous states. Many anti-abortion leaders were openly disappointed, bracing for the demise of restrictions that they had worked vigorously to enact over the past few years. The Supreme Court has decided "the abortion industry will continue to reign unchecked as mothers are subjected to sub-par conditions," said Heather Weingner, executive director of Wisconsin Right to Life.

On the other side of the debate, Planned Parenthood president Cecile Richards hailed the ruling as "an enormous victory for women," and joined her abortion-rights allies in vowing to

ensure safe, high-quality care for women. Opponents of the laws said abortion already is a very safe procedure, and contended the real motive of the laws was to reduce women's access to abortion.

According to the Center for Reproductive Rights, which led the legal challenge, similar admitting-privilege requirements are in effect in Missouri, North Dakota and Tennessee, and are on hold in Alabama, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma and Wisconsin. The hospital-like outpatient surgery standards are in place in Michigan, Missouri, Pennsylvania and Virginia, and are on hold in Tennessee, according to the center. Monday's ruling is likely to remove an ongoing threat to the only abortion clinic still

### 'Favorable forecast'

In Alabama, Attorney General Luther Strange said his office is ending the legal fight over its law requiring abortion doctors to have hospital-admitting privileges. The state had been appealing a judge's 2014 decision finding Alabama's law unconstitutional. If the admitting privilege requirement was enforced, as many as four of the state's five abortion clinics could close. The legislative director of Louisiana Right to Life, Deanna Wallace, said the Supreme Court decision doesn't automatically invalidate Louisiana's Texas-style law, but it "does not predict a favorable forecast for its future."

In several states, including Oklahoma, Kansas, Michigan and Missouri, state officials said they were reviewing the status of their abortion restrictions in light of the high court ruling. In Pennsylvania, a Democratic state senator, Daylin Leach, said he would introduce legislation seeking to repeal a 2011 law that tightened requirements at abortion clinics. The law requires such clinics to comply with the same safety standards as outpatient surgery centers, including requirements for wider hallways and doorways, bigger operating rooms, and full-time nurses.

The law was signed by then-Governor Tom Corbett, a Republican, in the aftermath of a Philadelphia criminal case in which an abortion provider, Dr Kermit Gosnell, was convicted of killing newborn babies during illegal, late-term abortion procedures performed in filthy surroundings. An abortion-rights lawyer, Sue Frietsche, said the law inflicted heavy financial burdens on abortion clinics throughout Pennsylvania and contributed to the closure of several of them.

Looking ahead, a key question for both sides in the abortion debate is to what extent Monday's ruling will affect other types of abortion restrictions, beyond the two provisions at stake in the Texas law. For example, more than a dozen states have passed laws banning most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy, on the disputed premise that a fetus can feel pain at that stage. Several states have recently banned dilation-and-extraction, a common second-trimester abortion technique which opponents have depicted as "dismemberment abortion." Some states now require a 72-hour waiting period before a woman can have an abortion.

Nancy Northup, CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, said her legal team will be reviewing these and other laws to determine if they are now vulnerable in the aftermath of Monday's high court ruling. — AP

## OAKLAND VOTES TO BAN COAL SHIPMENTS, CITING HEALTH RISKS

**OAKLAND, California:** The Oakland City Council voted unanimously to kill a plan to use a proposed marine terminal to transport Utah coal to Asia, calling such shipments public health and safety hazards. Backers argued the project would bring needed jobs to an impoverished part of town. Monday's night's vote - which prompted environmental activists still in council chambers after four hours to break into applause - approved an ordinance that bans the transport, handling and storage of coal and petroleum coke at bulk material facilities or terminals in Oakland.

"We want jobs that people can have, and have a long life and they don't have to rely upon a job of desperation," said Council President Lynette Gibson McElhaney after the vote. "I just believe that we can do better in Oakland." The ordinance requires a second vote. City leaders have wrestled with the issue for more than a year, as detractors and supporters of the proposed marine terminal argued over the environmental dangers of bringing millions of tons of coal through the area and the economic benefits of good-paying union jobs.

### 'Legal challenge'

The terminal is part of a larger makeover of an army base that closed in 1999, eliminating thousands of jobs. The proposed terminal is in West Oakland, a historically black neighborhood that's among the poorest and most polluted in the region. The council approved the project before the coal proposal was

made. It's uncertain whether the terminal will continue without shipping coal. A lawyer for the Oregon Bulk and Oversized Terminal on Monday sent the council a letter detailing potential legal consequences.

"Politically, no quantity of handling coal or petcoke under whatever extraordinary standard will be tolerated," said David Smith. "While that may accomplish a political outcome, it is only the first steps towards an unfortunate legal outcome." City leaders said they were confident they could overcome a legal challenge. More than 150 people on both sides rallied outside the building Monday before the evening meeting. They packed the council's chamber, cheering and booing as speakers testified. At times, it was so hard to hear speakers that the council president had to ask security to remove some people from the room.

Coal proponents rallied at the council for what they saw as a pre-ordained vote. They argued that any environmental impact would be mitigated by transporting coal in covered rail cars that are unloaded underground. "We agree 1,000 percent that West Oakland is polluted," said Ron Muhammad, a fourth-generation resident of West Oakland. "But the project has a plan to mitigate it, to address it, so since the public health portion is taken out of the picture, then it goes back to the jobs." On the other side, coal opponents argued there was no way to keep coal dust from escaping into the air, and that rail shipment would worsen the health of children already disadvantaged by poverty and bad air. — AP



**CALIFORNIA:** People hold up signs and demonstrate outside City Hall in Oakland, California. — AP

## NEW NESTLE CEO TO LEAD HEALTH PIVOT

**ZURICH:** Analysts yesterday praised Nestle's choice for its new chief executive, healthcare executive Ulf Mark Schneider, as the food giant took a further step in its bid to become a leader in nutrition. Schneider, 50, will take over on January 1, replacing outgoing chief Paul Bulcke who has been nominated to become the company's chairman. In tapping Schneider for the post, Nestle bucked its near century-long track record of picking in-house candidates as chief executives.

The last time the company selected an outsider as chief executive was in 1922, when banker Louis Dappels was brought in to reverse financial losses. Nestle said Schneider's selection points towards a shift in the company's strategy. With concerns about rising obesity on all continents, the company that has long been associated with fattening packaged foods wants to get in front of a global pivot towards nutrition. In announcing Schneider's hiring, the company's board "reconfirmed the long-term orientation for Nestle as a Nutrition, Health and Wellness company," a statement said.

### 'New era'

Choosing Schneider, a German-US national who thrived as the head of the healthcare company Fresenius, was consistent with that strategy, the board said. "Schneider will trigger a new era at Nestle," Bank Vontobel analyst Jean-Philippe Bertschy wrote. The new chief's plans may

include a "radical" streamlining of the company's product portfolio, especially in traditional areas like chocolate, while pursuing new opportunities in the health sector, according to Bertschy.

"Nestle is in need of fresh legs," Jefferies analyst Martin Deboo said, according to the Bloomberg news agency. "Schneider's track record is exceptional." Schneider, who will begin at Nestle for a transition period in September, said he was honored to join "an iconic global company."

"With consumers around the world taking a deeper interest in their personal health and wellbeing, Nestle's industry-leading global food and beverage business positions it well for advancing the vision of Nutrition, Health and Wellness," he said in a statement.

In a study released this month, the UN-linked Global Nutrition Report said nearly two billion of the world's estimated seven billion people are either obese or overweight. The World Health Organization has said that affordable, healthy snack options generated by private sector companies are crucial to long-term health on the planet.

The later years of Bulcke's tenure saw turmoil, especially a damaging recall in India of Nestle's massively popular Maggi noodles, which the government banned over lead levels. An Indian court called that decision arbitrary and the noodles are back on the shelves, but the crisis has hurt Nestle's position in a key Asian market. — AFP



**TEXAS:** Rep Donna Howard, D-Austin, speaks during a news conference at Choice Clinic, formerly Whole Woman Health Clinic, in Austin, Texas. — AP

quickly seek gains beyond Texas. "Far too many women still face insurmountable barriers, which is why we are taking this fight state by state," she said. "It's time to pass state laws to protect a woman's constitutional right to abortion, and repeal ones that block it."

### 'Access to abortion'

The Texas rules struck down Monday by the Supreme Court required doctors who perform abortions to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals and forced clinics to meet hospital-like standards for outpatient surgery. Supporters of the Texas law, and similar laws enacted in other states, said both provisions were necessary to

operating in Mississippi. A Texas-style law there would have shut down the Jackson Women's Health Organization clinic, but enforcement of that law had been blocked pending resolution of the Texas case.

The sponsor of the Mississippi law, state Rep, Sam Mims, said he now expects that the law is doomed. It requires doctors who perform abortions to be able to admit patients to a hospital within 30 miles of their clinics; providers at the Jackson clinic had been unable to obtain such privileges. "It's very disappointing that it seems like these five justices are more concerned about access to abortion than health care to the women," Mims said in a phone interview.

## CURB SMOKING TO PREVENT LUNG CANCER

**KUWAIT:** Leading health experts in Kuwait are urging people to take action against lung cancer by curbing the harmful effects of tobacco consumption and smoking. Tobacco smoking can affect almost every part of the body, leading to heart and lung diseases, among others. "People who smoke cigarettes are more likely to get lung cancer or die from lung cancer than people who do not smoke."

Even smoking a few cigarettes a day or smoking occasionally increases the risk of lung cancer. More the number of years a person smokes and the more cigarettes smoked each day, higher is the risk. Quitting smoking at an early age can lower the risk of lung cancer," expressed Dr Fahd Al-Enezi, Head of the Health Ministry's Sheikhha Badria center for lung cancer.

Tobacco smoke contains a number of these chemicals are called "carcinogenic", such as benzene, cyanide and carbon monoxide.

\* A shisha is NOT a safer alternative: In general, most people know that cigarettes are bad for health. But many do not realize that even water pipe smoking or shisha) may be just as harmful for health as cigarette smoking.

\* Is second-hand smoking also bad? - No one is safe from the harmful effects of tobacco smoking. According to WHO, about thousands people die every year because of being exposed to "second-hand smoke."

"People need to realize that the best way to combat lung cancer is by preventing the disease. Awareness of the disease, its symptoms and early diagnosis is crucial. In the last few years, medical sciences have advanced in the treatment of lung cancer. Timely detection plays a significant role in ensuring that the disease is treated at an early stage, increasing the chances of survival," added Dr Fahd Al-Enezi.

### Fact sheet about health benefits of giving up smoking

There are immediate and long-term health benefits of quitting for all smokers. Beneficial health changes that take place:

\* Your heart rate and blood pressure drop.  
\* The carbon monoxide level in your blood drops to normal.

\* Your circulation improves and your lung function increases.

\* Coughing and shortness of breath decrease.

\* Your risk of coronary heart disease is about half that of a smoker's.

\* Your stroke risk is reduced to that of a non-smoker 5 to 15 years after quitting.

\* Your risk of lung cancer falls to about half that of a smoker and your risk of cancer of the mouth, throat, esophagus, bladder, cervix, and pancreas decreases.

\* The risk of coronary heart disease is that of a non-smoker's

### Latest medical advancements in tackling lung cancer

Lung cancer is one of the major cancer types for which new immune-based cancer treatments called Immunotherapy are currently in development.

The goal is to address the unmet need for long-term survival in patients with advanced cancers. The immune system is a network of organs, cells, and molecules throughout the whole body.

The role of the immune system is to protect the body from harmful things like germs, viruses, and diseases like cancer. Immune responses are the way the body works to find and destroy abnormal cells, including cancer cells.



**VIRGINIA:** This file photo taken on June 22, 2015 shows Omega Protein fisherman Anthony Hodges (bottom), Justin Cammarata, and Dalton Keyser riding in a purse boat, pull on a net filled with Menhaden fish as they unload their catch to the 'Reedville' off the coast of Smith Island in Virginia. — AFP

## OMEGA-3S CUT FATAL HEART ATTACK RISK 10 %: STUDY

**WASHINGTON:** Consuming foods rich in omega-3 fatty acids, such as salmon, sardines and anchovies, can reduce risk of a deadly heart attack by 10 percent, a study out Monday said. Researchers looked at blood and tissue omega-3 levels in participants of 19 studies across 16 countries, the report published in the US journal JAMA Internal Medicine said. They found that while omega-3s "were associated with about a 10 percent lower risk of fatal heart attacks," the same reduction of risk did not hold true for non-fatal heart attacks.

That suggests "a more specific mechanism for benefits of omega-3s related to death," the

researchers said. The new results "provide the most comprehensive picture to-date of how omega-3s may influence heart disease," coauthor Liana Del Gobbo of the Stanford University School of Medicine added. Both plant and seafood-based omega-3s were associated with the 10 percent lower risk in fatal heart attacks. Fish, the major source of omega-3s, are also rich in specific proteins, vitamin D, selenium, and other minerals and elements, the researchers said.

Plant-based omega-3s are prevalent in walnuts, flaxseed oil, canola oil and some other seeds and nuts and their oils. The new study provides "an unprecedented opportunity to under-

stand how blood biomarkers of many different fats and fatty acids relate to diverse health outcomes" as part of a global consortium, said senior author Dariush Mozaffarian of Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy.

The researchers studied more than 45,630 participants. Of those, 7,973 people suffered first-time heart attacks, of whom 2,781 died. "Across these diverse studies, findings were also consistent by age, sex, race, presence or absence of diabetes, and use of aspirin or cholesterol-lowering medications," Del Gobbo said. —AFP

## HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK USING GOATS TO EAT INVASIVE PLANTS

**HOT SPRINGS, Arkansas:** The National Park Service is turning to goats to help rid Hot Springs National Park of invasive plants that are growing in areas where herbicides can't be used. Beginning yesterday, Hot Springs National Park will employ a herd of goats to manage invasive plant services for five weeks. Shelley Todd is the park's natural resource program manager. She says the goats will eat the plants in a three-acre field

that was planted with pine trees about 10 years ago.

Todd says the pine trees haven't thrived because of overcrowding and shading by invasive plants, such as privet, chinaberry, periwinkle and bamboo. After the trial period, park officials will conduct an analysis to determine whether the goat project should be part of future invasive species management in the park. — AP

## RAINS OR NOT, INDIA FACES DRINKING WATER CRISIS

**GANGNAULI, India:** As large swathes of drought-devastated India desperately wait for the monsoon rains to arrive, one village in the dry, hot north is flush with water. But this farming area's bountiful water supplies are feared contaminated with heavy metals, underscoring the profound challenges facing the world's second most populous nation. From toxic pollution of rivers and lakes to contamination of groundwater supplies, together with chronic shortages in drought-hit districts, India's water challenges are acute.

In Gangnauli village, residents suspect their groundwater has been polluted by waste from local industries. "The children complain of stomach pains and skin problems and I fear for their health," Divya Rathi says as she watches her daughter play with buckets of water in her yard in Gangnauli in Uttar Pradesh state. "We need the government to do something about this," said the 25-year-old, adding she could not afford the expensive water purifiers used by wealthier households.

More than 130 million people live in areas of India where groundwater supplies are contaminated with at least one dangerous pollutant such as arsenic or nitrate, according to the World Resources Institute. Its analysis shows more than 20 million live in districts where supplies contain at least three pollutants

exceeding safe limits.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government has pledged billions of dollars to clean up the filthy holy Ganges river, while efforts are also under way to stop raw sewage and industrial waste spewing into India's waterways. But researcher Sushmita Sengupta warned it could be too late in some areas where groundwater has long been mismanaged. "Once the groundwater is contaminated it's an almost irreversible process. Once it's destroyed it's lost forever," said Sengupta, of the Delhi-based Centre for Science and Environment.

### Not enough drinking water

Parts of India are anxiously waiting for the annual monsoon currently sweeping across the country to provide relief to 330 million farmers and others. But experts say the torrential rains will not solve India's water problems unless much more is done to manage supplies. Rajendra Singh, dubbed the Water Man of India, said rains will fail to replenish the water table in many areas because unchecked urbanization has destroyed wetlands and other natural recharge spots.

"It will just be a flash flood," said Singh, who has called for a ban on groundwater extraction for all purposes other than for drinking to



**INDIA:** In this photograph, an elderly Indian villager washes utensils with contaminated water at a borewell in the village of Gangnauli in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh. —AFP

allow aquifers a chance to recover. "There is not enough drinkable water for the Indian people. Without water security there is nothing," said Singh, who last year won the

Stockholm Water Prize for his work to boost supplies in villages in the desert state of Rajasthan.

In Gangnauli, authorities have painted a

red stripe on communal hand pumps to warn residents after testing found groundwater was contaminated. India's environment court, the National Green Tribunal, ordered hand pumps in the district be sealed, and raised concerns about the health of residents drinking from them. Many instead draw water from borewells installed in their backyards. But they fear this groundwater is also contaminated by polluted rivers which have seeped into the water table. "There is poison in the water," said farmer Dhramveer Singh, 50, who blames his son's severe bone deformities on the water.

District magistrate Hriday Shankar Tiwari said the state government has acted to supply villagers with alternate supplies-including via water tanks and pipelines whose supplies are sourced from clean water deeper underground. "We have also been sensitizing villagers about the hazards of consuming contaminated water," Tiwari told AFP, although he casts doubt on concerns residents are falling ill.

Village head Dharmendra Rathi said up to half of its 5,000 residents now received piped water, a situation he said was "way better than what it used to be". But he said the pollution remained a problem, with factory waste from neighboring districts still discharged into the rivers. —AFP

# CLINIC PAGE

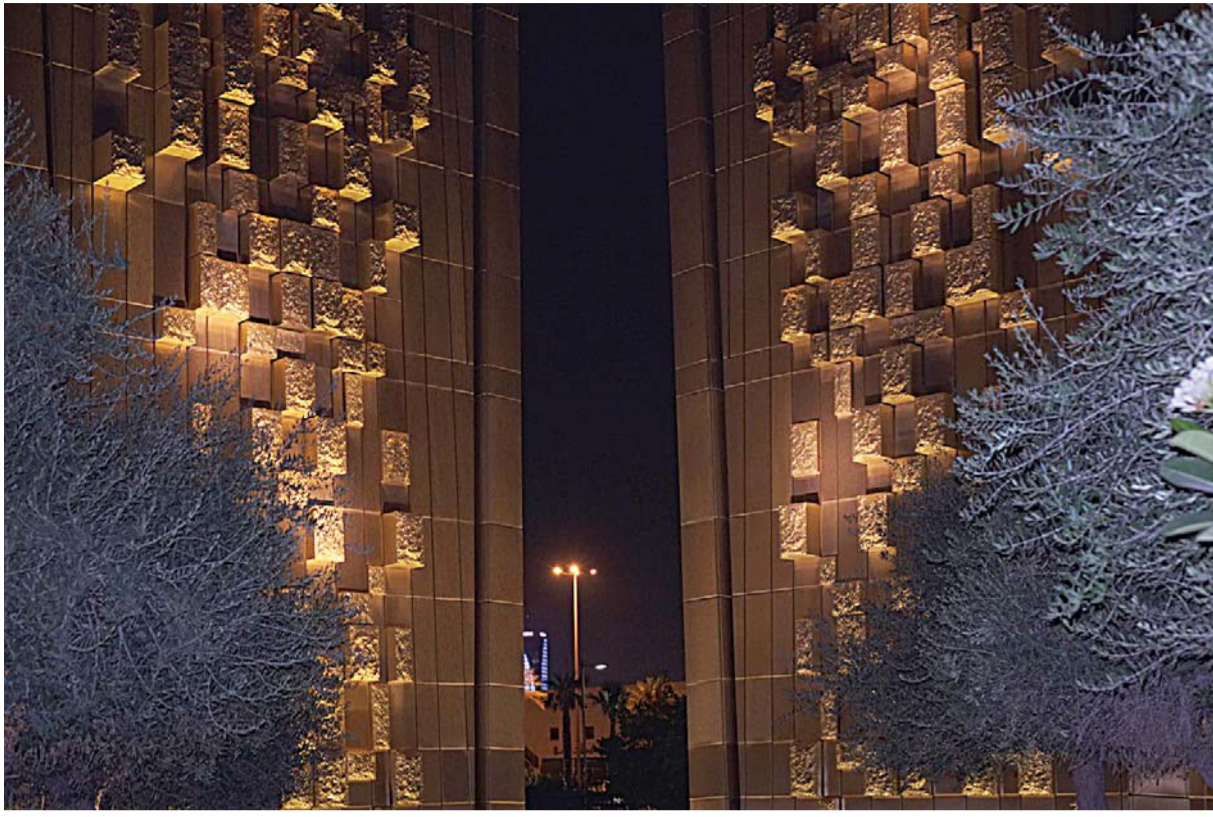


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Al-Shaheed Park



The film festival's setup



The Festival's booklets.



Mohammed Bin Bader, Founder of The Divan.



Ekaterina Porras, Co-Founder of Project 189 organization.

## 'TO OUR SOCIETY' BRINGS THE POWER OF FILM IN MAKING CHANGE

By Athoob Al-Shuaibi

In Ramadan, and in spite of people's social and spiritual obligations, there are some tireless volunteer groups who are passionate about what they are doing and locked out the holy month's mission that aims to elevate the society by mutual respect, and the rejection of all forms of discrimination. In this regard, Project 189 organized a film festival at Al-Shaheed Park entitled 'To Our Society'. The project supports the rights of domestic workers in the Middle East. For three

consecutive days, the films highlighted the power of filmmaking to inspire and move the viewers to change lives of others. The festival also included discussion panels to resolve several questions within this context with participation of local volunteer groups, who were able to create a footprint and have a positive impact in the community.

Mohammed bin Bader, founder of the Divan, spoke about his experience. "We were here to empower the youth and to show them how easy it is to adopt an idea and to make the effect on the ground. We talked around how to

start a team, be passionate about it and how to execute it without losing hope. Divan started with four members only and now we are more than 80 members. Beside our podcast, we have movie nights and a book club."

Unusually, some of the audience distributed booklets in the seating area as well before the beginning of the event. They believe in that every little task helps in terms of participation, told Ekaterina Porras, one of Project 189's founders. "On the first night, we promoted the value of equality and women empowerment," she added. "We

focused in the second day on how to be active in societies and how art can push change. The third day was about nondiscrimination and respect. We opened a dialog between the audience and the speakers about these aspects, and think about where we are in regards to the values implemented. Are we holding out those values and taking actions?" Project 189 will continue doing screenings and hopefully will be forming the next one on the International Day of Tolerance, which falls on November 16th.



## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA HELD AT INDIAN EMBASSY

The Indian embassy held the 2nd International Day of Yoga celebrations at its premises on June 24, 2016 from 06:00 - 10:00 am, in association with 'Art of Living', 'Sahaj Marg', 'Artistic Yoga', 'Harmony House', 'Sevadarshan' and 'Amma Kuwait'. About 1,000 persons mainly from Indian community plus some Kuwaiti nationals in Kuwait participated.

As per Common Yogic Protocol 2016, the vol-

unteers from Art of Living, Seva Darshan and AMMA Kuwait performed the Yoga asanas on the stage and through the LED Screens installed at the two Consular Halls and at the courtyard of the Embassy, many yoga lovers performed the Yoga asanas in parallel, in these specially made Yoga halls. Further, Meditation and Pranayam session was held at the auditorium which was taken by 'Heartfulness' and 'Harmony House'.

There were powerful performances by volunteers from 'Artistic Yoga' and a young and dedicated team of volunteers, including women and children, from Seva Darshan who demonstrated various yoga asanas and the ancient form yoga-based Indian martial arts. There was also a Yogic dance performance by Latha Kanna and her dance group. Michelle, an artist and a volunteer of "Harmony House", painted the entire mood of

the 2nd IDY celebrations, which was greatly appreciated.

Dr Vinod K Grover, Indian Doctors Forum made a presentation on 'Stress Management by Yoga' and Dr Prathap Unnithan, Indian Dentist Alliance of Kuwait made a presentation on "Lifestyle and Oral health" and shared some useful tips to maintain oral hygiene. IDAK also organized an oral screening camp for the benefit

of the general public. The event was supported by Indian Business and Professional Council, Larsen and Toubro, Air India and Indiansinkuwait.com. The event was covered by Kuwait TV Channel 2 and by local print and electronic media. The event generated great amount of enthusiasm and wide spread awareness about Yoga and its physical and mental health benefits.



A group photo at the awarding ceremony.



Gold Winner - Age Group 8 to 11



Gold Winner - Age Group 12 to 15



Gold Winner - Age Group Under 8



Nehad Mohammad Haj Ali - Deputy Group Manager Corporate Excellence and Mike Smith, Group Chief Financial Officer.

## AL-SAYER GROUP HOLDING ANNOUNCES 10TH TOYOTA DREAM CAR ART CONTEST WINNERS 'INSPIRE THE WORLD WITH YOUR DREAMS'

Al-Sayer Group Holding, one of the largest conglomerates in Kuwait recently held a ceremony at Toyota Showroom Al-Rai to announce the national winners of the 10th Toyota Dream Car Art Contest, one of the largest global art contests for children. The event was attended by representatives from Al-Sayer including Micheal Smith - Group Chief Financial Officer, Mohamed Ellassal - General Manager, Vehicle Sales Retail, Nehad Mohammad Haj Ali - Deputy Group Manager Corporate Excellence, Deya Ragab

Mohamed Khodair - Senior Manager, Vehicle Sales, Shibu Mohamed, CSR Manager along with jury members, delegates from school authorities, participants and their parents. According to Mubarak Naser Al-Sayer, CEO Al-Sayer Group Holding "Toyota and Al-Sayer are keen to develop the young talents of Kuwait. We wish to motivate them, providing such platforms to express their creativity to inspire their dreams come true. Toyota Dream Car Art Contest differentiate itself by having national and global level

contest. The national level winner move forward to participate at the global level contest in Japan, where many experts view and evaluate it. From Al-Sayer we are taking all efforts to make Kuwait talents to be noticed by international experts." For the 2016 edition of the contest, 27 schools from Kuwait across Arab, Asian and International streams had participated, 2,500 imaginative and impressive artworks were collected. 9 National level winners were awarded at the event, 3 winners each from the competing age groups up

to 8 years, 8 - 11 years and 12 - 15 years. Due to the tough competition faced, additionally 16 participants also received consolation prizes as per nominated by the jury to encourage the young minds. During the ceremony 22 participating schools were presented with memento in recognition of their active participation and five members of the jury were also honored. Mike Smith, Group Chief Financial Officer said "We appreciate the efforts of expert jury panel consisting of Margaret E Graham, Maryam

Hosseinnia, William J Andersen, M V John, Mustafa Choorappulan for following a comprehensive evaluation process as well as for the valuable inputs to select talented candidates based on Toyota rigorous selection criteria. Most of the final drawings were excellent however winners were determined through clarity of message, uniqueness and amazing concepts." "Toyota Dream Car Art contest is a celebration for children. They have been enthusiastic about participating in this competition, we all know

the excitement of kids when you talk about cars of their dreams. For some it's about passion and speed, some look betterment of the environment and society while for some its supernatural car to fly to mars or to go under water. For sure amazing ideas are born from dreams and they have the power to inspire the world" said the principal from one of the participating schools. National winners from across the globe proceed to the Global Contest. Winners of the global contest will be awarded at a special ceremony during August in Japan.



## THE SULTAN CENTER CELEBRATES GIRGIAN WITH SOCIAL CARE HOME

In celebration of Kuwaiti traditions during the Holy month of Ramadan, and as part of its ongoing commitment to the community, The Sultan Center, held a girgian event for adults with special needs and their families to celebrate the Kuwaiti Ramadan tradition. As part of Kuwait's past traditions, girgian is still widely celebrated by Kuwaitis that marks the distribution of sweets in the middle of Ramadan, whereby family members gather under an uplifting atmosphere of compassion, affection, and gracious sharing.

TSC wished to share this traditional greeting with those at the social care home on this occasion with well-wishes and joy. During the visit a full entertainment program was arranged complete with Tanoura show, competitions, horse show, magician show and girgian sweets, along with traditional music that added to the occasion. At the end of the event all those who attended enjoyed a delicious girgian cake. Commenting on TSC's initiative, Lisa

Al Ghareeb, Marketing Manager at TSC said: "The Sultan Center is characterized by their social responsibility towards the community, through which we hope to support and embrace all segments of the Kuwaiti society. We wanted to celebrate the well-known Kuwaiti Ramadan tradition, and show our respect and appreciation. The visit was a rewarding experience for all those who were involved," she added. TSC is committed to supporting the communities in which it operates.



## DISCOVERY CENTER CELEBRATES GIRGIAN WITH FUN ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

Discovery Center, Kuwait's unique recreation and family entertainment complex, celebrated Girgian with a number of activities for children. The activities, planned by different organizations in Kuwait, included cartoon shows and distribution of chocolates and sweets. Children and their families also enjoyed the fun activities offered by the mall in a safe and comfortable environment.

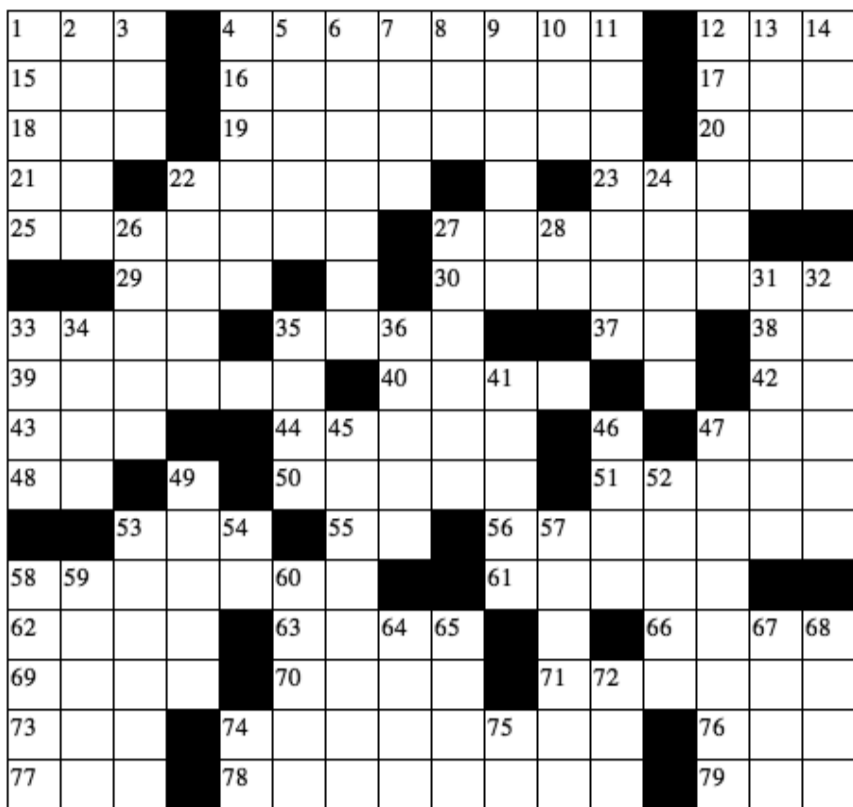








CROSSWORD 1299



ACROSS

- 1. Large brownish-green New Zealand parrot. 4. Lovable especially in a childlike or naive way. 12. Inquire about. 15. (folklore) Fairies that are somewhat mischievous. 16. Author of satirical attacks on medieval scholasticism (1494-1553). 17. Aircraft landing in bad weather in which the pilot is talked down by ground control using precision approach radar. 18. A former agency (from 1946 to 1974) that was responsible for research into atomic energy and its peacetime uses in the United States. 19. Of or relating to the substance that forms a sheath around the axon of some nerve fibers. 20. A rapid escape (as by criminals). 21. A colorless and odorless inert gas. 23. Jordan's port. 25. New World flycatchers. 29. The month following July and preceding September. 30. Responding to or operating at a wide band of frequencies. 33. A large piece of fabric (as canvas) by means of which wind is used to propel a sailing vessel. 37. An official prosecutor for a judicial district. 38. The branch of engineering science that studies the uses of electricity and the equipment for power generation and distribution and the control of machines and communication. 39. A participant in a masquerade. 40. Being six more than forty. 42. A gray lustrous metallic element of the rare earth group. 43. A metal-bearing mineral valuable enough to be mined. 44. An Indian tree of the family Combretaceae that is a source of timber and gum. 48. A brittle gray crystalline element that is a semiconducting metalloid (resembling silicon) used in transistors. 50. Having a sole or soles especially as specified. 51. Any plant of the genus Lupin. 55. A highly unstable radioactive element (the heaviest of the halogen series). 56. Turned up on end. 58. Devoid of brightness or appeal. 61. Any of various cycads of the genus Zamia. 62. Little known Kamarupan languages. 63. Of or relating to near the ear. 66. Essential oil or perfume obtained from flowers. 69. Largest known toad species. 70. A male monarch or emperor (especially of Russia prior to 1917). 71. The territory of Athens in ancient Greece. 73. A small amount of liquid food. 76. Game in which matchsticks are arranged in rows and players alternately remove one or more of them. 77. Hormones (estrogen and progesterin) are given to postmenopausal women. 78. Widely known and esteemed. 79. Measure of the US economy adopted in 1991.

DOWN

- 1. Deciduous South African tree having large odd-pinnate leaves and profuse fragrant orange-yellow flowers. 2. A hard gray-black mineral consisting of corundum and either hematite or magnetite. 3. A drug combination found in some over-the-counter headache remedies (Aspirin and Phenacetin and Caffeine). 4. The act of equipping with weapons in preparation for war. 5. Israeli general and statesman (1915-1981). 6. A stone pillar having a rectangular cross section tapering towards a pyramidal top. 7. Have confidence or faith in. 8. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942). 9. A Japanese cheer of enthusiasm or triumph. 10. Being two more than fifty. 11. Having escaped, especially from confinement. 12. (Greek mythology) One of the three Graces. 13. Someone who works (or provides workers) during a strike. 14. God of love and erotic desire. 22. One of several parallel sloping beams that support a roof. 24. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables. 26. The amount a salary is increased. 27. Denoting a quantity consisting of 12 items or units. 28. A state in the Rocky Mountains. 31. Large aquatic animal supposed to resemble a serpent or plesiosaur of Loch Ness in Scotland. 32. The ability and desire to purchase goods and services. 34. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine. 35. Acute lung injury characterized by coughing and rales. 36. Praise, glorify, or honor. 41. The capital and largest city of Liechtenstein. 45. Crested ill-smelling South American bird whose young have claws on the first and second digits of the wings. 46. (cosmology) The original matter that (according to the big bang theory) existed before the formation of the chemical elements. 47. The act of changing something to bring it up to date (usually by adding something). 49. A crime syndicate in the United States. 52. A member of the Uniat Church. 53. Marked by sudden changes in subject and sharp transitions. 54. A rare polyvalent metallic element of the platinum group. 57. A large and stately mansion. 59. A member of a Turkic people of Chinese Turkestan and neighboring areas (formerly of Mongolia and eastern Turkestan). 60. A plain plinth that supports a wall. 64. The villain in William Shakespeare's tragedy who tricked Othello into murdering his wife. 65. A pouch in many birds and some lower animals that resembles a stomach for storage and preliminary maceration of food. 67. Harsh or corrosive in tone. 68. An inclined surface or roadway that moves traffic from one level to another. 72. A doctor's degree in theology. 74. A state in northwestern United States on the Pacific. 75. A radioactive gaseous element formed by the disintegration of radium.

Yesterday's Solution



STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

You tend to be creative and original in your work and career, managing to bring new ideas and spontaneity to bear. You are gifted and even a little lucky when it comes to business decisions. Things seem to work out magically. Your career always seems to get the support you need-you will be pleased at the way this area of your life runs. You seem to understand what the public wants and mass marketing is a natural for you. You love to work with young people and would make a superb teacher or coach. You appreciate a heartfelt approach and are an enthusiast if there ever was one. Matters of the heart, marriage, etc., are areas where you can help others. Find ways to enjoy your own creative talents or personal expression.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You are coming into a creative and competitive phase now, one in which you want to be admired and appreciated for what you do and who you are. You are an aggressive prime mover, a starter, able to initiate and get things moving. Your energies run effectively toward making yourself felt in the material, outer world. You are an action person who gains the attention of others and performs efficiently. The circumstances of your life suggest extroversion. Your positivism lets you get right to the point. This afternoon you will have an opportunity to discuss an idea of yours with a friend or relative. You may need approval, backing or someone to come along and share the idea or experience with you. The communication will help you focus and fine-tune a plan.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Ideas, mental things and information exchange are central to your outer makeup. There will be plenty of opportunities for communicating your ideas to others today. Communication is the interface that holds the rest of you together. All things pale beside your basic drive and the emotions you so freely exhibit. Your world revolves around feelings and the meaning you give to things. Any project you desire to accomplish should have successful results at this time. Knowing your family medical history can be very helpful in the future. A new member of your family is interested in helping you gather the family history. Get a notebook, if you do not have one; then take notes on medication, births, deaths, etc. Everyone will be glad you did.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Generally, this is a good time to project your ideas. However, there is a need to be patient and tread lightly when it comes to getting a response from your ideas. Success at the expense of originality may be too great a price to pay. Some middle road could be found. You are understanding and sensitive to the needs of others and are in a good position to communicate concerning groups and society affairs. You are never more at home than when entertaining and carrying on in front of a group. You wear your heart on your sleeve and your emotional life is an open book for all to read. Others sense an interest in their welfare when they meet you.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

You will give way to others in many situations. In some area of your life, you may find that you must constantly be aware of needing to quietly take the back seat, so to speak, as you feed other people's egos. When you feel you have achieved what you have set out to accomplish at this time, you will want to make a few changes in your life in order to enjoy a balance. If you seem to fall back into the habit of serving instead of sharing, make a promise to remind yourself that you are not on that path now-seek out people with whom you can share your life. You will feel useful in a part-time volunteer position. You will soon begin to find that you are quite creative. People exercising their creative side are excellent problem solvers.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You are very straightforward when it comes to security-you seldom make a move that does not strengthen your position. There are opportunities to move up the career ladder today, but you must pay attention. You pursue responsibilities the way others pursue pleasure and you even invite obligations. An upcoming career move is a solid move for you. Investment opportunities are available now as well. Investments must be based on sound principles and may be tied in with the law or government. Make sure your investments are researched before signing on the dotted line. Truth, religion and philosophy are subjects of an ongoing interest. You can be very helpful to a young person that seeks your advice and approval this evening-take your time.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

This whole day you may appear more charming and refined than usual. Now could be the time to make your request for a date, apply for a job raise, promotion or a loan. Your drive and emotions take conservative and well-traveled paths-carefully avoiding the new and different. You may have trouble feeling spontaneous and become too dependent on others. Recognizing this tendency you will want to work at bringing back the practical side of your problem-solving abilities. Recreation and sports are excellent ways to keep in shape as well as relieve stress. You could come up with new solutions or inventions as you relax this evening and think back through the day. Loved ones enjoy a home cooked meal by your hands-you have great talents.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

With a great interest in the business and practical world, your mind works like a steel trap when it comes to making career and management decisions. It looks as though past career problems are now going to work. You have a need to get at the heart of things, whatever is under the surface or behind the scenes. Your pursuit of anything hidden or secret makes you a researcher or investigator bar none. Emotionally, you are also hot stuff, rushing into areas and handling subject matters that others would never come near. You draw emotional sustenance and a sense of security from ideals, friends and social involvement. You create positive changes for yourself. Before working with electrical equipment, read the instructions.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Taking care of business is a major theme where your emotional orientation is concerned. You crave organization and practicality and want to get things accomplished. You aim to have a place for everything and everything in its place-anything that gets in the way gets on your nerves. It is easy for you to work with those in authority-older and more experienced than you. You enjoy working with others and are able to organize and handle matters that transpire. Health and work goals take on greater importance for you now. An interest and ability in athletics, exercise and the outdoors should be life-long. Careful-you can get lazy here. Make every effort to get into a routine of exercise, perhaps with a friend.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You are probably hard to control and very unpredictable these days. Your drive for independence is obvious and clearly the common and the traditional are not for you. Anything else but that! You pursue alternative or nonconformist solutions to life with great energy. You are aggressive in the pursuit of gaining insight into all that is new, different and out of the ordinary. Electronics, computers and communications could be a big part of your life. You find that you can really use your mind to make clear choices and think through things. This is a time to take risks and dare to be a little unconventional. There are new insights, inventions and an independent point of view. Career decisions are straightforward and easy to make.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

You may fear being too harsh or forceful when dealing with others at work, especially in a one-on-one situation. Remember that part of your job on earth is to inform and guide; you don't have to make others change. Whether people respond the way you expected can be a whole other story. This could be a most rewarding day as you learn to let go of expectations. Surprises are positive and may change your outlook. You are learning to clear your mind in order to move forward. You will find many different opportunities to grow and express yourself. You have a natural love of the material world but can survive most efficiently without the most necessary items. You teach thriftiness. This evening, someone is sincere with his or her compliments.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

You have a natural ability to work with the public. You may be working with the public quite a bit for the next few days. You can handle emotional and personal issues where angels fear to tread. People sense this about you and trust you with sensitive matters, inner worries and questions of personal identity. You have a real mission and a sense of purpose. Yours is a reflective mind and a mirror for others. You may be a mediator or negotiator. You could win awards for this talent. You find it easy to accept other people's ideas. You may be moved to discover and appreciate the beauty in your life and in those around you. Your personal income will increase with an additional output of energy.

WORD SEARCH

Old TV Shows 1

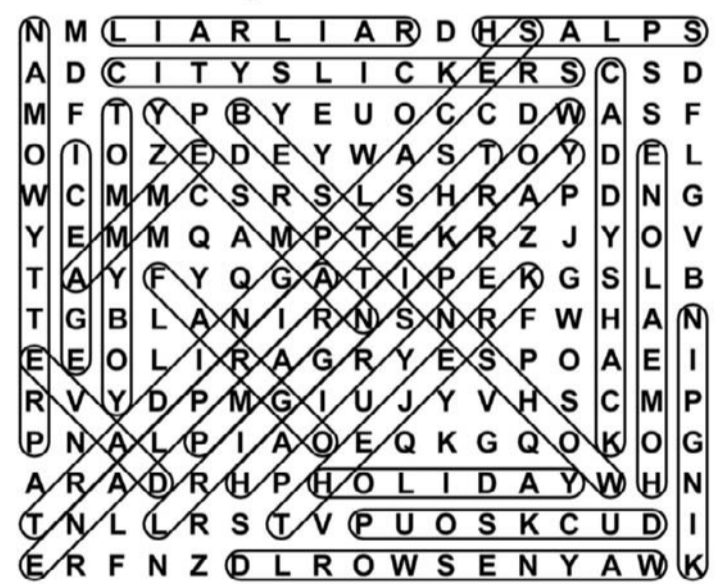
Find the words hidden in the grid of letters.



- ADDAMS FAMILY, BATMAN, BEWITCHED, CHINA BEACH, COACH, DEAR JOHN, DOCTOR WHO, FRASIER, FULL HOUSE, GUNSMOKE, HAZEL, HEE HAW, HOWDY DOODY, I SPY, LAUGH IN MANNIX, MAVERICK, NIGHT COURT, ROSEANNE, TARZAN, THE NANNY, THE WALTONS, TWIN PEAKS.

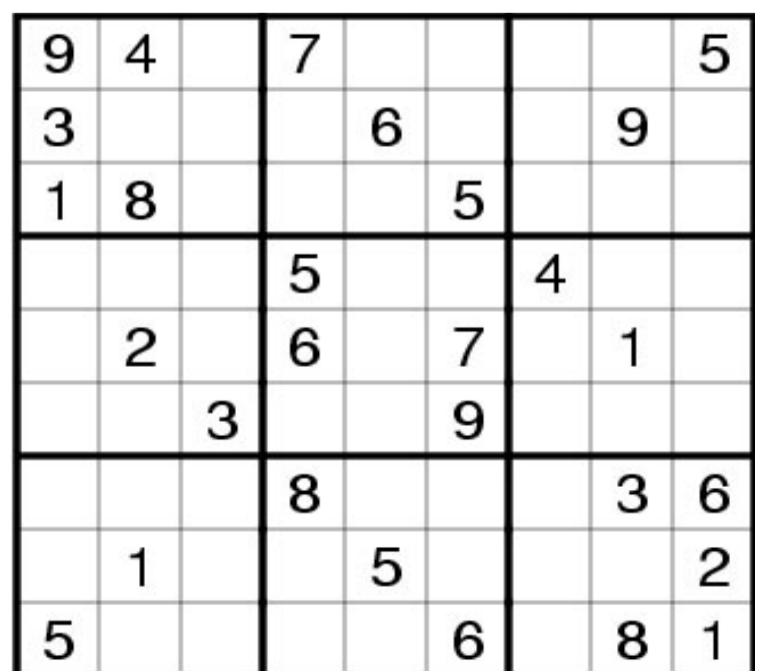
Yesterday Solution

Comedy Movies 4 - Solution



- AIRPLANE, BEST IN SHOW, CADDYSHACK, CITY SLICKERS, DAVE, DUCK SOUP, EMMA, FARGO, HAIRSPRAY, HOLIDAY, HOME ALONE, ICE AGE, KINGPIN, LIAR LIAR, PRETTY WOMAN, SPLASH, THE JERK, THE TRAMP, TOMMY BOY, TRADING PLACES, WAYNES WORLD, WORKING GIRL, YES MAN.

Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution





## Victoria Falls

Victoria Falls is a waterfall in southern Africa on the Zambezi River at the border of Zambia and Zimbabwe. While it is neither the highest nor the widest waterfall in the world, it is classified as the largest, based on its combined width of 1,708 meters and height of 108 meters, resulting in the world's largest sheet of falling water. Victoria Falls is roughly twice the height of North America's Niagara Falls and well over twice the width of its Horseshoe Falls. In height and width Victoria Falls is

**National parks**  
The two national parks at the falls are relatively small-Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park is 66 square kilometers and Victoria Falls National Park is 23 square kilometers. However, next to the latter on the southern bank is the Zambezi National Park, extending 40 kilometers west along the river. Animals can move between the two Zimbabwean parks and can also reach Matetsi Safari Area, Kazuma Pan National Park and Hwange National Park to the south.

Rhodesian teak woodland and scrubland savannah. Riverine forest with palm trees lines the banks and islands above the falls. The most notable aspect of the area's vegetation though is the rain-forest nurtured by the spray from the falls, containing plants rare for the area such as pod mahogany, ebony, ivory palm, wild date palm and a number of creepers and lianas. Vegetation has suffered in recent droughts, and so have the animals that depend on it, particularly antelope.



**Wildlife**  
The national parks contain abundant wildlife including sizable populations of elephant, buffalo, giraffe, Grant's zebra, and a variety of antelope. Katanga lions, African leopards and South African cheetahs are only occasionally seen. Vervet monkeys and baboons are common. The river above the falls contains large populations of hippopotamus and crocodile. African bush elephants cross the river in the dry season at particular crossing points.

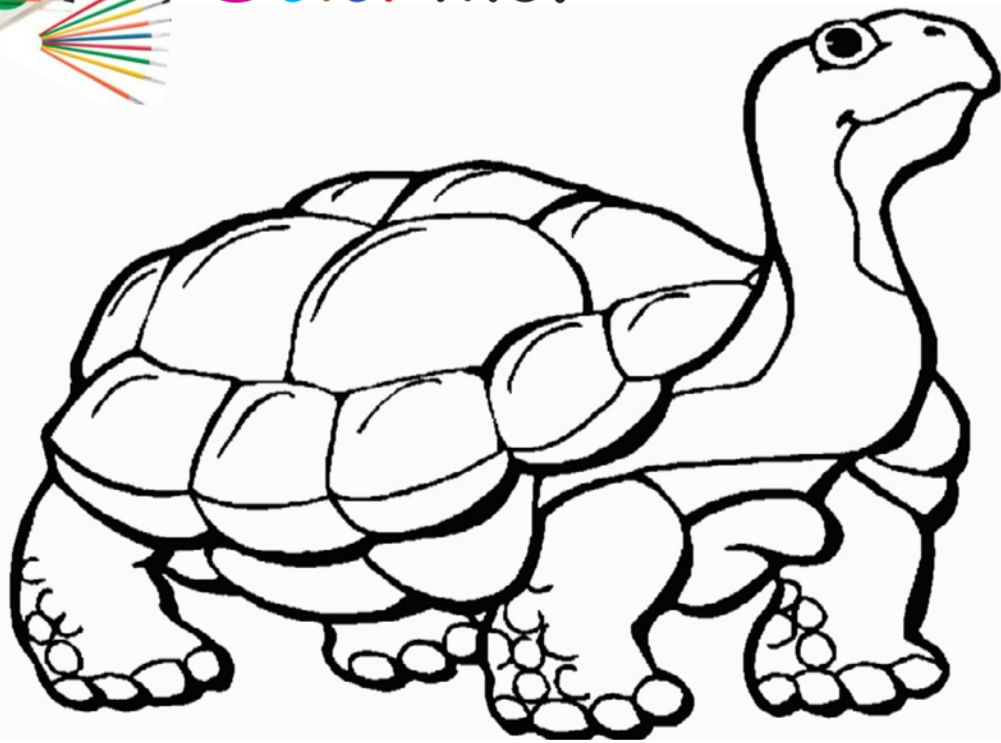
rivalled only by Argentina and Brazil's Iguazu Falls. For a considerable distance upstream from the falls the Zambezi flows over a level sheet of basalt, in a shallow valley, bounded by low and distant sandstone hills. The river's course is dotted with numerous tree-covered islands, which increase in number as the river approaches the falls. There are no mountains, escarpments, or deep valleys; only a flat plateau extending hundreds of kilometers in all directions.

On the Zambian side, fences and the outskirts of Livingstone tend to confine most animals to the Mosi-oa-Tunya National Park. In addition fences put up by lodges in response to crime restrict animal movement. In 2004 a separate group of police called the Tourism Police was started. They are commonly seen around the main tourist areas, and can be identified by their uniforms with yellow reflective bibs. Mopane woodland savannah predominates in the area, with smaller areas of miombo and

**Fish**  
The river is home to 39 species of fish below the falls and 89 species above it. This illustrates the effectiveness of the falls as a dividing barrier between the upper and lower Zambezi.



## Color me!



### DID YOU KNOW?

- Rain falls from clouds in the sky in the form of water droplets, this is called precipitation.
- Water can also fall from the sky in the form of hail, sleet or snow.
- Rain is an important part of the water cycle. Learn how it works with our page explaining the water cycle for kids.
- Rain occurs on other planets in our Solar System but it is different to the rain we experience here on Earth. For example, rain on Venus is made of sulfuric acid and due to the intense heat it evaporates before it even



- reaches the surface!
- Weather radar is used to detect and monitor rain.
- Rain gauges are used to measure the amount of rain over a certain period of time. Try making your own rain gauge.
- The highest amount of rainfall ever recorded in 24 hours is 182.5 centimeters in Foc-Foc, La

- Reunion. This occurred during tropical cyclone Denise on January 8, 1966.
- The highest amount of rainfall ever recorded in one year is 25.4 meters in Cherrapunji, India.
- Antarctica is the driest continent on Earth.
- Heavy rain can cause flooding and landslides.
- Rain allows us to create electricity through hydropower.
- Plants need water in order to survive, they receive much of this water from rain.
- Forests that experience high levels of rainfall are called rain-forests.

### ACTIVITY Toilet roll Olaf

- What you need:**
- \* 1 x toilet roll
  - \* 3 x black pom poms
  - \* 1 x orange pom pom
  - \* 1 x piece of white paper 14cm x 10cm
  - \* a small piece of white card (feet)
  - \* 2 x twigs (arms)
  - \* 3 x leaf stems or thin twigs (hair)
  - \* 2 x googly craft eyes
  - \* glue
  - \* scissors
  - \* fine black marker pen
  - \* skewer or toothpick

- Activity:**
1. Cover the toilet roll with the piece of white paper. Just glue it on.
  2. Now make Olaf two little feet out of white card (it will help him stay upright.) Glue his feet to the bottom edge of his body.
  3. Use a metal skewer to pierce two holes on either side of his body. Poke your arm twigs into the holes to create his arms.



4. Now glue the black pom poms as his buttons.
5. Squash the orange pom pom between your fingers to make it a bit flatter for his nose.
6. Glue his nose on.
7. Glue on his hair - the small thin twigs.
8. Now use the pen to draw on his face: don't forget his goofy tooth!

### Q: How can you tell the ocean is friendly?

- A: It waves.  
Q: What kind of hair do oceans have?  
A: Wavy!  
Q: What did Mars say to Saturn?  
A: Give me a ring sometime.  
Q: What did the big flower say to the small flower?

### JOKES

- A: What's up Bud.  
Q: Where does seaweed go to look for a job?  
A: The kelp wanted section.  
Q: When is the moon the heaviest?  
A: When it's full!

### 'In the Sea' Word Search

Find the hidden words associated with marine life.

B H S I F Y L L E J F Q C W K J W J  
D S U P O T C O M N U C M I C P M V  
A K R V V U Y C Z Z L G M Q F X O I  
V D E N O M E N A A E S G X M B R I  
R L T K U W S E M U T U B N F L A S  
F L S H S W L S J Q U K O S B H Y H  
H U B V R T A B O P H T J E I G E I  
C G O O R W P N K M K I K A S L E X  
O A L U E Q L I U N Y H S H H N L Q  
R E T S S K O R A T N G U O A N S K  
A S N D E B P L E I T J L R R B Y O  
L B C U O A P S Q T V X L S K M M X  
R M H W G L U H E E S V O E P P I W  
E S F P U N P R L A O Y M T O D V H  
E B Q B F Y I H C A L H O O B S X A  
F A J U X B J R I H J I P X C Z D L  
P T Q E I D A F R N I M O M F H Q E  
N D E B U D O V M E C N Q N I B O B  
O Q Z E E H W Y F Z H S E A U R O W  
Z D S E A W E E D C V L L E H S H U  
K V K Y M C N M A R L I N C Q G D S

- CLAMS
- CORALREEF
- DOLPHIN
- HERRING
- JELLYFISH
- LOBSTER
- MARLIN
- MOLLUSK
- MORAYEELS
- OCTOPUS
- OYSTER
- PLANKTON
- SEALION
- SEAANEMONE
- SEAGULL
- SEAHORSE
- SEAUARCHIN
- SEAWEED
- SHARK
- SHELL
- SHRIMP
- SQUID
- TUNA
- TURTLE
- WHALE

### SUDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 |   | 5 | 4 | 9 |   | 1 |   |
|   | 5 | 1 |   | 7 |   |   | 9 |   |
|   |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| 4 | 8 |   |   |   | 1 |   | 5 |   |
|   |   |   | 3 |   |   |   |   | 9 |
|   |   | 3 |   |   |   | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| 6 |   | 4 | 1 | 9 |   | 2 |   |   |
|   |   |   | 2 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   | 8 |   | 6 |   | 7 |   |   |

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 2 |
| 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 4 |
| 9 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 4 | 8 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 5 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 8 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 8 | 9 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 1 |

### KIDS RECIPE CRUNCHY HAWAIIAN CHICKEN WRAP

- What you need:**
- \* 6 whole-wheat tortillas
  - \* 1 1/2 cups broccoli slaw
  - \* 1 cup spinach leaves, chopped
  - \* 1/4 cup crushed and drained canned pineapple
  - \* 1 pound cooked chicken, diced
  - \* 1/4 cup low-fat mayonnaise
  - \* 1/4 cup vinegar
  - \* 1/4 cup sugar
  - \* 1 teaspoon poppy seeds
  - \* 1 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
  - \* 1 1/2 teaspoon onion powder
  - \* 1 1/2 teaspoon chili powder



- What to do:**
1. Prepare dressing by whisking mayonnaise, vinegar, sugar, poppy seeds, garlic powder, onion powder, and chili powder together. Set aside in refrigerator.
  2. Mix broccoli slaw, drained pineapple, and spinach.
  3. Put 1/2 cup of the broccoli/pineapple/spinach mixture on a wheat wrap.
  4. Top with chicken.
  5. Add 1 tablespoon dressing to each tortilla.
  6. Wrap tortillas, burrito style. Cut on diagonal. Serve immediately or refrigerate.



Gossip



## Harris finds it's 'laughable' that Swift has met Tom's mum

Calvin Harris thinks it's "laughable" that Taylor Swift has already met Tom Hiddleston's mother. Taylor, 26 and 35-year-old Tom - who have only been dating for a matter of weeks - jetted to the UK over the weekend so that she could meet Tom's family after he was introduced to her parents in Nashville last week and Calvin, 35, is annoyed that Taylor never made the effort to meet his parents during 15 months of dating. According to TMZ, Scottish DJ Calvin wanted Taylor to meet his mother and father in the UK but she told him it was too far away and he is now "bewildered

and astonished" by Taylor's recent jaunt to Suffolk to spend time with Tom's family. Meanwhile, Taylor and Tom are continuing their jet-setting romance by taking a trip to Rome. The pair, who have been spotted together in New York, Nashville and Suffolk since they started dating a few weeks ago, were seen holding hands during a private tour of the Colosseum, after spending the weekend in the UK. They later enjoyed a romantic dinner together. Taylor started dating Tom - who she met at the Met Gala in New York in May - immediately after she split from Calvin and friends say she is throwing

herself into the relationship because the 'Thor' actor is exactly her type. A source previously said: "Tom checks off a lot of boxes for Taylor. He's hot, smart, talented, British, everything she's into. What's not to like? She's going with it and why shouldn't she? They have been bonding over the industry, their childhoods, where they are from. It's the getting-to-know-you phase. Taylor is just happy to have the time to meet someone new and move on from Calvin."

## khloe kardashian gets twitter tips from sisters



Khloe Kardashian asks her sisters for advice on what she should post on social media. The 32-year-old star is known for being outspoken and honest on her Twitter and Instagram accounts but she has now started to check in with her siblings, Kim Kardashian West, Kourtney Kardashian, Kendall Jenner and Kylie Jenner, before she shares her thoughts with the world. Khloe admits since she started to get her posts edited she was saved herself a lot of "drama". In an interview on UK TV show 'Lorraine', she said: "My sisters never tell me I'm too outspoken. I will be told not to tweet certain things though. We'll be on group text all the time and I've learned from past experiences to ask them, 'Should I tweet this?' And then they'll give me their opinions, it's usually no! Then I'm happy. You just get drama for no reason. I think the older I'm getting I'm eliminating some of the drama which is good." Khloe recently shared her heartbreak about her split from estranged husband Lamar Odom, admitting she finds it hard to "trust and believe these days" following his infidelities and their subsequent separation in 2013. Khloe's brother-in-law Kanye West is also known for tendency to overshare on Twitter and spark feuds on the social media platform. The hip hop superstar was embroiled in a war of words on Twitter with Wiz Khalifa in January after Kanye mistakenly thought his rap rival - whose ex-wife is Kanye's former lover Amber Rose - had dissed his wife Kim.

## Moss saves clothes for her daughter

Kate Moss saves her favorite clothes to give to her daughter Lila Grace. The 42-year-old supermodel gets to keep many of the high fashion pieces she wears for shoots and in the past she would let her friends have items they liked. But now Lila is 14 years old and interested in fashion, Kate keeps the garments for her to wear. Speaking to LOOK magazine, she said: "Most of it I do (keep). I lost a lot on my travels. But now I've learnt! I used to give away pieces to friends who said they liked it, but now I keep the good bits for my daughter." Kate also gives Lila - whose father is the catwalk beauty's ex-partner Jefferson Hack - makeup and beauty tips, accrued from her four-decade modeling career. At the moment, mother and daughter have differing opinions on how thick Lila's eyebrows should be, with the teenager preferring thick brows rather than thin ones. Kate shared: "I've always had quite thin brows, but they grow back normally. Lila's really into them (big brows). She tries to make them thicker and I'm like, 'Right, OK, they look like they've been cut out and stuck on your face!' But whatever - it all goes around, doesn't it? I'm sure next season we'll be back to the thin brow."



## Rihanna returns with 'Star Trek Beyond' theme 'Sledgehammer'

Rihanna released her new single 'Sledgehammer' from the 'Star Trek Beyond' film on Monday. The R&B superstar's track - which was written by pop star Sia - debuted in the third trailer for the eagerly-anticipated sci-fi movie, which features the late star Anton Yelchin, who tragically passed away this month at the age of 27 following a car accident. The song has resonated with the cast of the movie including Zoe Saldana and Zachary Quinto, who have praised the 'Work' hitmaker for bringing some "light into the darkness" after the tragic week, which saw them lose their dear friend and colleague. Zoe - who plays Uhura - shared the short clip promoting the film on Instagram and thanked the 28-year-old singer for helping them through the "most difficult times" for the movie's cast and that Anton would be "proud" of her soundtrack. Zoe, 38, wrote: "Thank you @badgalriri for a beautiful song during one of the most difficult times for our StarTrek family. We know Anton would be proud (sic)" And Zachary - who plays Spock - also posted to Instagram: "After such an

unimaginably sad week for our star trek family - @badgalriri brings some light into the darkness (sic)" Anton died from "blunt traumatic asphyxia" in a freak accident at his Los Angeles home when his car rolled backward and trapped him against his gate. He was mourned at a private service and buried in an "undisclosed location" last Friday (24.06.16) surrounded by close friends and family. As soon as Zoe found out about her co-star's death she paid a touching tribute to him. Alongside a picture of Anton, she wrote: "Your sudden and unexpected departure has left us all broken hearted. I woke up today feeling absolute gratitude that I had you as a friend and colleague. Your life has been cut short, but I will always tell everyone about you. You were kind, present, old souled, curious, brilliant, funny, humble, honest, and undeniably talent. Good bye Anton, it was an honor to have crossed paths with you (sic)"

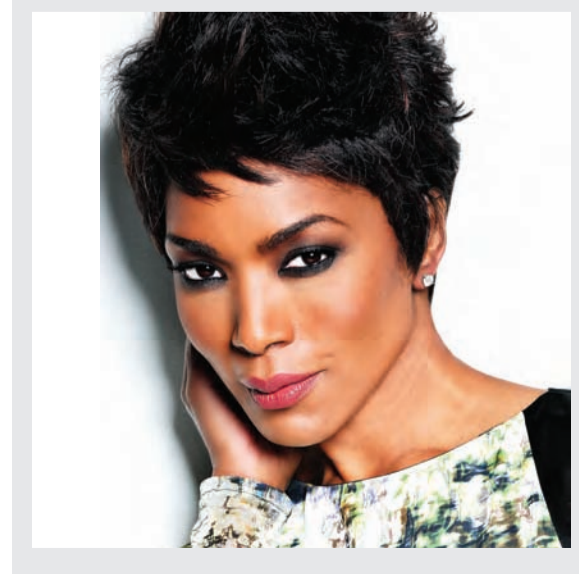
## Bassett skincare line for darker skin tones

Angela Bassett has announced she's bringing out a skincare range for darker skin tones. The 'American Horror Story' actress has teamed up with her dermatologist Dr Barbara Sturm, to launch Darker Skin Tones collection, which will be available at Harrods stores and online in July. Angela made the beauty collaboration announcement to her fans on Instagram. She wrote: "Hey Everybody, you good? I'm so excited to tell you about a new little 'something-something I've been working on with my friend, @DrBarbaraSturm. A unique skincare line we designed for OUR beautiful shades of skin tones is launching at @Harrods this July! I think you're gonna love it! Stay tuned! More info coming soon! #sturmxbassett (sic)" Angela - who shares twins Bronwyn and Slater, 10, with husband Courtney B. Vance - started working with Sturm after she experienced a series of breakouts on her skin. She began using Sturm's eponymous line - including a cleanser and face cream - but she wanted to create products that would focus on issues that plagued darker skin tones such as Hyperpigmentation and inflammation. Speaking about the collaboration, Sturm added: "I began to formulate and Angela Bassett began to test our line for skin of color. Our premise was simple: less is more. (sic)" Darker Skin Tones collection will include a foam cleanser, an enzyme.



## Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber slams Katdashians musical

Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber has slammed a new Kardashians 'Cats' musical for using his songs. The 68-year-old composer fired off a legal letter to the creators of off-Broadway show 'Katdashians', which has been using "no less than six songs from 'Cats'" in its parody of reality TV family the Kardashians. Insisting that the "continued willful infringement on our client's rights" would result in a claim for damages, Lloyd Webber's legal team said in their letter: "It is clear that the production is not a parody of 'Cats'. Our client's property is being extensively misappropriated, to parody another subject matter entirely." Co-creator Tobly McSmith - whose show has been described as "the story of a clan of internet famous cats torn apart by Fame, Family, and Friskies" - told the New York Post's Page Six: "We were pretty shocked. We are fans of Webber and his work... We thought he'd enjoy the parodies we did of his songs, but apparently he did not." McSmith's lawyer Robert Hantman added: "While we disagree with [Webber's] position, it would be foolish to burden the court, but we are inviting all judges to see the show for free and decide on their own." The songs have now been removed from the production and replaced with original tunes and a representative for Webber's Really Useful Group said: "We are pleased that the producers of the 'Katdashians' are cooperating in removing copyrighted material from their show. If you want to hear 'Memory' live this summer, it looks like you'll have to go to Broadway, but it won't be performed by a 'Katdashian,' whatever that is." Recently Lord Lloyd Webber launched a blistering rant against Nicole Scherzinger, 37, claiming she opted out of his musical 'Cats', one week before Broadway rehearsals began, in order to return to 'The X Factor' and fumed that he was furious with her. He said: "A week before we were due to go into rehearsals with 'Cats', which luckily I'm not producing I have to say, she calls me and says she's decided to do 'X Factor', having agreed to it. 'She's crazy, but the American producers took a view of, 'Oh fine, we'll get someone else.' She's actually not that well known in America. She's better known here. 'I'm furious because I really believe she's the most fantastically brilliant girl and I went out on a limb to get her at the Palladium and now I look like an absolute girl with them all. 'Nevermind, there will be another girl on Broadway and Nicole will not get her Tony Award'."

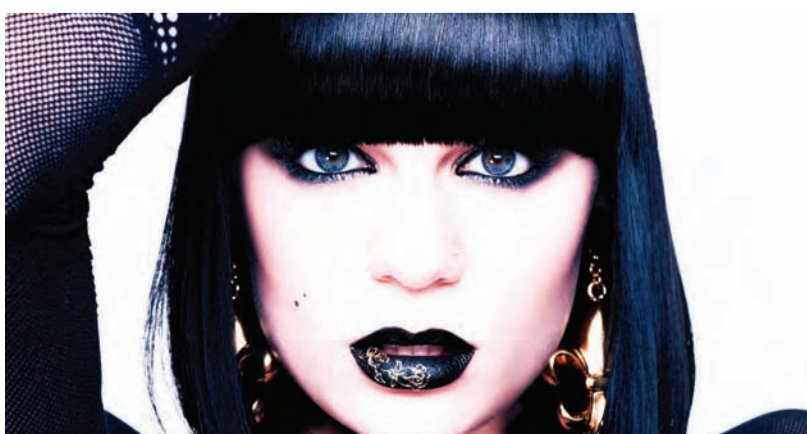


## Jessie J is to raise money for her old dance teacher

Jessie J is helping to raise money for her old dance teacher who has a brain tumor. The 'Price Tag' hitmaker has reached out to her 8.5 million followers to fundraising page Diane's daughter, Christina Cuttell, has setup on JustGiving. Taking to her Twitter account, Jessie, 28, wrote: "This amazing lady was one of my dance teachers when I was little. Any donation helps. Thank you. (sic)" The family are desperately trying to put the funds together for an "alternative" treatment, suggested by a Harley Street doctor who says it will "prolong her life". Target and the pop singer's help will no doubt help them get the money they need. The JustGiving page reads: "So,

as many of you know, a month ago my amazing mum was diagnosed with a brain tumor. It has been an absolute whirlwind for the last few weeks, she has already had an operation to remove what they could, which she recovered from ridiculously well, but unfortunately we found out, in short, it is a GBM. "Without going into too much detail on this post, GBM is the short name for it, grade 4 tumor with poor prognosis, please do have a further look online so you know what we are dealing with. My dad, the incredible man that he is, has spent the last four weeks researching and contacting everyone he could find that could do anything to help. He rang many differ-

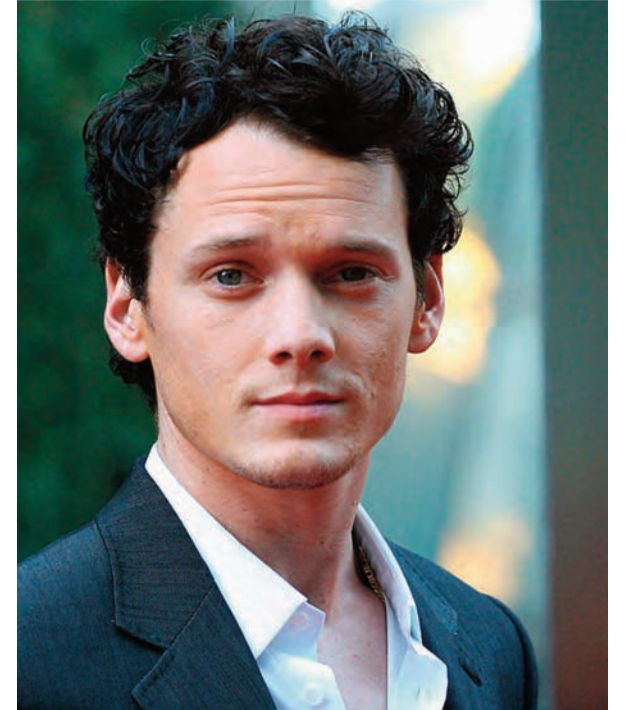
ent countries, hospitals etc. with no luck. "However, yesterday he went up to Harley Street and met with a doctor who can help! It isn't a cure for what my mum has but it will certainly prolong her life and believe me ... I am willing to do ANYTHING to keep her alive! "It's an alternative treatment that will help her along with the radiotherapy and chemotherapy that she is due to start soon. The evidence shows that the treatment can keep the tumor at bay indefinitely which is backed up with MRI scans. "Please do private message me if you would like more information on this treatment. However, it is extremely pricey but as you can imagine, money is nothing when you are saving a life. My dad wants to sell the house and after weeks of feeling useless, I finally can do something to help. "I alongside my fabulous auntie dawn (mums sister), am going to be organizing a fundraising concert and several events. If my dad has to sell the house, so be it, but I would love for him to be able to keep it for when mum is better she will have somewhere to go. "So I have set up this page to try and raise as much money as I can to get even begin to explain how appreciative my family will be, let alone my mum. Thank you all so much xxx (sic)".



## Anton Yelchin has been laid to rest

According to E! Online the 'Star Trek' actor, who died from "blunt traumatic asphyxia" in a freak accident at his Los Angeles home when his car rolled backward and trapped him against his gate, was mourned at a private service and buried in an "undisclosed location" on Friday surrounded by close friends and family. The funeral took place five days after the 27-year-old star's body was found, wedged between his Jeep Grand Cherokee and a gate at his home in Studio City, California. Anton was due at rehearsals but when he failed to show up, his worried friends went to his home to check on him and found his lifeless body. The tragic death has officially been ruled an accident, however questions were raised over why the vehicle rolled back and whether it was a mechanical or human error. An investigation is also being held into whether Anton's car was a model that should have been recalled because of a gear-shifting problem. Meanwhile, since Anton's passing, a host of celebrities have taken to social media to pay tribute to the actor. Zoe Saldana was left "broken-hearted" by her 'Star Trek' co-star's death and took to Instagram to pay tribute. She wrote: "Your sudden and unexpected departure has left us all broken hearted. I woke up today feeling absolute gratitude that I had you as a friend and colleague. Your life has been cut short, but I will always tell everyone about

you. You were kind, present, old souled, curious, brilliant, funny, humble, honest, and undeniably talent. Good bye Anton, it was an honor to have crossed paths with you (sic)." Russian-born Anton was best known for playing Chekov in the newer 'Star Trek' movies and also previously appeared in 'Alpha Dog' and teen comedy 'Charlie Bartlett'. And Zoe is not his only 'Star Trek' co-star to pay tribute to the late star. Zachary Quinto penned a touching message, describing Anton as "enormously talented and generous of heart." He wrote on Instagram: "our dear friend. our comrade. our anton. one of the most open and intellectually curious people i have ever had the pleasure to know. so enormously talented and generous of heart. wise beyond his years. and gone before his time. all love and strength to his family at this impossible time of grief (sic)" Director J.J. Abrams also hailed the "supremely talented" star and lamented his untimely death. He wrote on Twitter: "You were brilliant, you were kind, you were funny as hell, and supremely talented. "And you weren't here nearly long enough. Missing you." And Justin Lin, who has taken over at the helm of 'Star Trek Beyond', admitted he was in "shock" at the tragic news. He wrote: "Rest in peace, Anton. Your passion and enthusiasm will live on with everyone that had the pleasure of knowing you."



## 'Baywatch' movie's 'sweet homage' to Pamela Anderson's character

The new 'Baywatch' movie features a "sweet homage" to Pamela Anderson's CJ Parker. Pamela, 48, played the bubbly lifeguard in the original television series from 1992 to 1997 and was thrilled to get a call from producers asking her to take part in the new movie, which stars Dwayne 'The Rock' Johnson and Zac Efron. She told ET Canada: "They called me to be in the film, and it was kind of an homage and a sweet thing for them to do. [But] I shouldn't give too much away! "Dwayne is the sweetest guy, he's so sweet in person. I guess I had met him plenty of times, but I didn't remember." Dwayne, 44, previously announced that Pamela would be starring in the movie with a gushing Instagram post where he wrote: "She introduced the world to 'CJ Parker' and became one of the most iconic characters of a generation - for the most successful TV show of

all time. A pleasure to welcome (as gorgeous as ever) Pamela Anderson to our #BAYWATCH cast. We couldn't have made this movie without you. Welcome home. Thrilled you had a blast with us! (sic)" The movie about Californian lifeguards has been scripted by Damian Shannon & Mark Swift, while 'Horrible Bosses' filmmaker Seth Gordon has taken on directing duties. The story will see Dwayne be a hero once again, as he plays the role of the lifeguard who has no choice but to team up with a young hunk played by Zac as they work together to protect a Californian beach from environmental destruction caused by an oil tycoon. The film will be released in May 2017.



Chelsea Handler had two abortions at the age of 16. The 41-year-old chat show host opened up about having two pregnancies terminated within the same year and says she initially wanted to keep the first baby, but her parents could see it would be "ridiculous" so they sent her to Planned Parenthood to get an abortion. In an emotional essay for Playboy Magazine's Freedom issue, she wrote: "Getting an abortion wasn't the first idea that popped into my unripened brain. I was going through a very bad stage in my life. I hated my parents and I was having unprotected sex with my boyfriend, who was not someone I should've been having sex with in the first place, never mind unprotected sex. I wasn't really playing with a full deck of cards, and when I got pregnant I just thought, 'Why not? I can have a baby. Maybe I'll have twins and give them rhyming names!' "Of course, the idea that I would have a child and raise it by myself at that age, when I couldn't even find my way home at night, was ridiculous. "My parents saw that, so they acted like parents for one of the very first times in my life and took

me to Planned Parenthood. I felt parented, ironically, while I was getting an abortion. And when it was over, I was relieved in every possible way." The blonde beauty also revealed she had to "scrape together" the cash to pay for the termination of her second pregnancy. She said: "I had to scrape together the \$230 to pay Planned Parenthood, but it was a safe abortion." However, despite admitting it was "irresponsible" to "mistake twice" so young, Chelsea doesn't regret the choices she made. She continued: "Getting unintentionally pregnant more than once is irresponsible, but it's still necessary to make a thoughtful decision. We all make mistakes all the time. I happened to make mistake twice at the age of 16. I'm grateful that I came to my senses and was able to get an abortion legally without risking my health or bankrupting myself or my family. I'm 41 now. I don't ever look back and think, 'God, I wish I'd had that baby.'"

## Russell Brand has got engaged

The 41-year-old comedian - who was previously married to singer Katy Perry - recently popped the question to long-term girlfriend Laura Gallacher, who is currently pregnant with the couple's first baby. The couple announced their happy news to friends and family with a low-key party over the weekend. A source told The Sun newspaper: "Russell didn't want a big fuss this time after his very public relationship with Katy. Laura is also keen to keep their romance low-key, so the small, intimate party was very much in keeping with their 'homebods' image. "As they are becoming parents, Russell wanted to do the right thing and make Laura his wife. She's delighted he asked." Guests at the party - which was held at their riverside property in Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, south west England - included Laura's TV presenter sister Kirsty and actress Susie Amy. Russell and Laura, 27, previously dated in 2007 and 2009 and rekindled their romance last year on a romantic trip to Rome, Italy, before moving in together at the start of the year. It was recently revealed Russell had taken up baby yoga to bond with his unborn child. The 'Get Him to the Greek' star is hoping that practicing the Buddhist meditation will help him to form a connection with the baby. A friend of Russell's said of his new regime: "Russell wants to get close with the baby and has started these daily yoga routines. "He takes it really seriously and honestly believes it will help to form a relationship with the child." The pal also disclosed that the Russell is keen to deliver the baby himself. They added: "As a couple they are very close and Russell has even told pals he'd like to deliver the baby."



## Minogue and Sasse 'plan' to marry in Italy Denham disgusted by West's famous video

Kylie Minogue and Joshua Sasse reportedly "plan" to marry in Italy next month. The 48-year-old Australian singer and her 28-year-old fiancée - who met whilst filming the American television show 'Galavant' last year - are rumored to tie the knot in Italy in July, according to Hello! magazine. Speaking about the couple's marital arrangements, a source said: "Joshua has been telling his friends in Greece about their plans to marry in Italy." Although, the pair - who announced their engagement in February this year after six months of dating - are in two different countries, they can't keep away from one another and are set to reunite under the sun soon. A friend close to the item said: "Joshua is still in Sifnos, while Kylie is in London - he came back two days after their recent trip there and she will no doubt be back soon. Meanwhile, Joshua - who has two-year-old son Sebastian with his ex-partner Francesca Cini - makes the former 'Neighbours' star "very happy". Speaking previously about her relationship with the dark haired actor, the 'I Should Be So Lucky' hit-maker said: "I think the general consensus is we kind of look right together. So even though on paper it might not look right, it just is right. "He is an absolutely brilliant, brilliant guy. And even if I try and act cool and natural, it's written all over my face that I am very happy." Meanwhile, Kylie - who has previously admitted she is unsure whether she can have kids because of treatment she underwent for breast cancer - are reportedly ready to start a family as soon as they can. Speaking previously, a source said: "They want to start a family more than anything - Joshua would love a sibling for his son [two-year-old Sebastian]. "Kylie never thought it was possible but they've been having that conversation and Joshua has been giving her the confidence she needed to believe they could be parents together."



Lena Denham has slammed Kanye West's "disturbing" new music video. The 'Girls' actress is upset about the 'Famous' video - which features synthetic versions of Kanye, Kim Kardashian, Taylor Swift, Rihanna, Anna Wintour and many more naked in bed together - as it has made her feel "sad and unsafe and worried for the teenage girls". Writing on her Facebook page, Lena, 30, said: "I don't have a hip cool reaction, because seeing a woman I love like Taylor Swift ( that one hurt to look at, I couldn't look), a woman I admire like Rihanna or Anna, reduced to a pair of waxy breasts made by some special effects guy in the Valley, it makes me feel sad and unsafe and worried for the teenage girls who watch this and may not understand that grainy roving camera as the stuff of snuff films." Although she acknowledged that Kanye was "cool", she urged the rapper to "make a statement" on fame, privacy or "whatever is on your mind", before adding: "But I can't watch it, don't want to watch it, if it feels informed and inspired by the aspects of our culture that make women feel unsafe even in their own beds, in their own bodies." The video feature Kanye in bed with wife Kim before the camera zooms out to reveal what appears to be wax figures of another 10 famous people asleep beside them. Others

stars in the video include Donald Trump, Caitlyn Jenner, Bill Cosby, former US president George W Bush, singer Chris Brown, Kim's former boyfriend Ray J and Kanye's ex-girlfriend Amber Rose. Explaining the controversial video, Kanye, 39, has said: "It's not in support or anti any of (the people in the video). It's a comment on fame."



# 'Saq Al Bamboo' and 'Been Galbin': Episode 22

By Nawara Fattahova

Kuwait Times is publishing a daily recap of two Kuwaiti soap operas aired on Al Rai TV and MBC Drama. Here are the recaps of the 22nd episodes:

## 'Saq Al Bamboo' (Bamboo Stalk)

Nooriya and Awatef fight over who stays at the hospital with Khawla, and finally Awatef stays. Noor calls her brother to come, but he said he won't come as he doesn't care about Khawla anymore. But he comes and Awatef talks to him and finds out that he still loves Khawla.

Eisa talks to his cousin Mirla in the Philippines over the Internet. She is still depressed as she hasn't found work and talks about death and committing suicide. She leaves the conversation, telling Eisa she is now brave enough to face death. Meanwhile, Noor is knocking his door but he doesn't open.

Ghanima sees Noor at Eisa's door and calls her. She warns her to stay away from him or she will send her back to her house. But Noor begs her to let her stay, promising not to cause problems and tells Ghanima that Eisa is a good guy.

Eisa and Ghasan are wondering who told Ghanima about Luzviminda, so they go to visit her in the hospital. She tells them that it was Khawla who told Ghanima. Ghasan tells her that Hind will let her work in another house, and Eisa apologizes about everything that happened to her.

Noor apologizes to Khawla about what she told her



about Jaber and said she followed the advice of Eisa. Khawla is angry that even Eisa now knows about it and she tells Noor that she is jealous and this is why she was talking to Jaber. They fight and Noor leaves. Ghanima then asks Khawla what was the real reason for her sickness, but she doesn't believe Khawla's stories.

## Been Galbin (Between Two Hearts)

Bashar returns and visits Noora, who tells him that she can't accept the idea of marrying Mihsen. So he goes to his



aunt, who is trying to convince him that this marriage is for the benefit of Yasmin's kids, so Noora says she will think about it. Dana's father tells her that he noticed that Masoud is paying more attention to her, but she thinks it's normal. She then notices that he is interested in her.

Noora agrees to marry Mihsen to take care of the kids. Dana's aunt calls Dana to tell her that Noora will get married, so Dana calls Noora and she is surprised why she agreed. Bashar is annoyed by people's comments on his marriage as

they think that Aryam is spending money on him because she is rich. Aryam tells her colleague, who is working with Bashar, to give her news about what happens with him at work.

Masoud tells Dana that he loves her, but she tells him to get out of the car.



File photo shows former rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight appears in court for his arraignment on robbery charges, in Los Angeles. — AP photos



File photo shows Rapper Chris Brown performs at the 2015 Hot 97 Summer Jam at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, NJ.

## 'Suge' Knight sues Brown over nightclub shooting

Former rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight has filed a lawsuit against Chris Brown claiming that the R&B star did not hire adequate security at a nightclub where Knight was shot in 2014. Filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, the suit also accuses the club's owners of failing to hire proper security at the party hosted by Brown and of allowing at least one armed person into the venue. The suit, which seeks unspecified damages, alleges that the club — 1 Oak should have taken special measures given that events hosted by the "Look at Me Now" artist had a history of violence. Brown "was a known gang associate with a history of violence and had a well-documented track record of hosting events and/or parties in which violence frequently erupted," the suit states.

Knight survived gunshot wounds to the abdomen, chest and left forearm at the party and has said he has complications from those injuries, including a blood clot. The rap musician has been held behind bars since running over two men with his car, killing one, in January 2015 in Los Angeles. Lawyers for Knight have argued he didn't intend to harm the two men outside a fast food joint in Compton and was trying to drive away after they attacked him with guns in broad day-

light. In the lawsuit filed on Monday, his lawyers linked the injuries he sustained at the nightclub shooting to the incident in Compton, saying they left him fearing for his life and still recovering.

"Mr Knight was still extremely frail from his gunshot injuries less than five months earlier," attorney J. Tooson wrote in a statement carried by US media. "When the facts are finally revealed in this case, we're certain it will be apparent that our client was simply trying to flee for his life." Tooson declined comment on the lawsuit on Monday and attorneys for Brown could not be immediately reached for comment. Knight co-founded Death Row Records along with hip-hop music king Dr Dre in the early 1990s. The label launched stars such as Snoop Dogg and Tupac Shakur but collapsed in 1996 when Knight was jailed for violating a probation order by beating up a rival in Las Vegas. He again served a 10-month jail stint in 2003 after getting into a fight outside a Hollywood nightclub. — AFP

## Judge asks for more time to determine Prince heirs

A judge in the US state of Minnesota decided Monday to extend the process of determining who will be eligible to inherit Prince's estate by another two weeks. First Judicial District Judge Kevin Eide said he was "in no rush to determine whether one particular person is an heir," but instead was focused on "whether certain classes or groups of heirs are legally excluded." More than 21 lawyers are representing a dozen clients who claim to have a stake in Prince's estate.

Prince, whose full name was Prince Rogers Nelson, died of an accidental overdose of the opioid painkiller fentanyl on April 21. Attorney David Crosby, the court-appointed administrator of Prince's estate, said thousands of documents in four separate locations had been examined in search of a will, but none has been found. At the heart of the inheritance issue are questions such as: Who was Prince's biological father, and does it even matter when determining his heirs? Prince's paternal origin is being questioned by one petitioner, who claims that Prince's acknowledged father, Prince Rogers, is in fact not biologically related to the late singer.

Eide, who ordered lawyers at the hearing to not identify their clients by name, must now decide whether that paternity claim should be examined through DNA testing. Depending on how Eide rules over the issue of paternity, potential heirs might be locked out of the inheritance. Ken Abdo, who represented three of Prince's half-siblings, urged quick action, arguing that the value of Prince's music could dissipate over time. "Delay can damage this estate, that's the reality of this business," he said. Prince's estate is worth an estimated net \$300 million. It includes the musician's sprawling Paisley Park compound in suburban Minneapolis where a vault was reportedly found containing thousands of hours of unreleased music.

Prince's sister, Tyka Nelson, and five half-siblings stand to inherit his fortune, and perhaps more importantly, the rights to his music. Brian Dillon, an attorney representing Nelson, also urged the court to move quickly. "The more cats there are to be herded, the more expensive, the more delay... and quite frankly, the family needs some closure," he said. Eide said the matter was "a very unique case for the state of Minnesota. In many ways, we really are in uncharted water here." Whatever his ruling, Eide said he planned to immediately send his decision to an appeals court for review. — AFP



This file photo taken on February 8, 2015 shows musician Prince presents an award on stage at the 57th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles February 8, 2015. — AFP

## Italian film comic Bud Spencer, the 'good giant,' dies at 86

Bud Spencer, a burly comic actor dubbed the "good giant" for punching out bad guys on the screen, often in a long series of spaghetti westerns, has died in Italy. He was 86. Italian news agency ANSA quoted his son, Giuseppe Pedersoli, as saying without adding medical details that his father died peacefully Monday evening. Born in Naples as Carlo Pedersoli, he adopted the stage name Bud Spencer - the first name inspired by a beer and the last to honor his favorite star, Spencer Tracy. Culture minister Dario Franceschini said Spencer "knew how to entertain entire generations." Rome's City Hall said it would hold Spencer's wake there on Wednesday, so fans could pay tribute.

In his youth, Spencer was an athlete, becoming the first Italian to swim the 100-meter freestyle in under a minute. Spencer's roles exploited his physical strength, especially his big frame and girth. His imposing figure earned him a walk-on part as a Praetorian guard in the 1951 film "Quo Vadis?" Italian director Mario Monicelli gave him his first big role in the 1955 film "Un eroe dei nostri tempi" (A hero of our times). Spencer abandoned his swimming career after the 1960 Olympics in Rome. Working on a 1967 film, "Dio perdona io no," (God forgives, I don't), Spencer met up with actor Mario Girotti, who would take the stage name Terence Hill and become his frequent movie partner in spaghetti westerns.

Spencer, who had a law degree, made his name in unmistakably lowbrow films. Some of them include "Al di la' della legge" (Beyond the Law) in 1968; "Lo chiamavano Trinita" (They Call Me Trinity) in 1970; "Watch Out, We're Mad," in 1974; "Io sto con gli ippopotami" (I'm for the Hippopotamus) in 1979; "Double Trouble" in 1984 and "Un piede in paradiso" (Speaking of the Devil) in 1991. Spencer's movies delighted much of the public, but critical acclaim eluded him, Italian state radio said yesterday, noting he drew laughs with physical humor, especially by punching in the face the bad and arrogant characters.

After he made a film with internationally renowned Italian director Ermanno Olmi in 2003, Spencer confessed that was perhaps the first time he felt he was an actor. "I always said that I was only a character" as opposed to an actor, he said. Spencer said sports taught him humility. "One day you wake up and someone goes better than you. And you're not anyone anymore. It's the same way in cinema." — AP



In this file photo taken on Nov 14, 2009 in Dusseldorf, Germany, Italian actor Giuseppe Pedersoli, better known as Bud Spencer, is seen at an UNESCO charity event. — AP

## Pinto joins Elba in Showtime-Sky miniseries 'Guerrilla'

Freida Pinto, best known for "Slumdog Millionaire," has joined Idris Elba in the cast of the Showtime-Sky miniseries "Guerrilla." John Ridley, who won an Oscar for "12 Years a Slave," will write, direct and executive produce. The six-part drama centers on a couple, Jas and Marcus, whose "passion propels them into making the leap from political activism to radical militancy," Sky said in a statement. Pinto, whose recent credits include "Knight of Cups," plays Jas; Marcus has yet to be cast. As well as co-starring, Elba serves as an executive producer through his Green Door Pictures.

Ridley, whose credits include "American Crime," will write the majority of the episodes, and will direct the first two and the finale, with Sam Miller taking on the other episodes. In the miniseries, Jas and Marcus' "relationship and values are tested when they liberate a political prisoner and form a radical underground cell in 1970s London," Sky said. "Their ultimate target becomes the Black Power Desk, a true-life, secretive counter-intelligence unit within Special Branch dedicated to crushing all forms of black activism." Sky added: "At its heart 'Guerrilla' is about a relationship under pressure, and the reality that for any couple there comes a point when the choices they make have real and lasting consequences." — Reuters



Freida Pinto



'Harry Potter' author JK Rowling lights the Empire State Building to mark the launch of her non-profit children's organization Lumos, in New York. — AP

## JK Rowling to host a special screening of her next film

Carnegie Hall will host a benefit screening this fall of "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" with some special guests - author JK Rowling, actor Eddie Redmayne and other cast members from the film. A conversation with the cast and writer will precede a screening of the movie Nov 12 that will benefit Lumos Foundation USA, which works to keep disadvantaged children with their families and out of institutions worldwide.

It is named after the light-giving spell featured in the Rowling's Harry Potter books. Tickets range from \$25-\$500. The film, which is set in 1926 and will open worldwide on Nov 18, also stars Katherine Waterston, Dan Fogler, Alison Sudol, Ezra Miller, Samantha Morton, Jon Voigt, Carmen Ejogo and Colin Farrell. — AP



A waitress holds a dish at Cafe Bohemia restaurant in Havana. — AFP photos



A barman serves a drink at Cafe Bohemia restaurant.

# Change brings culinary revolution to Cuba

**A**t 65, Ramon Alfonso has seen a lot of history in his native Cuba. But this is the first time he has eaten a vegan salad. After decades of Communist rule and centuries of eating meat and beans, the island is opening up and so are its taste buds. Sitting at Cafe Bohemia on Havana's Old Square, Alfonso gobbles lettuce, eggplant and cabbage. There is not an ounce of pork and rice in sight, but in the searing heat, that suits him just fine.

"I don't know if I'll be eating this every day because I'm not used to it," he says. "But it is tasty. And it's better for the health and for the weather in a tropical country like this." Under the communist regime, the few diners who could afford to step out for dinner faced dreary state-run eateries with stodgy food and bad service. Now those state-run restaurants are empty.

## How now, fried cow

In a kitchen workshop run by the country's Culinary Federation, its president Eddy Fernandez chucks a spot of oil in the pan and adds peppers, onion and garlic. The shredded beef is pre-cooked and goes into the pan to sizzle briefly. A splash of white wine and it is ready: his modern take on the Cuban classic vaca frita, or "fried cow." Fernandez is helping train a new generation of Cuban chefs. Demand for their services has surged in the past two years, he says, and standards have risen. The health ministry says 45 percent of adults in Cuba are overweight and 12 percent suffer full obesity. Chefs are wanted who can cook classic Cuban dishes but "with less fat and sugar, little salt and more fruit and vegetables," Fernandez says.

## Outside influence

When Italian chef Annalisa Gallina arrived in Cuba three years ago, she says, salad was something stuck on the side of the plate as a decoration. The country's cooking was still emerging from the economic crisis that followed the collapse of its ally, the Soviet Union. That crisis limited eating options in a country that imports most of its ingredients. For many Cubans, "if it doesn't have rice, beans and meat, it isn't food," says Gallina, 37, who works at Cafe Bohemia.

"The Cubans who are most open to vegetarian cooking are the ones who have had the chance to travel abroad." President Raul Castro took over from his brother Fidel, leader of the 1959 revolution, in 2008. He has loosened travel restrictions for Cubans. The government's migration department says hundreds of thousands of Cubans have traveled abroad since 2013. Castro has also authorized some private businesses and has transferred state eateries to private hands. "That is a good thing," says Fernandez. "State gastronomy was not working."

## Local produce

The new generation of restaurateurs faces the challenge of pleasing the four million tourists now coming to Cuba every year—including a growing number of US visitors. In the kitchen at Versus 1900, Prieto and colleague Omar Gil show off their organic goods: cherry tomatoes, raisins and strawberries. They have grown the ingredients in their own garden. "There is lots of produce to make the most of in Cuba," says Gallina at Cafe Bohemia.

Cubans are used to fruit juice, but not like the exotic mixes she serves: guava with pepper and basil, carrot with ginger or pineapple with mint. Cooking programs on Cuban television have multiplied. "You sit down in a park with wifi and download a recipe. That is how we have learned," says Prieto. "We want to go on like that and improve Cuban cooking." — AFP



A chef prepares a dish at Versus 1900 restaurant.



Customers eat at Versus 1900 restaurant in Havana.

## New moussaka

The government authorized privately-run restaurants five years ago, and the change was slow to take effect. But with more tourists coming to Cuba in the past year, its impact is clear to see now on the terraces of Havana. At one state-run joint in Havana's old quarter, four waiters sit chatting with not a single one of the tables occupied. A few dozen yards away, the privately-run Cafe de las Letras is crammed with diners munching its trademark moussaka. With eggplant smothered in meat and cheese, that is a novel dish for Cubans who were used to eating the vegetable fried in breadcrumbs.

Another of Havana's new wave of trendy restaurants, Versus 1900, the smell of rosemary fills the kitchen. Chef Alain Prieto is seasoning mutton in a Peruvian-inspired fusion creation. Beside him a colleague is cooking crispy vegetable tempura. "International dishes have been added to the traditional creole cuisine," Prieto says. "People are starting to eat differently," he adds. "More refined."



A waitress walks at Cafe Bohemia restaurant.



Chefs prepare dishes at Versus 1900 restaurant.



A chef prepares a dish at Cafe Bohemia restaurant.



Chefs prepare dishes at Versus 1900 restaurant.



A chef prepares a dish at Cafe Bohemia restaurant.



A chef prepares a dish at Versus 1900 restaurant.



A chef prepares a dish at Versus 1900 restaurant.



An Indian woman sorts strands of drying seviiyan - thin vermicelli - which is used for the preparation of 'sheerkhorma', a traditional sweet dish prepared by Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan, at a food factory in Chennai yesterday. Muslims around the world celebrate the month of Ramadan by abstaining from eating, drinking, and smoking as well as sexual activities from dawn to dusk. — AFP



School teacher Shi Junguang in a classroom showing a blackboard that reads 'Welcome to the Sanjiazi Manchu school' and above the blackboard, Chinese letters that reads 'Study hard and every day you will improve' at the Sanjiazi Manchu school. — AFP photos



Students playing at the Sanjiazi Manchu school.



School teacher Shi Junguang (left) and his students during a class at the Sanjiazi Manchu school.



School teacher Shi Junguang during a class at the Sanjiazi Manchu school.



Ji Jinlu inside his house in Sanjiazi village.



Meng Xianren, 84, inside the house of his friend Ji Jinlu (not seen) in Sanjiazi village, Heilongjiang province.



A plate with the inscription that reads 'The manchu language is a living Fossil' in Chinese (down) and Manchu (up).

## Last words: Language of China's emperors in peril

It was the language of China's last imperial dynasty which ruled a vast kingdom for nearly three centuries. But 71-year-old Ji Jinlu is among only a handful of native Manchu speakers left. Traders and farmers from what are now the borders of China and Korea, the Manchus took advantage of a crumbling Ming state and swept south in the 1600s to establish their own Qing Dynasty. Manchu became the court language, its angular, alphabetic script used in millions of documents produced by one of the world's preeminent powers. Now after centuries of decline followed by decades of repression, septuagenarian Ji is the youngest of some nine mother-tongue speakers left in Sanjiazi village, one of only two places in China where they can be found.

"We mostly speak Chinese these days—otherwise young people don't understand," he said, in his sparsely-furnished hut beside cornfields, before launching into a self-composed Manchu lullaby. Manchu is classed as "critically endangered" by the United Nations' cultural organization UNESCO, which says that half of the more than 6,000 languages spoken worldwide are threatened with extinction, a major loss of knowledge and diversity for humanity. But schemes to save Manchu are spreading as ethnic consciousness grows among the 10-million-strong minority.

The sign for the village primary school in Sanjiazi, in the northeastern province of Heilongjiang, is in Manchu's vertical script, with posters in the language written by pupils lining its corridors. Staring intently at an electronic display, a class shouted the Manchu alphabet, followed by words for "umbrella" and "cow". But instruction was in Chinese, the everyday language of school life, as were the bellowed lyrics of a song titled: "We are the good Manchu children". Teacher Shi Junguang, who painstakingly learnt Manchu from older residents and records native speakers before they pass away, wore a red and turquoise robe with gold sleeves reminiscent of the group's traditional apparel. But, now, he said, the Manchu "don't really have any special ethnic characteristics in food or dress." "The main thing we have here is the language."

### Barbarian Manchus

Under the Qing—or "pure"—dynasty, China saw massive territorial expansion before it weakened in the 19th century, assailed by corruption and pressure from European and other foreign powers. Discrimination against non-Manchu Chinese remained rife and helped fuel a series of rebellions which finally saw the dynasty overthrown in 1911. Republican

leader Sun Yat-sen declared: "To restore the Chinese nation, we must drive the barbarian Manchus back to the Changbai Mountains," their ancestral homeland. Many remaining Manchus hid their language, a trend which intensified under Communist leader Mao Zedong, who launched campaigns to eradicate foreign and traditional culture.

At the height of Maoism, "No one spoke the language," recalled Ji. "It was a time of destroying old culture. Who would dare?" Political controls relaxed in the 1980s following Mao's death, and Yang Yuan, an ethnic Manchu historian in Beijing, said: "Manchu consciousness has started re-emerging, and now it's getting stronger and stronger." Several universities currently offer Manchu courses, and enthusiasts in major cities have formed clubs to study it. China has launched a massive project to translate Qing documents into mod-

### 'Our English is better'

Sanjiazi is "more of symbolic value as the last bastion of Manchu speakers," Elliot said. "If the effort is to revive Manchu in a way that it would be used in everyday life, I don't see much chance of success." Teacher Shi admitted that his charges only have "some understanding" of the language. Internet savvy young people have little use for it and dream of leaving the remote settlement. Outside school, a group of blue-uniformed children struggled to remember the Manchu word for "goodbye", one adding in Chinese: "To be honest, our English is better."

One of the few mother-tongue speakers, Meng Xianren, 85, recalled a poverty-stricken youth punctuated by traditional Manchu pursuits, such as rabbit hunting using trained eagles. He repeated a Manchu phrase meaning "where are you from?" to 14-year-old Li Kechao, who hovered in his doorway. She did her best to parrot



Students of the Sanjiazi Manchu school during a class in Sanjiazi village.



A student of the Sanjiazi Manchu school writing Manchu during a class in Sanjiazi village.

ern Chinese, an effort aimed at promoting a view of the dynasty as essentially Chinese. But the language is also studied by academics abroad, including many in Japan and the US.

Last year overseas historians were branded "splittists" whose work "endangers Chinese unity" in the official journal of the state-run Chinese Academy for Social Sciences, in a sign of official fears over Qing history. But Harvard University professor Mark Elliott said that teaching Manchu was considered less of a threat by the ruling party than Tibetan or the language of the mainly Muslim Uighur minority, as China's northeastern provinces were now "so firmly welded" into the country that accusations of separatism were implausible. "That makes Manchu a little bit safer," he added.