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## ALEPPO REELS FROM DEADLY AIR STRIKES, DOZENS KILLED

SYRIAN TROOPS ADVANCE • WATER CUT OFF ACROSS CITY



Min 25°  
Max 43°  
High Tide  
05:07 & 20:22  
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13:16

### OCA SETS UP 5 NEW OFFICES AS ROW RUMBLES

**DANANG, Vietnam:** The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has decided to set up five new sub offices to enable it to function effectively while the row with the Kuwait government continues over its headquarters in the state. Kuwait was suspended by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Oct 2015 after the government was accused of interference in its national Olympic Committee, which has subsequently been dissolved. A month later, the long-term agreement for the OCA to have its headquarters in Kuwait City was unilaterally torn up by the government.

The OCA Executive Board met yesterday and decided to set up regional offices in Bangkok, Almaty, Delhi and Nansha, China as well as in Lausanne, Switzerland, the home of the IOC. "We are committed to not only continuing with our services but to improve them further," OCA Director General Husain Al-Musallam said in a statement. "We hope for the (Kuwait) government to finalize what is the direction. (They) terminated the diplomatic agreement in November last year and we are looking forward to finalizing all the related issues officially with them. But now, with these five offices, plus Lausanne, the OCA and the Asian Games is well protected."

Continued on Page 13



ALEPPO: Syrians receive treatment at a makeshift hospital following air strikes on the rebel-held eastern areas of this city yesterday. — AFP

**BEIRUT:** The Syrian army and militia allies seized ground north of Aleppo yesterday, tightening a siege of the city's rebel-held east while warplanes bombed it relentlessly in a Russian-backed offensive that has left Washington's Syria policy in tatters. The capture of Handarat, a Palestinian refugee camp a few kilometers north of Aleppo, marked the first major ground advance of the offensive, which the government announced on Thursday. The camp, on elevated ground overlooking one of the main roads into Aleppo, had been in rebel hands for years.

"Handarat has fallen," an official with one of the main Aleppo rebel groups told Reuters. An army statement confirming the advance said "large numbers of terrorists" had been killed. The assault on Aleppo, where more than 250,000 civilians are trapped in a besieged opposition sector, could be the biggest battle yet in a civil war that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and driven 11 million from their homes.

Two weeks after Moscow and Washington announced a ceasefire, President Bashar Al-Assad and his Russian and Iranian allies appear to have launched a campaign for a decisive battlefield victory that has buried any hope for diplomacy. Dozens of people have been reported killed in eastern Aleppo since the army announced the new offensive. US Secretary of State John Kerry, who hammered out the truce over the course of months of intensive diplomacy, was left this week pleading in vain this week with Russia to halt air strikes.

Residents say air strikes on eastern Aleppo have been more intense than ever, using more powerful bombs. Rebel officials said heavy air strikes yesterday hit at least four areas of the opposition-held east, and they believe the strikes are mostly being carried out by Russian warplanes.

Continued on Page 13

## SHRIMPY SPECIAL COMBO



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# KUWAIT'S OIL DEVELOPMENT WILL FEATURE IN BAHRAIN'S EVENT



Kuwait Petroleum Corporation Chief Executive Officer Nezar Al-Adsani.

**KUWAIT:** The Kuwaiti oil authorities and corporations will be represented with a high-profile delegation at the 10th Middle East Refining and Petrochemicals Conference and Exhibition (Middle East Petrotech 2016) in Bahrain. The conference will be held from September 26th to the 29th. Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said in a statement publicized yesterday that it has completed preparations for the event, which it will sponsor along with its subsidiary companies. Bakhit Al-Rashidi, the KPC Chief Executive Officer (CEO) will chair the convention.

The KPC will also take part in an exhibition on the event sidelines, dis-

playing Kuwait's experience in crude production and refining. KPC CEO Nezar Al-Adsani will address the conference with a working paper on the impact of economic recession on oil manufacturing industries.

Al-Adsani's speech will also tackle vital role of the industries, education and governance with emphasis on KPC's strategy due by 2040 as well as the corporation means of coping with current economic changes. KPC participation in the Bahrain conference will contribute to promoting the State of Kuwait as a leading oil producing and exporting country at the global level.

Moreover, KPC leaders will address

the conferees about the Corporation's strategic projects, namely the environmentally-friendly fuel venture, Al-Zor refinery along with other major developments in the refining and petrochemicals sector. Furthermore, representatives of the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), a main subsidiary of the KPC, will present documents and a lecture about its current and future activities. The industry thought leaders will discuss the sector outlook in general and review technological advancements at the largest gathering of downstream oil & gas professionals in the Middle East. The event is expected to attract over 3,500 attendees over four days. —KUNA



## DAR AL ATHAR AL ISLAMIYYAH: A BRIGHT CULTURAL IMAGE OF KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah has played a distinctive role in the perseverance of monuments and formed an incubator on the global level where its activities have extended to include a variety of cultural aspects forming a mosaic painting decorating the Kuwaiti cultural aspect.

Founded in 1983, Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah has taken a distinctive role in the preservation of artifacts and antiquities and adopted various artistic and cultural events includ-

ing exhibitions of art and architecture, specialized seminars, musical evenings and concerts from around the world. And as an institution concerned with artifacts and monuments comprised by (Al-Sabah Archaeological Group), the Dar has made a civilized, humane and cultural legacy as a reference for future generations, a link to the past and a catalogue of humanity's cultural creations produced over the centuries.

The Dar has been keen to collect monuments and

antiques for more than three decades that trace back to Islam's historical era. Much of this preservation is thanks to the special attention provided by Minister of Amiri Diwan Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and the strenuous efforts of the General Supervisor of the Dar Sheikh Husa Sabah Al-Salem Al-Sabah. The two began in the mid-seventies of the last century, acquiring a collection of esteemed monuments crafted by human hands since immemorial time forming the first seed to set up the Dar where it was inaugurated at the Kuwait National Museum complex in 1983.

The Dar has also played a large and important role in the revival of heritage and ancient crafts, where it established in the eighties and nineties an arts center run by professional specialists, through which technical courses in the various art of ceramics, clay, painting, decoration and fabric as well as the restoration of monuments and artifacts were held.

The Dar has faced a number of difficulties and has been able to overcome, thanks to the determination and proper planning and execution especially during the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait in 1990, which destroyed the cultural infrastructure in addition to the looting of archaeological objects.

After liberation, and according to the United Nations resolution to get back looted Kuwaiti properties, Kuwait had succeeded in restoring several antiques that had been damaged, prompting the Dar to work with all determination and defiance of the conditions on restoring Kuwaiti cultural life where a program for the restoration of antiques and rehabilitation of the Kuwait National Museum building had been set.

In this regard, general supervisor of the Dar Sheikh Husa Sabah Al-Sabah said in an interview with Kuwait News Agency that the cultural role played by the Dar includes everything that has to deal with culture in the country. She added that the most important objectives of the Dar is the spread of archaeological, cultural and humanitarian awareness and encourages those interested in learning about different ages of Islam and show creations of the civilization of Muslim countries. —KUNA



Local spotlight

### CHILD REFUGEES



By Muna Al-Fuzai

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**W**hile the world's children began a new school year, nearly 15 million children remain without access to school and regular education or any possibility to acquire a basic education -these are Syrian child refugees. UN reports for 2015 indicated that the number of refugees totals 65 million people, and is expected to increase. Children form the greatest number of refugees. Today, about 50 million children do not have access to regular education due to the ongoing war in Syria and crises plaguing Africa. It is really sad.

Several countries, such as Turkey and Lebanon for example, have received the largest number of refugees in the world. In Turkey, according to estimates, there are 2.5 million Syrian refugees. It's natural that such a figure would constitute a significant burden on the state's resources. The refugees may engage in crime because of ignorance of laws, idleness and the need for money. The absence of immediate solutions to crises, especially the conflict in Syria, can prolong the hard times for these people, and children will grow up in difficult humanitarian conditions.

Before the beginning of the war in Syria, the school enrollment ratio there exceeded 90 percent. Education was not spared by the war, with kids fleeing with their parents, while those who remain in Syria cannot continue their education. It is a dangerous situation.

Ignorance is another problem of the asylum crisis, along with the loss of refugees' homes and alienation. This ignorance doesn't allow these refugees to assist in the development of their host states. A model effort by Lebanon to educate Syrian refugee kids is unique, but it is not enough, with the increasing numbers of child refugees. It seems this issue is not receiving enough attention and the UN is maybe not doing enough to make the governments aware of the consequences of such a matter on their childhood and future. I am a media person, but read about this issue by coincidence, so I guess not many fully understand the importance of this issue and possible implications.

I only read about this issue when I saw a report about UNESCO signing an agreement in collaboration with the University of Yarmouk in Jordan to finance a program for the education of Syrian refugees worth \$500,000, funded by Kuwait. The agreement provides rehabilitation and education of 200 young Syrian refugees to help them obtain diplomas and bachelor's degrees. It is a small number, but every country should exert similar efforts.

A lack of education creates a generation that cannot integrate into the host community of nations and will constitute a burden, because these children will grow up and live as refugees. This generation will be formed by refugee children who did not acquire an education, who can fall victims to the lure of terrorist organizations and crime. With all the mess of IS in the Middle East, it is not hard to imagine how easy it could be for uneducated kids and youth to be used to create chaos.

It is wrong to deal with the issue of refugees' education as a temporary situation that is expected to be resolved soon, because many years have passed since the Syrian crisis started, and so far international efforts do not seem firm or able to stop the rivers of blood there. I know some efforts are being made, but we still need more, and on top is awareness of communities that there are a lot of Syrian children out of school. We are about to lose an entire generation. This is a great tragedy and a threat to the world.



Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Essa.

### EDUCATION MINISTER HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED OF KNOWLEDGEABLE STUDENTS

**KUWAIT:** It is imperative for students to hone their skills and acquire much needed know-how, Minister of Education and Minister of Higher Education Dr Bader Al-Essa said yesterday. In a speech to mark the start of the new school year which begins today, Al-Essa said that the Ministry of Education is fully prepared to welcome students, adding that ensuring an environment conducive to learning is of paramount significance. Moreover, he spoke on the need of an education that would contribute to economic and social growth, and one that would mold and create knowledgeable and adept citizens. The Minister of Education also described education as a tool that promotes such virtues as forgiveness and benevolence. —KUNA

### PAAAFR TO WORK ON 5 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

**KUWAIT:** The Public Authority for Agricultural Affairs and Fish Resources (PAAAFR) announced the implementation of five development projects in collaboration with the National Fund for Small and Medium Enterprise Development. Deputy Director General of PAAF Eng Faisal Al-Sadiqqi told KUNA yesterday that these projects are related to food security, setting up laws to support the National Fund, the establishment and management of plants nurseries, broiler chickens and fish and shrimp farming. Al-Sadiqqi pointed out that these projects will serve the agricultural sector in the county, which will, in return, help giving the best services to the public. —KUNA

## CONDOLENCES

Kuwait Times Editor-in-Chief  
Abd Al-Rahman Al-Alyan,  
management and staff  
convey their deepest condolences to

**Saheb Khaja**

on the sad demise of his  
father

**Saleh Hussein Ali Khaja**

*May Allah Almighty bestow His mercy on him*



## AL-SHATTI: EGOV4 DISCUSSES THE ASPECTS OF E-SERVICES DEVELOPMENT LIFECYCLE

**KUWAIT:** Eng Qussai Ibrahim Al-Shatti, the Acting General Manager of the Central Agency for Information Technology (CAIT), announced yesterday that he is pleased with the unprecedented participation of many global technology vendors in EGOV4. Al-Shatti commented by saying, "Year over year, EGOV4 is attracting more global technology vendors and experts. These are keen to benefit from the networking opportunity with all IT government departments responsible for Kuwait's E-Government program and participate in the exciting



Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Sabah



Qussai Ibrahim Al-Shatti

technology topics that will be discussed. EGOV4 will focus on electronic services as the main outcome of e-government programs. We are overwhelmed by the support and patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah for the 4th consecutive year. His Highness will be represented by His Excellency Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Chairman of the Board of CAIT during the opening ceremony."

Al-Shatti added, "We highly value the continuous support of His Excellency Sheikh Mubarak Al-Abdallah. His guidance helps us align our plans to best fit the government's vision & development programs. As well, we highly value our

partner's efforts, NoufEXPO, that has been organizing EGOV forums according to the best world-class industry practices. Their professional attitude led by NoufEXPO General Manager, Mr. Yousef Khaled Al-Marzouq, helped us position EGOV as the leading technology event awaited by many global technology leaders, thus providing genuine support for CAIT's e-government efforts."

Commenting on the e-Services Excellence Award that CAIT is launching, Al-Shatti said, "All terms and conditions related to participation and evaluation of this Award have been set and finalized. We have actually started evaluating various Government-to-Citizen (G2C) electronic services deployed on Kuwait's Government Online portal ([www.e.gov.kw](http://www.e.gov.kw)). The results of this competition will be announced during the opening ceremony of EGOV4 scheduled to commence at 18:30 on Sunday November 27th, 2016. The results of this annual competition will be announced during the E-Government Forum of each year. CAIT urges all government agencies to benefit from the momentum that the Award will create. A CAIT special committee is available and ready to guide all government IT departments through the participation process."

Commenting on the accelerated technology trends and innovations, the Acting General Manager of CAIT said, "We, in Kuwait, are destined to pursue the route of technology development that paves the way for sustainable growth of our country. We need to stay in touch with a changing world driven by many technology phenomena like mobility, cloud computing, big data analytics, and social. IoT, the Internet for Things, is adding to the complexity as well as to the opportunities. IoT is compelling all to rethink their computing strategies, platforms, and applications' portfolios. The capabilities made possible by connecting everything open the door wide for unprecedented implementations. Our computing platforms, business processes, and human resources require a serious overhaul to stand up for the challenge. EGOV4 will provide us with invaluable insights to explore our options for the future."

Al-Shatti concluded his statement by saying, "We are pleased to welcome many technology giants during EGOV4 like Microsoft, IBM, EMC, CISCO, and many others. This year, we are pleased to have been joined by Symantec, the global IT Security vendor. Global, regional, and local IT vendors are all invited to make use of EGOV4 and its accompanying exhibition as a genuine business development venue. Interested IT vendors may confirm their participation by contacting NoufEXPO or the Scientific Committee on +965 22469921 or via email [info@noufexpo.com.kw](mailto:info@noufexpo.com.kw)."



Senior Managers attending Town Hall meeting on diversity.

## ALGHANIM INDUSTRIES HOSTS SENIOR-LEVEL TOWN HALL MEETING ON GENDER DIVERSITY

**KUWAIT:** Fostering a work environment that ensures equal opportunities and supports gender diversity is a top priority of Alghanim Industries, CEO Omar Kutayba Alghanim told senior managers at a company-hosted Town Hall last week. From a regional standpoint, he noted, the Middle East has four times the gender gap in comparison to North America. A call-to-action is needed, Omar Alghanim stated. "This is a regional challenge and we are part of this region," he said. "It is our responsibility to take a progressive stand and be agents of change." Gender diversity also makes good business sense, Omar Alghanim added.

"Studies consistently show that companies with more women among senior management outperform companies that don't," he said. "Within our company, I've seen mixed-gender teams offer perspectives that we would have never considered had the room been filled with only men." The company can — and must — do better when it comes to recruiting, retaining and promoting women, Omar Alghanim summed: "We need more women in our workplace, and more, specifically, in decision making roles." The Town Hall, held at the JW Marriott in downtown Kuwait, was attended by all Kuwait-based managers — more than 300 people in all. The event was organized by the company's Human Resources department, and included a review of female-friendly initiatives that have been implemented since the beginning of the year. Among the highlights: a new maternity policy, which increases company-paid time off for women from 70 days, as required by Kuwait labor laws, to a full three months (90 days). The policy applies to women who work for Kuwait and United Arab Emirates-based businesses.

The meeting also showcased the results of a nationwide survey, conducted by Alghanim Industries in February (2016), that illuminated



Omar Alghanim opening the Alghanim Industries Town Hall.

many issues associated with women in the Kuwaiti workplace. This survey — the first of its kind in Kuwait-generated results from more than 2,000 female respondents. Town Hall participants also reviewed and discussed feedback from focus groups held earlier this year with female employees across the company's various businesses and functions. In these focus groups, women provided their candid thoughts, suggestions and critiques directly to senior management.

The Town Hall concluded with a Q&A session with Omar Alghanim and the senior management team. This forum resulted in a series of spirited exchanges among and between top executives, further affirming and reflecting the company's straight-talking value chain.

Chief Human Resources Officer George Lambros, commenting on the event, said:

"Holding this Town Hall session with our top 300 managers emphasizes Alghanim Industries' commitment to diversity and inclusion. It also served to highlight issues and challenges involved in achieving our diversity objectives; in addition, we shared ideas and actions that can be implemented in the coming months. All told, this was a very significant - and successful - event."

Lambros further noted that attendees were highly engaged throughout the session, which he also found encouraging. "I look forward to making substantial progress in this critical area," he said. In addition to gender diversity, Alghanim Industries is also striving towards greater Kuwaitization, and thusly is also focused on recruiting the best Kuwaiti talent, women as well as men.



## KFH ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF BANKING CARDS CAMPAIGN

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Finance House (KFH) announced 7 winners of the Tenth draw of the new banking cards campaign themed "Use KFH Cards and You May Win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz SUV's and Cash Prizes up to \$200000" in an attempt to encourage clients to use KFH credit, prepaid and debit cards while making purchases in Kuwait and overseas. The winners are: Nora Mubarak - Motlek Al Otaibi - Hesa Al-Hajji - Badr Al Khaldi - Amthal Al-Sayer - Tomader Saleh - Wasmeeh Mubarak.

For every KD 10 spent on their KFH cards, clients will gain a chance to enter a draw and win up to 2 Mercedes-Benz cars and a chance to win the value of their purchases up to \$2000 daily for 100 days ending October 11th 2016. It is worth noting that KFH Credit and Prepaid cards used in domestic and international purchases and KFH Debit cards used in international purchases are eligible for the daily draw.

Moreover, clients will gain the chance to enter 2 draws to win 2 Mercedes-Benz cars. The first draw will be for the first car Mercedes Benz GLE 400. This draw will be held after 50 days of the launch for purchasing transactions conducted from day 1 to day 50, while the second draw will be for the second car Mercedes Benz GLE 450

Coupe, and will be held after 100 days of the launch for purchasing conducted from day 51 to day 100 of the campaign.

KFH strives to continuously offer its clients new promotions and discounts in order to distinguish them among peers, not to mention to further bolster the bank's pioneering position in the field of banking cards. KFH marketing campaigns play a significant role in underlining KFH's principles that include boosting sales, while benefitting clients and merchants.

This new campaign is part of KFH's efforts to reward its clients and grant them additional value; thus achieving customer satisfaction and boosting their confidence. The campaign also aims at enhancing the bank's presence, especially that it dominates the largest market share in the field of banking cards.

KFH has won several awards in the field of banking cards which reiterates its success and efficiency in banking cards market. KFH enjoys high confidence and leadership in the market in addition to high quality products which have enabled it to achieve growth in cards market and increase the number of customers. KFH occupies the leading position as the issuer of banking cards and one of leading banks at the GCC level.

## PAAET MAKES PROGRESS TO BETTER SERVE SOCIETY

**KUWAIT:** The Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) has made headway in recent years to develop its curriculum to better cater to the needs of the job market, its Director General Ahmad Al-Athari said yesterday. More than 50 of PAAET's academic programs have been internationally recognized, in addition to three of its technological studies departments, Al-Athari said in a statement to the press.

Moreover, he noted that PAAET has recently earned its 18th academic license in its Energy Studies Institute, adding that courses on communication and construction training will soon follow suit. Speaking on some endeavors undertaken by PAAET, Al-Athari said that the authority has forged agreements for cooperation with Arab Open University (AOU) and Kuwait University (KU) in efforts to contribute to the job market. He also noted that PAAET would soon hold a conference on the use of information technologies, entitled, "Global Heading". PAAET's Director General also underscored the need to eliminate any impediments faced by students. —KUNA



Within its communal activities, The National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) recently organized a blood donation campaign for bank employees who responded and flocked to the blood bank to donate blood.



Within its communal activities and on the occasion of commencing the new school year, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) recently distributed special gifts for school students in Hawalli governorate schools, which included some stationery for 500 primary stage pupils, said CBK's assistant manager for PR and advertising, Amani Al-Wer'.





15-year-old Cartoonist Zakia Al-Mahdi



From left: Yousif Al-Mahdi (father), Zakia, Dr.Huda Al-Mahdi (mother), Nawaf Al-Mahdi (brother) and Faris Al-Mahdi (brother).

# Young artist Zakia Al-Mahdi showcases her talents

By Athoob Al Mahdi

A 15-year-old Kuwaiti girl is the youngest cartoonist at Kuwait's first International Caricature Forum, director of the forum and artist Jamal Al-Lahu said at a press conference. Zakia Al-Mahdi, a tenth grader whose caricatures are among those displayed by over 200 cartoonists from around the world, was recognized by a number of veteran artists in Kuwait.

Becoming an artist is no longer an individual task. Today, the art industry requires joint recognition from specialists, the community and the media, something Zakia achieved very quickly and made it this far. The honor she's been given needs to be followed up by taking the responsibility to maintain it through self-development and producing more art. "I don't see myself as an artist. I'm still discovering things through trial and error. The title came to me from people I highly respect, which makes me honored," Zakia told Kuwait Times.

Her family undoubtedly plays a major supporting role. "She's the only girl among two brothers, and she used to draw on almost everything!" said Dr Huda Al-Mahdi, Zakia's mother. "It annoyed me a little, but I never stopped her from ruining wallpapers, blankets and pillows, as I kept on telling myself that maybe one day, she would grow up and thank me for this. Here I see the fruit of my patience. We've noticed her talent since she was three years old. Her talent is rooted in the family and it wasn't so surprising," said Zakia's mom.

In fact, many children at this age have the gift of drawing and innovative thinking. However, not every parent can understand this and give it more attention. "What encouraged us to take her talent seriously was her self-motivation and dedication to learn and practice by herself. Zakia is

self-taught, and because of her dedication in building her drawing skills, we agreed to provide her all the tools she needed no matter the cost. She even encouraged me to take up drawing again," added Zakia's mother.

The young artist did not neglect the great role of her school teachers, who also encouraged her. "Ms Sara Abdulraheem is my spiritual mother. She's been by my side since the beginning. Also, I will not forget my other instructors whom I owe a lot to - the head of the art department at my school Ms Jawaher Al-Muhanna, Ms Lamia Shaaban and Mr Ali Awadh. One of my teachers, Jumana Al-Obaidi, involved me in a local short film which has won an award," said Zakia.

"I don't only draw caricatures, I make satirical short films as well, and you can check my films at @koki\_yousif on Instagram. Beside this account, I use my personal account @koki\_almahdi to post some of my drawings," Zakia added. "I've participated in many school exhibitions, but with the help of my teacher Ms Sara, I held my first solo exhibition

outside the school environment, which was a personal turning point. The exhibition was seen by several veterans and well-known artists like Sami Mohammed and Bader bin Ghaith. The latter invited me to take part in Mohammed's ninth art forum. Bin Ghaith also contacted my father to take his permission to let me participate in the Kuwait International Caricature Forum. I'm so excited!" exclaimed Zakia.

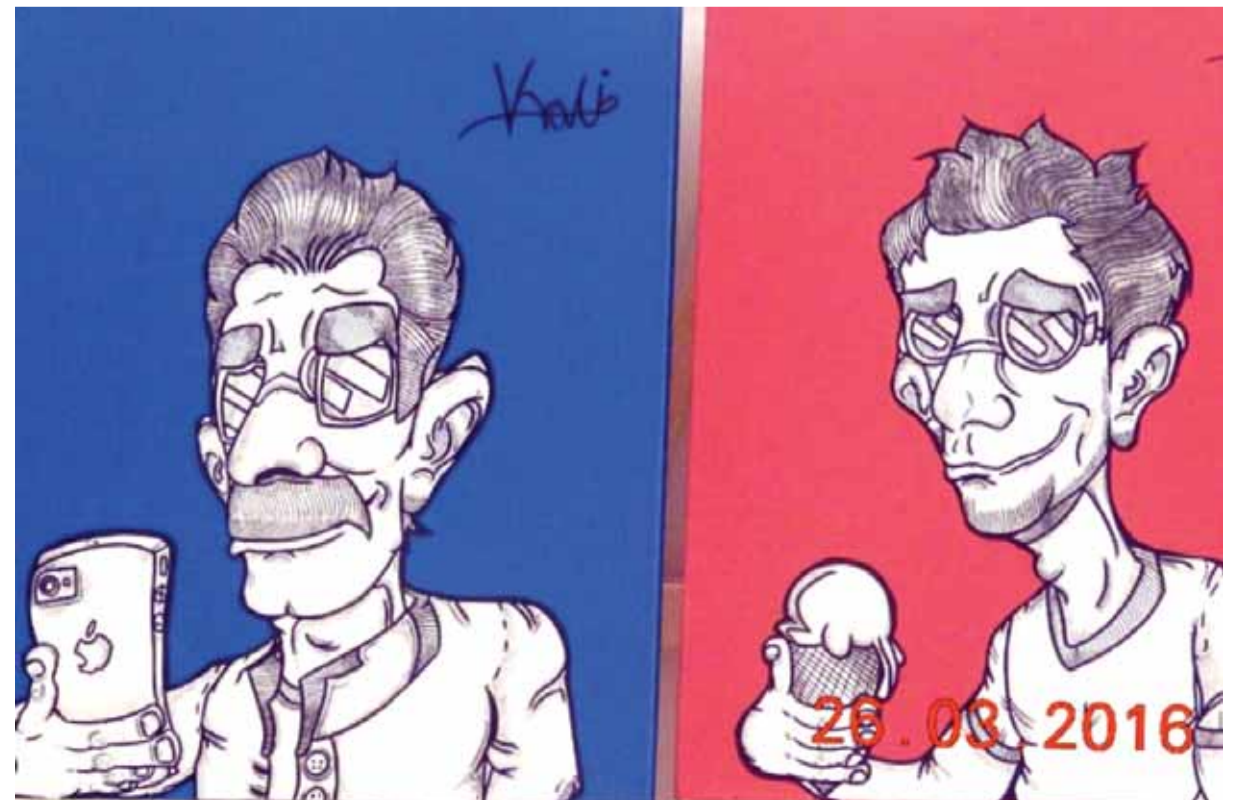
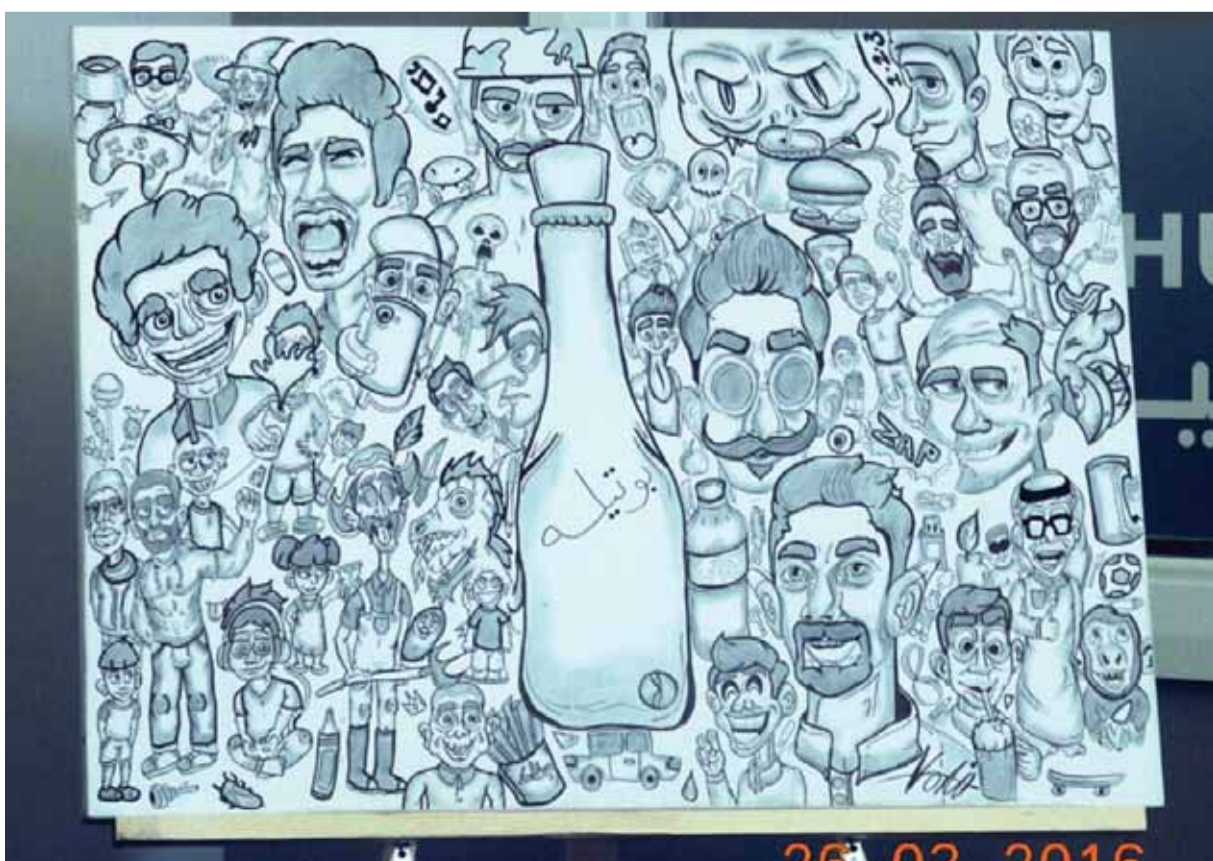
Everything is evolving around us, and our children are abreast of these evolutions, and it is worth paying attention to what they say and do and learn from them. Dr Huda, Zakia's mother, advises parents, particularly mothers, to take what they're saying seriously. "We didn't learn to think outside the box - our children taught us this. They shouldn't be too concerned whether the child can reconcile between studies and hobbies. If the children are serious, they will gradually balance between the two with our assistance. Most importantly, if you don't sense a passion, don't force one on them."



Zakia caricature

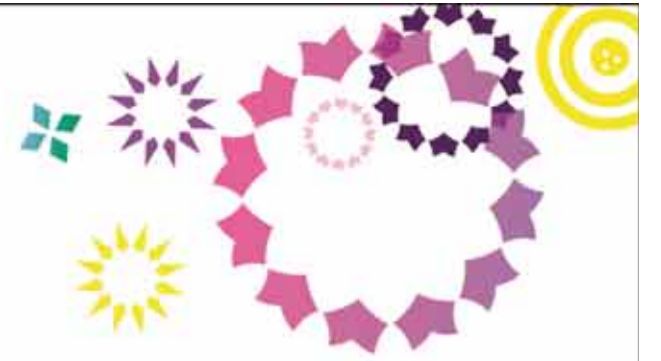


The young artist at the exhibition along with veteran artists Sami Mohammed and others.



Cartoons by the artist





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### DANGEROUS CHEMICAL TRUCK ACCIDENT AT PORT

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** A truck loaded with sodium hydroxide overturned at the container docking area at Shuaiba port. Security sources said special teams were immediately dispatched to the scene, where they managed to control the situation without any casualties.



Basin of liquor

Eight Asians were arrested for running a liquor brewery in Nuzha. Detectives found 600 bottles ready for sale and a large basin full of liquor.

#### Inspection campaign

During a major inspection campaign on Friday, Capital police arrested several suspects for drinking, brewing and trading in liquor, being wanted for criminal cases, residency violations, absconding, not holding IDs, peddling and traffic violations.

### Crime

report

### BROTHERS IN CRIME ESCAPE FROM COPS

**KUWAIT:** A search is on for two brothers involved in several robberies. Security sources noted that a police patrol saw the suspects, but they drove off when asked to stop. They were chased for 15 minutes before they pulled over and fled on foot, leaving the vehicle with drugs and 12 stolen smartphones inside.

#### Drunk in Hawally

Two citizens and an absconding Egyptian were arrested for being heavily drunk in Hawally, said district security sources.

#### Hawally party

A British man was arrested for drinking and disturbing the peace by hosting a very noisy party in his house in Hawally.

#### Charging son

A citizen handed over his son to Muabark Al-Kabeer detectives after he returned home under the influence of drugs. The suspect began charging at everybody and smashing the furniture.

#### Traffic accident

A citizen was seriously injured and rushed to Jahra Hospital's ICU with injuries he sustained in a traffic accident along Salmi highway.

#### Airport assault

A Jordanian was arrested on arrival at Kuwait International Airport after assaulting a police officer.

#### Caught with witchcraft

A citizen holding a PhD was arrested on returning from a European country with some witchcraft items.

—Al-Rai, Al-Anbaa



### IBTIKAR INITIATIVE SCIENCE COMPETITION ANNOUNCED

**KUWAIT:** Chairlady of the Al-Saad for Charity and Scientific Research, Sheikha Fadia Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah recently congratulated all education staffs on the beginning of the new school and academic year wishing them all a successful year of school ahead. Al-Saad also announced launching this year's Ibtikar Initiative's science competition for high and intermediate school girls in GCC public schools. On her part, Ibtikar's manager, Dr Fatima Al-Hashem said that registration for the competition was already open and urged all interested students to register their names.



Sheikha Fadia Saad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah



Dr Fatima Al-Hashem

### HEALTH RIGHTS COMMITTEE CALLS FOR HEALTH SAFETY, SERVICES CODE

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

**KUWAIT:** The head of the health rights committee at the Kuwait Society for Human Rights Dr Manal Bohaimed called for a comprehensive national code for vocational health safety and health services that matches working conditions and related international agreements on various working sites. Bohaimed added that KSHR will launch a national campaign jointly with government bodies, local and international organizations and private sector partners to boost health awareness on vocational health safety and prevention measures.

#### Secure husseiniyas

Capital Governor Lt Gen (Retd) Thabet Al-Muhanna hailed the preparations made by the interior ministry to secure husseiniyas during the upcoming month of Muharram. Speaking during a lengthy meeting with Capital security assistant director Col Nasser Al-Adwani, Muhanna stressed that securing places of worship requires huge efforts.

#### Farmer inspections

KFSD's acting assistant director for prevention affairs Brig Khaled Abdullah Fahd announced launching the work of a committee to remove violations in Suliabiya agricultural area. Fahad urged farmers to cooperate with the committee's inspectors for their own and their workers' safety.

#### Fighting IS

Board member of the Kuwait Public Relation Association Mohammed Al-Yaseen stressed the importance of combining all civil societies' efforts in setting executable plans to fight IS online and all extreme ideologies through awareness campaigns all year long. Hailing the role played by the minister of information and minister of state for youth affairs, Yaseen also called for launching a special campaign to enhance national identity and patriotism.

#### Sugar claims false

The ministry of commerce and industry announced that lab tests conducted on random specimens of sugar provided by the Supplies Company proved it to be clear of any alien objects or health hazards. Speaking at a press conference, ministry officials strongly refuted social media stories about the presence of foreign material in the sugar and stressed that lab tests proved the sugar safe for human consumption.

#### Zalzalah files inquiry

Head of the parliamentary priorities committee Yousef Al-Zalzalah filed an inquiry addressing deputy PM and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled concerning reports about Kuwait's delegation remaining in the hall while the Zionist entity's (Israel) speech was being delivered before the UN assembly. Zalzalah also inquired about any joint intelligence activities between Kuwait and the Zionist entity's government.

### KUWAIT OIL PRICE DOWN 28 CENTS

**KUWAIT:** Price of Kuwaiti crude oil went down 28 cents to USD 41.02 per barrel on Friday after it was at USD 41.30 pb the day before, said Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) yesterday. In international markets, the oil price also went down due to indications that major exporters would not reach a consensus on setting an output ceiling during next week, in addition to reports indicating the US would record highest rise in a number of drilling rigs since collapse of the crude oil prices two years ago. Meanwhile, price of the Brent Blend moved down upon settlement by USD 1.76 to USD 45.89 pb. West Texas crude oil also dropped USD 1.84 to USD 44.48 pb. —KUNA

### BACK TO THE FUTURE

By Yousif Abdullah Al-Enezi

**L**ike all other Kuwaitis, I feel sad reading an article talking negatively about Kuwait and the general situations that have never been worse throughout its history, and unfortunately, find much of what the article mentions are true and painful facts. I then start exclaiming why we are deteriorating so quickly? Why are other countries leaping forward so fast while we are dashing backwards? Exclamations then get worse on thinking who is responsible for this - citizens, lawmakers or the government, with all its bodies and establishments. Why is that whenever we talk about corruption, it falls on the government's and various senior officials' deaf ears? Why hurt Kuwait and its people so much? Why do they refrain from making decisions that can help Kuwait bridge the gap and go back to that beautiful 'future' when Kuwait used to take the lead in all fields including literature, art, culture, sport, democracy, parliamentary life and leading diplomacy?

Citizens are wholeheartedly shouting they do not want any development, economic reforms, new airport, new university or projects that have become like Ali Baba's cave that turned us into one category of people owning everything and a majority that has nothing, while the middle class is shrinking. They shout that they do not want road maintenance or filling of potholes, because they have got used to them. Our hospitals have plunged to very drastic levels. It is also painful to see that leading positions or councils' membership have turned into means to get richer and join the elite wealthy club. Can anyone take us back to our beautiful future?!

During such a critical regional situation when missiles and bombs are filling skies, our country is going through unusual situations where corruption is so prevalent that it needs a real decisive stand to stop. When our infrastructure is eroding despite loud criticism that sometimes goes beyond redlines, which however failed to get the government, the parliament or the municipal council (if it even exists) to act. It is as if things do not matter to them. Is this out of stubbornness or out of taking Kuwait and its people lightly?

Al-Qabas daily recently published a very shocking survey, showing that 125,000 Kuwaiti families are suffering from financial problems. This number is likely to increase. So, all fellow writers and columnists - kindly unite for Kuwait of the past, present and future. Unite to put Kuwait back on track, leading regional development. We can do it for the sake of a Kuwait where people can equally enjoy its wealth because we have enough and Kuwait belongs to us all, not to certain people or categories.

—Translated by Kuwait Times

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**CORBYN RE-ELECTED UK LABOUR LEADER**

VICTOR SEES OFF STIFF CHALLENGE, CALLS FOR UNITY

**LIVERPOOL:** Left-winger Jeremy Corbyn was re-elected British Labour leader yesterday, seeing off a challenge from MPs but leaving the opposition party split as critics said it was even further from power than before. Supporters in Liverpool, northwest England, leapt to their feet cheering as the 67-year-old was confirmed winner with 61.8 percent of the vote among party members and supporters, easily defeating rival MP Owen Smith.

In his acceptance speech, Corbyn urged unity, pledging to "wipe the slate clean" after accusations of bullying by supporters and fears of an irreparable breach between left-wingers and centrists. "We have much more in common than that which divides us. As far as I'm concerned, let's wipe that slate clean from today and get on with the work we've got to do as a party together," he said. Corbyn increased his vote share from the 59.5 percent he received on his initial election last year, when he put an anti-austerity, anti-nuclear agenda at the forefront of British politics for the first time in a generation.

His commanding victory is a major blow to Labour MPs who rebelled against him after June's Brexit vote, many of them moderates who believe his socialist views will never be accepted by most voters. Corbyn was accused of lackluster campaigning for Britain staying in the European Union, and many now fear he cannot provide the necessary opposition as Prime Minister Theresa May's Conservatives negotiate the terms of withdrawal.

Corbyn claims he has energized many people who felt left behind by mainstream politics, drawing comparisons with anti-establishment movements across Europe like Greece's Syriza. Labour's membership now stands at 650,000, up from just 200,000 18 months ago, which Corbyn says will eventually drive the party to power. But analysts note Labour is lagging far behind the Tories in the polls and Corbyn's personal approval ratings are at rock bottom. "Labour is not going to win any elections in the near future," said Anand Menon, professor of European politics at Kings College London.

**Messianic Appeal**

Speaking shortly before the result, home affairs spokesman Andy Burnham said Labour's "war of attrition" must now stop but urged Corbyn to build support among the public, not just party activists. "We cannot measure our success by the size of the membership or indeed the size of the rallies that we are holding," he told BBC radio. Corbyn has an almost messianic appeal among his supporters, including in the 18,000-strong campaign group Momentum.

Opponents accuse Momentum of trying to infiltrate the party with far-left activists and say its members have bullied Corbyn opponents. At a Momentum event near the party conference in Liverpool, jubilant activists greeted news of the leadership result with cheers and chants of "Corbyn! Corbyn! Corbyn!"

"Every time they challenge him, he will only get more support, because he is telling the truth," said Dee Coombes, 68. But former Labour foreign secretary David Miliband, a centrist narrowly beaten to the party leadership by his brother Ed in 2010, wrote in

the New Statesman magazine this week: "We have not been further from power since the 1930s."

**Row Over Top Team**

More than 40 MPs resigned from Corbyn's shadow cabinet in the rebellion earlier this year and while reports suggest a dozen may return, many prominent figures are likely to stay away. Corbyn ally and finance spokesman John McDonnell said those who did not want to serve "formally" could "take a lead on issues on the backbenches". In a key test of what lies ahead, the party executive was to discuss later yesterday a proposal to give Labour lawmakers a vote on members of the shadow cabinet, a move that the leadership is resisting.

MPs will also be pressing for greater assurances that Corbyn's supporters will now not try to deselect those of them who have been hostile to his leadership. Few of Corbyn's critics were present to watch him crowned once again. "I voted for Owen Smith," said former Labour foreign secretary Margaret Beckett, looking bleak. — AFP



LIVERPOOL: British opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn (center) waves following his speech after being announced as the winner of the party's leadership contest at the Labour Party Leadership Conference yesterday. — AFP

**NEW YORK TIMES ENDORSES CLINTON FOR PRESIDENT**

**WASHINGTON:** The New York Times endorsed Democrat Hillary Clinton for the White House on Saturday, saying she was more qualified than Republican presidential rival Donald Trump to handle the challenges facing the United States. The newspaper described Clinton as "one of the most tenacious politicians of her generation" and said she had displayed a command of policy and diplomatic nuance while building a reputation for grit and bipartisan cooperation.

"A lifetime's commitment to solving problems in the real world qualifies Hillary Clinton for this job, and the country should put her to work," the Times said of the former secretary of state and U.S. senator from New York. Clinton will face off against Trump on Monday night in the first of three presidential debates, with opinion polls showing her once sizable lead over the New York businessman narrowing amid continued public doubts about her trustworthiness.

The Times said Clinton's mistakes had distorted perceptions of her character, but praised her work restoring US credibility in foreign affairs as secretary of state and on behalf of children, women and families throughout her career. "Mrs Clinton has shown herself to be a realist who believes America cannot simply withdraw behind oceans and walls, but must engage confidently in the world to protect its interests and be true to its values," the newspaper said.

It said Clinton's decision to use a private email server for government work as secretary of state deserved the scrutiny it has received in the campaign, but considered alongside the real challenges facing the United States it "looks like a matter for the help desk." — Reuters

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## FAMILY RELEASES SHOCKING VIDEO OF US SHOOTING

**CHARLOTTE, North Carolina:** The family of the African American man whose death has triggered days of unrest in Charlotte, has released dramatic video of the police shooting, raising pressure on authorities to make their own footage public. Police have refused to release body-cam and dash-cam video of Tuesday's shooting, which they say shows that Keith Lamont Scott posed a threat to officers. His death is the latest in a string of police-involved killings of black men that have fueled outrage across America.

North Carolina's governor declared a state of emergency in the southern US city after it was rocked by violence-marred protests. Several hundred demonstrators were out again for a fourth night on Friday calling for the release of the videos amid a greater presence of National Guard troops, but the atmosphere was calmer than during previous days. A curfew beginning at midnight (0400 GMT) went into effect for a second night, after protesters defied the order on Thursday.

Hundreds of demonstrators were also marching in the southern city of Atlanta in a protest calling for police reform organized by the NAACP, the black community's main civil rights organization. Charlotte's case has also touched the US presidential race, with Mayor Jennifer Roberts asking both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump to delay visits, citing "very stretched resources for security." Clinton tweeted that police should release the footage

"without delay".

President Barack Obama called for understanding as he celebrated the opening of the Smithsonian's African American museum in Washington this weekend. The museum "allows all of us as Americans to put our current circumstances in a historical context," the first black US president said.

### The Video

Scott was shot and killed at a Charlotte apartment complex during an encounter with police searching for another person wanted for arrest. Police say he had a handgun. His family says he was holding a book. The two-minute smartphone footage filmed by Rakeyia Scott and released by her lawyers does not show the shooting itself - and does not conclusively answer the question of whether he was armed - but captures the moments surrounding it as she pleads with officers not to open fire.

It is also unclear whether police, a short distance away, could hear her speaking to them and to her husband during the altercation. "Don't shoot him, he has no weapon!" she is heard saying. "He has a TBI, he's not going to do anything to you guys," she says, presumably referring to a traumatic brain injury. Neighbors said Scott, 43, was disabled and had a stutter. As Rakeyia Scott records, police are heard yelling "Drop the gun! Drop the gun!"

"Don't let them break the windows. Come on out the car," she shouts to her husband. Four quick gunshots are



**CHARLOTTE, North Carolina:** Protesters march yesterday following the shooting of Keith Lamont Scott by police three days earlier and subsequent unrest in the city. — AFP

heard, at which point the phone is pointing away from the shooting. Moments later, Scott is seen lying face down surrounded by officers. "Did you shoot him? Did you shoot him?" his wife screams.

### The Police Stance

Scott's family has viewed the police footage and is leading calls for it to be made public. Roberts, the mayor, told reporters the video should eventually be released - but that doing so too soon could interfere with the probe by lead-

ing witnesses to change their accounts. The police, too, say premature release of the video might interfere with a parallel state investigation. "If I were to put it out indiscriminately and it doesn't give you good context, it can inflame the situation," Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Chief Kerr Putney argued.

### 'Stay Strong'

Charlotte's handling of the case contrasts sharply with a similar police shooting last week involving an African American man in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

There, the video was released and the white officer involved charged with first-degree manslaughter. In Charlotte, the officer identified as having shot Scott is black. No gun is visible in the police video, which shows Scott stepping backward when he was shot, according to a family lawyer. "His hands are down by his side. He is acting calm," the lawyer, Justin Bamberg, told CNN. "You do see something in his hand, but it's impossible to make out from the video what it is."

A still image circulated on the day of the shooting appeared to show a gun on the ground near Scott's feet, but that image was taken after police tape was put up around the scene, while his wife's cell phone video during the incident showed no such object. Meanwhile protesters marched on the city's police headquarters, demanding release of the official video. Although many blocked traffic on a nearby interstate highway, the demonstrations were mainly peaceful. "The people tonight have expressed themselves in way that is positive beyond measure," protest leader Marcus Bass said through a megaphone. Cassandra Gould, a pastor from Ferguson, Missouri, where a black man was controversially killed in 2014 in an incident that triggered intense riots, addressed the crowd and urged protesters to keep pressuring the police department. "Stay strong, stay disciplined, stay in the streets," she said. "Why should you go home if you just keep burying black bodies?" — AFP

## WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL SOUGHT TO TRY ISLAMIC STATE DETAINEES

### NO GLOBAL BACKING FOR PROSECUTION

**WASHINGTON:** War crimes investigators collecting evidence of the Islamic State group's elaborate operation to kidnap thousands of women as sex slaves say they have a case to try IS leaders with crimes against humanity but cannot get the global backing to bring current detainees before an international tribunal.

Two years after the IS onslaught in northern Iraq, the investigators, as well as US diplomats, say the Obama administration has done little to pursue prosecution of the crimes that Secretary of State John Kerry has called genocide. Current and former State Department officials say that an attempt in late 2014 to have a legal finding of genocide was blocked by the Defense Department, setting back efforts to prosecute IS members suspected of committing war crimes.

"The West looks to the United States for leadership in the Middle East, and the focus of this administration has been elsewhere - in every respect," Bill Wiley, the head of the independent investigative group, the Commission for International Justice and Accountability, told AP.

Officials in Washington say that the Defense Department and ultimately the administration

to convert to Islam - to the waiting buses that would haul them by the dozens across the border to Raqqa. The Islamic State group's sharia courts soon stepped in, to settle contract disputes and ensure that its finance hierarchy got its cut of the sex slaves proceeds.

"You have members of IS who were engaged in ensuring that this system continued and that it functioned well," said Chris Engels, the American lawyer who is leading the commission's legal investigation. Without a legal documentation of their identities from the top down, many could "slide into refugee streams" and disappear.

### Accountability

Though there are at least dozens of Islamic State extremists in custody in Iraq, there have been no prosecutions for the crimes against humanity that the US - among many others - insist have taken place. On Tuesday, the Obama administration's envoy for the coalition to counter Islamic State, Brett McGurk, tweeted that he "pledged full accountability" for Islamic State crimes against the Yazidis, whom IS militants con-

specifics. "Our focus right now is on supporting the efforts of national authorities in Iraq to hold the perpetrators of Daesh's atrocities to account," Toner added, using an Arabic name for the extremist group.

Rapp and other critics say that the commission is the only organization that has built the kind of legal case necessary for a genuine tribunal, but the group said none of its work in Iraq is funded by the US. Neither the US nor Iraq is a party to the International Criminal Court in the Hague, which is a court of last resort when national judicial efforts have failed.

### Ready

The war crimes commission's file, painstakingly and often perilously gathered since 2014, is ready for a court that does not yet exist. The private organization has pored over hard drives, leaked documents, phone records and interviews with captured Islamic State fighters - in addition to monitoring the Islamic State group's own voluminous propaganda.

As head of the group, Wiley's frustration with coalition governments and well-meaning humanitarian NGOs is palpable. The goal is not to advocate, or make promises, but "transforming that evidence into criminal prosecution," he told the AP in a recent interview in his office, as he and his staff laid out the case against the extremists. The hope, they said, is to build an existing court in Erbil, the Iraqi Kurdish capital, into an internationally backed court for Islamic State defendants. "Through a scrupulously fair trial, you illustrate that these guys are not soldiers of Muhammad (PBUH)," Wiley said. "These are the leaders of a criminal syndicate."

But whether the courts of Iraqi Kurdistan, where most IS prisoners are kept, are ready for the complexities of international criminal law is an open question. US officials worry that backing a special court in Iraqi Kurdistan raises sticky questions of sovereignty with the Iraqi central government in Baghdad, which is suspicious of Kurdish independence efforts.

The war crimes commission is best known for collecting evidence against Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad but quietly branched out to document atrocities committed by IS and other extremist groups. The office, based in Europe, has changed cities four times since it was founded in 2012, and security is paramount: No sign on the door, no Wi-Fi, no website. In order to speak to the AP, they requested that their current location be withheld.

The commission has a staff of 20 in Iraq split into three teams, collecting court-ready evidence analyzed at the group's main offices. It says its legal file is the answer to multiple calls for Islamic State extremists to face justice beyond coalition airstrikes, which Wiley said is the sole focus of questioning. "The intelligence gathering is geared almost entirely toward targeting," he said. A Kurdish security official, speaking on condition of anonymity to release sensitive information, knew of dozens of detainees directly linked to Islamic State militants. At least some, Wiley said, could be prosecuted as soon as a court could be up and running.

But the Kurdish government is bankrupt and riven by internal struggles. The Erbil-based Ministry of Martyrs and Anfal Affairs, which is named in memory of Saddam Hussein's devastating 1988 campaign against the Kurds, has taken up the cause to try extremists. "Because we believe in the rule of law and in human rights, and we think these people must be tried properly, following international standards, under international supervision, not just in a security court," said Mahmud Haji Salih, head of the ministry.

The word "symbolic" arises frequently when Wiley and his colleagues discuss possible prosecutions. No one harbors any expectation that the Islamic State group's leadership will ever face a judge. But he thinks the charges of crimes against humanity would serve a tangible purpose, even beyond jailing those responsible for the horror against the Yazidi people. "You have to show that the guys dying for IS, they may think they're dying for Muhammad (PBUH) but they're not," Wiley said. "They're definitely not." — AP



**NAJAF:** Members of the Popular Mobilization Units supporting the government forces flash the sign for victory on the outskirts of this Iraqi city yesterday as they take part in a military parade from Karbala to Najaf to review the military equipment to be used in the operation to re-take the city of Mosul from Islamic State (IS) group. — AFP

## SHOOTING, SUICIDE BOMB ATTACKS KILL 12 IN TIKRIT

**SAMARRA, Iraq:** Militants killed 12 people in a shooting and a suicide bombing yesterday in the northern city of Tikrit, which was recaptured from the Islamic State group last year, police said. Tikrit was seized by IS in June 2014, but the city has largely been spared the attacks that have plagued other parts of the country since its recapture.

Militants shot dead four security personnel at a checkpoint on the west side of the city, then continued north and detonated an explosives-rigged vehicle at another checkpoint, killing eight more people, a police colonel and lieutenant colonel said. The attacks also wounded a total of 23 people, according to the officers. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attacks, but IS frequently carries out suicide attacks targeting both civilians and security forces in Iraq.

Hometown of executed dictator Saddam Hussein, Tikrit lies 60 km north of

Baghdad and was the second city to fall to IS in 2014 as the jihadists swept through large areas north and west of the capital. It was also the first city to be recaptured by Iraqi forces, which are now preparing for a push on Mosul, a city north of Tikrit that is the last one held by IS in the country.

Western officials have indicated that the drive for Mosul, Iraq's second city, may begin next month, though Baghdad has declined to specify when it will start. While the announcement of the operation may be coming soon, Iraqi forces, which in some cases are dozens of kilometers away, will then have to fight their way to the city and surround it before an assault can take place. Even after Mosul is retaken, the militants will still have the ability to carry out attacks like those in Tikrit yesterday. Analysts have warned that IS is likely to resort to more such attacks in the face of the loss of its last urban bastion in Iraq. — AFP



**DOHUK, Iraq:** Clothing worn by a Yazidi girl enslaved by Islamic State militants, collected by a Yazidi activist to document Islamic State group crimes against the community, is shown in this photo taken May 22, 2016. — AP

were concerned that court trials would distract from the military campaign. But the diplomats say that justice is essential in a region whose religious minorities have been terrorized. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue. The US has no legal obligation to take on the genocide of the Yazidis, but President Barack Obama has said that "preventing mass atrocities and genocide is a core national security interest and a core moral responsibility of the United States of America."

Stephen Rapp, who stepped down as the administration's ambassador at large for war crimes last year, says the administration should have moved early to help secure evidence of IS atrocities and push for the creation of special Iraqi courts to try war crimes. "The priority for the US government is to win the war against the Islamic State and destroy them," Rapp said. "It's been profoundly disappointing, because the idea of accountability has been such a low priority."

Rapp is now the chairman of the advisory board of the commission, whose investigators in Iraq work with the Kurdish regional government to formally document the IS group's crimes, including those against the Yazidi minority group. They have built a case implicating the entire IS command structure in a plot to kidnap Yazidi women and girls and establish a sex-slave market. The plan was executed by an organized bureaucracy at every step along the way, from the temporary sorting facilities - including a prison, schools and a curtained ballroom where the Yazidis were divided by age and willingness

sider infidels because of their religion.

In 2012, Obama stood at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum to announce what he called a comprehensive strategy to prevent and respond to war crimes with the establishment of an atrocities prevention board, noting that "as president I've done my utmost to back up those words with deeds". But in fact, though the US has backed limited efforts to secure evidence of Islamic State atrocities in Iraq, there have been few tangible steps toward prosecution. In a recent investigation the AP found that even in territories liberated from IS militants by Kurdish forces, dozens of mass graves have been left unsecured. "It's a tragedy that we are not getting in there and securing these sites where we can and doing things like collecting DNA evidence," said Rapp.

A measure by the House that calls on the US to fund precisely the kind of court envisioned by the investigators is unlikely to advance anytime soon in an election year. With full international backing, the war crimes commission says it would need about \$6.6 million and about six months to get the trials going. "If the administration was committed to criminal investigations of perpetrators, then it would be robustly funding criminal investigations of perpetrators. The failure to fund shows a failure to hold responsible parties accountable," said Rep. Chris Smith, a New Jersey Republican who sponsored the bill.

The State Department said the US was promoting accountability, and spokesman Mark Toner specified that the administration is "supporting ongoing efforts to collect, document, preserve and analyze evidence of atrocities for transitional justice processes." He provided no

## SYRIA MAKING 'GREAT STRIDES' IN WAR: FM

**UNITED NATIONS:** Syria's Foreign Minister Walid Muallem told the United Nations yesterday that the Syrian army was making "great strides" in the five-year war, with help from "true friends" Russia, Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah. Muallem also used his address at the General Assembly to reject US claims that a coalition strike on Syrian soldiers a week ago was unintentional, saying it was "not an error". "Our belief in victory is even greater now that the Syrian Arab Army is making great strides in its war against terrorism, with the support of the true friends of the Syrian people, notably the Russian federation, Iran and the Lebanese national resistance," Muallem said.

The Syrian foreign minister, who is also deputy prime minister, took the podium at the United Nations after a week of intense diplomacy failed to revive a ceasefire deal negotiated between the United States and Russia. Air strikes pounded the battleground city of Aleppo yesterday, killing at least 32 civilians, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which expected the death toll to rise as rescuers recovered bodies trapped under rubble.

Muallem hit said his government "holds the United States fully responsible" for the September 17 coalition strike on a Syrian army base "because facts show that it was an intentional attack, and not an error, even if the United States claims

otherwise". Dozens of Syrian soldiers were killed in the bombing of the Syrian air base near the eastern city of Deir Ezzor, which is controlled by Islamic State (IS) jihadists. The United States has expressed regret for the loss of lives, saying the coalition believed it was hitting an IS target and has promised to investigate the incident. Muallem said his government was committed to the UN-led peace process, but slammed Western-backed opposition fighters for crimes that "are no less barbaric" than those carried out by IS and Al-Qaeda jihadists. — AFP



**NEW YORK:** Walid Al-Moualem, Deputy Prime Minister of Syria, addresses the 71st session of the United Nations General Assembly at the UN headquarters yesterday. — AFP



## FARC REBELS RATIFY PEACE ACCORD TO END 52-YR WAR

**YARI PLAINS, Colombia:** Colombia's FARC rebel group voted unanimously to approve a peace deal with the government on Friday, declaring an end to the five-decade war as it prepares to transition into a new political party. After four years of negotiations in Havana, the government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia reached a final peace accord last month that will end a war that has left a quarter of a million people dead. "The war is over, long live Colombia, long live peace," FARC commander Ivan Marquez told reporters following a secret vote at the close of a guerrilla congress on the southern Yari Plains.

As part of the agreement, the FARC will continue to push for social change as a political party, receiving 10 unelected seats in congress until 2026. The leadership of the FARC has so far been coy on policy details but are expected soon to morph into a party rooted in Marxist ideals. Two-hundred delegates from FARC units around the country gathered at the Yari site, five hours by rutted road from the nearest provincial town, to review the accord and discuss re-organization in peacetime. "We inform the country and the government and the governments and people of the world that the rebel delegates of the congress have given unanimous backing to the final accord," Marquez said.

The peace accord is due to be signed on Monday by President Juan Manuel Santos and rebel leader Timochenko. Colombians will vote on the deal in an Oct 2 plebiscite, the final go-ahead for rebels to demobilize. Polls show the accord will easily pass. The congress, the first ever open to media,

marks the group's final meeting as a guerrilla army and will end with a music concert with non-FARC performers.

Previous congresses, to decide battle strategy, were sometimes held via internet due to military offensives that prevented leaders from meeting. Although both leadership and rank and file fighters say they will prioritize political activism as civilians, the group has so far not provided examples of specific policies. "Our initial platform is the implementation of the Havana accords," Pastor Alape, a member of the FARC's secretariat, told Reuters at the congress. "Our political proposals will have to come from the suggestions of our base."

"We started our political efforts clandestinely and now we aspire, legally, to open our initiatives, together with all sectors of society, to concretely cultivate the political space we are given," Alape said. The five-point peace accord covers agricutural reform, an end to the illegal drugs trade, victims' reparations, FARC political participation and demobilization. Policies are being drafted and will be revealed in due time, FARC commander Bertulfo Alvarez told a news conference during the congress, when asked by Reuters to give examples of policy initiatives.

One mid-level rebel fighter said the group wants to decentralize Colombia's government, including halving the size of Congress, in a bid to combat corruption and ensure communities have control over distribution of royalties from oil and mining projects. The FARC may find an electoral foothold among poor farmers and committed leftists, but many Colombians are wary that ex-fighters will join criminal gangs. — Reuters



HEMPSTEAD, New York: Workers install the set for the first US presidential debate at Hofstra University yesterday. —AFP

## AS DEBATERS, TRUMP AND CLINTON BOTH HAVE STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES

### NO CLEAR FAVORITE

**WASHINGTON:** Neither Hillary Clinton nor Donald Trump is the clear favorite as the two major-party candidates for the White House go head-to-head in their crucial first debate tomorrow. If Clinton, the Democratic nominee, possesses deep Washington experience and in-depth knowledge of the issues, she lacks what supporters of her Republican rival see as his authenticity. The two candidates have been laying into each other for a year but have never appeared face-to-face on the same stage, just strides apart.

That surely will be one of the biggest attractions of the highly touted televised encounter, which analysts say could draw as many as 100 million viewers - a number never seen before in American politics. The debate will be history-making in another way: no woman has ever taken part in a US presidential debate since they began in 1960, with Senator John F Kennedy squaring off in a Chicago studio against Vice President Richard Nixon.

Most surely have already made their choice ahead of the November 8 election, and the series of three presidential debates (the others are October 9 and 19) will probably just reinforce them in their decisions. Still, the debates can have an impact on voters still undecided on who should succeed Barack Obama. And these wavering voters appear to be more numerous than four years ago, amounting to nine percent of the electorate, according to an NBC poll. What do the candidates need to do to win them over?

#### \* Clinton: Too Much Detail?

"We typically don't tune in to our televised debates to see who's the smartest of the two candidates and which one has the most facts

and figures and policy information that they're spewing for 90 minutes," Mitchell McKinney, professor of political communication at the University of Missouri, told AFP. McKinney, a specialist in political debates, said television viewers favor candidates who manage to communicate their vision in a few simple, compelling and memorable phrases.

Clinton, with her diligent and detailed mastery of the issues, will have to avoid falling into the trap of giving overly technical and exhaustive responses to the moderator's questions. "You need to generate a more emotional connection with voters if you're going to prevail," said communications consultant Carmine Gallo.

In the words of Obama, who was asked what debate advice he would offer his former secretary of state: "Be yourself and explain what motivates you." That has been a constant challenge for Clinton, the least loved of Democratic presidential candidates in years, according to polls. Clinton herself acknowledges that she cannot match the charisma of her husband, Bill Clinton, or of Obama. More than half of Americans say they are not sure they can trust her.

During her first run for the presidency, in 2008, Clinton presented herself as a tough, Thatcher-style "iron lady." This time, she stresses her role as a pioneer for women's rights and polishes her image as a grandmother, in an effort to seem more likable and accessible. But it will not be easy for her to wipe away, in a 90-minute debate, an image forged in public opinion over a quarter-century. Her strength may lie in her ability to counter any attack with an effective verbal comeback. "What are those one, two or three key messages that they want people to share on Twitter and social media?" Gallo asked. "Listen

for the sentence or two that she repeats several times in the conversation."

#### Trump: Too Visceral?

"Trump connects to his voters on a deeply emotional level, and that can be quite difficult for an opposing candidate to match, because emotion often trumps data," Gallo said. In this area, the wealthy populist, former host of a successful television program, enjoys a clear advantage. No candidate in this campaign - with the possible exception of Democratic senator Bernie Sanders - has matched Trump's ability to electrify crowds of thousands.

But Trump did not hold the upper hand in every one of the 12 Republican primary debates. He often stood aside to let the other candidates rip into one another. In the later debates, when only a few of his adversaries remained, he often resorted to disruptive tactics, using scathing phrases or demeaning nicknames to savage his opponents. "Unlike the primary debates, where there were multiple candidates on the stage and therefore we heard from Trump periodically, in a 90-minute debate where he's going to have half the time, he can't fill all of this time with one-liners, with self-praise, with the glib attacks - that will wear thin," McKinney said. "He will have more opportunities to provide substance. When that time comes, will he have the substance? We will be watching to see." The concern of the Clinton team is that the moderator, Lester Holt of NBC, will toss simpler "softball" questions in Trump's direction while pressing Clinton with a much more challenging interrogation. Either way, these exchanges are sure to be intensively analyzed afterward as part of the continuing debate... on the debate. — AFP



LLANOS DEL YARI, Colombia: Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) leader Timoleon Jimenez, aka 'Timochenko' raises his hands with former Colombia's national football team goalie Rene Iguita after the closure of the 10th National Guerrilla Conference on Friday. — AFP

## IN DENMARK, AU PAIRS RISK ABUSE IN NAME OF 'CULTURAL EXCHANGE'

**COPENHAGEN:** Dressed in a red-and-black lumberjack shirt, jeans and sneakers, she looked more like 16 than her actual age of 19. The petite au pair wrung her hands as the policeman took her statement. "He didn't rape me, but he kept saying he wanted to have physical relations with me and wanted to kiss me," she said. "That's still wrong, isn't it?" "Of course it is," the policeman said.

The young Nepalese woman had come to Denmark to live with a host family as an au pair through a scheme billed as a cultural exchange program. Common in Europe, such programs allow young people, usually women, to immerse themselves in an overseas culture while helping with child care in exchange for food, accommodation and a modest allowance.

In Denmark, rights groups say inadequate protections leave au pairs vulnerable to labor exploitation and sexual harassment. For the woman in the red flannel shirt, who declined to be identified, problems had started right from the beginning. When her host father met her at the airport, he held her hand, telling her "this is how Europeans are". When he sent her text messages asking to visit her room

late at night, she wanted a way out. Another au pair told her she could leave her host family and look for another, but she worried about not finding one immediately since it would mean having to fly back to Nepal, penniless and with debts. She had paid a broker there \$6,000 to find her host family. "He created a Skype account and pretended he was me. He arranged everything. The Nepalese au pairs I've talked to here all paid between \$4,000 and \$6,000 to their brokers." With the help of the Au Pair Network, a consortium of labor and religious support groups funded by the Danish government, she found the courage to go to the police, who are now investigating.

#### 'Domestic Work'

"Au pair" is French for "on equal terms". The earliest programs in Europe date back to the years right after World War Two when it was one of the few ways young women could travel abroad and earn cash. In 1969, the Council of Europe adopted protocols to standardize conditions governing the placement of au pairs. Rules vary slightly by country. In Denmark, au pairs must be unmarried and aged 18-29. They live with host families and are supposed to do "light household chores" for no more than 30 hours a week, giving them time to immerse themselves in language and culture. In exchange, they get a \$600 monthly allowance and free accommodation. The reality is that many end up working as de facto domestic servants, vulnerable to sexual harassment or worse, support groups said. Reports of abuse and maltreatment prompted the Philippines, the biggest source of au pairs to Denmark and Norway, to ban participation in the program in 1998.

Still the au pairs came. Denmark and Norway continued to issue au pair visas. Interviews with former Filipino au pairs revealed that many allegedly bribed Philippine airport officials called "escorts" with as much as \$500 to clear them through immigration. Others arrived on tourist visas and changed them to au pair visas once they found host families.

The Philippines lifted its ban in 2012 when it forged agreements with 13 countries introducing protections such as seminars to inform young people of their rights and closer monitoring of allegations of abuse. Those European countries were Denmark, Norway, France, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Sweden, Iceland, Austria, Finland and Italy. The latest data from the Danish Immigration Service shows that more than 80 percent of the 2,000 au pairs who come to Denmark on average each year are from the Philippines. The rest are from emerging economies like Nepal, other European Union countries and the United States. — Reuters

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## BONGO MAY INCLUDE OPPOSITION IN NEW GABON GOVT

**LIBREVILLE:** Gabon's President Ali Bongo said yesterday that he would seek to form a new government that would "most likely" include leading opposition figures in the wake of a contentious presidential election. He said he was not ruling out bringing opposition leader Jean Ping, who claims he won the Aug. 27 poll and challenged the result in the Constitutional Court, into the cabinet, telling Reuters in an interview that "everything is possible".

Meanwhile, the European Union complained yesterday that it had been granted only "very limited access" to a court review of results from Gabon's Aug. 27 election that upheld the victory of President Ali Bongo, which had been challenged by opposition. "Consequently, the Gabonese people's confidence on the integrity of the electoral process can, legitimately, be put in doubt," Federica Mogherini, High Representative for Foreign Affairs, and Development Commissioner Neven Mimica said in a statement. Gabon's government deployed a heavy security presence in the capital Libreville yesterday in an attempt to head off potential unrest following a Constitutional Court

ruling certifying the election victory of President Ali Bongo. Six people were killed early this month in riots that followed the interior ministry's declaration of a slim victory in the Aug. 27 poll for Bongo, whose family has ruled the central African oil producer for nearly half a century. Opposition leader Jean Ping, who has said up to 100 people died in the violence, has declared that he won the election and challenged the result, claiming fraud.

Trucks full of police and soldiers, some of them equipped with riot gear, were positioned at crossroads and roundabouts across the capital from early morning. There was less traffic than usual in the city centre as many residents decided to stay at home. However, there were no reports of unrest. "I'm glad there is no war. We need the politicians to talk. We want a calm country," said Arnel Sama, 40, an unemployed resident of Libreville, expressing relief that the court ruling had not immediately sparked renewed unrest, as many had feared.

The decision had been read late on Friday night in an almost empty court chamber. Shortly afterwards, Bongo

made a plea for political dialogue to bring together his allies and opponents to work in the country's best interest. However, there was no immediate indication that Ping was prepared to accept talks. "This is a hard situation for the country, and we need to take time to think and respond correctly," said Henri Elang, a member of Ping's entourage, who said he was speaking on behalf of the candidate.

Ping, a lifelong political insider in Gabon who has also served as chairman of the African Union Commission, was in meetings with advisors yesterday and declined to comment directly on the court ruling. In his petition to the court, Ping had alleged fraud in Haut-Ogooue province, where Bongo won 95 percent on a turnout of 99.9 percent. A European Union election observer mission said it had also uncovered anomalies in the province's results. The court agreed to re-examine the results there with the monitoring of judges sent by the African Union, but it refused to accept copies of vote tally sheets provided as evidence by Ping, stating he had failed to prove their legitimacy. Many tally sheets, it said, were illegible. The court cancelled results from



**MARSEILLE:** People with the face painted with Gabonese's colors hold banners during a demonstration of Gabonese associations in Marseille, southern France yesterday to protest against the validation of reelection of Gabon's president Ali Bongo. — AFP

21 polling stations in Libreville over irregularities, helping Bongo to improve his margin of victory from 49.85 percent of ballots cast to 50.66 percent in the final court-certified result. "It is a masquerade.

The Constitutional Court insulted the people and did not respect democracy," said Clay Martial, an opposition supporter who went to Ping's headquarters yesterday. — Agencies



**Germany Chancellor Angela Merkel, Austrian Chancellor Christian VIENNA: Kern, Donald Tusk, president of the European Council and Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, from left, line up for a group photo after a meeting of the government heads from Germany, Austria and West Balkans on strategies to deal with Europe's migrant crisis in Vienna yesterday. — AP**

## EMBATTLED MERKEL WANTS MIGRANT DEAL WITH EUROPE

'EU'S OUTER BORDERS MUST BE BETTER PROTECTED'

**VIENNA:** German Chancellor Angela Merkel, under fire at home over her refugees policy, called yesterday for Europe to secure deals with third countries to send back migrants who do not qualify for asylum. Speaking after talks in Vienna with leaders along the Balkan migrants trail into Europe, Merkel said the continent must "stop illegal immigration while living up to our humanitarian responsibilities".

To this end "it is necessary to get agreements with third countries, especially in Africa but also Pakistan and Afghanistan... so that it becomes clear that those with no right to stay in Europe can go back to their home countries," she told reporters. Last year hundreds of thousands of people, many fleeing the Syrian war, trekked up from Greece through the western Balkans to northern Europe, in the continent's biggest migration crisis since 1945. Populist parties across Europe have stoked concerns about the influx, not least Alternative for Germany (AFD), which has stolen support from Merkel's centre-right party in recent state elections. Tomorrow Merkel said for the first time that the influx could have been better handled. In March, under pressure from Austria, Balkan countries closed their borders, and the flow has since slowed dramatically, although 100-150 still make it to Austria every day, Vienna says. The same month the EU struck a deal with Turkey-home to more than three million refugees-under which Ankara promised to halt the inflow in return for billions in aid and other sweeteners. The pact may yet collapse, however, in the wake of the July 15 coup attempt in Turkey.

### Greece under strain

As illustrated by a large fire at a refugee camp on the island of Lesbos tomorrow, Greece meanwhile remains under severe strain, with more than 60,000 people stranded. An EU scheme to relocate them-and others in Italy-around the bloc has failed to live up to expectations, while extra administrative assistance promised by the EU has been insufficient.

Merkel yesterday said that EU countries' participation in the relocation scheme has been "too slow", saying this could "increase the pressure" on Greece's border with Bulgaria. "It is unacceptable that the countries that first receive (the migrants) bear the burden," Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras said in Vienna, according to ANA.

"This is also a question that concerns destination countries." Bulgaria, the EU's poorest country, is home to around 10,000 stranded migrants although Brussels has promised Sofia extra support including help from a new EU border force from October 6.

### 'Closed for good'

EU President Donald Tusk, also in Vienna, said that it was necessary "to confirm, politically and in practice, that the western Balkan route of irregular migration is closed for good". The difficulties of making it through to the Balkans is thought to be prompting increasing numbers to attempt treacherous sea crossings from Libya or Egypt to Italy instead. More than 300,000 migrants have crossed the Mediterranean this year, the UN said on Tuesday. Some 3,500 have

perished in the attempt. On Friday more than 160 drowned off Egypt.

Echoing Merkel, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban said yesterday that this showed that the EU needed to send people back to Egypt, Libya and other countries. Orban, who has been scathing about Merkel's "open-door" policy and has called immigration "poison", has refused to take in a single migrant under the EU relocation scheme.

Austria's chancellor vowed yesterday to better protect the European Union's outer borders to curb illegal migration, as he held a summit with his German, Greek and west Balkans counterparts to debate strategies to deal with Europe's migrant crisis.

"We need to regain control over our external border," Chancellor Christian Kern said at a press conference after the Vienna summit. "We need to decide who gets to come to Europe," not the traffickers.

Both Merkel and Kern stressed that the migrants' situation in Europe was better than a year ago, when thousands crossed the Mediterranean Sea each day from Turkey to Greece then trekked up the Balkans to northern Europe.

About one million migrants entered Europe last year, the majority from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and other crisis-torn countries.

The closing of Balkan migrant route in the spring and the March EU-Turkey agreement to reduce migration have led to a dramatic reduction of the number of people reaching northern Europe. — Agencies

## HOLLANDE VOWS TO SHUT DOWN UNACCEPTABLE CALAIS CAMP

**PARIS:** French President Francois Hollande yesterday confirmed plans to close the squalid Calais migrant camp known as "the Jungle," saying he hopes authorities can relocate as many as 9,000 migrants to reception centers across France in the coming weeks.

Hollande, visiting one of France's 164 migrant reception centers in the central city of Tours, said conditions in the Calais camp are "not acceptable" and "extremely difficult," especially for those who fled war to get there. The camp has become a symbol of his government's failure to tackle Europe's migrant crisis, and a target of criticism from conservative and far-right rivals seeking to unseat him in France's presidential election next year.

Hollande, who is to visit Calais itself tomorrow, insisted that "we cannot have such camps in France." He said his country

must show it is "capable of being dignified, humane and responsible."

The reception centers will hold 40-50 people for up to four months while authorities study their cases, he said. Migrants who don't seek asylum will be deported. Half of the Calais camp was dismantled in March but its population has since doubled. Hollande's government has promised to dismantle the Calais camp by the end of the year but has not given a firm timeline.

The plan to relocate the migrants to towns across France has prompted vehement protests from many local conservative and far-right politicians, saying they fear the consequences of having migrants in their towns. Hollande indirectly criticized that resistance and called for more solidarity, noting that neighboring Germany has taken in 1 million migrants compared to the only 9,000 being relocated from Calais. — AP

## NIGER DELTA AVENGERS CLAIM FIRST ATTACK IN ENERGY HUB SINCE CEASEFIRE

**LAGOS:** Nigerian militant group the Niger Delta Avengers said yesterday it had carried out its first attack in the country's southern energy hub since it declared in August it was halting hostilities to pursue talks with the government. The militants, who said they attacked the Bonny crude export line on Friday night, have in previous months launched assaults which have cut crude production, which was 2.1 million barrels per day at the start of the year, by around a third.

In a statement on its website the group said it "brought down oil production activities at the Bonny 48 inches crude oil export line" through its "strike team". Reuters was unable to immediately independently verify the details. The Avengers, who want a

greater share of the OPEC member's wealth to go to the Niger Delta where most crude is produced, said the attack was a "wake up call" for the government, which it accused of intimidating youths in the region since the ceasefire began.

"While we were promised that the concerns of the Niger Delta will be addressed once a truce is declared, the activities of the government and her agents are not assuring enough, there has been no progress," the group said. However, the statement added that the organization was "still in favor of dialogue and negotiations". Earlier this month the Avengers told Reuters there had been no contact with the government since the group agreed to cease hostilities. — Reuters

## THOUSANDS MARCH IN LATEST ANTI-GOVT PROTEST IN POLAND

**WARSAW:** Thousands of Poles marched in downtown Warsaw yesterday in the latest protest against the policies of the conservative government that critics say are dividing the nation.

Protesters came from many corners of Poland for the protest organized by the Committee for the Defense of Democracy, or KOD. The group has organized regular protests against the 10-month-old Law and Justice government and against the ruling party's leader, Jaroslaw Kaczynski. The rally started at the building that houses Poland's

Constitutional Tribunal, an independent court which European Union leaders have criticized the Polish government for trying to control in violation of democratic and EU principles. Carrying white-and-red national flags and blue-and-yellow EU flags, protesters also denounced the government's backing for recent moves to ban abortion and against a newly-announced school reform plan. A separate rally held in Warsaw yesterday demanded more funds for the country's chronically strapped health care system and for medical personnel. — AP



**WARSAW:** People attend the anti-government demonstration of the Committee for the Defense of Democracy movement (KOD) in Warsaw, Poland yesterday. — AFP

## ESTONIAN PRESIDENTIAL VOTE DELAYED AGAIN

**TALLINN:** Estonia's electoral college failed yesterday to choose a successor to two-term liberal President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, returning the vote to the stalemated parliament where it flopped in August and could fail again. The head of state plays a largely ceremonial role in the tech-savvy Baltic NATO and eurozone country of 1.3 million people and is elected by parliament or electoral college rather than direct public vote.

Neither of the two candidates in yesterday's ballot scored the simple majority in the 335-member electoral college needed to win. It is the first time the body failed to elect the head of state.

Backed by the governing Reform party, former EU commissioner and prime minister Siim Kallas scored 138 votes, while rival Allar Joks, a former ombudsman supported by the rightwing IRL and Free party took 134. Fifty-seven empty and three spoilt ballots meant that both fell short of the minimum 165 votes needed to win.

Both female candidates, the former foreign minister Marina Kaljurand and Mailis Reps of the opposition Centre party, were narrowly defeated in the first round. Parliament must now vote again within 14 days and new

candidates can run. Kallas ruled out running a third time, fuming yesterday that "this vote is a failure of the electoral system." Allar Joks also bowed out yesterday, telling AFP: "I'm not going to pursue the presidency any longer."

Tonis Saarts, a political scientist at Tallinn University, warned the vote could fail again in the stalemated parliament. A winning candidate needs to secure a two-thirds majority in the 101-seat house, but with votes split among six parties this proved impossible in August.

"I can't rule out that the vote will go back to the electoral college again and we'll be dealing with it until end of October," Saarts told AFP yesterday. Estonia's head of state gives legislation its final seal of approval after checking its constitutionality. Presidents can remain in office for up to two consecutive five-year terms at a time. As Estonia prepares to take over the EU's rotating six-month presidency next July, analysts also expect the future president to develop a higher international profile.

Known for his sharp tongue and fondness of bow-ties and tweeting, Ilves gave the role a strong international dimension due to his flair for foreign affairs. — AFP



## PASSPORT FORGERS CHARGED WITH HIDING BODY IN BANGKOK

**BANGKOK:** Three foreign men belonging to a suspected passport forgery ring were charged yesterday after police found them with drugs, guns and a dismembered body stashed in the freezer of a Bangkok building. Police said they are working to confirm the nationalities of the English speakers, who were found with multiple passports, but suspect they are American or British. A US Embassy spokesman said he was following the case but could not comment due to privacy concerns.

One of the men grabbed a gun and opened fire during Friday's raid on the alleged crime den, injuring one officer who has been hospitalized, according to police. Police then rounded up a cache of drugs and guns and discovered the bagged body parts of a man, described as a blond foreigner, inside a padlocked freezer on the ground floor.

"They are charged on five counts including attempting to kill an official on duty, resisting arrest, illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, forging official documents and concealing a corpse," said Chanin Vachirapraneekul, commander of the police station in Bangkok's Phra Khanong district where the men were taken. The men, two of whom have grey hair according to photos published in local media, have denied all charges,

police said. A Burmese couple detained with the group told police they were hired to clean the building three times a week and ordered not to open or move the freezer where the dead body was found.

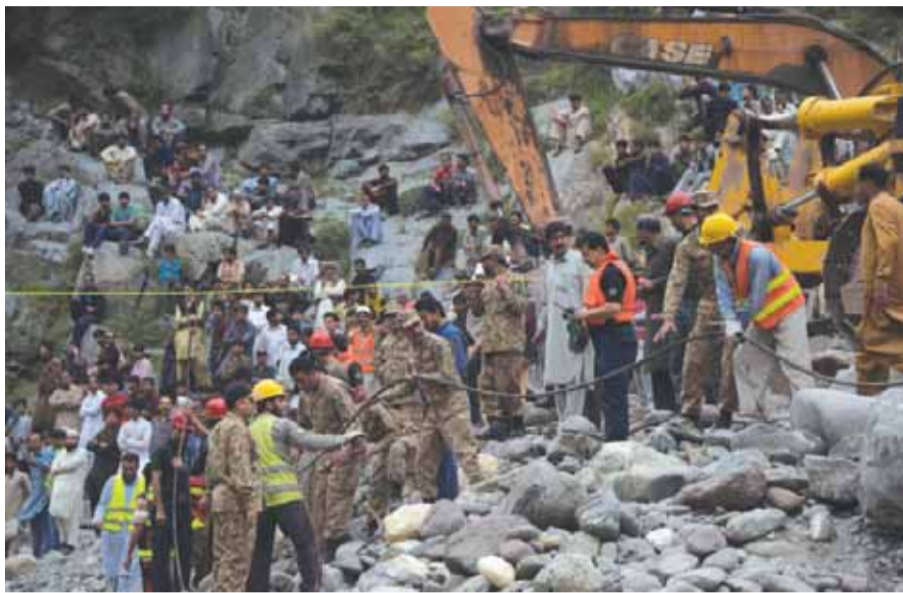
The couple have not been charged with any crime and are being treated as witnesses, said Bangkok's deputy police commander Suwat Jangyodsuk. Forensic officers are working to identify the deceased and expect to have autopsy results today. "As of now we suspect that they are a passport forgery gang," Suwat said of the three men in custody. "We seized more than ten fake documents,

including passports," he added. Thailand has long served as a base for foreign criminals and fugitives lured by its porous borders, lax visa requirements and notoriously bribable police force. A thriving forged documents trade has also helped shield countless crime syndicates that populate the kingdom's vast underworld.

In February Thai police arrested an Iranian man known as "The Doctor" who crafted pristine passports from his home in a Bangkok suburb and sold the documents to thousands around the globe including gangsters, rebels, refugees and migrant workers. — AFP

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In February Thai police arrested an Iranian man known as "The Doctor" who crafted pristine passports from his home in a Bangkok suburb and sold the documents to thousands around the globe including gangsters, rebels, refugees and migrant workers. — AFP



**MUZAFFARABAD:** Pakistani rescuers and army soldiers use a crane to try to recover a bus that fell into a river in Nausehri, some 45 kilometres (27 miles) north of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan-controlled Kashmir yesterday. —AFP

## PAKISTAN AIR FORCE JET CRASHES, KILLING PILOT

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan:** A Pakistan Air Force fighter jet crashed in the country's restive northwest yesterday, killing the pilot, the air force said in a statement. The incident occurred around 31 kilometres (20 miles) west of Peshawar city. The fighter jet was on a routine operational training mission when the accident happened, authorities said.

Gilgit killing seven people, including two foreign ambassadors.

### Bus plunge

Pakistani police say a speeding bus plunged into a fast-flowing river in Pakistan's part of Kashmir, killing at least 24 passengers. Local police official Aslam Khan said the bus fell into the Neelum river Friday night and rescuers had so far found only four bodies. He said the other bodies have been swept away by the water and search efforts were underway. Khan said a lone survivor told rescuers that 25 passengers were aboard when the bus fell into the river about 50 kilometers (30 miles) north of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistan's part of Kashmir. Deadly accidents are common in Pakistan, mainly because of bad road infrastructure and reckless driving habits. — Agencies

"The pilot, flight Lt Omar Shahzad, sustained fatal injuries and embraced shahadat (martyrdom), no loss of civilian life and property has been reported on ground," the statement said. There will now be an enquiry to determine what caused the accident, it added. Last August, 12 people were killed when a helicopter belonging to the army crashed in northwest Pakistan. And in May last year, a Mi-17 army helicopter crashed at a holiday resort in the picturesque hills of

## INDIA'S DALIT ACTIVIST MEVANI DEMANDS LAND FOR LANDLESS

'WITHOUT LAND, WE HAVE NO POWER'

**MUMBAI:** When Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited his home town in Gujarat state to mark his birthday over the weekend, the national media focused on the detention there of a young Dalit rights activist. In just a few months since he led a protest after four Dalit youths were stripped and flogged by upper-caste Hindu men in Una, Gujarat, for allegedly skinning a dead cow, Jignesh Mevani has become the poster boy for Dalit rights in the country. After first calling for dignity for the marginalised low-caste community, Mevani, 35, is now demanding land for landless Dalits and has threatened a wider protest from Oct 1.

"When we started the Una agitation, it was a protest against the increasing caste violence, and about justice for the community," said Mevani, a former lawyer who was placed under house arrest by police as a "precautionary measure" during Modi's trip to Gujarat. "But the injustice is related to landlessness: when you are landless, you have no power, and you're vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and violence," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation over the phone. India banned caste-based discrimination in 1955, but centuries-old attitudes persist, and lower-caste groups including Dalits are among the most marginalised communities. Dalits were once barred from public places including temples and water taps frequented by higher-caste Hindus. Many were restricted to jobs that were considered dirty or dangerous, such as manual scavenging and the disposal of animal carcasses. At least half of India's lower-caste population is landless. Landless Dalits are at the bottom of the age-old social hierarchy, making them vulnerable to discrimination and attacks by upper-caste Hindus, including recent ones by hardline "gau rakshak" vigilantes who regard cows as sacred.

### FIVE ACRES

Mevani led thousands of Dalits in protest after the Una incident, pledging to boycott the "dirty"



**Dalit activist Jignesh Mevani leads a protest in Ahmedabad.**

jobs traditionally thrust upon them. Since then, he has kept up the attacks with fiery speeches and rallies. Earlier this week, hundreds of Dalits rallied in Ahmedabad in Gujarat to demand land that is due to them. "We are asking for just five acres of land for each landless Dalit family, which is legally their due," said Mevani, who has filed a petition in the Gujarat high court over the issue.

"If the Gujarat (Agricultural) Lands Ceiling Act is imposed properly, there is enough excess land that can be distributed among landless Dalits in the state. There's also government land that has been allotted on paper, but not handed over," he

said. Mevani, who sports big-framed spectacles and a stubble, and often wears a colourful scarf knotted at his neck, has found support from the national Dalit rights movement and is also being wooed by various political parties. "What we are seeing in Gujarat is a spontaneous response by the community that has given momentum to the cause," said Ramesh Nathan, general secretary of the National Dalit Movement for Justice in New Delhi. "Land for the landless has been a long-standing demand of ours, and Mevani is helping mobilize the community and focus everyone's attention on this issue," he said. — Reuters

## BUILDING OF NEW CITY IN S INDIA RAISES FEARS OF DEBT BONDAGE

**CHENNAI:** The building of a new capital city in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh will fuel demand for migrant labor and put thousands of poor workers at the risk of debt bondage, campaigners said, demanding a "dignified work policy" for them.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Amaravati, on the banks of Krishna river, in June 2015. Construction has already started on the site, where 5,558 hectares of land will be developed as commercial and industrial

space with residential areas spread across 8,050 hectares.

"Building of this modern city will attract workers from some of the poorest districts of the country," said Umi Daniel, a migrant rights activist with campaign group Aide Et

Action. "The project report for the new city talks about money being spent and grand ideas, but it does not talk about the people who will build it," Daniel told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Tens of thousands of labourers are trafficked each year to work in brick kilns to feed India's flourishing construction industry, campaigners say.

Traditionally, thousands of poor workers from India's eastern state of Odisha migrate every year to the brick kilns of Andhra Pradesh, where they cut, shape and bake clay-fired bricks, mostly by hand.

Many of them are duped into offering themselves for work as security against a loan they have taken or a debt they have inherited. Campaigners calling for workers' rights to be protected in Andhra Pradesh, are demanding hygienic living conditions, a safe working environment and guaranteed wages for labourers in the process of being employed to build Amaravati.

Many brick kiln owners have set up operations at the site of the new city, getting ready to cash in on the construction boom, campaigners said. "To ensure there is no exploitation, special officers, including labour inspectors have been appointed and the inter state migrant workman's act will be implemented," said labour official Ramachandra Murthy.

The need for a new capital city arose after Andhra Pradesh was split into two - Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in 2014. At present, Hyderabad city is the joint capital of both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. In a first, "A Bricks Initiative" was set up to invite the public to invest in the construction of Amaravati by paying for the bricks that will build the city. To date, 226,289 people have donated more than five million bricks. — Reuters

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## NORTH KOREA AIR SHOW THUMBS NOSE AT SANCTIONS

**WONSAN, North Korea:** Just weeks after carrying out its fifth nuclear test, North Korea put on an unprecedented civilian and military air force display yesterday at the country's first ever public aviation show. The two-day Wonsan International Friendship Air Festival was held at the newly refurbished Kalma Airport—previously a military airfield—completed last year to boost tourism in the area around the eastern port city of Wonsan. The festival was already scheduled before North Korea conducted its fifth nuclear test on September 9, triggering international outrage and threats of still further sanctions against the deeply isolated nuclear-armed country.

The show kicked off with an aerial display by a US Hughes MD-500 military helicopter—one of a number acquired in the 1980s by using a third country to circumvent US export restrictions.

North Korea's aviation industry was targeted by provisions in the UN Security Council resolution passed after its fourth nuclear test on January 6. The provisions prevent member states selling or supplying North Korea with aviation fuel, aviation gasoline or naphtha-type jet fuel or kerosene type jet fuel. But a recent report by the Nautilus Institute for Security concluded that domestic supply of jet fuel was probably adequate to keep air force aircraft flying, especially given their very low annual exercise rate. The Hughes helicopter was followed by an extended solo acrobatic display by the most advanced aircraft in the North Korean air force—an early-model Soviet built Mikoyan MiG-29 Fulcrum which made several ear-splitting low passes over the crowd. The rest of the air force fleet is largely comprised of antiquated Chinese built copies of the MiG-17, MiG-19 and MiG-21. Experts say the low number of flying hours and



**WONSAN:** Hughes MD-500 helicopters perform a fly-by during the first Wonsan Friendship Air Festival in Wonsan yesterday. Just weeks after carrying out its fifth nuclear test, North Korea put on an unprecedented civilian and military air force display yesterday at the country's first ever public aviation show. — AFP

training their pilots receive compounds the air force's technical deficit compared to neighbouring South Korea. North Korean airports are generally high security areas, but the Kalma tarmac and surrounding airfield were opened for the festival to several thousand local spectators, foreign media and several hundred slightly over-excited aviation enthusiasts from 20 countries.

### 'Flowers of the sky'

A crowd highlight was a formation display of two Soviet-era MiG-21s piloted by North Korea's first two female jet fighter pilots. The women, Jo Kum-Hyang and Rim Sol, shot to national fame last year when leader Kim Jong-Un dubbed them "flowers of the sky" after watching one of their training sessions.

"Even a 100 percent he-man would find it difficult to do that," the show announcer yelled in English over the loudspeaker as the two pilots banked their jets in a tight turn. He then scolded the crowd as they surged towards the runway to wave to Jo and Rim as they landed. Several foreign observers noted that the low passes by the MiG29 and later by a Sukhoi-25 fighter would have been forbidden at other international air festivals. "You would never see that anywhere else in the world. Regulations prevent any passes or manoeuvres over the crowd line," said Peter Terlou, a Dutch aviation photographer.

**"But for us, it's brilliant!"  
"Quite magical"**

As well as the promised military air-



**WONSAN:** A Sukhoi SU-25 aircraft lands during the first Wonsan Friendship Air Festival in Wonsan. —AFP

craft displays, a major draw was the presence of national carrier Air Koryo's vintage planes which operate on some domestic routes. "To get this close to such old planes in a country like North Korea is very special," said Ashley Walker, 39, a British pilot based in Hong Kong with Cathay Pacific. "You won't find working planes like these anywhere in the world," he said, gesturing to a twin turbo-prop Antonov AN-24 sitting on the tarmac.

"Modern civilian planes are so bland these days, but these are quite magical and really take you back in time," Walker said. Walker was one of 200 enthusiasts brought to the show by British-based Juche Tours, with the promise of brief flights on some of the civilian planes, which also included an Ilyushin-18 and

Tupolev-134. "It's obviously the fact that it's in North Korea that makes it so special," said Canadian enthusiast King Hui, 63. "I've been here once before and photo-wise the message was always 'no-military, no-military', and now we're getting to see this," Hui said. Wonsan—a traditional recreation area—is currently the focus of a major tourism development plan in tandem with the nearby Mount Kumgang district. Just 25 kilometres from Wonsan lies one of Kim Jong-Un's pet projects—the Masik Ski resort completed in 2013.

Mount Kumgang was originally developed as a resort for South Korean visitors but Seoul halted all trips after a South Korean tourist was shot dead by a North Korean soldier when she strayed off the approved path. — AFP

## N KOREA TELLS UN 'GOING NUCLEAR' IS ONLY OPTION

JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA RAISE ALARM BELLS



**PYONGYANG:** North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un (C) inspecting the Taedonggang Syringe Factory in suburban Pyongyang. — AFP

**UNITED NATIONS:** North Korea's foreign minister on Friday told the United Nations that "going nuclear" is his country's only way to defend itself and vowed to further bolster its nuclear military forces. Speaking to the General Assembly, Ri Yong-ho said his country will "continue to take measures to strengthen its national nuclear armed forces in both quantity and quality."

He spoke just two weeks after North Korea's fifth and most powerful nuclear test provoked worldwide condemnation, prompting the UN Security Council to begin work on a new sanctions resolution. "Going nuclear armed is the policy of our state," Ri, who has been foreign minister since May, told the world gathering.

"As long as there exists a nuclear weapon state in hostile relations with the DPRK (North Korea), our national security and the peace on the Korean peninsula can be defended only with reliable nuclear deterrence," he said.

North Korea has conducted two nuclear tests and test-fired more than 20 missiles this year alone. After the latest blast on September 9, Pyongyang claimed it had significantly advanced its ability and tested a miniaturized nuclear bomb for a warhead that could be mounted on a missile. In his address, Ri acknowledged that the nuclear tests "may not be easily understood by European countries," which he said were now "less sensitive" to security concerns decades after the end of the Cold War.

But the foreign minister described the nuclear explosions as "practical countermeasures" against the United States and a demonstration of the "strongest-ever will" of North Korea's ruling party and people.

### Alarm bells

Japan and South Korea used their addresses at the General Assembly this week to raise alarm bells over the threat from North Korea. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe demanded that the world find a new way to confront Pyongyang after a decade of UN sanctions failed to change its behavior.

"The threat to the international community has become increasingly grave and all the more realistic," he said Wednesday. "It demands a new means of addressing it, altogether different from what we applied until yesterday."

South Korea's Foreign Minister Yung Byung-se suggested that the North could be stripped of its status as a member of the United Nations for refusing to accept the Security Council's decisions. "I believe it is high time to seriously reconsider whether North Korea is qualified as a peace-loving UN member," he said in his address on Thursday.

However, such a proposal is likely to be opposed by China, Pyongyang's ally, which has repeatedly called for a de-escalation of tensions. North Korea's membership in the United Nations—the only major international forum where Pyongyang has a voice—dates back 35 years to when the two Koreas were admitted simultaneously.

China, which is in negotiations with the United States on a new sanctions resolution, is also pushing for a resumption of six-party talks on North Korea's nuclear program.

Yung accused North Korea's government of engaging in a "fanatical and reckless pursuit" of nuclear and missile programs that had reduced the country to a wasteland of poverty and oppression. Also voicing alarm, the North Korean foreign minister declared that the Korean peninsula had "turned into the world's hot spot" that could see "the outbreak of nuclear war."

But blame for the "root cause" of the crisis lies with the United States, he added, railing again against US-South Korea military exercises held twice this year. — AFP

## UN URGES US, CHINA, OTHERS TO RATIFY N-TEST BAN TREATY

US SAYS THAAD DEPLOYMENT NOT NEGOTIABLE

**UNITED NATIONS:** The United Nations Security Council urged China, the United States, North Korea, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel and Pakistan to ratify a treaty banning nuclear explosions, which would allow the deal negotiated 20 years ago to come into force. More than 160 countries have ratified the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). Since then India, Pakistan and North Korea have conducted nuclear tests. This month Pyongyang conducted its fifth and largest test.

The 15-member Security Council adopted a US-drafted resolution on Friday with 14 votes in favor and an abstention by Egypt. It does not impose any legal obligations but adds political weight to the push for the treaty to be enacted. The UN resolution calls on all states to refrain from conducting any nuclear explosions.

US President Barack Obama's administration has said it would like to ratify the treaty, but a number of US lawmakers, especially Republicans, oppose ratification of a pact they fear would limit US security options. "Our affirmative vote here is a sign of our unwavering commitment to a safer world in which nuclear technology is used solely for peaceful purposes and the risk of nuclear conflict is no more," US Secretary of State John Kerry.

He said the resolution does not impose a legal prohibition on testing or require governments to adopt new reporting. "But it does reinforce the core purposes and objectives of the CTBT itself: to diminish our reliance on nuclear devices, to reduce competition among nuclear powers, and to promote responsible disarmament," Kerry told the council.

UN Ambassador Vitaly Churkin of Russia said Moscow hoped the next president of the United States would be "more strident in his desire to ratify it." The United States is due to elect a new president on Nov 8. Obama will step down in January. Egypt's Hisham Badr, assistant foreign minister for multilateral

affairs, described the resolution as "substantively flawed and ill-suited to be addressed in the Security Council."

"Its contribution to the nuclear disarmament regime is minimal and ineffective. Rather than strengthening this regime, the resolution squanders the opportunity to emphasize the urgency to advance nuclear disarmament," he told the council.

### THAAD deployment

The planned US deployment of the THAAD anti-missile system in South Korea is not negotiable as part of efforts to agree new UN sanctions on North Korea after its fifth nuclear test, but Washington is confident tougher steps will be agreed before long, the senior US diplomat for Asia said on Friday.

China, whose full backing is widely seen as crucial for sanctions on North Korea to be effective, is strongly opposed to the deployment of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense system and some experts have argued it should be part of talks on new UN measures.

Asked whether THAAD was negotiable, Daniel Russel, the US assistant secretary of state for East Asia, referred to a U.S.-South Korean agreement on the deployment.

"No. The two countries have made a decision," he told Reuters. US Secretary of State John Kerry, meeting Southeast Asian leaders in New York on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly, said the United States would "do whatever is necessary to defend our own citizens and to honor our security commitments to our allies."

Discussions are under way on a possible new UN sanctions resolution on North Korea after it conducted its fifth and largest nuclear test on Sept 9. Russel later told a news briefing discussions were still at an early stage, but he was confident that a new UN resolution would be agreed before long, imposing further sanctions and tightening existing ones. — AFP



**Blaine Gibson holding a piece of aircraft debris on a beach in Madagascar. Gibson is the first person searching for the plane who's actually found any trace of it and says he won't quit gathering clues until the mystery is solved. — AP**

## MH370 WRECKAGE HUNTER WON'T GIVE UP UNTIL MYSTERY SOLVED

**CANBERRA, Australia:** The fedora, the bomber jacket and the consuming quest invite comparisons to Indiana Jones. Blaine Gibson, though, hasn't matched the film hero's triumph in finding the legendary chest containing the stone tablets inscribed with the Ten Commandments.

Not that he didn't try. "The Ark of the Covenant, I did not find it. However, I do believe that it's in Ethiopia somewhere," Gibson told AP recently. The amateur sleuth has had far greater success finding clues from a modern mystery: the disappearance of Malaysia Airlines Flight 370.

He is the first person searching for the plane who's actually found any trace of it and says he won't quit gathering clues until the mystery is solved. "Travel is what I do, but I always love travel with a purpose, and solving the mystery of Malaysia 370 is a purpose ... until I or someone else finds out what happened to the plane and those on board," he said while in the Australian capital of Canberra to visit the headquarters for the official plane search.

The Boeing 777 carrying 227 passengers and 12 crew members is thought to have plunged into the southern Indian Ocean after inexplicably flying far off course during a flight from Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia, to Beijing, on March 8, 2014. The first reports that Gibson had found a possible part of the plane met with skepticism. Other pieces of suspected debris have been stumbled upon by chance. But how could one private citizen succeed in finding a piece of the plane where a multi-government, multimillion-dollar search had failed? Answer: There is no official search being conducted, beyond that of the 120,000 square kilometers (46,000 square miles) of seabed southwest of Australia calculated to be the crash site.

But the triangular panel stenciled "no step" that Gibson found on Feb. 27 has been confirmed as almost certainly a horizontal stabilizer from a Flight 370 wing.

Gibson said he found himself in Mozambique partly because oceanographers had told him that debris might wash up on its beaches and partly because he had never visited the country. (The 58-year-old born in California has been to 177 countries in a quest to visit them all). Getting to know relatives of the missing has ended any chance of him conceding defeat in his search. "It was good management, but it was also a lot of luck," Gibson said. "What you don't see before that were the number of beaches that I combed in Reunion, in Mauritius in other parts of the world and found nothing." Gibson has since recovered another 13 pieces of potential

debris in Madagascar, with the help of locals he has befriended who now search for him. He and victims' relatives have been frustrated by Malaysia's hesitance to collect the debris and potential personal effects and analyze them for clues. Gibson hand-delivered five pieces of debris on Sept. 12 when he and relatives of Flight 370 victims met in Canberra with officials of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, which is conducting the deep-sea sonar search on Malaysia's behalf.

Warren Truss, a former deputy prime minister who oversaw the search until retiring from politics in February, expects more of Gibson's finds will be confirmed. "He has certainly made a constructive contribution to the search," said Truss.

Australian oceanographer David Griffin, one of two Gibson credits with pointing him the right direction, found the American to be frustrated that search responsibilities fell between cracks of coordinating agencies. "He sees that one man can just go and get on with the job. I think it's terrific that somebody who has the ability and resources to do that just gets on with it," Griffin said.

Gibson has also been a volunteer archaeologist in Belize and Guatemala investigating the fate of the Mayan civilization. His old friend Peter Davenport said he was not surprised that the adventurer would immerse himself so completely in the aviation mystery.

### Aviation mystery

Davenport, who is director of the National UFO Reporting Center based in Washington state, said he once got Gibson interested in the Tunguska event: a large explosion near the Stony Tunguska River in Siberia that flattened a vast area of forest in 1908. "Next thing I know, he's there trying to befriend people who knew something about it and trying to get to the heart of the mystery, which is still a mystery in my opinion. It was not a meteor, clearly," Davenport said. (Gibson concludes the explosion was caused by a meteor that vaporized in the atmosphere).

Davenport said his friend of more than two decades had the capability to solve mysteries as well as the desire. "He is very engaging, he gets along with people very well, he's non-confrontational, I would say, and these are all qualities that I think evoke in people a desire to work with him and to help him," Davenport said. Gibson said he has always worked to fund travel and selling his deceased parents' home in Carmel, California, for more than \$1 million in 2014 will keep him in the hunt for Flight 370. — AP



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## ALEPPO REELS FROM DEADLY AIR STRIKES, DOZENS KILLED

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### OCA SETS UP 5 NEW OFFICES AS ROW RUMBLES

**DANANG, Vietnam:** The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has decided to set up five new sub offices to enable it to function effectively while the row with the Kuwait government continues over its headquarters in the state. Kuwait was suspended by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in Oct 2015 after the government was accused of interference in its national Olympic Committee, which has subsequently been dissolved. A month later, the long-term agreement for the OCA to have its headquarters in Kuwait City was unilaterally torn up by the government.

The OCA Executive Board met yesterday and decided to set up regional offices in Bangkok, Almaty, Delhi and Nansha, China as well as in Lausanne, Switzerland, the home of the IOC. "We are committed to not only continuing with our services but to improve them further," OCA Director General Husain Al-Musallam said in a statement. "We hope for the (Kuwait) government to finalize what is the direction. (They) terminated the diplomatic agreement in November last year and we are looking forward to finalizing all the related issues officially with them. But now, with these five offices, plus Lausanne, the OCA and the Asian Games is well protected."

Continued on Page 13



ALEPPO: Syrians receive treatment at a makeshift hospital following air strikes on the rebel-held eastern areas of this city yesterday. — AFP

**BEIRUT:** The Syrian army and militia allies seized ground north of Aleppo yesterday, tightening a siege of the city's rebel-held east while warplanes bombed it relentlessly in a Russian-backed offensive that has left Washington's Syria policy in tatters. The capture of Handarat, a Palestinian refugee camp a few kilometers north of Aleppo, marked the first major ground advance of the offensive, which the government announced on Thursday. The camp, on elevated ground overlooking one of the main roads into Aleppo, had been in rebel hands for years.

"Handarat has fallen," an official with one of the main Aleppo rebel groups told Reuters. An army statement confirming the advance said "large numbers of terrorists" had been killed. The assault on Aleppo, where more than 250,000 civilians are trapped in a besieged opposition sector, could be the biggest battle yet in a civil war that has killed hundreds of thousands of people and driven 11 million from their homes.

Two weeks after Moscow and Washington announced a ceasefire, President Bashar Al-Assad and his Russian and Iranian allies appear to have launched a campaign for a decisive battlefield victory that has buried any hope for diplomacy. Dozens of people have been reported killed in eastern Aleppo since the army announced the new offensive. US Secretary of State John Kerry, who hammered out the truce over the course of months of intensive diplomacy, was left this week pleading in vain this week with Russia to halt air strikes.

Residents say air strikes on eastern Aleppo have been more intense than ever, using more powerful bombs. Rebel officials said heavy air strikes yesterday hit at least four areas of the opposition-held east, and they believe the strikes are mostly being carried out by Russian warplanes.

Continued on Page 13

## SHRIMPY SPECIAL COMBO



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The silhouettes of statues and buildings are seen from the Charles Bridge early morning yesterday in Prague. — AFP

## ALEPPO REELS FROM DEADLY AIR STRIKES...

Continued from Page 1

Video of the blast sites shows huge craters several meters wide and deep.

"There are planes in the sky now," Ammar Al-Selmo, the head of the Civil Defense rescue service in the opposition-held east, told Reuters from Aleppo yesterday morning. The group draws on ambulance workers and volunteers who dig survivors and the dead out of the rubble, often with their bare hands. It says several of its own headquarters have been destroyed in the latest bombing. "Our teams are responding but are not enough to cover this amount of catastrophe," Selmo said.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 45 people, among them 10 children, were killed in eastern Aleppo yesterday. Rescue workers said Friday's death toll was over 100. The army says it is only targeting militants in the campaign announced on Thursday evening. The war has ground on for nearly six years, with all diplomatic efforts collapsing in failure. Half of Syria's population has been made homeless, the war has drawn in world powers and regional states, and Islamic State - the enemy of all other sides - seized swathes of Syria and neighbouring Iraq.

For most of that time, world powers seemed to accept that neither Assad nor his opponents was likely to be capable of decisive victory on the battlefield. But Russia's apparent decision to abandon the peace process this week could reflect a change in that calculus and a view that victory is in reach, at least in the Western cities where the overwhelming majority of Syrians live.

Assad's fortunes improved a year ago when Russia joined the war on his side. Since then, Washington has worked hard to negotiate peace with Moscow, producing two ceasefires. But both proved short-lived, with Assad, possibly scenting chances for more battlefield success, showing no sign of compromise. Moscow says Washington failed to live up to its side of the latest deal by separating mainstream insurgents from hardened jihadists.

Outside Aleppo, anti-Assad fighters have been driven mostly into rural areas. Nevertheless, they remain a potent fighting force, which they demonstrated with an advance of their own yesterday. The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group said rebels, including the jihadist Jund Al-Aqsa group, had seized two villages in northern

Hama province, an area that is strategically important and close to the coastal heartland of Assad's Alawite minority sect.

A Syrian military source said the army was "fighting fierce battles" around the two villages, Maan and Al-Kabariya. A rebel commander told Reuters he expected fighters would receive more weapons from sponsoring countries to counter the government's latest advance, although there was no sign they would get advanced arms like anti-aircraft missiles they have long sought. "There are indications and promises" of more weapons, though he only expected "a slight increase", said Colonel Fares Al-Bayoush, head of the Northern Division rebel group. He expected more "heavy weapons, such as rocket launchers and artillery".

Damascus and its allies including Shiite militia from Iran, Iraq and Lebanon have encircled rebel-held areas of Aleppo gradually this year, achieving their long-held objective of fully besieging the area this summer with Russian air support. A pro-government Iraqi militia commander in the Aleppo area told Reuters the aim was to capture all of Aleppo within a week. A Western diplomat said on Friday the only way for the government to take the area quickly would be to totally destroy it "in such a monstrous atrocity that it would resonate for generations".

UNICEF, the UN children's charity, said a pumping station providing water for rebel-held eastern Aleppo was destroyed by bombing, and the rebels had responded by shutting down a station supplying the rest of the city, leaving 2 million people without access to clean water. Tarik Jasarevic, spokesman for the World Health Organisation, said yesterday the water system was working "in around 80 percent of the city - both sides".

A Syrian military source told Reuters its operation was continuing according to plan, but declined to give further details. The source said on Friday the operation could go on for some time. Asked about the weapons being used, the source said the army was using precise weapons "suitable for the nature of the targets being struck, according to the type of fortifications", such as tunnels and bunkers, and "specifically command centers". In New York, Syrian Foreign Minister Walid Al-Muallem told the United Nations General Assembly the Syrian government's belief in victory is even greater now that the Syrian army "is making great strides in its war against terrorism". — Reuters

## POLICE HUNTING GUNMAN WHO KILLED 5 AT US MALL

**BURLINGTON, Washington:** A manhunt was underway yesterday in northwest Washington state for a gunman who opened fire with a rifle in a shopping mall and killed five people before disappearing under the cover of darkness, authorities said. The suspect entered the Cascade Mall in Burlington, around 105 km north of Seattle, and began shooting at about 7 pm local time on Friday in the cosmetics section of a Macy's department store, police said.

The unidentified suspect, who police described on Twitter as a Hispanic male, initially walked into the shopping center without the rifle but surveillance video later caught him brandishing the weapon, said Lt Chris Cammock of the Mount Vernon Police Department at briefing yesterday. The rifle was later recovered at the mall, said Cammock, who is commander of the Skagit County Multi-Agency Response Team.

Four women were killed in the rampage, which police believe was carried out by a lone gunman. Later a man who was seriously wounded in the shooting died at a local hospital. None of the victims were identified. Steve Sexton, the mayor of Burlington, described the shooting as a "senseless act". "It was the world knocking on our doorstep and it came to our little community here," he said before acknowledging the response by law enforcement. "I know now our support goes with them to bring this son of a

b\*\*\*\* to justice."

Authorities offered no information about a possible motive for the attack, which followed a series of violent outbursts at shopping centers across the United States, including the stabbing of nine people at a Minnesota center last weekend. "We have no indication that we have a terrorism act," said Michael Knutson, assistant special agent in charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Seattle office. "I can't discount that, but I can't conclude it either."

After the shooting, police and rescue workers worked their way through the mall, clearing stores and evacuating shoppers, some of whom locked themselves in dressing rooms. The mall remained closed on Saturday as investigators sifted for evidence and attempted to recreate the crime scene. Cammock said police had no clues about the identity or whereabouts of the suspect, and asked the public for help in tracking him down.

Authorities released a grainy photo of the suspect taken by a surveillance camera. It shows a young male in his late teens or mid-20s with short dark hair, dressed in dark shorts and T-shirt and carrying a rifle. Local authorities searched through the night for the gunman and warned residents to remain indoors, though later said the area was safe. The suspect was last seen walking toward an interstate highway that runs past the mall, which is 45 miles south of the Canadian province of British Columbia. — Reuters

## OCA SETS UP 5 NEW OFFICES AS ROW RUMBLES

Continued from Page 1

The board meeting in Danang, Vietnam also agreed to limit the number of athletes at the Asian Games to two per country per sport. "This decision has been made to reduce the participants at the Asian Games, which now involve 15,000 athletes and officials from the 45 countries and regions, 4,000 technical staff, 8,000 media and 30,000 volunteers and workforce, meaning some 60,000 people are involved every day of the Games," read an OCA statement.

Australia, who are in the Oceania confederation for the

Olympics but Asia for soccer, have also been invited to participate at the 2017 Asian Winter Games, but without the chance of winning medals. "Oceania is a neighboring confederation for Asia and we welcome not only Australia but all Oceania to take the opportunity to enter for the first time, as a guest but with no medals," the statement added. "We will evaluate the situation after that." Oceania does not organize a Winter Games. The next Asian Winter games are in Sapporo, Japan in February, while the next Summer version of the continental gathering takes place in Indonesia in 2018. — Reuters

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## Issues

ORBANOMICS STARTS  
PRODUCING REWARDS

By Krisztina Than

Attila Behovits launched his street food business during hard times for Hungary but four years on, the economy - like demand for his traditional spicy sausages - is growing well. Entrepreneurs like Behovits still believe the country lacks innovative ideas and bemoan a labor shortage as young Hungarians keep heading abroad for a better life. Nevertheless, "Orbanomics" - Prime Minister Viktor Orban's controversial form of shock therapy - is paying off. The sharp economic contraction of 2012 has turned into a solid expansion, the budget deficit is under control and Hungary is regaining its investment grade credit ratings.

Behovits's business of selling mini sausages and toppings stuffed into a cone-shaped bun, called "kolbice", has grown exponentially in parallel as Hungarians have started spending again after severe belt-tightening following the 2008 global financial crisis. "Kolbice was my idea, as I go to festivals a lot, and we could see that the sausage and bread combo is always popular", Behovits said at his restaurant in one of Budapest's magnificent 19th century market halls.

Annual turnover at his company, Kobe Sausages, already exceeds 100 million forints (\$365,000), and it is expanding a franchise network in Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Austria. A mechanical engineer by training, 45-year-old Behovits also manages several other firms. Orban embarked on his independent policy course shortly after coming to power in 2010. He imposed big windfall taxes on banks, energy, telecoms and retail firms and nationalized private pension savings of 3 trillion forints (\$11 billion).

Such unorthodox measures upset investors and brought him into conflict with the European Union, the International Monetary Fund and financial markets, but they also reined in the budget deficit. After rating the country's debt as "junk" for five years, two of the three main credit agencies upgraded Hungary, once called the "sick man of Europe", to investment grade this year, recognising for the first time that Orbanomics had worked. Last week's upgrade by Standard and Poor's, which markets had not expected so soon, drove yields on Hungarian 10-year bonds below those of Poland this week. Analysts expect more investors to pile money into Hungarian assets in the short run.

## Stability vs Competitiveness

The budget deficit is now below the EU ceiling of 3 percent of GDP, public debt is declining and the current account is running a huge surplus. The economy grew about 3 percent last year, helped by billions of euros of EU development funds. By shifting financing to forint-denominated debt sales, Hungary's reliance on foreign currency debt and foreign investors has decreased. And after squeezing the banks for years, Orban started to cut the bank tax this year, improving investors' mood.

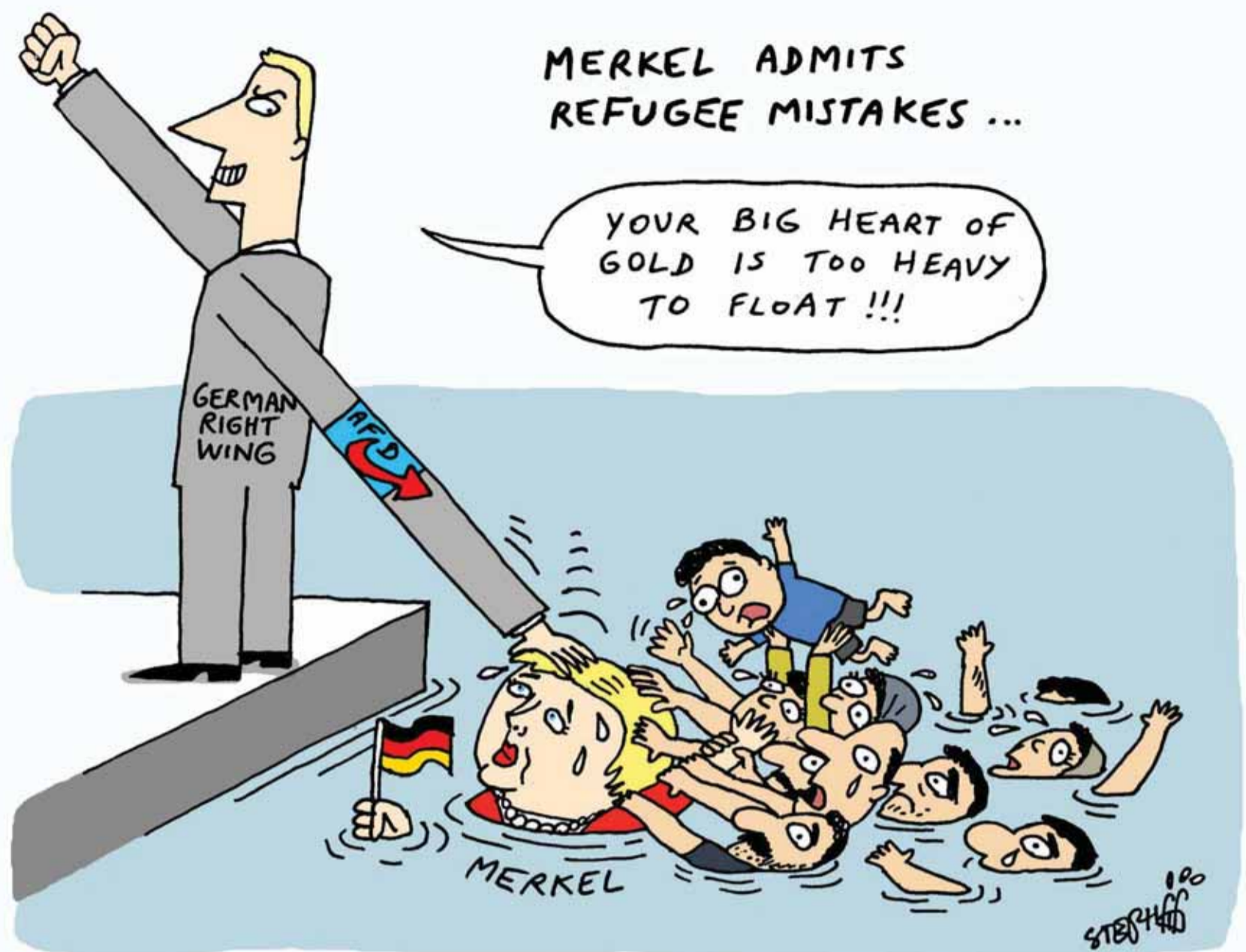
"If we look from the stability perspective ... the Hungarian economy is less vulnerable now than it was before the crisis, so from that perspective Hungarian economic policy was successful," David Nemeth, an analyst at K&H Bank said. But the problems are not over. "On the competitiveness rankings, Hungary is well behind the regional competitors," said Nemeth.

In the World Economic Forum's 2015-2016 Global Competitiveness Report, Hungary ranked 63rd, behind Poland, the Czech Republic and Romania. The volume of investments in Hungary fell by an annual 20.3 percent in the second quarter, the steepest decline since early 2012, due to EU-financed investments coming to a close. This shows how much the economy still depends on funding from the EU - with which Orban has had a succession of disputes including over the refugee crisis and constitutional reform.

Small firms like Behovits's street food business are laboring under from Europe's highest value-added tax rate of 27 percent. Banks have tightened credit conditions, while venture capital financing is expensive, although a massive central bank loan program has helped. VAT on restaurants, internet connections and basic foodstuffs will drop to 18 percent next year but companies still complain about excessive bureaucracy, a lack of transparency and corruption in the state sector. The government is reluctant to cut the main VAT rate but has promised a reduction in social taxes on jobs. "In the coming years, the government will strive to further reduce the size of tax and social contributions burdening the economy," Economy Minister Mihaly Varga said on Thursday.

## Exodus

Hungary has attracted foreign investors partly because wages are low compared with in Western Europe but Behovits believes this model is at risk. He says the main problems for the economy are a growing labor shortage, which is putting upwards pressure on pay, and a lack of innovative ideas in an emerging economy dominated by multinational firms, mainly big German car makers. "It would be very important to have many more domestic innovations, home-grown firms which develop innovative products of their own," he said. "Our big competitive advantage is wages ... but now that we face a big shortage of labour, this is under pressure, wages will rise." —Reuters



## Washington Watch

## DON'T PLAY POLITICS WITH SYRIAN CHRISTIANS

By Dr James J Zogby

Elliott Abrams, a former Reagan and Bush Administration official and a former colleague on the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), has written an article "The United States Bars Christian, Not Muslim, Refugees From Syria". It is provocative, as its title suggests, but it is deeply flawed in its argument, its evidence, and its conclusions. Abrams begins by noting that of the more than ten thousand Syrian refugees admitted this past year, only 56 are Christian. Out of that single thread he weaves a whole cloth using unsubstantiated anecdotes, bad math and worse logic, with a touch of fabrication thrown in for good measure - quoting Nina Shea, another former USCIRF Commissioner, who boldly states that there is "de facto discrimination and a gross injustice" being committed [by the US] against Syrian Christians.

Abrams frames his case around the assumption that around 10 percent of Syria's prewar population was Christian. That much is true. But then, without justification, he alleges that "somewhere between a half million and a million Syrian Christians have fled Syria". Since he presents no evidence for that claim, I can only speculate that Abrams may have taken the total number of Syrian refugees (between 4.5 to 5 million, with another 6 million Syrians internally displaced) and assumed that Christians must be 10 percent of that total. This is clearly unwarranted.

Specialists in the field point to several factors that Abrams either doesn't know or won't acknowledge because they would muddy up his case. In the first place, we simply do not know how many Christians have left Syria. Many, we are told by church leaders, have stayed because they have felt relatively secure in government controlled areas. Instead of uprooting their families and risking the loss of their properties and businesses, they have remained. There is also strong evidence that some Christians who are wealthier or who are professionals left Syria to join families abroad.

Many others, we know, have settled in Christian areas of Lebanon, where they have family ties, and do not consider themselves refugees. After Jordan and Lebanon began tightening their borders, more recent Syrian refugees have taken advantage of Turkey's more porous borders and since

Turkey keeps and does not share its registration data for refugees, we have no idea how many Christians have entered that country. The bottom line is that it is simply not possible to know the number of Christians who fled Syria.

## 'Theory'

Abrams' next argument is based on what he initially terms "a theory", but then acts as if it were established fact, "that the US takes refugee referrals from the UN refugee camps in Jordan and there are no Christians there [in the refugee camps in Jordan]". This "theory" supposedly accounts for the low number of Syrian Christians coming to the US. To add weight to this argument, Abrams again quotes Shea who alleges that the reason Christians aren't in the Jordanian camps is because "they are preyed upon by other residents from the Sunni community...they are raped, abducted into slavery...It is extremely dangerous, there is not a single Christian in the Jordanian camps for Syrian refugees".

It is difficult to know what to make of Shea's horror stories of Christians being raped and abducted in the camps. What we do know is that Christians aren't in the camps and there are better reasons to explain this other than to assume fear. In the first place, only 15 percent of all Syrian refugees in Jordan are in the camps. While Jordan is not a preferred destination for Syrian Christians, those who have sought refuge in Jordan have gone to cities. The UN has registered Syrian Christians in Jordan by going to churches to seek them out. While Lebanon has apparently played host to the bulk of Syrian Christians, many of them have not sought to register as refugees. Those who have registered in Lebanon cannot be processed for visas to the US because the visa offices of US Embassy in Lebanon have been closed for the past few years for security reasons.

Another factor to consider here is that since 2012, the US has accepted over 100,000 Syrians on a variety of visas (work, student, family). In addition, there were many Syrians who were already in the US on non-immigrant visas when the war broke out. When their visas expired, many were given permission to remain under a provision called Temporary Protected Stay (TPS). Since the US does not register visitors, students, or workers by religion, we do not know how many of these Syrians are Christian.

What we are left with is the fact that there are many reasons why the US hasn't processed a large number of Syrian Christians and it has nothing to do with discrimination by either

the UN or the Obama Administration. More likely it is because they haven't fled the country in the numbers speculated by Abrams, they haven't registered with the UN as refugees, or many are already here in the US either with other forms of visas or TPS. And as for the argument that the US discriminates against Christians, consider the fact that of the 128,000 Iraqis who have been settled in the US in the past decade, 45,000 are Christians.

## Politics?

Given all this, I am left to wonder why Abrams and company are beating this drum. It can't just be because they care about Christians. During the first three years of the Iraq war (which Abrams supported as a Bush Administration Deputy National Security Advisor), Iraq's Christian community was devastated, declining from a prewar 1.4 million to around 400,000 in 2008. Back then not a peep of concern was raised about the fate of Christians. Only now is the charge being leveled that this Administration is failing to protect vulnerable Christians. Could there be politics at work?

Abrams closes out his article urging support for the Religious Persecution Relief Act sponsored by Senator Tom Cotton (R-Arkansas). Critical of both the UN and the Obama Administration, the Cotton bill proposes circumventing the UN refugee agency and creating a "fast track US review process" for Syrian religious minorities. The criticisms are unfair and unwarranted. It has always been the priority of the US to accept the most vulnerable.

Despite the horrors that have been inflicted on Christians, Yazidis, and other minority religious communities in Iraq and Syria, it must also be acknowledged: that ISIS has most often targeted and murdered Sunni and Shiite Muslims; that Shiite militia have terrorized Sunnis; and that the victims of Assad's barrel bombs and chlorine gas have been Sunnis. Are these victims not vulnerable and worthy of consideration for refuge? Does it reflect our nation's professed values to begin to play sectarian or partisan politics with these victims of war?

I am a Christian of Arab descent and I care deeply about the fate of the Christians of the Middle East. For over a century they have either been exploited by groups in the West, when it served Western interest to do so, or callously ignored. I care about them too much to see them being used again.

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

## FEST BRINGS (SOME) WORLD CINEMA TO PYONGYANG

By Giles Hewitt

Sex and graphic violence were largely a no-no, although a glimpse of naked Russian buttocks made the cut, while a Bollywood offering was well received and Hollywood was locked out completely. The Pyongyang International Film Festival, which opened a week after North Korea triggered global outrage with its fifth nuclear test and wrapped up on Friday, is a world away from Berlin, Sundance and other established names on the festival circuit.

While big-name jury members pose in front of media scrums on the Croisette in Cannes, in Pyongyang they ran three-legged races and rolled on the grass popping balloons with their bodies on a sports outing organised between screenings. "Every day, there's been something I wasn't expecting," said Al Cossar, a jury member from New Zealand. PIFF was launched in 1987 and has been held every two years since 1990.

It began life as the Pyongyang Film Festival of Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, but selection has been gradually broadened since 2000 to include entries from Britain, France and elsewhere. The actual selection process is opaque - none of the attending foreign delegates were able to shed much light on how it worked - and is in the hands of the Korea Film Export and Import Corp. (KorFilm) which controls theatrical distribution in North Korea.

The vice head of KorFilm, Kim Jae-Hyok, said the organizing committee, of which he is

chairman, looked for films that "reflected the mission of the festival which is self-reliance, peace and friendship." "We do not select films that criticize another country," he told AFP.

## Hollywood Ban

While ostensibly open to entries from anywhere, there are clear exceptions. US and South Korean movies have never been

shown - a ban that Kim made clear was not about to be lifted anytime soon in the current diplomatic climate. "Hostile countries including South Korea and the United States are imposing sanctions on us and not looking for cultural exchange," he said. "This year, there have been attempts to derail the hopes and aspirations of many filmmakers around the world who are trying to take part in our festi-

val, by sanctions and other means," he added, without elaborating.

"Cultural exchange" is something of a buzzword at PIFF, given that it cannot begin to match the likes of Cannes or Berlin in terms of offering selected films global exposure or distribution deals. Many of those who bring movies to Pyongyang seem mainly to be driven by curiosity to attend what must be the world's most unlikely film festival. "I could have gone to Toronto, but I would have just seen the same old faces, so I chose to come here," said French director Francois Margolin, whose feature on Jewish art looted by the Nazis ("The Art Dealer") was shown out of competition.

"I was curious to see how a North Korean audience would react to something outside of their cultural context," Margolin said. "North Korea isn't Mars. There's a growing interest among people here about the outside world that is being fed by technology," he added.

## Home Screenings

Outside of the festival, western films are very rarely screened in North Korean cinemas and foreign movies shown on television are largely restricted to often decades-old Soviet or Chinese fare. But in recent years, residents of cities like Pyongyang have enjoyed increasing access to the latest Hollywood blockbusters thanks to a thriving black market in smuggled DVDs and films on USB sticks that can be played secretly at home on portable media players. —AFP



Men stand next to cycles beneath film posters at the Pyongyang International Cinema during the 15th Pyongyang Film Festival in the capital of North Korea on Friday. —AFP

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### STORM EDGE RAIDERS TO SET UP SHARKS FINAL

**MELBOURNE:** The Melbourne Storm held on to beat the Canberra Raiders 14-12 in a tight semi-final yesterday and set up a National Rugby League title decider against the Cronulla Sharks. The Raiders made the minor premiers work hard for their seventh trip to the grand final, their first since 2012, especially when Elliot Whitehead scored a converted try after 76 minutes to make it a two-point game. The Storm's experienced core kept their cool in a tense final four minutes, however, to ensure the visitors were unable to build on their momentum and steal the victory. "It's been a few years since we've been there and it's just a fantastic feeling," Storm captain Cameron Smith said in a pitchside interview. "They were really hard to stop when they got going, but I was really proud of the way we defended tonight." Cooper Cronk celebrated becoming only the 25th man to play 300 NRL games with the Storm's first try after winger Jordan Rapana had given Canberra an early advantage with his club-record 23rd try of the season. —Reuters



### GOEIDO BEATS TAMAWASHI TO SECURE EMPEROR'S TITLE

**TOKYO:** Ozeki Goeido comfortably defeated sixth-ranked maegashira Tamawashi (9-5) by yorikiri to win his first Emperor's Cup title at the Autumn Grand Sumo Tournament yesterday. The 30-year-old Goeido, who becomes the fifth oldest man to win his first championship since sumo went to a six-tournament season in 1958, maintained his perfect record on the penultimate day of the 15-day meet. Endo, the only other wrestler with a mathematical chance at the crown, kept his hopes alive with victory over sekiwake Takayasu - only to see them dashed later by Goeido. "I just focused on wrestling as hard as I could," said Goeido, who is the first kadoban ozeki since Bulgarian Kotooshu in 2008 to become champion. "There was a time when things didn't go my way, but I'm glad I stuck it out. I concentrated on my performance and took it one bout at a time, which led to this result. Goeido, who will become the first kadoban ozeki to lift the cup with a 15-0 mark if he beats Kotoshogiku today, was promoted to ozeki in 2014 and will now be looking for promotion to yokozuna for the year's last event in November. —Reuters

### SAKHO COURTS CONTROVERSY WITH A SNAPCHAT OUTBURST

**LONDON:** Liverpool outcast Mamadou Sakho took to social media yesterday to say he will expose "the lie" about his situation at the club. The remarks risk aggravating his relationship with Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp, who has not picked the centre back since he was banned for failing a drugs test in April. Although his sanction was subsequently lifted by UEFA, the French international has failed to force his way into Klopp's plans and was sent home from the club's pre-season tour for disciplinary reasons. The 26-year-old also sustained an injury, from which he has now recovered. But with new signing Joel Matip and Dejan Lovren forming a solid centre back partnership, Sakho appears to have been relegated to fifth choice behind Ragnar Klavan and Lucas Leiva. Writing on Snapchat at 3.05am local time on Saturday, Sakho, who rejected the chance to move on loan in the transfer window, said: "I accept my situation but I can't accept the lie. The fans deserve to know the truth. "Now it's three weeks since I am fit to play games. I finish all my rehabilitation work. They don't want me to play also with second team lol! Why, I don't know." In the Snapchat post, ahead of Liverpool's game against Hull City on Saturday, Sakho insisted he was doing his best in training. —Reuters



## RANGERS SECURE THEIR SECOND STRAIGHT AL WEST TITLE

**OAKLAND:** Adrian Beltre hit a two-run homer in the seventh inning and the Texas Rangers secured their second straight AL West title, becoming the first American League team to clinch a playoff spot with a 3-0 victory over the Oakland Athletics on Friday night. Beltre's homer came during a three-run seventh after Oakland starter Kendall Graveman (10-11) pitched six perfect innings. Texas got its first baserunner when Carlos Gomez beat out an infield hit to lead off the seventh against Graveman. This is Texas' eighth AL West title and fourth since 2010. All-Star left-hander Cole Hamels (15-5), acquired prior to last year's non-waiver trade deadline, pitched the division-clinching game for the second year in a row. Last year, he threw a three-hitter in the last game of the regular season to beat the Los Angeles Angels. Rangers closer Sam Dyson got pinch-hitter Yonder Alonso to hit into a fielder's choice for the last out to record his 36th save.

#### RED SOX 2, RAYS 1

David Ortiz hit a two-run homer in the first inning to set the RBIs record for a player in his final season, and the AL East-leading Boston beat Tampa Bay for its ninth straight victory. Ortiz's 37th homer came off Chris Archer (8-19) and raised his RBIs total to 124, one more than Shoeless Joe Jackson in 1920. The 40-year-old's 540th homer, his 300th on the road, struck an overhanging catwalk above the right-field seats. Coming off four-game sweeps of the New York Yankees and Baltimore, the Red Sox began the night with a six-game lead over second-place Toronto in the AL East. They lowered their magic number to two for clinching a playoff berth. Drew Pomeranz (3-5) allowed one run and four hits in five innings. Brad Ziegler, the fifth Boston reliever, got his fourth save after allowing a leadoff double in the ninth to Evan Longoria. Archer set a Tampa Bay record for losses in a season, breaking the mark Tanyon Sturtz set in 2002. He has lost 11 straight decisions against Boston since beating the Red Sox in his first career start against them on Sept. 19, 2012. Mikie Mahtook hit a solo homer in the second for the Rays.

#### CUBS 5, CARDINALS 0

Jake Arrieta struck out 10 in seven innings and Chicago beat St. Louis for its 98th victory, the Cubs' most since they last played in the World Series in 1945. Arrieta (18-7) allowed five hits and walked one, Anthony Rizzo had three hits and Ben Zobrist drove in two runs to help the Cubs (98-55) tie a team record with their 56th home win. They clinched home-field advantage throughout the NL playoffs. Chicago scored four runs in the first inning off Mike Leake (9-11). Pedro Strop came off the disabled list to work the eighth, and Travis Wood and Carl Edwards Jr finished the five-hitter. Rizzo, Zobrist and Chris Coghlan drove in runs in the first off Leake, who lasted 3 1/3 innings and is winless in four starts since recovering from shingles. Leake allowed another run on one of two wild pitches. Cardinals' gaffes included Kolten Wong face-planting into the turf chasing Rizzo's first-inning double and Matt Adams getting picked off first. Zobrist's fourth-inning groundout added another run for Chicago.

#### DODGERS 5, ROCKIES 2

Joc Pederson and pinch-hitter Andre Ethier hit back-to-back home runs in the fourth inning and Los Angeles defeated Colorado after an emotional pre-game ceremony honoring Vin Scully. Their third straight victory trimmed the Dodgers' magic number for clinching a record fourth consecutive NL West title to two. Pederson worked the count to 3-2 during a nine-pitch at-bat before homering off Jon Gray (10-9) with two outs. Ross Stripling (5-



**MINNEAPOLIS:** Kyle Seager #15 of the Seattle Mariners makes a play at third base against the Minnesota Twins during the sixth inning of the game at Target Field in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Mariners defeated the Twins 10-1. —AFP

8) got the win in relief of injured Scott Kazmir. The rookie right-hander allowed two hits in three innings, struck out four and walked two.

#### METS 10, PHILLIES 5

Michael Conforto hit a three-run homer that capped a six-run rally in the fifth inning, Hansel Robles gave a big boost from the bullpen and New York beat Philadelphia to stay atop the NL wild-card race. The Mets are a game up on San Francisco for the wild-card lead. St. Louis lost and trails New York by 1 1/2 games. A day after using 10 pitchers in a stirring 9-8, 11-inning win over the Phillies, the Mets sent out six more. With his team competing for a playoff spot, manager Terry Collins yanked starter Gabriel Ynoa after just two shaky innings. Robles preserved a 7-5 lead in the seventh, getting pinch-hitter Tommy Joseph to ground into an inning-ending double play with the bases loaded. Robles finished with hitless relief for his first career save. Josh Smoker (3-0) was the winner. Jeremy Hellickson (12-10) was the loser. Maikel Franco homered for the second straight day and pinch-hitter Darin Ruf also connected for the Phillies.

#### PIRATES 6, NATIONALS 5, 11 INNINGS

Rookie Jacob Stallings' pinch-hit single in the 11th inning lifted Pittsburgh past Washington, preventing the Nationals from clinching a post-season berth. Pittsburgh loaded the bases with one out against Yusmiero Petit (3-5) when Francisco Cervelli doubled, Andrew McCutchen was intentionally walked and Pedro Florimon walked. Sean Rodriguez struck out and Stalling, a son of University of Pittsburgh basketball coach Kevin Stallings, grounded a 3-2 pitch into left field. Wade LeBlanc (4-0) was the winner. Pittsburgh's seventh win in nine games kept the Pirates on the

fringe of the NL wild-card race. Washington lost for the fifth time in six games. The Nationals have magic numbers of one for a playoff berth and two for an NL East title. Wilson Ramos and Danny Espinosa homered for the Nationals.

#### PADRES 7, GIANTS 2

Wil Myers hit a three-run homer off rookie Albert Suarez in the first inning and San Diego beat San Francisco for its seventh victory in eight games against the struggling Giants since the All-Star break. The Giants dropped into the second wild-card position, a game behind the New York Mets. Edwin Jackson (5-6) won for just the second time in seven starts, holding the Giants to two runs and four hits in six innings. He struck out five and walked five. Suarez (3-5) fell behind 3-0 before recording an out. Jon Jay hit a leadoff single, rookie Carlos Asuaje doubled for his first big league hit and Myers homered into the party deck just beyond the fence in right-center, his 28th.

#### INDIANS 10, WHITE SOX 4

Jose Ramirez hit a two-run homer and drove in four runs, and Cleveland beat Chicago to move a step closer to the AL Central title. The Indians dropped their magic number to three games for their first division title since 2007. Trevor Bauer (12-8) overcame two-run homers by Melky Cabrera and Avisail Garcia. The right-hander allowed four runs in 7 2/3 innings. Mike Napoli drove in two runs and became the first Cleveland player to reach 100 RBIs in nine years. Miguel Gonzalez (4-8) was the loser. Chicago has lost six in a row and was eliminated from the AL wild-card race. White Sox center fielder Adam Eaton left after appearing to hit his head and left shoulder running into the wall catching Roberto Perez's long drive in the sixth.

#### ORIOLES 3, DIAMONDBACKS 2, 12 INNINGS

Mark Trumbo led off the 12th inning with his major league-leading 44th home run, and Baltimore overcame a late two-run deficit to beat Arizona. After getting swept in a four-game series by Boston, the Orioles remained a half-game behind Detroit for the AL's second wild card. Baltimore trailed 2-0 before Pedro Alvarez homered in the eighth off Enrique Burgos, and Matt Wieters homered against Daniel Hudson leading off the ninth. Oliver Drake (1-0) pitched a scoreless 12th for his first big league win. Matt Koch (1-1) relieved to start the bottom half and Trumbo sent his first pitch over the left-field fence, setting off a celebration.

#### BLUE JAYS 9, YANKEES 0

Francisco Liriano and three relievers combined on a three-hitter, Troy Tulowitzki had four RBIs and the Toronto routed New York to maintain a one-game lead in the AL wild-card standings. Josh Donaldson hit a two-run homer, Edwin Encarnacion had his 124th RBI - tied with Boston's David Ortiz for the AL lead - and the Blue Jays won their sixth straight home game over New York. New York was shut out for the second straight night and lost for the ninth time in 12 games, following a seven-game winning streak. The Yankees have gone 0 for 12 with runners in scoring position in their last two games and stranded 17 runners. Liriano (8-13) escaped a bases-loaded jam by striking out Chase Headley to end a 27-pitch first inning, then left runners at the corners after the first two batters reached in the third. That was the start of a stretch that saw the left-hander retire nine straight. Liriano allowed three hits, walked two and struck out six for his second win with Toronto. Bryan Mitchell (1-2) was the loser.

#### BREWERS 5, REDS 4

Chris Carter homered, Ryan Braun had a late clutch hit and Milwaukee its second triple play of the season in a victory over Cincinnati. Carter hit his 38th home run of the season leading off the second against Anthony DeSclafani (8-4). Jose Peraza put the Reds in front with a three-run homer with one out in the fifth off Milwaukee starter Zach Davies. The Brewers scored in the sixth on Carter's RBI groundout to cut the lead to 3-2. Milwaukee loaded the bases with no outs in the seventh, chasing DeSclafani. Scooter Gennett drew a walk off reliever Tony Cingrani to tie it. Milwaukee regained the lead when Braun followed with a two-run single off Blake Wood. Brent Suter (2-1) retired the only batter he faced to get the victory. Tyler Thornburg finished for his 13th save.

#### ANGELS 10, ASTROS 6

Yunel Escobar hit a two-run homer and pinch-hitter Rafael Ortega had three RBIs during a six-run ninth inning, lifting Los Angeles past Houston. Houston fell 2 1/2 games behind the Tigers for the second AL wild card. Houston led 6-4 when Escobar sent a slider from Ken Giles (2-5) into the seats in left field to start the ninth. Giles walked Mike Trout with one out before intentionally walking Albert Pujols. CJ Cron followed with a bloop single to score Trout and put the Angels on top. Giles was replaced by Michael Feliz after loading the bases with a walk. Ortega cleared the bases with his two-out double that deflected off short-stop Carlos Correa's glove to extend the lead. Cody Ege (1-0) got the last two outs of the eighth inning for the win.

#### TIGERS 8, ROYALS 3

Michael Fulmer pitched seven sharp innings for his first win in over a month and Detroit homered three times in a victory over Kansas City. Justin Upton, Victor Martinez and Cameron Maybin went deep to help the Tigers win their fifth straight while chasing a postseason spot. Upton has 27 homers, including 14 in his last 29 games. Fulmer (11-7) allowed a run and eight hits, striking out nine with no walks. Danny Duffy (12-3) allowed six runs and seven hits in 3 2/3 innings. Kansas City has lost nine of its last 12.

#### MARINERS 10, TWINS 1

Robinson Cano had four hits and two RBIs, and Nelson Cruz added a towering two-run homer among his four RBIs and struggling Seattle beat Minnesota. James Paxton pitched seven strong innings and finally received a boost from the offense, which broke out with a six-run seventh inning. Paxton (5-7) struck out nine and allowed one run on five hits. The Mariners (81-72) passed Houston - which lost to the Los Angeles Angels - in the standings but still trail Detroit by two games for the second wild card. Kyle Gibson (6-10) gave up two runs, five hits and four walks for Minnesota.

#### BRAVES 3, MARLINS 2

Adonis Garcia hit a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning, and Atlanta beat Miami for its season-high seventh straight win. Freddie Freeman extended his hitting streak to 27 games with a sixth-inning double. Atlanta's winning streak is its longest since it won nine in a row from June 27-July 5, 2014. With the score 2-2, Emilio Bonifacio singled with one out off AJ Ramos (1-4), stole his first base this season, took third on catcher JT Realmuto's throwing error and came home on Garcia's single to center. Brandon Cuniff (2-0) struck out two of three batters in a hitless eighth, and Mauricio Cabrera threw a hitless ninth for his sixth save in seven chances with the Braves. —AP

### MLB results/standings

Chicago Cubs 5, St. Louis 0; Baltimore 3, Arizona 2 (12 innings); Pittsburgh 6, Washington 5 (11 innings); Toronto 9, NY Yankees 0; Detroit 8, Kansas City 3; Atlanta 3, Miami 2; Boston 2, Tampa Bay 1; Cleveland 10, Chicago White Sox 4; NY Mets 10, Philadelphia 5; Milwaukee 5, Cincinnati 4; LA Angels 10, Houston 6; Seattle 10, Minnesota 1; Texas 3, Oakland 0; LA Dodgers 5, Colorado 2; San Diego 7, San Francisco 2.

#### American League

##### Eastern Division

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	90	64	.584	-
Toronto	84	69	.549	5.5
Baltimore	83	71	.539	7
NY Yankees	79	74	.516	10.5
Tampa Bay	65	88	.425	24.5

##### Central Division

Cleveland	90	63	.588	-
Detroit	83	70	.542	7
Kansas City	77	77	.500	13.5
Chicago White Sox	72	81	.471	18
Minnesota	55	99	.357	35.5

##### Western Division

Texas	91	63	.591	-
Seattle	81	72	.529	9.5
Houston	81	73	.526	10
LA Angels	68	86	.442	23
Oakland	66	87	.431	24.5

#### National League

##### Eastern Division

Washington	89	64	.582	-
NY Mets	82	72	.532	7.5
Miami	76	78	.494	13.5
Philadelphia	69	85	.448	20.5
Atlanta	63	91	.409	26.5

##### Central Division

Chicago Cubs	98	55	.641	-
St. Louis	80	73	.523	18
Pittsburgh	77	76	.503	21
Milwaukee	70	84	.455	28.5
Cincinnati	63	90	.412	35

##### Western Division

LA Dodgers	88	66	.571	-
San Francisco	81	73	.526	7
Colorado	73	81	.474	15
San Diego	65	89	.422	23
Arizona	64	89	.418	23.5



**OAKLAND:** The Texas Rangers celebrate after they clinched the American League West Division Title by beating the Oakland Athletics at Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum. —AFP



# JADEJA, ASHWIN HEROICS PUT INDIA ON TOP

## INDIA TAKE CHARGE AFTER KIWI MELTDOWN IN KANPUR

**KANPUR:** Spinners Ravindra Jadeja and Ravichandran Ashwin helped India gain control of the first Test against New Zealand before the hosts stretched the second innings lead to 215 on the third day in Kanpur yesterday. India, who are playing their 500th Test match, were 159 for one at stumps with opener Murali Vijay on 64 and Cheteshwar Pujara on 50 going strong. The batting duo put together an unbeaten 107-run stand for the second wicket to take the attack to the opposition bowlers.

But it was Jadeja and Ashwin, sharing nine wickets between them, who spun it around for India after bowling out New Zealand for 262 in their first innings and securing a vital 56-run lead. The Indian batsmen seized the advantage with Vijay putting on a 52-run opening stand with Lokesh Rahul, who finally fell to New Zealand spinner Ish Sodhi for 38. Vijay, who registered his 13th half-century, struck seven fours and a six to entertain the raucous home crowd at Kanpur's Green Park Stadium. Pujara also took on the spinners with aplomb as he hit eight boundaries to record his eight Test fifty in his 36th match.

Earlier Ashwin got overnight batsmen Tom Latham and Kane Williamson in the morning session to hurt the Black Caps, who started the day on 152 for one in response to India's 318. "We knew that it was Kane who can really bat for long in their line up. The plan was to get him out. We know others can't bat long hours," Jadeja told reporters. "We got four wickets in the morning session and that was game changing." Off-spinner Ashwin, who took four wickets, struck in the fifth over of the day to

get Latham trapped lbw for 58 and break the 124-run partnership for the second wicket. The left-handed Latham, who added just two runs to his overnight score, was done in by a drifter bowled by Ashwin from around the wicket.

### Ashwin's turner

But it was the wicket of Williamson, who scored 75, that turned the tables for the hosts as Ashwin got the dangerous batsman bowled off a beautiful delivery that spun a lot from outside the off stump. "It was a good ball that came through the bat and the pad," Jadeja, who recorded his fifth five-wicket haul in Tests, said of Ashwin's delivery. Luke Ronchi steadied the innings for a while with his composed 38 but Jadeja got the batsman lbw to break the 49-run fifth-wicket partnership before lunch. The spin twins continued to wreak havoc after the first session as Jadeja, who was denied a hat-trick, wiped off the opposition tail after taking three wickets in the 95th over of the innings.

New Zealand lost five wickets for just seven runs as they nosedived from 255 for five to pack up in 95.5 overs. Santner contributed with 32 while wicketkeeper-batsman BJ Watling also scored 21 to put up some fight but the lower-order batsmen failed to handle the Indian spinners. "There was definitely a bit more turn (on day three), but they have two quality spin bowlers and we lost wickets in clumps," said Watling. Six New Zealand batsmen were trapped lbw on the pitch which started to turn a lot more than the first two days. "We talked about that, we know it's tough to start in these conditions and we've definitely got to do that better in our second innings," said Watling. —AFP



**KANPUR:** India's Murali Vijay plays a shot as New Zealand's Tom Latham try to stop it during the third day of the first cricket test match between India and New Zealand at Green Park Stadium in Kanpur yesterday. —AFP

### SCOREBOARD

**KANPUR:** Scoreboard at stumps yesterday on the third day of the first test between India and New Zealand at Green Park Stadium.

India 1st Innings: 318		7-73-5 (2nb), Ravichandran Ashwin 30.5-7-93-4, Murali Vijay 4-0-10-0, Rohit Sharma 1-0-5-0.	
New Zealand 1st Innings			
Martin Guptill lbw Yadav	21		
Tom Latham lbw Ashwin	58		
Kane Williamson b Ashwin	75		
Ross Taylor lbw Jadeja	0		
Luke Ronchi lbw Jadeja	38		
Mitchell Santner c Saha b Ashwin	32		
BJ Watling c & b Ashwin	21		
Mark Craig lbw Jadeja	2		
Ish Sodhi lbw Jadeja	0		
Trent Boult c Sharma b Jadeja	0		
Neil Wagner not out	0		
Extras: (8b, 5lb, 2nb)	15		
Total: (all out)	262		
Overs: 95.5.			
Bowling: Mohammed Shami 11-1-35-0, Umesh Yadav 15-5-33-1, Ravindra Jadeja 34-			
India 2nd Innings		7-73-5 (2nb), Ravichandran Ashwin 30.5-7-93-4, Murali Vijay not out	
Lokesh Rahul c Taylor b Sodhi	38		
Murali Vijay not out	64		
Cheteshwar Pujara not out	50		
Extras: (7lb)	7		
Total: (for 1 wicket)	159		
Overs: 47.			
Still to bat: Virat Kohli, Ajinkya Rahane, Rohit Sharma, Ravichandran Ashwin, Wriddhiman Saha, Ravindra Jadeja, Mohammed Shami, Umesh Yadav.			
Bowling: Trent Boult 5-0-11-0, Mitchell Santner 13-5-33-0, Mark Craig 11-1-48-0, Neil Wagner 8-3-17-0, Ish Sodhi 7-2-29-1, Martin Guptill 3-0-14-0.			

# CRICKET IS KING; PAKISTAN BASEBALL MAKING STRIDES

**NEW YORK:** Pakistan bowed out of the World Baseball Classic qualifying on Friday but confident the tournament has been a major milestone for the development of the sport in the cricket-mad nation. Field hockey and cricket are Pakistan's two major sports but with baseball returning to the Olympics in 2020, the country is hoping to take part. The Pakistani team competed in North America for the first time this week, taking part in the qualifiers of the WBC at MCU Park in New York. Pakistan were eliminated Friday with a 14-0 preliminary round loss to Great Britain, who advanced to the semi-finals.

They lost both their games to Brazil and Great Britain by a combined score of 24-0, but their inspiring play made them the darlings of the tournament. "This was our first step," said Pakistan manager Syed Fakhar Ali Shah. "We are ready for the second step now. We've never been here before and we never played against those professional players. Now they know the difference between them and those players. That will help us a lot and help our youth in Pakistan." And Pakistan is developing the sport from within and doing a pretty

good job of cultivating homegrown talent by converting cricket players to the sport.

They have a third baseman who can hit the ball over the fence and a right handed pitcher who throws balls at more than 90 mph. Pakistan is the only team competing at the tournament that doesn't have a player born or raised in the US. Baseball is still in the infancy stages in Pakistan, where leagues are few and far between and games are played on soccer fields. The sports got its start in the country in 1992, when Syed Khawar Shah founded the Pakistan Federation Baseball. They played on a rudimentary baseball diamond at the US Embassy and the coaches main instructional tool were American baseball videos.

### Converted cricketers

Many players on Pakistan's national team roster are converted cricketers. Shortstop Arsalan Jamshaid says he no longer plays cricket after switching to the Pakistan military baseball team from the military cricket team. "When I go back, all my friends, all the people who love me playing, I will be an example for them," Jamshaid said. "And

that's why we work hard on this."

Pakistan raised a lot of eyebrows despite failing to win a game in the largest-scale international baseball tournament the country has ever participated in. Outfielder Muhammad Sumair Zawar hit a single to centre field in the country's first at-bat of WBC qualifying and Faqir Hussain had two extra-base hits in the tournament opening 10-0 loss to Brazil. "They have tools," Great Britain manager Liam Carroll said of Pakistan on Friday. "You can see that it's raw. But you can see guys throwing really hard, guys who are really quick and guys who can hit the ball."

"They have players. The hardest part is having the athletes that choose baseball. They'll be in pretty good shape." One day, Pakistan hopes to get the money to build its first real baseball stadium in the Muslim nation. The publicity from the tournament, said Fakhar Shah will have a knock on effect of spreading baseball in Pakistan. And he hopes the exposure will entice more young players to start playing. "Each player is from a different area of Pakistan," said Fakhar Shah, who is the son of Khawar Shah. "The word goes out." —AFP

# LEE TO FACE JORGENSEN IN YONEX OPEN JAPAN FINAL

**TOKYO:** Malaysian badminton king Lee Chong Wei yesterday beat 15th ranked Marc Zwiebler of Germany in the semifinal at the Yonex Open Japan, moving a step closer to his sixth title of the Japanese tournament. Lee, silver medalist in the last three Olympics, clinched a comfortable 21-14, 21-15 triumph to Zwiebler in the men's singles at Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium. The 33-year-old world number one set up a Japan title clash with third-seed Jan O Jorgensen of Denmark, who beat sixth-seed Son Wan Ho of South Korea 21-14, 21-19.

Lee seeks to reclaim the Japanese trophy that he took in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, and 2007, after recently hinting at possibly extending his career to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics for another shot at an elusive badminton gold, despite earlier indicating the Rio Games would be his last. In women's singles, home fans were silenced following two crushing defeats of their domestic hope-

fuls, including 12th ranked Akane Yamaguchi, in the semifinals. Sun Yu of China secured a 21-17, 21-18 win to Yamaguchi, the first Japanese to win the Yonex Open Japan in 2013 at age 16. Sun is to vie for the women's title with He Bingjiao also of China, who knocked out Aya Ohori of Japan 21-17, 22-20.

In men's doubles, Chinese pair Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen upset Indonesian pair Mohammad Ahsan and Hendra Setiawan, winners here in 2013, in a 21-13, 18-21, 21-15 victory. The Chinese will clash with Korean pair Kim Gi Jung and Ko Sung Hyun in the final. In women's doubles, Rio gold winning Japanese pair Misaki Matsumoto and Ayaka Takahashi fended off challenges from their compatriots Shiho Tanaka and Koharu Yonemoto with a 46-minute, 21-14, 21-19 win. The Japanese pair will face their Danish rivals Christinna Pedersen and Kamilla Rytter Juhl, silver medalists in Rio. —AFP



**TOKYO:** Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia reaches a racket to return a shot against Germany's Marc Zwiebler during their men's singles semi-final match at the Japan Open badminton tournament in Tokyo yesterday. —AFP

# BANGLADESH GUARDS AGAINST RUST IN THE AFGHANISTAN ODIS

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh will be hoping their long absence from international cricket does not hurt their form when they play a three-match one-day international series against Afghanistan in Dhaka today. The home side last played an international match during the ICC World Twenty20 in India in April this year and has played no one-dayers since hosting Zimbabwe in November last year. The Afghanistan series was hastily arranged to give Bangladesh some cricket ahead of a more serious engagement against England, who will be visiting the country in October for three ODIs and two Tests.

Coach Chandika Hathurusinghe said the team's main focus was to get back to rhythm as soon as possible. "Not playing for a long time is a bit of an Achilles' heel for us," Hathurusinghe said yesterday. "That is what we are trying to get over, that uncertainty. The first match is vital for us. We have no concern over any skill part - batting, bowling or fielding. "It is all about the mental side of the game - getting into the game, playing in front of a crowd for your country." The home side was buoyed by the return of pace bowler Taskin Ahmed, who was cleared to bowl in international cricket on Friday after he successfully remodeled his action. Taskin and left-arm spinner Afrat Sunny were reported for suspect actions after Bangladesh's opening match in the ICC World Twenty20 against the Netherlands in India.

### 'Prove ourselves'

While Sunny was made to wait, Bangladesh drafted Taskin immediately for their squad against Afghanistan. "The quality of Taskin's skill will benefit any team in world cricket," said Hathurusinghe. "He is one of our best bowlers. So he is coming and we are very relieved to have this ban off." Skipper Mashrafe Mortaza said Taskin's return will help the team overcome the absence of Mustafizur Rahman, who has been sidelined for months after shoulder surgery. "Frankly speaking, we will miss Fizz," said Mortaza, using Mustafizur's nickname. "But our current attack is similar to what we had in the World Cup last year. This is another chance for us to prove ourselves," he said.

Afghanistan captain Asghar Stanikzai thanked Bangladesh for providing them with a rare chance to play a series against a Test-playing country. "It will really help both nations to come closer," Stanikzai said ahead of the first ever bilateral series between the two teams. Afghanistan defeated Bangladesh in the Asia Cup 2014 but Stanikzai said it would be tough to repeat the glory. "The win was two years ago and that was a past," he said. "I think our team has played more cricket against full members and we are now a little bit experienced." All three matches are taking place at the Sher-e-Bangla stadium, with the second game on September 28 and the finale on October 1.

**Squad:** Mashrafe Mortaza, Shakib Al Hasan, Tamim Iqbal, Imrul Kayes, Soumya Sarkar, Mushfiqur Rahim, Sabbir Rahman, Mahmudullah Riyad, Mosaddek Hossain, Nasir Hossain, Tajul Islam, Shafiqul Islam, Rubel Hossain and Taskin Ahmed.

**Afghanistan:** Asghar Stanikzai (c), Amir Hamza, Dawlat Zadran, Fareed Ahmad, Hashmatullah Shahidi, Ihsanullah Karim Janat, Mirvais Ashraf, Mohammad Nabi, Mohammad Shahzad, Najibullah Zadran, Naveen-ul-Haq, Nawroz Mangal, Rahmat Shah, Rashid Khan, Samiullah Shenwari, and Shabir Noori. —AFP



**ESSEN:** Ukrainian Heavyweight World Champion Wladimir Klitschko (2nd left) and his challenger Britain's Tyson Fury pose for a face-off during an official weigh-in in Essen, western Germany. Britain's controversial world heavyweight champion Tyson Fury's title rematch with Ukrainian Wladimir Klitschko has been called off for a second time as the titleholder is "medically unfit to fight", his camp said. —AFP

# UNFIT FURY 'HOLDING KLITSCHKO HOSTAGE'

**BERLIN:** Wladimir Klitschko's manager says Tyson Fury is holding the ex-world champion 'hostage' in the wake of the Briton's latest postponement of their heavyweight rematch. "Wladimir is totally disappointed that this bloke has delayed the fight again. He's holding him hostage," said Klitschko's manager Bernd Boente. "Wladimir wants to fight, he's training and in the meantime it's already been nearly a year since the first fight." Klitschko is based in Hamburg and his management has reserved the city's Barclaycard-Arena for December 10 in the hope the rematch can still take place in 2016. Fury claimed a shock win over Klitschko, the Ukrainian's first defeat in a decade, to take the World Boxing Association, World Boxing Organization and International Boxing Federation belts in a points decision in Dusseldorf last November.

But the rematch has been blighted by problems. After agreeing to again fight Klitschko over 12 rounds, Fury was stripped of the IBF title for failing to face its mandatory challenger. Then the rematch, set for July 9 in Manchester, was

called off when the British fighter suffered an ankle injury. It was then revealed Fury had failed a dope test and would have a hearing in front of the United Kingdom Anti-Doping (UKAD) panel-although England's High Court ruled that it should be delayed until November so the bout could go ahead.

And on Friday, Fury's camp declared the champion was "medically unfit to fight" in the rescheduled bout for October 29 at the Manchester Arena. "I'm very disappointed that Fury has now cancelled the fight for the second time," said Klitschko, who has been training in Kiev. "I'm in top condition and would like to have retrieved my world title belt in Manchester." "Since turning pro in 1996, I have never had to take such a long break." A third date for the rematch has not been set and Boente says it is now up to the WBA and WBO to decide what happens next. "It now lies with the associations to make a decision regarding the title but that's not in our hands," said Boente. "We hope that Wladimir will be able to fight again soon." —AFP



## NHL TRAINING CAMPS OPEN WITHOUT STAR PLAYERS, COACHES



TORONTO: Team USA's Jack Johnson (left) defends his net against Team Czech Republic during the first period of World Cup of Hockey action in Toronto. — AP

**NEW YORK:** Training camps are opening around the NHL with a little more elbow room than usual. Thanks to the World Cup of Hockey, more than 150 players and almost half the league's head coaches weren't on the ice with their NHL teams at the start of camp this week. The Chicago Blackhawks are barely recognizable without Jonathan Toews, Patrick Kane, Corey Crawford, Marian Hossa and coach Joel Quenneville.

The Washington Capitals don't have Alex Ovechkin, Nicklas Backstrom or coach Barry Trotz and the Stanley Cup champion Pittsburgh Penguins are without Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin. "Really weird," Capitals defenseman Karl Alzner said Friday. "I was looking out on the ice and something doesn't seem right. We're obviously light on numbers, so that's kind of strange. You're used to having just swarms of guys everywhere and it just doesn't feel that way this year."

This is the first time since 2004 that the NHL has held a preseason tournament, and that event happened on the eve of the lockout that canceled the entire season. Camps were already opening later than usual because of the World Cup, and the first preseason games begin Sunday when the Columbus Blue Jackets and St. Louis Blues have split-squad games in those cities. The real games begin Oct. 12. There isn't much time to get everyone on the same page. Perhaps that's why Penguins coach Mike Sullivan and Edmonton Oilers coach

Todd McLellan raced back to be on the ice Friday. "This is my responsibility to run this team and I love to do it," said Sullivan, who was an assistant for the US team. "I'm excited to be a part of it. I didn't want to take any time off."

Many World Cup players are being afforded a bit of time off before reporting to work. Washington general manager Brian MacLellan expects US players TJ Oshie, John Carlson and Matt Niskanen on the ice Monday. The 82-game season is a long enough grind that guys aren't rushing back if they don't have to. "I know a lot of the guys, at least the American guys, have talked about taking a few days off then going their teams," Kane said Thursday. "I'll go back to Chicago and see what's in store and talk to (GM Stan Bowman) and Joel and kind of get a feel for what they want me to do, what's best for me."

Players from whichever teams lose in the World Cup semifinals this weekend won't be far behind. In the meantime, their absences open the door for others. "It's good for guys who typically wouldn't get a look in camp to show the coaches and scouts and staff what they can do for the future if something happens," San Jose Sharks defenseman Paul Martin said. "For the most part, the guys that are gone are guys who can step right back in and be the players that they are for this team. There's not anything that we'll be lacking as far as chemistry. It just gives other guys a chance to step up and see what they've got." — AP

### CYCLING

## WIGGINS EX-DOCTOR QUESTIONS TUE USE

**LONDON:** One of British cycling great Bradley Wiggins' former team doctors has expressed his "surprise" at the decision to allow him to use a triamcinolone ahead of three major races. Prentice Steffen questioned the move by the International Cycling Union to grant Wiggins a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) for the powerful corticosteroid triamcinolone, which he was permitted to take just days before the 2012 Tour de France, which he won, as well as the 2011 Tour and the 2013 Giro d'Italia. Steffen was multiple Olympic champion Wiggins' doctor at Garmin Slipstream, with whom he finished fourth in the 2009 Tour de France before the Briton joined Team Sky.

Wiggins' TUE history was made public last week when his medical records were leaked. Steffen told the BBC's Newsnight program on Friday the leaked details of Wiggins' TUEs did not "look good." "I was surprised to see there were TUEs documented for intramuscular triamcinolone just before three major events—two Tours de France and one Tour d'Italia," Steffen said. "You do have to think it is kind of coincidental that a big dose of intramuscular long-acting corticosteroids would be needed at that ... exact time before the most important race of the season. I would say certainly now in retrospect it doesn't look good, it doesn't look right from a health or

sporting perspective."

A cyber espionage group called "Fancy Bears", which is believed to be Russian, has been leaking medical data about famous athletes after targeting records held by the World Anti-Doping Agency. American tennis stars Serena and Venus Williams, American gymnast Simone Biles and Wiggins' Team Sky team-mate Chris Froome have also been the subject of leaks. The targeted athletes have been revealed to have received TUEs for the use of substances that would usually contravene anti-doping rules. TUEs can be issued to athletes who have an illness or condition that requires the use of normally prohibited medication. There is no suggestion of wrongdoing by any of the athletes.

Wiggins requested TUEs in order to use triamcinolone to treat his asthma. A spokesperson for Wiggins, 36, said: "There's nothing new here. Everyone knows Brad suffers from asthma. His medical treatment is BC- (British Cycling) and UCI - (International Cycling Union) approved and like all Team GB athletes he follows WADA regulations to the letter." "The leak of these records is an attempt to undermine the credibility of WADA and that's something for them to deal with." Wiggins will personally address the controversy for the first time when he appears on BBC television today. — AFP

### MOTORCYCLING

## MARQUEZ SHRUGS OFF CRASH TO CLAIM THE ARAGON POLE

**ALCANIZ:** MotoGP world championship leader Marc Marquez claimed pole position for the Aragon Grand Prix for the fourth consecutive season after overcoming a crash in practice yesterday. The Spaniard dislocated his shoulder as one of seven riders to crash in the third free practice session. Maverick Vinales and defending champion Jorge Lorenzo completed an all-Spanish front row.

Marquez's closest championship rival Valentino Rossi will start from sixth with just five races remaining to cut into the two-time world champion's 43-point lead. The Honda rider has been dogged by shoulder problems already this season as he also dislocated his left shoulder in practice for the Austrian Grand Prix last month. However, he appeared unbothered by the problem as he recovered to set the fastest time in both morning practice sessions before posting a lap of 1min 47.117sec that was too good for the field in qualifying. "I'm very happy, above all with the fourth free practice where our pace was very good," Marquez told Spanish TV station Movistar.

"It seems like it could be a bit colder tomorrow so we will have to look at the tyres again, but I'm happy with everything else." Lorenzo, who has won in Aragon for the past two seasons was well off the pace in practice, but did enough with his flying qualifying lap just before the session ended to climb into third. "I knew I had to have a different strategy to other qualifying ses-

sions," said Lorenzo, who sits third in the championship standings, 61 points adrift of Marquez. "If you go too fast in the first lap you destroy the tyres for the second one, so I had to go slowly to go much faster in the second lap."

However, Lorenzo's Yamaha teammate Rossi has plenty of work to do on Sunday to avoid a potentially fatal blow to his chances of a 10th world title. Britain's Cal Crutchlow will start just ahead of Rossi in fifth despite crashing towards the end of qualifying. Dani Pedrosa, winner in San Marino two weeks ago, also came off his bike to hinder his chances of another victory as Marquez's teammate will start from seventh. Britain's Sam Lowes starts on pole in the Moto2 category after an off-day for championship contenders Johann Zarco and Alex Rins in qualifying.

Lowes leads a front row also containing Alex Marquez and Takaaki Nakagami. Defending champion Zarco, who holds a slender three-point championship lead, starts from fifth with Rins down in 13th. South African Brad Binder's bid to seal the Moto3 world title was dealt a blow as championship rival Enea Bastianini claimed pole. Binder was only seventh fastest as Spain's Jorge Navarro and Belgian Livio Loi completed the front row. Bastianini trails Binder by a huge 106 points with just five races left and needs to cut the gap to below a 100 to prevent Binder sealing the title tomorrow. — AFP



TOKYO: Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark returns a shot against Agnieszka Radwanska of Poland during their women's singles semi-final match at the WTA Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament yesterday. — AFP

## WOZNIACKI OUTLASTS RADWANSKA

### CAROLINE WOZNIACKI FACES OSAKA IN TOKYO FINAL

**TOKYO:** Caroline Wozniacki outlasted Agnieszka Radwanska 4-6 7-5 6-4 in a dog fight of a semi-final at the Pan Pacific Open yesterday to end the Pole's reign at the Ariake Coliseum. The former world number one prevailed in two hours and 50 minutes of hard-fought tennis and will meet Naomi Osaka in today's final after the local wildcard rallied to secure a 1-6 6-3 6-2 over Ukraine's Elina Svitolina in the second semi-final.

World number four Radwanska served for the match in the second set but then lost five straight games as Wozniacki leveled up the contest and took an early break in the decider. There were 13 breaks of serve in the topsy-turvy encounter, however, and it was not until a fourth match point, which Radwanska slapped into the net for her 43rd unforced error, that the Dane was certain of her place in the final. "I think every time I play her we play really tough matches," Wozniacki said in a courtside interview. "She played really well today and I was lucky to win that second set and then we just fought really hard, both of us, in the third."

Languishing at 28th in the world rankings

after a string of injuries, Wozniacki reached the semi-final of the US Open earlier this month and should be confident of clinching her second title in her third Pan Pacific Open final today. The 18-year-old Osaka got off to a sluggish start in her one hour and 47 minute contest against Svitolina, with the promising youngster lacking patience and committing a string of unforced errors in a disastrous first set showing.

However, the home favorite regained her composure in the second set as her much improved service game, which included four aces, roused the crowd and she utilized her power to send the contest into a deciding set. Osaka continued to build on her momentum in the third, breaking the Ukrainian twice on her way to knocking out the world number 20 as she reached her first Pan Pacific Open final. Today's contest will be the first meeting between Wozniacki and Osaka.

#### Tsurenko stuns Jankovic

In another development, Ukraine's Lesia Tsurenko shrugged off her lowly world ranking



GUANGZHOU: Lesia Tsurenko of Ukraine poses with her trophy after winning the final match against Jelena Jankovic of Serbia at the Guangzhou International Women's Open in Guangzhou, southern China's yesterday. — AFP

## KERBER TO STRENGTHEN NO 1 HOLD IN WUHAN

**WUHAN:** New world number one Angelique Kerber is set to strengthen her grip on the top position at a star-studded Wuhan Open this week after Serena Williams pulled out with a shoulder injury. Kerber, 28, ascended to the top of the rankings at the US Open, ending Williams' 186 consecutive week run as world number one—a record she shares with Steffi Graf. The German looks set to maintain her hold on the number one spot after the veteran American bowed out of the tournament and the China Open in Beijing the following week-iting an ongoing shoulder problem.

It is the second consecutive year that Williams has been a no show at Wuhan and the China Open. With Williams staying off the court, the German now has a year-end run as world number one firmly in her sights, capping off a glittering year. Long established in the top 10, with 10 WTA titles to her name, the 28-year-old had never made it to a Grand Slam final until she swept the crown in Australia at the start of the year. She then reached the final of Wimbledon, but lost to Williams, before taking a silver medal in Rio. The German claimed her second Gland Slam title of the year at Flushing Meadows earlier this month in a gritty three-set thriller against Czech

Karolina Pliskova.

Wuhan may be the scene for a rematch between Kerber and world number six Pliskova, who are at opposite ends of the draw and could meet in the final. French Open champion Garbine Muguruza of Spain could also face a quarter final showdown against Pliskova. The world number three has not beaten the Czech since 2013. They most recently met in Cincinnati in August, where Pliskova took just one hour to dispatch the Spaniard in two sets in the semi-final. Meanwhile, Kerber is in the same half of the draw as two-time Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova and fourth seed Simona Halep.

Williams is the only player in the top 10 not showing up for the \$2.6 million hard court event, which was only added to the WTA calendar in 2014. Her sister Venus won last year's tournament, and returns this week to defend her title. Former world number one Caroline Wozniacki and Olympic gold medalist Monica Puig are also joining the star-studded line up. The Wuhan Open—now in its third year—was established on the back of the success of hometown girl Li Na—a two-time Grand Slam winner and China's only world number one until her retirement in 2014. — AFP



ALCANIZ: Repsol Honda's Spanish rider Marc Marquez rides during the MotoGP fourth practice session ahead of the Aragon Grand Prix at the Motorland racetrack in Alcaniz yesterday. — AFP

of 80 to stun defending champion Jelena Jankovic 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 yesterday to claim the Guangzhou WTA title. It was a second career title for the 27-year-old after her maiden trophy in Istanbul last year. "I think today I played really good tennis, except maybe in the second set when I felt a little bit tired," said Tsurenko who made the fourth round of the US Open last month for her best performance at the Slams. "But I said to myself that I have to give it all in the final set, and I was fighting for each point. I had to give 100 percent to win this title."

#### Thiem books Metz final

Meanwhile, world number 10 Dominic Thiem beat France's Gilles Simon to reach the ATP Metz final yesterday after a come-from-behind 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 win. It took the 23-year-old Austrian top seed two hours and 17 minutes to beat fourth seed Simon, and the victory sets up a final Sunday against Frenchman Lucas Pouille, who defeated Rafael Nadal on his way to the US Open quarter-finals last month, surprised Belgian second seed David Goffin 7-6 (8/6), 6-1. Thiem, who remains on course to reach the season-ending ATP World Tour Finals, will be playing in his sixth final of the season today. Having already won on the clay of Buenos Aires and Nice, outdoor hard courts of Acapulco and grass of Stuttgart, he is seeking his first title on indoor hard. — Agencies



SPANISH LEAGUE

# BARCELONA HAMMER SPORTING 5-0 WITHOUT MESSI

**BARCELONA:** Luis Suarez broke the deadlock in the 29th minute and Neymar scored two late goals as Barcelona beat 10-man Sporting Gijon 5-0 with Lionel Messi sidelined through injury yesterday. Barcelona, held 1-1 by Atletico Madrid on Wednesday when Messi sustained a groin injury that ruled him out of action for three weeks, joined Real Madrid on 13 points at the top of the table. But Real could go clear again after they play at Las Palmas later. After a slow and dull start by Barca, Arda Turan set up Suarez with the Uruguayan rounding Sporting goalkeeper Ivan Cuellar to tap in the opener.

Rafinha headed in Sergi Roberto's cross at the near post for the second three minutes later. Sporting lost captain Alberto Lora to a second yellow card for a late challenge on Sergi Roberto in the 74th minute. With nine minutes remaining, substitute Paco Alcacer hit the crossbar but Neymar pounced on the rebound and tapped in. Sergi Roberto came up with his second assist of the game when his cross found Turan who headed Barca's fourth in the 85th minute and Neymar got his second

two minutes from time with a close-range strike past Cuellar.

"It's an exaggerated result and I didn't see the game over until Lora's sending off," Barcelona coach Luis Enrique told reporters. "This game was by no means easy. We lacked intensity and we need to improve." Luis Enrique, citing the need earlier in the week to use all of his players during the club's busy schedule including Wednesday's Champions League match at Borussia Moenchengladbach, made five changes to the side that started against Atletico.

Turan started with Neymar and Suarez in attack while Javier Mascherano, Jordi Alba, Ivan Rakitic and Andres Iniesta were left on the bench. Barca lacked rhythm and looked content to sit tight and wait for an individual move to break the deadlock. After Sporting turned the ball over, Barca embarked on a deadly counter-attack that led to Suarez's goal. Barca scored with their only two shots on target in the opening half before the floodgates opened late in the game with the defending champions scoring three goals in the space of seven minutes. — Reuters



**GIJON:** Sporting Gijon's Venezuelan defender Fernando Amorebieta (left) vies with Andre Gomes during the Spanish league football match Real Sporting de Gijon vs FC Barcelona at El Molinon stadium in Gijon yesterday. — AFP

# RONDON MARKS PULIS' 1,000TH MATCH WITH LATE LEVELER, 1-1

 Stoke	1
 West Brom	1

**STOKE-ON-TRENT:** Salomon Rondon grabbed a last-gasp equalizer as West Bromwich Albion marked Tony Pulis's 1,000th game as a manager with a 1-1 draw at Stoke City on Saturday. Baggies boss Pulis was on the brink of a frustrating defeat against his former club in his milestone match after Joe Allen gave Stoke the lead in the second half. But, just as Mark Hughes's side looked set to claim a first league win of the season, Venezuela forward Rondon struck in stoppage time. It made for a satisfying conclusion for Pulis, who is still yet to lose against his former employers in five meetings, while the pressure continues to mount on his successor Hughes.

Stoke fans showed their appreciation for Pulis just before kick-off as they gave him a warm reception as he emerged from the tunnel, with the 58-year-old clapping back and waving to all sides of the ground. In a drab first half, Stoke came closest to scoring in the 25th minute when Glen Johnson lifted the ball over Ben Foster and Craig Dawson did well to head it away. The hosts applied more pressure as the second half got under way, with Allen's header being deflected over by Dawson and Ryan Shawcross nodding a corner wide at the back post.

Stoke goalkeeper Lee Grant, making his Premier League debut, palmed away a curling shot from Nacer Chadli, before Potters substitute Peter Crouch prodded narrowly wide. The hosts made the breakthrough in the 73rd minute when Xherdan Shaqiri crossed and Albion defender Jonny Evans headed an attempted clearance straight to Wales midfielder Allen, who fired home from close range. Grant made a fine save to keep out James McClean's header. But Albion kept pressing and Pulis was finally able to celebrate in the first minute of stoppage time when Rondon nodded home from a corner. —AFP



**STOKE:** West Bromwich Albion's Claudio Jacob (left) and Stoke City's Joe Allen battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match between Stoke City and West Bromwich Albion at the Bet365 Stadium yesterday. — AP

GERMAN LEAGUE

# HUMMELS LIMPS OFF AS BAYERN EDGE HAMBURG

**BERLIN:** Joshua Kimmich's late winner preserved Bayern Munich's 100 percent Bundesliga record in yesterday's 1-0 win at Hamburg, but the leaders saw Mats Hummels limp off with a knee injury. With Bayern facing Atletico Madrid away in the Champions League on Wednesday, Germany international Kimmich converted a superb Franck Ribery cross in the 88th minute. "We had three or four clear chances in the second-half and we struggled before the break before sorting things out," admitted Kimmich, who has scored four goals already in Bayern's

midfield. Kimmich's goal leaves Carlo Ancelotti's Munich as the only team in Germany's top flight with five league wins from five. They also have eight wins from eight matches in all competitions. However, their joy was tempered by seeing key defender Hummels suffer a right knee injury in the second half which makes him a doubt for Wednesday's European clash. "I am assuming I can (play against Atletico), but there are no guarantees," said Hummels.

The win leaves Bayern three points clear of

Borussia Dortmund, who beat Freiburg 3-1 on Friday when Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scored his fifth goal in five games. Yesterday's defeat to Bayern is another blow to Hamburg coach Bruno Labbadia, who is battling for his job after four straight defeats. Labbadia's Hamburg certainly put in the work, covering 115km kilometers in the game-nine more than the Bayern team. Ribery, a second-half replacement for Kingsley Coman, lived dangerously with a patrolling pinch of Mueller's cheek following a tussle midway through the second-half which escaped the referee's attention.

It's the latest in a string of off-the-ball incidents involving the Frenchman which had earned him a ticking off from Ancelotti at the start of the season. Fourth-placed Borussia Moenchengladbach warmed up for Wednesday's visit of Barcelona in the Champions League with a 2-0 win at home to Ingolstadt thanks to goals by Oscar Wendt and captain Lars Stindl. Having had their winning streak ended by Bayern in Munich on Wednesday, Hertha Berlin were held to a 3-3 draw at Eintracht Frankfurt.

Hertha captain Vedad Ibisevic gave Berlin the lead when he converted a first-half penalty after a foul on Swiss midfielder Valentin Stocker. But Frankfurt hit back with goals from Mexico's attacking midfielder Marco Fabian and captain Alexander Maier to lead 2-1 at the break. Hertha dug deep as midfielder Alexander Esswein came off the bench to play a key role by setting up Ibisevic's second goal in the second-half, then scoring himself to put Berlin 3-2 up with 25 minutes to go. But the teams shared the points after English-born Jamaica defender Michael Hector, on loan from Chelsea, scored Frankfurt's equalizer in the 92nd minute to leave Frankfurt fifth and Berlin sixth in the table. — AFP



**HAMBURG:** Hamburg's goalkeeper Ren' Adler (left) Hamburg's Johan Djourou (center) and Bayern's Robert Lewandowski (right) fight for the ball during the German Bundesliga soccer match between Hamburger SV and FC Bayern Munich in Hamburg yesterday. — AP

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE TABLE

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

Man City	6	6	0	0	18	5	18
Tottenham	6	4	2	0	10	3	14
Arsenal	6	4	1	1	15	7	13
Liverpool	6	4	1	1	16	9	13
Everton	6	4	1	1	10	4	13
Man Utd	6	4	0	2	12	7	12
Crystal Palace	6	3	1	2	10	7	10
Chelsea	6	3	1	2	10	9	10
West Brom	6	2	2	2	7	6	8
Watford	5	2	1	2	10	9	7
Leicester	6	2	1	3	8	11	7
Hull	6	2	1	3	7	12	7
Bournemouth	6	2	1	3	4	9	7
Southampton	5	1	2	2	4	6	5
Middlesbrough	6	1	2	3	6	9	5
Swansea	6	1	1	4	5	10	4
Burnley	5	1	1	3	3	8	4
West Ham	5	1	0	4	7	13	3
Stoke	6	0	2	4	4	15	2
Sunderland	6	0	1	5	5	12	1

FRENCH LEAGUE

# WEAKENED LYON SLUMP TO 1-0 DEFEAT AT LORIENT

TEN-MAN PSG STUNNED AT TOULOUSE

**PARIS:** Lyon missed the chance to move level on points with stumbling champions Paris Saint-Germain in Ligue 1 yesterday after losing 1-0 at struggling Lorient. Jimmy Cabot scored the only goal of the game early in the second half in Brittany as Lyon lost for the third time in the league already this season. Bruno Genesio's side, who visit Sevilla in the Champions League this coming midweek, had beaten Montpellier 5-1 on Wednesday but that is now their only win in five Ligue 1 games.

They lie seventh in the table ahead of the late games, while Lorient are off the bottom after what was just their second win of the campaign. "I am not worried," said Genesio. "There is no need to panic after this result." "I often say that the result is one thing but there is also the performance, whether we win or lose. "We need to keep calm. It is a shame, because it was a chance to climb the table and I think we deserved better."

Lyon were again without injured leading scorer Alexandre Lacazette and suspended captain Maxime Gonalons, but France midfielder Mathieu Valbuena came in for his first start since April. He supported Nabil

Fekir in the away attack and that duo threatened to give Lyon a first-half lead on more than one occasion. Valbuena smacked a shot against the bar from 20 yards and Fekir dribbled his way into the area before seeing his attempt saved by Benjamin Lecomte in the Lorient goal. Instead Lorient went in front six minutes after the interval when Maxime Barthelme crossed from the left and the diminutive Cabot volleyed past Anthony Lopes in the Lyon goal.

Lecomte, who on Friday extended his contract with Lorient until 2019, made several more interventions to prevent Lyon from equalizing after that. And OL could have lost by a wider margin but substitute Majeed Waris was denied by Lopes when clean through. Champions PSG slumped to a 2-0 defeat at Toulouse on Friday with Yann Bodiger scoring a penalty and Jimmy Durmaz also netting for the hosts after Serge Aurier had been sent off for the team from the capital. Toulouse are level on points with leaders Nice, who visit Nancy today, with Paris a point behind in third. Monaco can go provisionally top with a win at home to Angers later. —AFP

ITALIAN LEAGUE

# JUVE WARM UP FOR DINAMO WITH CAGEY WIN AT PALERMO

**MILAN:** Dani Alves's deflected strike kept Juventus top of Serie A as they warmed up for a Champions League clash at Dinamo Zagreb with a cagey 1-0 win at Palermo yesterday. Juventus travelled to Sicily looking to protect a one-point lead on Napoli but with one eye on claiming a win in Croatia on Tuesday after a scoreless draw at home to Sevilla in their Group H opener. Coach Massimiliano Allegro rested Paulo Dybala in place of Mario Mandzukic, a choice that almost paid dividends when the Croatia international came close on several occasions.

But days after calling for the Turin giants to start "taking command" of their games, the 49-year-old Allegro was perhaps left with more questions than answers. After just 12 seconds Gonzalo Higuain latched on to Miralem Pjanic's ball to fire just wide of the upright as Juve looked to make their mark early on. Minutes later, Pjanic's direct free kick from a tight angle had Palermo 'keeper Josip Posavec on his toes.

But Palermo were out to make life difficult, and ultimately succeeded during a first half that saw three players from each side earn cautions. Higuain, looking for his fifth goal in six games, was tightly marked throughout. When he squeezed between Haitam Aleesami and Giancarlo Gonzalez, only the latter's knee stood in the way of a

strike that was sure to cause problems for Posavec.

From the corner, Mandzukic rose high above the Palermo defense but headed a yard over. Juve suffered a brief scare when Higuain was left clutching his lower back and requiring treatment after falling heavily under a challenge by Posavec as the Argentine chased a long ball. And Allegri was forced to review his gameplan when defender Daniele Rugani, starting in place of Giorgio Chiellini, was forced off with a knock on the half hour. Attacking midfielder Juan Cuadrado replaced Rugani but minutes later the visitors were left frustrated again.

Juve should have done better on the counter when Higuain ran on to Mandzukic's smart backheel in midfield to set up Mario Lemina for a shot that Posavec parried, before his central defense headed to safety. It was Juve's best collective play of the game, but epitomized their evening's work. On the stroke of half-time Posavec rushed out to thwart Higuain as he waited for Cuadrado's inswinger, Pjanic pouncing on the rebound to shoot straight at the 'keeper. Juve started the second half brightly but it took a huge deflection from Edoardo Golaniga, who stuck his leg out to stop Alves's speculative shot from 30 yards out, for Juve to finally beat Posavec. —AFP



# POWERFUL SON KEEPS SPURS ON THE RISE



**MIDDLESBROUGH:** Son Heung-Min surely erased all doubts about his Tottenham future as his double inspired a 2-1 victory at Middlesbrough in the Premier League yesterday. South Korean winger Son was reported to be unsettled after starting only 13 league games for Tottenham last season, but his two goals in their latest success indicated the qualities that prompted them to sign him from Bayer Leverkusen 13 months ago.

Son's goals came in the opening quarter of the game as he built on his hugely impressive performance in last Sunday's game against Sunderland—a display that was described as “incredible” by the former France international Thierry Henry. Middlesbrough, who slipped to their third successive defeat after an encouraging start on their return to the top light, did hint at a revival when Ben Gibson scored midway through the second-half, but Tottenham held on for a deserved success.

Mauricio Pochettino's team climbed to second in the table and they remain unbeaten in the league this season. For Middlesbrough, this was a

dismal way to mark their 250th Premier League game at the Riverside as Aitor Karanka's team have dropped into the bottom six. They look equipped to sustain their challenge as they wasted no time stamping their authority on the game. Only a splendid save from Victor Valdes prevented Dele Alli putting them ahead in the sixth minute as the former Barcelona goalkeeper went to his left and turned over a 30-yard shot from the England international.

### Exposed

Valdes was less impressive 60 seconds later, however, as he demonstrated why even his own manager admits the 34-year-old is no longer as good as in the days when he won three Champions League medals at the Nou Camp. It is true that the keeper was left exposed by a defence that allowed Son to take a pass from Vincent Janssen inside the area and turn away from two challenges before producing a left-foot shot that Valdes touched but couldn't keep out.

It was a moment that raised a question mark over Valdes, and also over Karanka's decision to play Calum Chambers, the defender on loan from Arsenal, instead of Daniel Ayala, one of the most reliable members of his usual back four. Chambers was blameless, however, when Son added his second goal in the 23rd minute, but two of his teammates were certainly culpable as Son wriggled clear after being trapped on the byline. — AFP

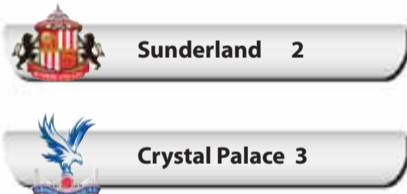


**MIDDLESBROUGH:** Middlesbrough's Calum Chambers (left) and Tottenham Hotspur's Vincent Janssen in action during the English Premier League soccer match between Middlesbrough and Tottenham Hotspur at the Riverside Stadium in Middlesbrough yesterday. — AP



**SUNDERLAND:** Crystal Palace's Christian Benteke (centre) celebrates with team mates after scoring his side's third goal against Sunderland during their English Premier League soccer match at The Stadium of Light, Sunderland yesterday. — AP

# BENTEKE LIFTS PALACE



**SUNDERLAND:** Christian Benteke's stoppage time header earned Crystal Palace a stirring 3-2 comeback win at hapless Sunderland yesterday. The Black Cats appeared set for their first win of the Premier League season after a double from Jermain Defoe. But goals inside the last half an hour from Joe Ledley and James McArthur put Palace back level before Benteke popped up to steal the show and earn Palace a third successive

league success.

Alan Pardew's side remained in eighth place on 10 points, with Sunderland now footing the table on one point from a possible 18. Defoe was back for Sunderland after missing the midweek League Cup win over Queens Park Rangers with a calf strain. Left-back Patrick van Aanholt, absent for last weekend's league defeat to Tottenham due to the results of cardiology tests, also started. Palace were without injured defender Scott Dann and winger Wilfried Zaha.

Sunderland boss David Moyes was forced to make an early unscripted change when Steven Pienaar suffered a hamstring injury, with the veteran South African replaced by Duncan Watmore. The Black Cats began hesitantly, with their defense tested by Jason Puncheon and Andros Townsend. But it was the hosts who had the first decent chance against the run of play when van Aanholt sent a low cross into the box only for Defoe's flick to go wide. On 39 minutes a clumsy 25 yard back pass by Palace midfielder Ledley to his keeper proved calamitous, with Defoe pouncing to poke the ball past Steve Mandanda.

As a scrappy first period drew to a close

Townsend, who scored his first goal for Palace in last weekend's 4-1 win over Stoke, sent a curling shot wide. Ten minutes after the restart Palace went close to an equalizer, Damien Delaney clearing a Sunderland free-kick in an attack that ended with Jason Puncheon's 15 yard shot testing keeper Jordan Pickford. After a vibrant passage of play from the hosts Defoe bagged a second with a neatly executed 12 yard shot on the hour.

A minute later and Ledley made amends for his first half mistake, the Wales international's low 20 yard effort taking a deflection off van Aanholt on its way past Pickford. Pardew then replaced Martin Kelly with Zeki Fryers and the full back made an immediate and telling impact, sending in a cross from the left wing for McArthur to head in on 76 minutes. That put an end to Moyes' hopes of a first Premier League win since his then Manchester United won 4-0 at Newcastle in April 2014. Moyes' afternoon went from bad to worse as he watched Javier Manquillo give away a free-kick by the corner, with late substitute Lee Chung-Yong floating the ball over for Benteke to head past Pickford in the fourth minute of time added on. — AFP

# STANISLAS FRUSTRATES EVERTON



**BOURNEMOUTH:** Junior Stanislas proved Everton's bogeyman for the second season running as his stunning goal earned Bournemouth a 1-0 Premier League win at the Vitality Stadium yesterday. The former West Ham United winger had netted a 98th-minute goal to earn Bournemouth a 3-3 draw in this fixture last season and he proved the difference again with a fine long-range strike in the first half.

His goal allowed Bournemouth to bounce back from their League Cup elimination at the hands of second-tier Preston North End in mid-week as Eddie Howe's side registered only a second win of the season. Victory would have given Ronald Koeman's Everton-knocked out of the League Cup by Norwich City their best start to a league season since 1969, when they finished the campaign as champions. But instead they fell to defeat for the first time in the league this term, which saw them slip to fourth place in the table, five

points below leaders Manchester City.

The two teams had played out a thrilling encounter last November and this game began in no less frenetic fashion. Bournemouth striker Callum Wilson, deputizing for Joshua King, headed just wide from a Charlie Daniels cross inside the first minute. Romelu Lukaku, who started for Everton after overcoming a toe problem, drew a full-stretch save from Artur Boruc with a downward header from Ross Barkley's free-kick. Loaneer Jack Wilshere went close to a first Bournemouth goal with a shot that flicked off Seamus Coleman and hit the bar, while Harry Arter flashed a shot a fraction wide of the Everton goal.

Bournemouth were looking the more threatening team, with Jordan Ibe's pace causing particular problems, and they took a 23rd-minute lead when Stanislas found the top corner with a 25-yard screamer. Everton manager Koeman made two midfield changes early in the second half, with Tom Cleverley and Gerard Deulofeu entering the fray in place of Gareth Barry and Kevin Mirallas. But Bournemouth held them at bay with relative ease, Bolasie firing a shot over the top and substitute Enner Valencia kneeling wide late on with the few opportunities the visitors created. — AFP



**BOURNEMOUTH:** AFC Bournemouth goalkeeper Artur Boruc saves a shot on goal during the English Premier League soccer match between AFC Bournemouth and Everton at the Vitality Stadium in Bournemouth yesterday. — AP

# FIVE-STAR LIVERPOOL ROUT HULL AS COUTINHO SHINES



**LIVERPOOL:** Jurgen Klopp disproved his own words of warning as Liverpool crushed Hull City 5-1 at Anfield yesterday to climb into the top four of the Premier League. Klopp had written in his program notes of the uniquely competitive nature of the Premier League, pointing out that there are no easy games in England's top flight. Liverpool's manager also claimed that describing Hull as “just hard to beat” was doing them a disservice.

Hull won their first two league games and were unbeaten away from home in both the Premier League and the English Football League Cup, in which they are through to the last 16. But both those theories were swiftly shot to pieces by a rampant Liverpool side, who scored three goals before half-time and could easily have doubled that tally. Hull's cause was not helped by the dismissal of Ahmed Elmohamady after half an hour as the defender blocked a shot from Philippe Coutinho on the line with his arm.

James Milner slotted home the resulting penalty to make it 2-0, but even before then Hull had never looked likely to end a record of never having won at Anfield. Liverpool, play-

ing in front of Anfield's new Main Stand for only the second time, did as they pleased almost from the start as they made it an unhappy 54th birthday for Hull's caretaker manager Mike Phelan. Phelan is still to learn

whether he will be appointed manager on a permanent basis. But if the job should be made his, he will know he is in for a testing season, with Hull having now taken just one point from their last four league games.

Liverpool, on the contrary, are going from strength to strength. A third successive league win underlined their credentials as a side capable of sustaining a challenge at the top end of the table.

### Karius league debut

Last season, before Klopp replaced Brendan Rodgers as manager, they scored three goals in their opening six league games. This time round they have 16 at the same stage. Coutinho should have given that tally an early boost, but saw his scuffed shot legitimately cleared off the line by Elmohamady. It took just 17 minutes for the first goal to come, though, as Coutinho cleverly set up Adam Lallana to screw a mis-hit shot into the bottom corner. Milner's penalty re-affirmed Liverpool's superiority and nine minutes before half-time it was 3-0. Lallana turned smartly in the box to provide Sadio Mane with the chance to shoot low past David Marshall and claim his third goal of the season. Mane also saw a deflected shot hit the bar, while Georginio Wijnaldum was twice denied by Marshall before Hull reached the sanctuary of half-time.

Arguably Klopp's toughest call of the day had been to replace Simon Mignolet in goal with close-season signing Loris Karius following the German's recovery from a broken hand. Karius had virtually nothing to do on his league debut, but Liverpool are still to keep a clean sheet this season after Hull substitute David Meyler drove the ball home following a second-half corner. — AFP



**LIVERPOOL:** Liverpool's Georginio Wijnaldum (left) and Hull City's Robert Snodgrass battle for the ball during the English Premier League soccer match at Anfield, Liverpool yesterday. — AP

## Live Matches on TV (Local Timings)

Match	Time
<b>ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE</b>	
West Ham Utd v Southampton	18:00
beIN SPORTS 2 HD	
<b>SPANISH LEAGUE</b>	
CD Leganes v Valencia	13:00
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Atletico v Deportivo	17:15
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Villarreal v Osasuna	19:30
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
Espanyol v Celta de Vigo	21:45
beIN SPORTS 3 HD	
<b>ITALIAN LEAGUE</b>	
Torino v AS Roma	13:30
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	
Genoa v Pescara	16:00
beIN SPORTS 7 HD	
Internazionale v Bologna	16:00
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	
SS Lazio v Empoli	16:00
beIN SPORTS 9 HD	
Sassuolo v Udinese Calcio	16:00
beIN SPORTS 12 HD EN	
Fiorentina v AC Milan	21:45
beIN SPORTS 4 HD	
<b>GERMAN LEAGUE</b>	
Hoffenheim v Schalke 04	16:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
FC Koln v RB Leipzig	18:30
beIN SPORTS 5 HD	
<b>FRENCH LEAGUE</b>	
Saint Etienne v Lille	16:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	
Nancy Lorraine v Nice	18:00
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	
Olympique v Nantes	21:45
beIN SPORTS 6 HD	



# Sports

Powerful Son keeps Spurs on the rise



Liverpool crush Hull 5-1 to boost title credentials



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

BARCELONA ROUT SPORTING 5-0 IN 1ST GAME WITHOUT MESSI Page 18



MANCHESTER: Leicester City's English defender Danny Simpson (left) tackles Manchester United's English striker Marcus Rashford during the English Premier League football match between Manchester United and Leicester City at Old Trafford in Manchester yesterday. — AFP

## UNITED THRASH LEICESTER WITHOUT ROONEY

Man United 4

Leicester 1

MANCHESTER: Manchester United dismantled Premier League champions Leicester in a ruthless 20-minute burst as Jose Mourinho's decision to drop Wayne Rooney was rewarded with a 4-1 win at Old Trafford yesterday. Leicester imploded defensively as United racked up four goals between the 22nd and 42nd minutes. It was a stylish display from a United side who had entered the game under pressure after losing their last two league games, against Manchester City and Watford, with Chris Smalling opening the scoring after replacing Rooney as captain.

Juan Mata, Marcus Rashford and Paul Pogba, with his first United goal following his world record £89 million

(£115 million, 102 million euros) arrival from Juventus, were also on target after England captain Rooney was dropped to the substitutes' bench. But it was a chastening afternoon for Leicester despite an improved second-half display and a brilliant consolation goal from half-time substitute Demarai Gray.

It was the second successive Premier League away game in which Leicester had shipped four goals after doing so at Liverpool two weeks ago. Leicester held their own early on with Robert Huth lashing a shot just over but it was United who edged in front in the 22nd minute after some neat play wide on the left had forced a corner. It was delivered by Daley Blind and Smalling escaped the United defense to power home a header from six yards.

Rashford should have doubled United's lead moments later when Leicester squandered possession and Zlatan Ibrahimovic galloped forwards and squared for the teenager. But Rashford's first touch was heavy and his shot flew over. Ibrahimovic then went close to a goal after collecting a fabulous pass by Pogba, but the

Swede's effort on the turn just cleared the bar. Next it was Pogba's turn to let fly with an outrageous effort from 30 yards that bent towards the top corner but was forced away by Leicester goalkeeper Ron-Robert Zieler.

United finally added a second goal as they turned on the style eight minutes before half-time. Ander Herrera started the move with a fine ball to Mata before a clever pass by Pogba and a fine flick by Jesse Lingard allowed Mata to blast past Zieler. And the third goal arrived just two minutes later as Leicester handed a chance to Rashford which the youngster snapped up. The visitors were caught napping as Blind took a quick corner and Mata was free to square for an unmarked Rashford to finish from close range.

### Double change

It was 4-0 before half-time as another corner by Blind was headed in by Pogba as he leapt above Christian Fuchs. Leicester made a double change at half-time with key duo Vardy and Riyad Mahrez withdrawn ahead of the

Champions League meeting with FC Porto on Tuesday. And they almost had some joy when David De Gea dived at the feet of Islam Slimani but gifted possession back to the visitors with a poor throw. Fuchs wasted the chance, however, with a poor cross. And at the other end Mata tried to add his second goal with a firm shot that Zieler parried well. It was one of the half-time substitutes who salvaged a modicum of respectability for Leicester with a goal of real quality on the hour-mark.

Gray collected a crossfield pass from Daniel Amartey and cut inside Lingard before lashing a brilliant shot past a helpless De Gea from 25 yards. But United were soon back on the attack as Zieler made a smart save from Ibrahimovic. Two more Leicester substitutes combined for what should have been a second goal but Andy King produced a tame shot from a Jeff Schlupp cross and De Gea saved easily. Gray then went within a whisker of replicating his stunning goal with an almost identical effort which De Gea scrambled back to push over the bar. — AFP



LONDON: A combination of picture created in London shows (left to right) Arsenal's manager Frenchman Arsene Wenger. Arsene Wenger memorably announced his arrival as a revolutionary force in England by banning his players from eating sweets, but the Arsenal manager's reign has turned increasingly sour as he marks the 20th anniversary of his appointment. — AFP

## ARSENAL MARK WENGER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY IN STYLE

Arsenal 3

Chelsea 0

LONDON: Arsenal gave manager Arsene Wenger a 20th anniversary to remember as Alexis Sanchez, Theo Walcott and Mesut Ozil scored in a slick 3-0 victory over Chelsea yesterday. This week marked 20 years since Wenger's appointment and whereas Chelsea had spoilt his 1,000th game at the Arsenal helm with a 6-0 win in March 2014, this milestone was memorable for the right reasons. Arsenal exploited lackadaisical Chelsea defending to score three times in the first half as

they claimed a first league win over their London rivals since a 5-3 triumph in October 2011.

It was Arsenal's biggest league win over Chelsea since April 1997 and their most handsome home victory against the west London club in 26 years. Arsenal climbed to third place in the Premier League table, five points below leaders Manchester City, after registering four successive league wins for the first time in over a year. Antonio Conte's Chelsea, whose side have now gone three league games without a win, slid to eighth, the optimism engendered by their three opening victories now almost a distant memory.

Wenger made 11 changes to the second-string team that had won 4-0 at Nottingham Forest in the League Cup and his big guns fired immediately. Santi Cazorla stinging Thibaut Courtois's palms. Arsenal went in front in the 11th minute

courtesy of an embarrassing error by Gary Cahill that left him hiding his face in his hands. Forty yards from goal, the England centre-back allowed himself to be robbed by Sanchez, who surged into the box before clipping a lovely finish over Courtois for his fourth goal in three games. It was Arsenal's first league goal against Chelsea in seven games and within three minutes they had another.

A slick passing combination culminated in Alex Iwobi intelligently picking out Hector Bellerin on the right-hand side of the box and the Spaniard's low cross was swept home by Walcott. Briefly, hope flickered for Chelsea. Willian drilled a shot narrowly wide and Arsenal's rhythm was disrupted by the loss of Francis Coquelin to an apparent knee injury, with Granit Xhaka coming on. — AFP

## AGUERO'S DOUBLE KEEPS CITY PERFECT UNDER GUARDIOLA

Swansea 1

Man City 3

SWANSEA: Sergio Agüero scored twice as Manchester City made it 10 wins in as many games this season with a 3-1 victory away to Swansea in the Premier League yesterday. Agüero marked his return to action with two well-taken goals for Pep Guardiola's league leaders after serving a three-game ban for throwing an elbow in last month's victory over West Ham.

The Argentinean striker opened the scoring in the ninth minute and he made it 2-0 25 minutes from time before Raheem Sterling beat Lukasz Fabianski in the 77th minute at the Liberty Stadium as City beat Swansea for the second time in a week after their EFL Cup success. A swift move on the right, a clever turn from Agüero and the visitors were a goal to the good. Swansea came close to levelling matters in the 12th minute when Kyle Naughton, playing out of position at left back, found himself one on one with Claudio Bravo, the City goalkeeper.

Bravo pulled off a decent save before City cleared. However, a minute later and the Swans were level. Gylfi Sigurdsson poked a ball through to Fernando Llorente, who having been played outside by John

Stones, beat Bravo with a stunning volley from 16 yards. With the ball at their feet, Swansea showed decent quality. They were confident in moving through the gears and lacked only one aspect: the final delivery. Still, it was enough to keep City on their toes. Bacary Sagna was shown the yellow card for man-handling Kyle Naughton and Sterling was fortunate to escape similar punishment when he tripped Angel Rangel.

Although Swansea were causing one or two problems at the right end, they almost conceded a second 11 minutes from half time. Kevin de Bruyne was sent through by Ilkay Gundogan, but with only Fabianski to beat, the Belgian hooked his shot well wide. A booking for David Silva, for dissent, was greeted with loud cheers from the Swansea supporters who, after an exacting start to the season, were beginning to see some light.

For City, there was growing frustration. They dominated the ball for long periods but struggled to break down Swansea's resolute back four, led ably, by Jordi Amat. The second half was barely two minutes old when Swansea had a golden opportunity to edge themselves in front. Wayne Routledge found himself in acres of space on the right, but, inexplicably, chose to dissect Bravo's far post and Llorente with a ball that rolled harmlessly out of play. Five minutes later, the imperious Sigurdsson sent a crisp volley high and wide after Routledge had picked out the Icelandic midfielder with a lobbed pass of real quality. — AFP



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## POLITICS TO TRUMP CENTRAL BANKERS

### FED WANTS TO PUT LIMITS ON BANKS' COMMODITIES ACTIVITIES

**PARIS:** With major central bank policy on hold for now, politics will take centre-stage in the coming week as the US presidential election enters a new phase with the first televised debate. Although Fed chief Janet Yellen said on Wednesday the Federal Reserve took decisions independently of politics, policymakers nevertheless found fit to wait until after the November election to get serious about raising rates again. "The ECB, Fed and even BOE have held their meetings, and the markets can finally focus on something other than monetary policy," Societe Generale analysts wrote in a note. "We believe that among the things to look out for will be the first US presidential election debate, which ... is likely to set the tone for the two subsequent debates," they added.

While a tense debate is likely tomorrow given Republican candidate Donald Trump's penchant for eyebrow-raising statements, the stakes will be high with a Super Bowl-sized viewership of around 100 million Americans expected. As if European politicians did not have enough on their plates grappling with Britain's exit from the European Union, Italy will start the countdown towards a high-stakes referendum on constitutional reform. The Italian cabinet is to decide in a meeting on Monday on the date for the referendum on whether to accept the reform already passed by parliament.

With polls suggesting the vote-expected in November or December-could be close, and Prime Minister Matteo Renzi having staked his job on the vote, the prospect of a political crisis in Italy could discomfit European leaders. While central banks have had little success creating inflation in recent years, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries may have more luck.

With members plus Russia due to hold an informal meeting in Algiers on Wednesday, the organization may be its closest in years towards agreeing cuts in production quotas, with Saudi Arabia actively seeking a deal. Riyadh has offered to cut oil production if rival Iran caps its own output this year, four sources familiar with the discussions told Reuters. While politics will be centre-stage, central bankers will not be far away, with a handful of Fed



**NEW YORK:** People walk to work on Wall Street beneath a statue of George Washington, in New York. With major central bank policy on hold for now, politics will take centre-stage in the coming week as the US presidential election enters a new phase —AP

policymakers due to make public appearances that may offer insight into how divided they are about raising rates. Investors will meanwhile be looking for signs that European Central Bank policymakers are moving towards boosting monetary stimulus at their December meeting when ECB President Mario Draghi speaks at the European Parliament tomorrow.

September inflation data due on Friday from the eurozone will give the ECB food for thought,

with economists polled by Reuters expecting on average an increase to 0.4 percent, which would be the highest rate since January. "Eurozone inflation is expected to accelerate in September and the trend for the coming months will be upwards," Unicredit economists wrote in a note.

#### US Fed move

Elsewhere on the data front, US durable goods orders will be in focus amid an otherwise relatively

light flow of economic data stateside.

The Federal Reserve wants to put new limits on big banks' activities in physical commodities businesses, with an eye to reducing financial risks from volatile trading and transport of sensitive materials.

The Fed's governors are proposing restrictions for banks' holding, transporting and trading of commodities like oil, aluminum and coal. Banks would be required to beef up the capital they hold

against potential losses in commodities and would face limits on the amount of their commodities trading.

The Fed is opening the proposal to public comment for 90 days. Wall Street banks have sharply reduced their involvement in physical commodities in recent years, under pressure from regulators and lawmakers. The biggest players in the field have been Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley. Regulators say disasters like the massive 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico show the potential risks to banks. Though that accident only affected BP and the oil-service companies involved, banks that engage in transport of oil in tankers could take heavy financial hits, the regulators say. Also, critics of Wall Street say that owning and storing commodities like aluminum in warehouses or oil in storage tankers enables banks to drive up prices for basic products made from them - like gasoline, canned soft drinks and beer, and electricity.

"As a general matter, (major banks) should be prohibited from owning physical assets like warehouses, pipelines and tankers," Democratic Sens. Sherrod Brown of Ohio and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts have told the Fed. Business interests say they're concerned about the Fed's proposal. Reducing the number of players in commodities markets by forcing out banks could raise costs for businesses that use the commodities and need to hedge against price swings, the US Chamber of Commerce said. There could be less money sloshing around in the financial markets, making it harder for the businesses to make trades for hedging. Chamber executive Tom Quaadman said in a statement. The Fed should have done a "robust economic analysis" of the proposal, he said.

The proposed new requirements would mean banks would have to salt away a total of up to \$4 billion in additional capital, Fed officials estimate.

In addition, banks would no longer be allowed to engage in physical activities involving power plants. Banks no longer could own and store copper, because regulators now deem copper to be an industrial metal, rather than a precious metal like gold and silver. —Agencies



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# HOW TO HIRE FOR YOUR STARTUP THE RIGHT WAY

## BAYT.COM WEEKLY REPORT

**KUWAIT:** You have pursued a passion, spent sleepless nights, and made a lot of sacrifices to bring your idea to life. Now that you are just steps away from making your big dream come true, it is time to grow the family. You will notice that once your business has transitioned from an idea into reality, the work will quickly require more than one person.

Here are some tips from experts at Bayt.com, the Middle East's #1 job site, to help you hire your first employees and begin building a team for your startup:

### 1. Hit the target

Although you cannot foretell the future, you are aware that a path of pitfalls and hurdles is awaiting your startup. But against this likely scenario, motivated individuals who are willing to invest their time and energy in your project will be the light at the end of the tunnel. But how do you find the perfect fit for your startup? Social recruiting is the answer to your problem. One of the best ways to source candidates is to post your job vacancy on leading job sites such as Bayt.com, where you can reach out to as

many as 26 million job seekers registered on the website. You just need to write a killer description for the opening, and leave Job Postings do the rest. The best way to hit the target and to locate your ideal candidate is using Bayt.com CV Search, a magnifying lens on both active and passive jobseekers. You can easily filter down according to a plethora of criteria adjusted to your specific needs and preferences.

### 2. Look beyond the skills

Of course, you need bright skilled brainpower for taking your 'baby business' to the next level. But most importantly, a startup needs high enthusiasm, genuine entrepreneurial spirit, and overwhelming passions to tap into. Bayt.com offers a profile platform where candidates can inject personality, which will help recruiters gain a stronger impression of the potential employee. Here, candidates can share their behind-the-scenes, hobbies and even videos to make their voices heard and differentiate themselves from the crowd using their unique traits. Additionally, candidates can make public their involvements in side projects, pro bono work, and

volunteering activities, which are clear signs of goodwill and attachment to work ethics. By navigating such a detailed profile platform, employers can learn more about their candidates and ultimately make the most informed hiring decision for getting a startup team off the ground.

### 3. Share your culture

Five out of 10 professionals in the Middle East want to join a company where they feel that they are working for a greater purpose, as stated in the Bayt.com 'What Makes a Company an Attractive Place to Work?' poll. People look for a mission to believe in and a culture to identify with before embarking on a new project. That is why you should allow top candidates for your startup to have a deep dive into your culture. Bayt.com Premium Company Profile is a solution designed to showcase what you stand for as a company and what your values are. Your top candidates want to know how you are working to make the world a better place and to what extent they can make your cause their mandate.

### 4. Who said salary is everything?

Your budget is tight, resources are pretty much limited and - at least at the moment - you cannot afford multi-zero salaries to your employees. Do not worry, most startups are in the same boat. In first place, it is advisable to pay your employees according to the market rate. You can use Salary Search to find out how much companies in your industry are paying their employees. That being said, you need to know that top-notch talents aren't necessarily attracted by deep pockets when applying for a job in a brand-new startup. Instead, what they mostly aspire to is an opportunity to cut their teeth in a fast-paced work environment and a great challenge to take on. Consider non-monetary ways to reward your heroes for their performance such as gift cards, free tickets, professional development opportunities and so forth.

Bayt.com is the #1 job site in the Middle East with more than 40,000 employers and over 26,000,000 registered job seekers from across the Middle East, North Africa and the globe, representing all industries, nationalities and career levels.



ANTALYA: Two men walk along the beach as boats wait for tourists in Adrasan in Olympos area, about 100 kilometers west of Antalya, Turkey. With summer drawing to a close, Turkey is counting the cost of a tough year that saw a string of terrorist bombings and a diplomatic spat with Moscow that cut deep into the country's crucial tourist trade. — AP

# MOODY'S CUTS TURKEY DEBT RATING TO 'JUNK' LEVEL

**WASHINGTON:** Moody's cut Turkey's sovereign debt rating by one notch to the speculative or "junk" level of "Ba1" Friday, saying the country's finances have weakened amid increased political turmoil. It also said that the government's reaction to the July coup attempt had set back expected reforms and the rule of law.

"Turkey continues to operate in a fragile financial and geopolitical environment," Moody's said. "Its external vulnerability has risen, both over the past two years and more recently as a result of unpredictable political developments and volatile investor perception."

Moody's said a fall in tourism receipts, which represent 4.4 percent of the economy, due to Russia's sanctions last year and a rise in attacks inside the country had weakened its balance of payments. At the same time, it noted, external debt had surged in the government, corporate and banking sector, with some \$156 billion in payments due this year.

"This large external funding need exposes the country to sudden shifts in investor confidence, which has been weak and volatile over the past 18 months," Moody's said. While the country appears to have weathered financially the recent failed coup attempt, Moody's said overall the chance of an eventual balance of payments crisis had risen due to "the combination of elevated external financing needs, the rise of domestic political risk, and the persist-

ence of geopolitical threats."

In addition, it added, "the government's response to the unsuccessful coup attempt raises further concerns regarding the predictability and effectiveness of government policy and the rule of law going forward."

### Rate cut

Turkey's central bank meanwhile cut its main interest rate for the seventh successive time to counter a slowdown in economic growth in the wake of the botched July coup and terror attacks. The central bank said after the latest meeting of its monetary policy committee the overnight lending rate was trimmed by 25 basis points to 8.25 percent from 8.5 percent. The one-week repurchasing rate remained stable at 7.5 percent while the overnight borrowing rate also remained intact at 7.25 percent, the bank said on its website.

The cut was also the sixth straight trimming by the central bank under new governor Murat Cetinkaya after taking over from Erdem Basci in April, who had irritated the government by refusing to prune rates. The economy has come under strain from a string of terror attacks this year and the July 15 attempted coup aimed at unseating President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Growth slowed to 3.1 percent in the second quarter of 2016 from 4.7 percent at the start of the year and economists fear the third quarter

may be even weaker due to the political turbulence.

"Recently released data and indicators regarding the third quarter display a deceleration in the economic activity," said the bank in its strongest statement yet about the slowdown.

### 'Worried about growth'

Deputy Prime Minister in charge of economic affairs Mehmet Simsek admitted in an interview with NTV channel that there was a temporary slowdown in Turkey's growth which "began in the second quarter and probably deepened in the third quarter". But the bank's decision to loosen monetary policy also defies the persistently high inflation, which at 8.05 percent in August was well over its target of 5 percent. William Jackson, economist at Capital Economics in London, said there was a "marked shift" in the statement of the bank's monetary policy committee suggesting "it is increasingly concerned about a slowdown in economic growth."

"We agree that the economy is showing signs of slowing sharply in the aftermath of July's coup attempt," he said, adding that further easing was now more likely than before. Ozgur Altug, chief economist at BGC Partners, said the Turkish economy had "suffered a lot" due to the coup and terror attacks and the bank's statement indicated more cuts "could be on the way". — AFP

# ZAIN OFFERS IPHONE 7 AND IPHONE 7 PLUS IN KUWAIT

**KUWAIT:** Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, yesterday announced the offering of iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus, the best, most advanced iPhone ever, featuring an all-new advanced camera system, dust and water resistant design, stereo speaker system and the A10 Fusion chip which is the most powerful chip on any smartphone while delivering the best battery life ever in an iPhone. Both iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus are available in all Zain branches and online at [www.kw.zain.com](http://www.kw.zain.com).

Eaman Al-Roudhan, Zain Kuwait's Chief Executive Officer, commented: "today we are excited to announce the offering of Apple's latest release. We pride our long-term strategic partnership with Apple, through which we offer our

customers the latest, most advanced products in the industry for a superior telecom experience".

Al-Roudhan added: "one of Zain's main priorities is to place customers at the forefront of enjoyable experiences and provide them with appealing products and service offerings, reinforcing the company's position as a leader in the Kuwaiti telecommunications market".

iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus is powered by iOS 10, the biggest release ever of the world's most advanced mobile operating system. iPhone 6s, iPhone 6s Plus, iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus will also be available. For complete details on pricing, please visit: [www.kw.zain.com](http://www.kw.zain.com). For more information on iPhone, please visit: [www.apple.com/iphone](http://www.apple.com/iphone).



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Pakistani Rupees	2.892
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.079
Nepali Rupees	2.827
Singapore Dollar	222.610
Hongkong Dollar	39.034
Bangladesh Taka	3.860
Philippine Peso	6.353
Thai Baht	8.706

#### GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.776
Qatari Riyal	83.207
ani Riyal	786.772
Bahraini Dinar	804.440
UAE Dirham	82.471

#### ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	29.050
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	34.480
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.216
Tunisian Dinar	137.460
Jordanian Dinar	427.340
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.018
Syrian Lira	2.0159
Morocco Dirham	31.471

#### EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	302.750
Euro	338.470
Sterling Pound	394.030

Canadian dollar	230.490
Turkish lira	102.110
Swiss Franc	310.190
Australian Dollar	230.090
US Dollar Buying	301.550

#### GOLD

20 Gram	266.420
10 Gram	136.130
5 Gram	68.910

### DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

#### Rate for Transfer

US Dollar	302.950
Canadian Dollr	229.665
Sterling Pound	393.480
Euro	338.070
Swiss Frank	298.030
Bahrain Dinar	800.870
UAE Dirhams	82.710
Qatari Riyals	83.925
Saudi Riyals	81.510
Jordanian Dinar	426.885
Egyptian Pound	34.019
Sri Lankan Rupees	2.079
Indian Rupees	4.512
Pakistani Rupees	2.890
Bangladesh Taka	3.854
Philippines Peso	6.328
Cyprus pound	159.675
Japanese Yen	3.970
Syrian Pound	2.405

Nepalese Rupees	3.840
Malaysian Ringgit	75.560
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	45.770
Thai Bhat	9.710
Turkish Lira	103.555

### BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
<b>Europe</b>		
British Pound	0.385950	0.395950
Czech Korune	0.004555	0.016555
Danish Krone	0.041469	0.046469
Euro	0.0333735	0.0342735
Norwegian Krone	0.033267	0.038467
Romanian Leu	0.083750	0.083750
Slovakia	0.008997	0.018997
Swedish Krona	0.031355	0.036355
Swiss Franc	0.305467	0.316467
Turkish Lira	0.097808	0.108108
<b>Australasia</b>		
Australian Dollar	0.222798	0.234798
New Zealand Dollar	0.213191	0.222691
<b>America</b>		
Canadian Dollar	0.224365	0.233365
Georgina Lari	0.136487	0.136487
US Dollars	0.298100	0.302800
US Dollars Mint	0.298600	0.302800
<b>Asia</b>		
Bangladesh Taka	0.003299	0.003883
Chinese Yuan	0.043770	0.047270

Hong Kong Dollar	0.036891	0.039641
Indian Rupee	0.004253	0.004642
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000019	0.000025
Japanese Yen	0.002916	0.003096
Kenyan Shilling	0.003108	0.003108
Korean Won	0.000264	0.000279
Malaysian Ringgit	0.070079	0.076079
Nepalese Rupee	0.002804	0.002974
Pakistan Rupee	0.002740	0.003030
Philippine Peso	0.006237	0.006537
Sierra Leone	0.000067	0.000073
Singapore Dollar	0.217526	0.227526
South African Rand	0.016285	0.024785
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001654	0.002234
Taiwan	0.009493	0.009673
Thai Baht	0.008374	0.008921

#### Arab

Bahraini Dinar	0.795023	0.803523
Egyptian Pound	0.024009	0.029127
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000182	0.000242
Jordanian Dinar	0.422075	0.431075
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000146	0.000246
Moroccan Dirhams	0.019737	0.043737
Nigerian Naira	0.001245	0.001880
Omani Riyal	0.778515	0.784195
Qatar Riyal	0.082196	0.083645
Saudi Riyal	0.079500	0.080800
Syrian Pound	0.001280	0.001500
Tunisian Dinar	0.133780	0.141780
Turkish Lira	0.097808	0.108108
UAE Dirhams	0.080853	0.082553
Yemeni Riyal	0.001366	0.001446



## WHY ARE THE EU-US TRADE TALKS FALTERING?

**BRUSSELS:** Talks for a massive free trade deal between the United States and European Union, the world's biggest economies, appear to be on the rocks. An accord was supposed to breathe new life into global trade, setting a shining example for other countries as they debate whether to knock down barriers to commerce or insulate their home industries. But EU ministers were deeply pessimistic Friday that the talks for such a pact can be concluded under the current US administration. Here are some questions and answers about the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership, commonly known as TTIP.

### WHAT IS TTIP?

TTIP aims to remove trade barriers between the EU and the US to boost economic growth and employment. It would improve market access by limiting tariffs, ease regulation and set up rules on things like intellectual property rights, customs and sustainable development. A free trade pact would create a market with common standards and regulations across countries that together account for nearly half the global economy. So far it's involved 14 rounds of talks, hundreds of meetings, hours spent on the phones and proposals exchanged, discussed and redrafted. Most of it has been done in secret.

TTIP would have 30 chapters. Proposals for almost all of them are now on the table. It's made up of three main blocks - market access for EU and US companies, cooperation on regulatory issues, and global rules of trade.

### WHAT WOULD THE BENEFITS BE?

TTIP is expected to lower consumer prices and broaden the variety of traded goods and services. It would eliminate customs duties on goods personally imported to Europe from the US or vice-versa. It would ease the cost of trans-Atlantic telecommunications and make it easier for regulatory agencies on both sides to trace data. The European Commission estimates that the pact could boost EU economic output by 119 billion euro (\$133 billion) a year and that of the US economy by 95 billion euros (\$106 billion). It says that eliminating tariffs alone could add \$180 billion to US and EU gross domestic product in five years while boosting exports on both sides by about 17 percent. That could add about 0.5 percent annually to the EU's economic growth and around 0.4 percent to that of the US, helping to pay off public debt and bring down unemployment.

### WHY ARE THERE PROTESTS IN EUROPE OVER TTIP?

Opponents in Europe argue that it



**BRUSSELS:** A small boy makes the peace sign as he marches during a demonstration against international trade agreements in Brussels. —AP

would water down EU standards. European consumer groups worry that food in the U.S. is not produced to the same health and environmental standards as in Europe. Europeans also seem more concerned about their privacy and the protection of their personal data, and sanctions can be levied for abuses. Others worry that banned chemicals might find

their way onto the shelves of European stores. The EU bans more than 1,300 hazardous chemicals, compared with around a dozen in the US.

Another sticking point is the arbitration system, known as Investor-State Dispute Settlement, which some say could allow foreign companies to claim compensation from governments, and

ultimately tax payers, if the firms believe a government action would harm their investments.

### WHEN ARE THE TALKS LIKELY TO BE CONCLUDED?

Senior European officials say there is little likelihood of a deal before President Barack Obama leaves office next January - the deadline set by negotiators in Brussels and Washington. After that, France and Germany hold general elections, and no big movement appears likely before the formation of a new government, sometime around the end of 2017. Austria and France are already calling for TTIP talks to be put on ice until after the US presidential elections, then relaunched with a new name and mandate given the toxic public reaction in Europe so far.

Eric Shimp, a former US diplomat and now policy adviser at the law firm of Alston & Bird in Washington, says that a President Hillary Clinton might mean more movement in the talks. "You could see her seizing TTIP as a means to create jobs at home and solidify US ties to EU in the face of growing Russian provocations," he said. Experts say a President Donald Trump could make the future of the talks more uncertain, as he has focused more on the negatives of global trade. —AP

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### GULF BANK'S MONTHLY SALARY ACCOUNT AND RED ACCOUNT DRAWS ON SEPT 29

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank has announced that it will be holding its monthly Salary Account draw and Red Account draw on September 29, 2016 at 1pm, 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 CTS. 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(tm) 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.

## WHAT'S IN, WHAT'S OUT OF BILL TO AVERT GOVT SHUTDOWN

### BILL A VEHICLE FOR A VARIETY OF HOPED-FOR INITIATIVES

**WASHINGTON:** The short-term spending bill to prevent the government from shutting down is, to be honest, the only thing lawmakers really have to do before exiting Washington for the fall campaign.

But this year, the once simple job of passing temporary legislation has instead morphed into an object lesson in Congress' almost comical dysfunction. A campaign season shutdown is unlikely, even as a battle rages, but the path to success is unclear. Lawmakers alike see the bill - the only major legislation that President Barack Obama is likely to sign before Election Day - as a vehicle for a variety of hoped-for initiatives: Funding to help Flint, Michigan, fix its lead-tainted water system; give flood-ravaged Louisiana aid and provide long-overdue money to battle the mosquito-borne Zika virus.

In the end, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky, opted for a stripped-down approach, shorn of most add-ons, though he approved a \$500 million down-payment on flood aid to Louisiana - a move that upset Democrats demanding money for Flint. Now, Democrats are vowing to filibuster the must-do measure in a showdown vote on Tuesday. The White House said Friday it's not certain that Obama would sign the budget bill, reflecting the administration's disappointment about the money for Flint.

**Here's what's in and what's out of the GOP measure:**

#### WHAT'S IN

\* Stopgap funding to keep the government open through Dec. 9. The move is opposed by some conservatives since it opens the door to a postelection, lame-duck session that they fear might feature a sausage-making process that could produce an omnibus spending bill and other legislation. But there are too many left-overs, and many decisions won't get made until they know who the next president will be.

\* Zika. The bill contains \$1.1 billion to combat the threat of the Zika virus, which can cause significant birth defects and long-term health problems. Republicans have dropped contentious provisions to block anti-Zika funds from going to Planned Parenthood affiliates in Puerto Rico and ease Clean Water Act rules on pesticide spraying. It also contains a handful of mostly pain-free budget cuts to partially pay for the Zika aid.

At least one Democrat is on board. "While I support the people of Flint, my priority is the people of Florida," said Sen. Bill Nelson of Florida. "This bill provides a clean \$1.1 billion to help stop the spread of Zika virus with no political riders, and I will support it."

\* Louisiana flood aid. Gov. John Bel Edwards, a Democrat, and the state's GOP-dominated con-

gressional delegation have won \$500 million in community development grants to help Louisiana recover from last month's devastating floods. The flood aid wasn't controversial on its own, but Democrats say that if Louisiana gets flood relief, money for Flint should be added as well.

\* Corporate political giving. The bill retains a top McConnell priority, to block the SEC from requiring corporations to disclose political spending permitted under the Supreme Court's 2010 decision allowing unlimited political spending by businesses. That would extend a current ban that McConnell won last December - but that Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., and other Democrats were eager to reverse.

#### WHAT'S OUT

\* Flint water. Democrats are demanding \$220 million to help Flint and other cities repair aging water systems that are poisoned by lead. Many House Republicans are opposed to the idea of an earmark to help Flint, but the state's Republican governor shares responsibility for the city's problems, and it's a hot political topic in a state that GOP nominee Donald Trump hopes to reclaim from Democrats. Senior Democrats promise a filibuster in an effort to add money for Flint to the bill, but both sides hope subsequent negotiations could avert a

shutdown.

\* Export-Import Bank. The Export-Import Bank, which finances purchases of US goods from overseas buyers, is currently hobbled because it lacks enough board members to produce a quorum. It can't OK export deals exceeding \$10 million, which is hurting top exporters like Boeing and General Electric.

Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina is breaking with McConnell and opposing the bill over the omission of the Export-Import Bank.

"We need a fully functioning Ex-Im Bank to help ensure American manufacturers are able to compete in the international marketplace on a level playing field," Graham said in a statement.

\* Internet domains. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, and GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump both demanded that the measure include a provision to block the US government from transferring the US Commerce Department's role in governing the internet's domain name addressing systems to a nonprofit consortium known as ICANN.

Cruz said foreign governments such as China would potentially gain influence over content on the internet. Experts in the field, however, said his concerns were mostly groundless, and McConnell dismissed the proposal without public fanfare. —AP

## UK'S PETROFAC TO RESUME GAS PLANT WORK AFTER LABOR DISPUTE: TUNIS

**TUNIS:** Tunisia announced Friday that British energy firm Petrofac is to resume operations at a gas plant in the country after a labor dispute was resolved that had halted work for months.

"We have signed an accord with Petrofac... following negotiations that lasted until three in the morning," Social Affairs Minister Mohamed Trabelsi told AFP. "The problem is over, and the company will decide, based on technical factors, when it will resume its activities," he said.

In a brief statement sent to AFP, Petrofac said only that it was keen to resume its normal activities in Tunisia. The government had announced on Wednesday that Petrofac was halting work at the Cherqui plant off the Kerkennah islands in southeast Tunisia because of protests by local workers.

Production came to a standstill in January at the plant, which accounts for 12 percent of Tunisia's gas output, with protesters demanding permanent contracts,

according to Energy Minister Hela Cheikhrouhou. Trabelsi said the accord, negotiated in the presence of local representatives including demonstrators and union figures, calls for the creation of three-year contracts and a development company for Kerkennah.

Petrofac works at the site in cooperation with Tunisia's national oil company. The crisis hit a program, largely financed by Petrofac and created in the wake of Tunisia's 2011 uprising, to get unemployed graduates into work, although often without permanent contracts or benefits.

The deal comes as Tunisia prepares to host an international conference on foreign investments at the end of November. Tunisia is battling high unemployment and has been hit by a spate of jihadist attacks in the past 18 months, but it has largely escaped the widespread unrest experienced by other countries that underwent 2011's wave of popular uprisings. —AFP



**SAO PAULO:** Former Brazilian Finance Minister Guido Mantega, right, is escorted by federal police officers, as they arrive at the Federal Police headquarters in Sao Paulo. Mantega was arrested Thursday for investigation of alleged overpricing in the construction of oil platforms in the sprawling corruption scandal at state-run oil giant Petrobras, federal police said. —AP

## CHINA SET TO ALLOW CREDIT DEFAULT SWAPS

**BEIJING:** China has given the green light to controversial credit default swap trading for the first time, signalling that Beijing is willing to let indebted companies fail to stop economic slowdown.

In a country where the government usually helps firms facing problems, the move will allow the market to absorb the shock of defaults, which will happen much more frequently. China's central bank has approved "the mitigation of credit risks," the National Association of Financial Market Institutional Investors (NAFMII) said in a statement on Friday.

Credit default swaps are a kind of insurance underwritten by an investor which guarantee the repayment of bonds in case of default. They came in for heavy criticism in the West after the 2008 financial crisis, accused of being a speculative tool that conceals the extent of risk. The swaps were instrumental for the dramatic fall of the US insurer AIG. However NAFMII has insisted the credit default swaps "will perfect risk-sharing mechanisms". Beijing has said it will let the most indebted companies - especially the so-called "zombie" firms that have long ceased to be profitable-go bankrupt. "CDS pricing can also reflect which companies the government may be more willing to bail out," Iris Pang, senior economist of Greater China at the bank in Hong Kong, told Bloomberg. China has seen bad loans climb to 1.4 trillion yuan (\$210 billion) in the first half of the year, the highest in 11 years, according to Bloomberg. —AFP

## ASIYA CAPITAL INVESTMENTS HOLDS 10TH AGM OF SHAREHOLDERS

**KUWAIT:** Asiya Capital Investments Company, a firm focused on investing in Emerging Asia countries, yesterday held its 10th Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in Kuwait.

During the AGM, shareholders approved the Board of Director's recommendation to not issue compensation for its members, and elected Barrak Al-Usaimi as an Independent Director for the remainder of the current membership of the Board of Directors.

Asiya Capital Investments' Chairman, Dari Ali Al-Rasheed Al-Bader, said: "Over the last year, Asiya has successfully executed a restructuring plan to better align its expenses with revenues. As part of this exercise it has consolidated its Dubai operations into Kuwait, reducing operational costs, and adjusted the investment team to accommodate the requirements of the coming period."

In August 2016, Faisal Nawaz was appointed as the Group CEO. Nawaz has been with the firm since 2006, first as the Group CFO and more recently as the Group CIO. Despite these challenges, we expect emerging markets in Asia will continue to

provide relatively attractive opportunities, and have in fact launched two products last year, UCITS Compliant Fund and the Asia Interlink fund to take benefit from such opportunities. Both products aim to take advantage at declining markets while hedging against volatility and realize returns in a challenging environment."

Asiya Capital Investments Company is an investment company founded by an Amiri Decree with a capital of KD80 million and a mandate to invest in domestic demand-driven sectors in Asia, namely energy, real estate, healthcare, infrastructure, and financial services. Asiya Capital Investments Company is the Parent Company of Asiya Investments Hong Kong Limited.

The publicly-listed Group employs a team of Asia specialists and currently manages assets in excess of \$1 billion. Key shareholders include the Kuwait Investment Authority (Kuwait's Sovereign Wealth Fund), National Investments Company (one of the leading investment banks in the Middle East), and Alghanim Industries (one of the largest conglomerates in the Middle East).



SECTORS' WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY					SECTORS INDICES PERFORMANCE				
Sector	Volume	To Market %	Value	To Market %	Sector	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %
OIL & GAS	4,016,346	1.48%	154,856	0.59%	OIL & GAS	768.31	773.88	-0.72%	-6.16%
BASIC MATERIALS	1,393,473	0.51%	318,727	1.22%	BASIC MATERIALS	911.09	932.77	-2.32%	-7.63%
INDUSTRIALS	17,635,542	6.48%	1,788,263	6.87%	INDUSTRIALS	1,149.10	1,152.05	-0.26%	10.17%
CONSUMER GOODS	7,269,175	2.67%	4,428,610	17.00%	CONSUMER GOODS	1,135.33	1,143.53	-0.72%	3.69%
HEALTH CARE	56,551	0.02%	12,020	0.05%	HEALTH CARE	1,077.97	1,056.41	2.04%	16.49%
CONSUMER SERVICES	3,242,073	1.19%	473,041	1.82%	CONSUMER SERVICES	897.66	914.23	-1.81%	-11.01%
TELECOMMUNICATIONS	14,911,429	5.48%	3,184,401	12.22%	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	591.82	585.11	1.15%	-1.14%
BANKS	19,233,404	7.07%	5,895,705	22.63%	BANKS	791.04	792.68	-0.21%	-12.79%
INSURANCE	158,994	0.06%	27,315	0.10%	INSURANCE	987.40	998.18	-1.08%	-12.39%
REAL ESTATE	84,412,765	31.02%	3,731,363	14.32%	REAL ESTATE	820.95	822.80	-0.22%	-12.74%
FINANCIAL SERVICES	119,705,458	43.99%	6,030,000	23.15%	FINANCIAL SERVICES	566.49	569.94	-0.61%	-4.85%
TECHNOLOGY	85,210	0.03%	4,434	0.02%	TECHNOLOGY	970.38	943.04	2.90%	18.32%

# KUWAIT BOURSE WITNESSES MIXED PERFORMANCE

## BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week with mixed performance. The Price Index closed at 5,405.80 points, down by 0.43 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index increased by 0.11 percent after closing at 351.05 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 812.38 points down by 0.39 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 3.01 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching K.D 5.21 million, whereas trading volume average was 54.42 million shares, recording an increase of 13.46 percent.

The three stock market indicators closed mixed amid a fluctuated performance in light of the continued control of the speculative behavior over the trading activity in the market, which is mainly concentrated on the small-cap stocks. Also, the market was subject to the quick profit collection operations that were present during most of the week's sessions, and included many leading and small-cap stocks. On the other hand, the market is currently witnessing a state of cautious in dealing, due to the investors' watch for the listed companies results for the 9 months 2016 period.

As per the daily activity, the market initiated the first session of the week with a decline to all its indices, especially the Weighted and KSX-15, as a result of the strong selling pressures that some leading stocks were subject to in the Banks sector, after the gains it realized in the previous week. Also, the small-cap stocks witnessed profit collection operations that pushed the Price Index to end the session in the red zone.

On Monday's session, the market was able to realize a grouped gain for the three indices, where the Price and Weighted indices were able to compensate its previous losses, however the KSX-15 Index was able to compensate a large sum of such losses. The market witnessed such performance supported by the speculative activity that concentrated on the light weight stocks, in addition to the random purchasing operations that included some leading stocks. In addition, the market did not last long before it returned on Tuesday's session to the red zone, whereas the three indices declined, especially the Price Index which dropped as a result to the selling pressures that included many stocks, especially the ones traded below its par value.

On Wednesday's session, the market witnessed a mixed closing for the three indices, where the Price and Weighted indices continued recording losses affected by the profit collection operations and the selling pressures that concentrated on the small-cap stocks, while the KSX-15 Index was able to realize limited growth by the end of the session supported by the random purchasing operations that included some

**MARKET COMMENTARY**  
Kuwait Stock Exchange (KSE) ended last week with mixed performance. The Price Index closed at 5,405.80 points, down by 0.43 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index increased by 0.11 percent after closing at 351.05 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 812.38 points down by 0.39 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover increased by 3.01 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching K.D 5.21 million, whereas trading volume average was 54.42 million shares, recording an increase of 13.46 percent.

MARKET ACTIVITY			
	Last Week	Previous Week	Ch. %
Volume	272,120,420	239,828,119	13.46%
Value (K.D)	26,048,735	25,287,650	3.01%
Deals	8,869	8,577	3.40%

MARKET CAPITALISATION (K.D.)				
Last Week	Previous Week	Weekly Ch. %	Annual Ch. %	
23,575,523,257	23,549,576,757	0.11%	-6.69%	

TOP GAINERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
KCLINIC	45.00	33.50	11.5	34.33%
BKIKWT	99.00	84.00	15.0	17.86%
CBK	385.00	330.00	55.0	16.67%
YIACO	218.00	188.00	30.0	15.96%
MASAKEN	81.00	71.00	10.0	14.08%

TOP LOSERS OF THE WEEK				
Company	Last Week Closing	Previous Week Closing	Ch. (fils)	Ch. %
TAHSSILAT	31.00	38.00	-7.0	-18.42%
CABLETV	27.50	33.50	-6.0	-17.91%
ALAQARIA	20.00	22.00	-2.0	-9.09%
ALKOUT	600.00	650.00	-50.0	-7.69%
KGL	41.00	44.00	-3.0	-6.82%

**SECTORS' ACTIVITY**  
The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 119.71 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 43.99% of the total market trading volume. On the other hand, the Financial Services sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around K.D 6.03 billion or 23.15% of last week's total market trading value.

leading stocks. Furthermore, the market witnessed in the end of week session a mixed closing to the three indices, as the Price and Weighted indices witnessed a limited increase by the end of the session, supported by the speculative trading on some small and mid-cap stocks, while the KSX-15 Index declined under the pressure of the profit collection operations executed on some heavy stocks.

By the end of the last week, the market capitalization reached K.D 23.58 billion, up by 0.11 percent compared to its level in a week earlier, where it reached then K.D 23.55 billion. On an annual

level, the decline of market cap for the listed companies in KSE contracted by 6.69 percent from its value at end of 2015, where it reached then K.D. 25.27 billion.

As far as KSE annual performance, the price index ended last week recording 3.73 percent annual loss compared to its closing in 2015, while the weighted index decreased by 8.03 percent, and the KSX-15 recorded 9.78 percent loss.

### Sectors' Indices

Nine of KSE's sectors ended last week in the red zone, while the other

three recorded increases. The Basic Materials sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 2.32 percent to end the week's activity at 911.09 points. The Consumer Services sector was second on the losers' list, which index declined by 1.81 percent, closing at 897.66 points, followed by the Insurance sector, as its index closed at 987.40 points at a loss of 1.08 percent. The Banks sector was the least declining as its index closed at 791.04 points with a 0.21 percent decrease.

On the other hand, last week's highest gainer was the Technology sector, achieving 2.90 percent growth rate as

its index closed at 970.38 points. Whereas, in the second place, the Health Care sector's index closed at 1,077.97 points recording 2.04 percent increase. Followed by Telecommunications sector's index closed at 591.82 points recording 1.15 percent increase.

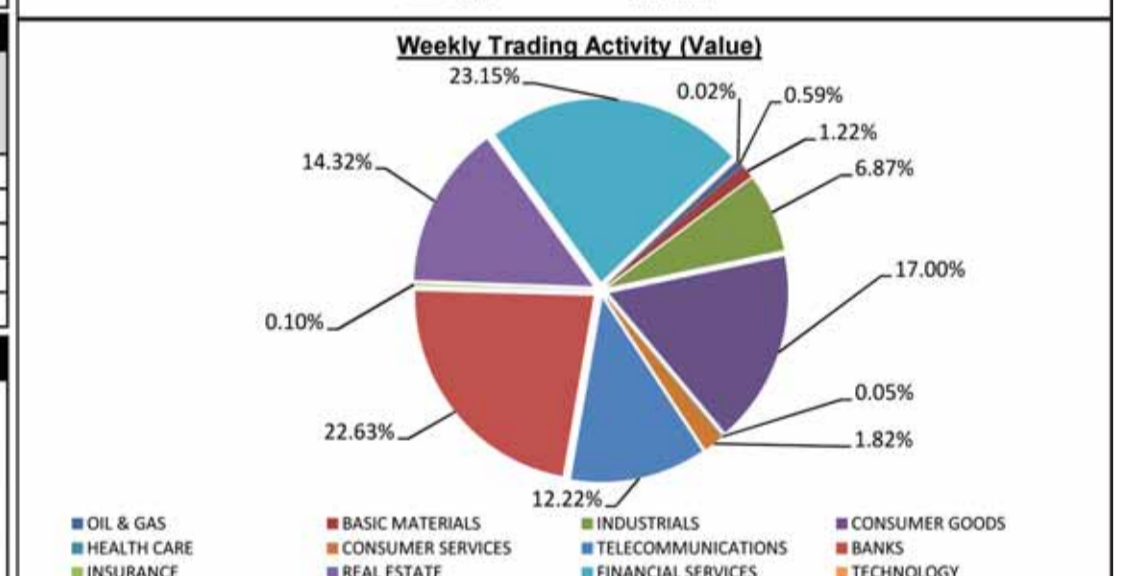
### Sectors' Activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 119.71 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 43.99 percent of the total market trading volume. The Real Estate sector was second

in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 31.02 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 84.41 million shares.

On the other hand, the Financial Services sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around K.D 6.03 billion or 23.15 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Banks sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. K.D 5.90 million representing 22.63 percent of the total market trading value. — Prepared by the Studies & Research Department, Bayan Investment Co.

KSE INDICES				
	Last week	Price Index	Weighted index	KSX 15
Weekly	Last week	5,405.80	351.05	812.38
	Previous week	5,429.41	350.67	815.58
	Change (Point)	-23.61	0.38	-3.20
	Change (%)	-0.43%	0.11%	-0.39%
Annual	Last year	5,615.12	381.70	900.43
	Change (Point)	-209.32	-30.65	-88.05
	Change (%)	-3.73%	-8.03%	-9.78%



# STOCKS MOVE LOWER AS ENERGY, TECH STOCKS FALL

## WALL STREET WEEKLY ROUNDUP

**NEW YORK:** US stock indexes closed moderately lower on Friday following three days of gains. Several technology stocks traded heavily, including Yahoo, Twitter and Facebook. Energy stocks fell along with a steep decline in the price of oil. The Dow Jones industrial average lost 131.01 points, or 0.7 percent, to 18,261.45. The Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 12.49 points, or 0.6 percent, to 2,164.69 and the Nasdaq composite index lost 33.78, or 0.6 percent, to 5,305.75.

Stocks posted solid gains this week, with the S&P 500 up 1.2 percent, as investors were relieved that the Federal Reserve decided to keep rates at their current low level. The next time the Fed could raise rates is November, but the general impression among investors is the central bank will not raise rates until December, long after the general election.

"As much as market fundamentals matter, the Fed and its decisions continue to dominate markets," said Kristina Hooper, head of US investment strategies at Allianz Global Investors. Several technology stocks made big moves as investors worked through company-specific news on Facebook, Twitter and Yahoo.

### Tech stocks fall

Facebook fell \$2.12, or 1.6 percent, to \$127.96 after The Wall Street Journal reported that the company was overstating how long users were watching video ads, raising concerns that a portion of Facebook's ad revenue may be at risk. Yahoo fell \$1.35, or 3.1 percent, to \$42.80 after the company admitted the data of 500 million users was stolen by a foreign agent, much more than it previously acknowledged. While Yahoo has previously agreed to sell most of its assets to Verizon, there were concerns that this development may cause Verizon to go back to the negotiation table.

Twitter soared \$3.99, or 21 percent, to \$22.62 after business network CNBC reported that the company is in deal talks with Salesforce and Google's parent company Alphabet for a possible sale.

While stocks rose solidly this week, most of the gains were in relatively safe, dividend-rich companies that investors favor when they're uncertain about the economy. The Dow Jones utility index was up 3.3 percent this week, and the newly created real estate component of the

S&P 500, made up of mostly real estate investment trusts, rose 4.3 percent.

Oil prices fell sharply after reports that Saudi Arabia was unable to reach an agreement with Iran to cut production. US benchmark crude oil futures closed down \$1.84 to \$44.48 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell \$1.76 to \$45.89 a barrel.

In other energy trading, heating oil fell 5 cents to \$1.41 per gallon, wholesale gasoline fell 2 cents to \$1.38 a gallon and natural gas fell 3.5 cents to \$2.955 per thousand cubic feet.

Energy companies were hit hard on the reports, and the energy component of the S&P 500 lost 1.3 percent, much more than the broader market. Transocean, the ocean rig operator, fell 55 cents, or 6 percent, to \$9.10.

In metals, gold fell \$3.00 to \$1,341.70 an ounce, silver fell 29 cents to \$19.81 an ounce and copper rose less than 1 cent to \$2.201 a pound. The yield on the US Treasury 10-year note was little changed at 1.62 percent. The euro rose to \$1.1231 from \$1.204 and the dollar edged up to 101.09 yen from 100.89 yen. —AP



**NEW YORK:** The Twitter symbol appears above a trading post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Twitter's stock soared on Friday following a report that it may be moving closer to selling the business. —AP





KUWAIT: Hundreds of jubilant customers celebrate iPhone 7 launch with Ooredoo on Friday night at its headquarters.



KUWAIT: A spectacular show being staged to mark the launch of iPhone 7 at Ooredoo headquarters.

# OOREDOO CELEBRATES IPHONE 7 LAUNCH

## HUNDREDS ATTEND MIDNIGHT LAUNCH EVENT FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

**KUWAIT:** Ooredoo, Kuwait's fastest network in 2016, celebrated the launch of the iPhone 7 at its headquarters Friday evening. The special celebration was attended by hundreds of customers, who waiting for midnight to sign up to the latest plans with the iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus. All customers who signed up to new plans at the launch event received a valuable prize from Ooredoo.

Commenting on this, Corporate Communications Senior Director at Ooredoo Kuwait Mijbil Alayoub said: "We're happy to celebrate the launch of the new iPhone, which is the biggest event in the telecom world this year, with our customers for the third consecutive year. We are keen on providing our customers with the latest services and products to truly enrich their experience."

### SPECIAL OFFERS

Ooredoo registered more than 100 new customers within the first half hour of official sales, distributed among its 9 branches operating during this special launch event across Kuwait, for its individual and corporate clients. With Ooredoo's special iPhone 7 plans on Shamel, Ooredoo's postpaid portfolio, individual customers can get next year's iPhone for

free, delivered to their homes at their convenience. This offer is valid for both models of the iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus, with the usual competitive Shamel perks such as unlimited calls, free contract freeze, and default setting of carrying their unused internet to the following month.

### ENTERTAINMENT AND PRIZES

The event was presented by social media influencers Bibi Alabdulmohsen and Yaqoub Boushehri, and comes as yet another testament for Ooredoo's belief in youth and the mediums that are closer to them. The hosts, both of whom have a substantial followers base on social media channels, held a number of competitions on stage, awarding winners valuable prizes from Ooredoo.

The event also included musical performances by a band from the Netherlands, who use fire, water, and light in their visually stunning shows. This is the band's first performance outside Europe.

### THE STRONGEST NETWORK

The launch of the iPhone 7 coincides with Ooredoo Kuwait winning the title of the Fastest Network in Kuwait for 2016, awarded



Corporate Communications Senior Director at Ooredoo Kuwait Mijbil Alayoub.

by Ookla, the company that runs the famous website Speedtest.net, a tool that measures network speed on users' devices. The awards are based on speed test results conducted by hundreds of thousands of actual smartphone users in Kuwait.

Ooredoo regularly benchmarks its services in relation to all competition, and results have indicated that it scores higher than competition in terms of speed and capacity. The tests were conducted in various locations and under different conditions across Kuwait to better measure the network's strength. Ooredoo Kuwait currently has more than 1,800 deployed LTE sites across Kuwait, covering the entire country. Ooredoo is continuously working with reputable organizations worldwide to introduce the future 5G internet to its customers.

### A BETTER IPHONE

The new iPhone 7 devices boast a number of powerful features, making this Apple's best iPhone to date. The iPhone 7 has an entirely new 12MP camera system, a brighter and colorful display, a faster processor and better battery life. The iPhone 7 devices are water and splash resistant, and come with built-in immersive stereo speakers.

The iPhone 7 comes in two varieties: iPhone 7 and iPhone 7 Plus. They come in three capacities: 32GB, 128GB, and 256GB. The iPhone 7 devices are available in five colors: rose gold, gold, silver, black, and jet black.

The new devices ship with the iOS 10, Apple's latest operating system, which introduce major performance and interface enhancements. Additionally, the update comes with powerful upgrades to your most-used features—Messages, Maps, Photos, and more.

Ooredoo in Kuwait is a member of Ooredoo Group. Commercially launched in December 1999, the company provides mobile, broadband internet and corporate managed services tailored to the needs of customers and businesses. Ooredoo is guided by its vision of enriching people's lives and its belief that it can stimulate human growth by leveraging communications to help people achieve their full potential.



KUWAIT: Customers buy iPhone 7 smartphone at Ooredoo headquarters on the launch day.



KUWAIT: Performers during the show marking the launch of iPhone 7.



KUWAIT: Ooredoo team at its headquarters celebrate the launch of iPhone 7.





# VIVA WELCOMES KUWAIT TO A WORLD OF 'MORE'

## TO OFFER NEW CUSTOMER-CENTRIC SERVICES, TECHNOLOGIES

**KUWAIT:** Promising new levels of value to customers in every conceivable way, VIVA, Kuwait's fastest-growing and most developed telecom operator, has announced that it will be bringing the true essence of 'more' to life across all its consumer touch points.

Promising a brand experience not before seen in Kuwait, VIVA's 'more' platform is built on the belief that while life can be enjoyable and rewarding, consumers are always seeking that little bit extra enrichment as they go about their daily lives. It is this 'yearning for more' that VIVA will aim to satisfy.

Consumers and existing customers will soon experience 'more' through new Al-Deewan service for elite customers, a broad selection of the latest smartphone handsets and packages give more customer freedom, new partnerships with leading brands open the door to incredible experiences, new enterprise services and solutions for businesses. In addition to an expanded reach and extended network, alongside greater signal strength and quality has improved data speeds to enable customers to share content and conversations like never before, and impactful CSR initiatives to give back to those in greater need.

Andrew Hanna, CCO at VIVA, said: "We have seen extensive and rapid growth of VIVA in Kuwait in recent years and our new 'more' campaign and company ethos is our way of not only giving back to our customers, but gives them something we know they always are on the lookout for: more."

This new, refreshed character for VIVA will encompass a visual identity that is human, warm and conversational in nature. Consumers will soon be able to experience 'more' through an expansive communications campaign, and in person across all major customer touch points.

Andrew Hanna added: "Even in the happiest moments, there can always be a little more joy

and delight to be found, making life that little bit richer and more rewarding. At VIVA and through our new brand avatar, we will deliver on this promise to customers, each and every time they reach for that little bit more."

VIVA is the fastest-growing telecom operator in Kuwait. Launched in December 2008, VIVA makes things Possible for its customers by transforming communication, information and entertainment experiences. The company has rapidly established an unrivalled position in the market through its customer centric approach. VIVA's

quest is to be the mobile brand of choice in Kuwait by being transparent, engaging, energetic and fulfilling. VIVA continues to take a considerable share of the market by offering an innovative range of best value products, services and content propositions; a state of the art, nationwide network and world-class service. VIVA offers internet speeds of more than 100 Mbps, due to the implementation of the most advanced fourth generation (4G LTE) network in Kuwait resulting in superior coverage, performance and reliability.



## AUDI KUWAIT OFFERS OWNERS COMPLETE PEACE OF MIND WITH EXTENDED SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE OPTIONS



**KUWAIT:** Audi is offering Kuwait Audi owners the opportunity to purchase new extended service and maintenance agreements for all new cars, which provide comprehensive care, peace of mind and ensures their vehicle's best performance.

Audi Complete provides customers with service and maintenance packages which are available with optional upgrades at Fouad Alghanim and Sons Automotive Company, the exclusive dealer of Audi in Kuwait. Maintenance and service agreements can be upgraded up to 120,000 km, covering Audi vehicles for a 5-year plan, depending on the individual Audi model. Owners can be rest assured that their service and maintenance requirements will be taken care of by Audi's trained technicians.

"Offering our customers extended maintenance and service packages not only brings them peace of mind, but ensures that they receive the very best care available through our Audi experts," says Robert Jazini, Senior Sales Manager at Audi Kuwait.

Audi provides up to 5 years or 75,000 km complimentary service with its vehicles and offers the extended Audi Complete packages tailored to each owner's needs, whether it's for service, maintenance, roadside assistance or warranty.

The Audi Service Package offers full routine servicing for your vehicle with regular scheduled service inspections that cover a comprehensive checklist. This includes the replacement of engine oil, oil filter, pollen and air filters, brake fluid, spark plugs and washer additive.

The Audi Maintenance Package offers additional benefits covering certain parts and items such as wiper blades, brake pads and disks, which are replaced free of charge along with labor should they be due for repair or replacement within the defined coverage period.

The Audi Extended Warranty can be purchased to extend the car's warranty up to 24 months to assure continuous exclusive care for your vehicle. Extended warranty coverage includes comprehensive breakdown cover against mechanical, electrical or electronic components including infotainment units.

The Audi roadside assistance offers recoveries, repairs, transporting the vehicle to Audi service center and yearly comprehensive insurance at competitive rates. Audi Kuwait after sales facility is open Saturday to Wednesday from 07:30 am to 04:30 pm and Thursdays from 07:30 am to 01:00 pm.



## AL MULLA HONORS STAFF

**KUWAIT:** Al Mulla Group, one of the largest private conglomerates in Kuwait recently commended Fredrick Piccado for his 40 years tenure, extending his unwavering commitment and sheer support with due loyalty and dedication towards the Group. In a simple ceremony at its KFTZ headquarter Anwar Abdulla Al Mulla, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer along with Khaled Al-Muraikhi, former Deputy CEO and Abdulla Najeeb Almulla, Chief Administrative Officer presented him with valuable cash prize, honoring plateau and appreciation plaque in a warmth atmosphere.

The Senior Executive Management of the Group felt deeply honored in recognizing



such long service awards rendered by individuals valuing employee commitment, loyalty and dedication towards the Group emphasizing their success of the Group was based on the strength of the employees' enhanced contribution signifying their progress and prosperity for what Al Mulla is today.

## INFINITI APPOINTS RAOUL PICELLO VICE PRESIDENT, EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA

**KUWAIT:** Picello, currently Vice President of Sales for Nissan in Europe, succeeds Francois Goupil de Bouille, who is leaving the company to pursue other interests. Picello will be based in INFINITI's European headquarters in Rolle, Switzerland, and report to INFINITI President Roland Krueger.

Picello joined Nissan Europe in 2012 as Managing Director of Nissan Iberia. A year later, he was appointed to his current position.

Roland Krueger said "Raoul Picello joins INFINITI at a pivotal moment as we are in the middle of a major product offensive. Our Q30 and QX30 compact vehicles have been well received in Europe and beyond. With the all-new Q60 sports coupe, the new 3.0 twin-turbo V6 and other highly innovative technologies, INFINITI carries further momentum. Raoul's experience of more than 25 years in sales and marketing in the automobile industry will further support our growth ambitions. Also, I would like to take the opportunity to thank Francois Goupil de Bouille for his long years of service with Nissan and INFINITI. He has successfully launched the all new Q30 and QX30 in Europe and the team wishes him well for his next steps in life."

Infiniti Motor Company Ltd. is headquartered in Hong Kong with sales oper-



ations in over 50 countries. The Infiniti brand was launched in 1989. Its range of premium automobiles is currently built in manufacturing facilities in Japan, the United States, United Kingdom and China. Infiniti plans to also expand manufacturing into Mexico by 2017.

Infiniti design studios are located in Atsugi-Shi, near Yokohama, London, San Diego and Beijing.

Infiniti is in the middle of a major product offensive. The brand has been widely acclaimed for its iconic design and innovative driver-assistance technologies. From the 2016 season, Infiniti is a technical partner of the Renault Sport Formula One team, contributing its expertise in hybrid performance.

## BURGAN BANK SOON TO ANNOUNCE WINNERS OF YOUTH ACCOUNT AND YAWMI ACCOUNT DRAWS

**KUWAIT:** Burgan Bank will announce today the three winners of Youth Account Quarterly Draw and the lucky winner of its Yawmi Account Quarterly Draw on Marina FM, "Refresh" Program which is hosted by radio host Ali Najem at 7 pm today.

The first lucky winner of the Yawmi Account Quarterly draw will receive 125,000 KD as a cash prize. At the meantime, the lucky winner of the Youth Draw will receive a cash prize of KD 1,000, while second and third winners will each receive two free "unlimited access" to Grand Cinemas for one year.

For further information, customers are required to visit their nearest Burgan Bank branch or call 1804080, or visit the bank's website on [www.burgan.com](http://www.burgan.com).

Established in 1977, Burgan Bank is the youngest commercial Bank and second largest by assets in Kuwait, with a significant focus on the corporate and financial institutions sectors, as well as having a growing retail, and private bank customer base. Burgan Bank has majority owned subsidiaries in the MENAT region supported by one of the largest regional branch

networks. The Bank has continuously improved its performance over the years through an expanded revenue structure, diversified funding sources, and a strong capital base. The adoption of state-of-the-art services and technology has positioned it as a trendsetter in the domestic market and within the MENA region. Burgan Bank's brand has been created on a foundation of real values - of trust, commitment, excellence and progression, to remind us of the high standards to which we aspire. 'People come first' is the foundation on which its products and services are developed.

The bank was re-certified with the prestigious ISO 9001:2008, making it the first bank in the GCC, and the only bank in Kuwait to receive such accreditation for the third consecutive year. The Bank also has to its credit the distinction of being the only Bank in Kuwait to have won the JP Morgan Chase Quality Recognition Award for twelve consecutive years.

Burgan Bank, a subsidiary of KIPCO (Kuwait Projects Company), is a strongly positioned regional Bank in the MENA region.

## GULF BANK ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF AL-DANAH DAILY DRAWS

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank held its Al-Danah daily draws on 18 September 2016 announcing the names of its winners for the week of 4 September - 8 September 2016. The Al-Danah daily draws include draws each and every working day for two prizes of KD 1,000 per winner.

### The winners are:

(Sunday 4/9): Shahad Abdulhameed Ramadan Abbas, Hamad Soud Abdulaziz Al-Hassan

(Monday 5/9): Yousuf Yaqoub Taher Al-Mutawa, Abdullah Sharif Raja Sharif.

(Tuesday 6/9): Fadi Talat Bashour, Sameer Saleh Abdullah Al-Awathy

(Wednesday 7/9): Hesham Hamad Ahmad Al-Hadad, Abdulghani Ahmed Mohammed Al-Bazzaz

(Thursday 8/9): Sara Hussain Mohammed Al-Wazzan, Maha Humoud Hamad Al-Mishaan

Gulf Bank's Al-Danah 2016 draw lineup includes daily draws (2 winners per working day each receive KD1000). Al-Danah's 3rd Quarterly draw for the prize of KD500,000 will be held on September 29th. The final Al-Danah draw for KD 1 million will be held on 5 January, 2017 whereby the Al-Danah millionaire will be announced. Open an Al-Danah account now or deposit more to increase your chances of winning the KD500,000 or millionaire draw!

### Five reasons why the Al-Danah account is the best:

1) Kuwait's single biggest yearly cash prize of KD 1 million



- 2) Kuwait's biggest quarterly cash prizes, up to KD 500,000
- 3) Two winners of KD1,000 every working day
- 4) The most chances to win
- 5) Only bank that transfers your chances to win from year to year

Win big, live big, with Al-Danah 2016.

Al-Danah also offers a number of unique services including: the Al-Danah Deposit Only ATM card which helps account holders deposit their money at their convenience; as well as the Al-Danah calculator to help customers calculate their chances of becoming an Al-Danah winner.

Gulf Bank's Al-Danah account is open to Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti residents of Kuwait. Customers who open an account and/ or deposit more will enter the draw within two days. To take part in the Al-Danah 2016 upcoming quarterly and yearly draws, customers must have an Al-Danah account containing at least KD 200; customers can visit one of Gulf Bank's 56 branches, transfer on line, or call the Customer Contact Center on 1805805 for assistance and guidance.



**NEW DELHI:** Adeeb Ahamed, Managing Director, Twenty14 Holdings speaking during the 'Why Invest in Incredible India' session during the three-day Tourism Investors' Summit 2016 organised by the Ministry of Tourism, CII and Tourism Finance Corporation Of India Ltd at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. The panel moderated by Mini Menon, Co-Founder & Editor, Indy Network, also included Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State for Tourism & Culture, Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of State, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Vinod Zutshi, Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Amitabh Kant, CEO, Niti Ayog, Naushad Forbes, President CII & Director Forbes Marshall and Nakul Anand, Executive Director, ITC Ltd.



## ONLINE SERVICES WANT YOUR BIRTHDATE - CREATING SECURITY RISK

**NEW YORK:** Of all the personal information people tend to give out willy-nilly on the internet, birthdate is perhaps the most ubiquitous. It's not just Yahoo and Facebook seeking that information. Websites, newsletters, online stores and a plethora of other places want your birthdate - and many services won't let you sign up until you provide it. And it's probably not because they want to send you a gift. Now, some Yahoo users are finding that they cannot delete or edit this information. In light of a massive breach the internet icon recently disclosed, this could pose a security risk.

### Why does this matter?

Services tend to ask for your birthdate to make sure you're at least 13, as opening the service to younger children would subject it to tighter restrictions on showing ads and collecting personal information. But the information can also give hackers another piece of information for identity theft. This is why banks tell you not to use your birthday in your user ID and why security experts warn to keep it out of passwords. Birthdates, while not unique, can help identify you when matched with a name. With enough other information, perhaps shared on a second, third or fourth website, it can be used to sign up for credit cards or apply for loans.

### Remember when?

The breach, disclosed Thursday, affected 500 million Yahoo accounts. But many of these accounts likely belong to people who signed up for Yahoo mail in, say, 1998 - then moved on when Google's Gmail came along, while neglecting to delete their Yahoo accounts. Now, the breach is prompting people to log back in and travel down the memory hole at the sight of their "Yahoo nickname" ("catsinspace2," anyone?). On the way, they may notice their birthdate, stamped there and without a way to change or remove it (you can, however, edit your nickname).

Facebook, which also asks for your birthdate, lets you edit it, after warning you that you can change your birthdate only "a limited number of times." Gmail lets you edit, too. In an emailed statement, Yahoo said it does not allow users to change their birthdates "as a matter of policy." The reason for this is to comply with a federal child-privacy law imposing a variety of limits and regulations on online services that target kids under 13. By excluding young children, services wouldn't have to go through hoops and seek parental consent.

### Is this necessary?

Many people give their birthdate to companies online without a second



**SAN FRANCISCO:** Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg speaks with his wife, Priscilla Chan, as they prepare for a presentation in San Francisco. Zuckerberg and Chan have a new lofty goal: to cure, manage or eradicate all disease by the end of this century. To this end, the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, the couple's philanthropic organization, is committing significant financial resources over the next decade to help accelerate basic science research. — AP

thought. Facebook, with 1.7 billion users, is the biggest collector of birthdates, but there's also a whole "mini-industry" around birthday greetings, videos and messages. The main reason that companies say they need your birthdate is to

ensure you are of age. You have to be 18 to look at pornography online, and in the US, at least 21 to visit websites marketing alcohol. A Facebook app called Lifestage, meanwhile, is available only to users under 21 (and over 13). And as mentioned

earlier, companies need to ensure their users are at least 13 to avoid triggering the child-privacy law. Of course, nothing stops you from lying about your age, and companies don't really need your actual birthdate - just your age. But the birthdate and age can help companies target advertising to you better, and sometimes offer you special deals or greetings. Ads help companies make money and, they say, keep the services you use free.

### What to do about it?

Some security-minded folks get around giving out personal info by typing in a fake birthdate, though this can run afoul of a site's terms of service. Other than that, there is not much individuals can do if they want to use the services. But there are privacy groups hoping to change this. Marc Rotenberg, executive director of the online privacy watchdog Electronic Privacy Information Center, said companies should develop "privacy-enhancing techniques" that minimize or eliminate the collection of personally identifiable information. "Asking users security questions based on personal information simply worsens the problem," he said in an email. "Companies should avoid collecting birthdates, (Social Security numbers), mother maiden names. That only creates more vulnerabilities." — AP

## TWITTER INITIATES TALKS WITH TECH COMPANIES OVER SALE

**NEW YORK:** Twitter Inc has initiated talks with several technology companies to explore selling itself, a person familiar with the matter said on Friday, signaling the start of what is likely to be a slow-rolling auction of the high-profile but money-losing social media company. A sale of Twitter has been the subject of on-again, off-again rumors for many months as the company grapples with stagnant user growth, soft advertising sales and losses running at hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

The company's business struggles have come even as the 10-year-old service has evolved into a potent global source of news, entertainment and social commentary. CNBC, citing anonymous sources, reported on Friday that Twitter is in talks with companies including Google and may receive a formal bid soon. A source told Reuters that Salesforce.com is also in pursuit.

Twitter and Alphabet Inc, Google's parent company did not respond to a request for comment. Salesforce declined to comment. Verizon, another company mentioned in media reports on Friday as a possible suitor, said it did not comment on M&A rumors but that it had not submitted a bid for the company. Twitter shares jumped more than 19 percent to \$22.22 per share on Friday, marking the largest one-day rise since their first day of trading in 2013. The company now has a market value of around \$16 billion.

Morningstar analyst Ali Mogharabi said Alphabet would be the best acquirer for Twitter since it has not yet been able to crack social media on its own despite several efforts. "From a strategic standpoint, we think it would be more beneficial for Alphabet as opposed to Salesforce," Mogharabi said. Former Google executive Omid Kordestani is executive chairman of Twitter. Morningstar estimates Twitter could be bought for \$22 per share. Twitter is working with investment banks Goldman Sachs and Allen & Co in considering possible transactions, sources familiar with the situation said.

### Salesforce surprise

The most unexpected development on Friday was Salesforce.com's interest in acquiring Twitter. Salesforce serves business customers with cloud-based computing services and has virtually no presence in consumer media. But a recent presentation about its new "Einstein" artificial intelligence platform provided a peak at how Twitter could fit into the company's strategy. Salesforce executives said they license the Twitter "firehose" of

all Tweets that come through the platform, and use it to power sentiment analysis and other tools that show how companies and brands are being discussed and perceived.

Salesforce Chief Executive Marc Benioff is active in political causes in San Francisco and the two companies are located just blocks from each other in the city. Salesforce's chief digital evangelist, Vala Afshar, tweeted on Friday: "Why @twitter? 1 personal learning network 2 the best realtime, context rich news 3 democratize intelligence 4 great place to promote others." Later, Afshar added: "I have tweeted my personal views regarding 'Why Twitter?' numerous times over the past couple of years. I simply love Twitter."

### Rivals ascend

Afshar's sentiment is not shared on Wall Street, however. Twitter missed Wall Street's sales expectations in both the first and second quarters of 2016, according to Thomson Reuters StarMine, and has yet to produce a net profit in 11 quarters as a public company. As of the end of the second quarter, the company had an accumulated loss of nearly \$2.3 billion since its inception.

It has also failed to keep pace with rivals, notably Facebook's Instagram and Snapchat. Both now boast more users than Twitter by most measures even though they are much newer, and advertisers have begun to migrate their ad dollars accordingly. Twitter's revenue grew rapidly under former Chief Executive Dick Costolo, but stagnant user growth and mounting complaints about lack of innovation in the product led to Costolo's departure last year. The company has also faced criticism for its failure to stem abuse on the platform and for missing the opportunity to play a bigger role in the red-hot messaging arena. Twitter has 313 million monthly users, up just 3 percent from a year ago.

Co-founder Jack Dorsey returned to the company as chief executive in 2015 while retaining his role as CEO of payment company Square, and his plan for reviving Twitter is at best seen as unfinished. Recent moves to be a big player in live video, including a deal to broadcast NFL games, are too new to be reflected in user growth or ad sales. Twitter went public in November 2013 at \$26 a share. The shares peaked above \$74 just over a month after its IPO, but have been on steady downward trajectory since. From then through Thursday's close at \$18.63, the stock had lost three-quarters of its value. — Reuters



**SUNNYVALE:** People walk in front of a Yahoo sign at the company's headquarters in Sunnyvale, Calif. Yahoo says the personal information of 500 million accounts have been stolen in a massive security breakdown that represents the latest setback for the beleaguered internet company. — AP

## YAHOO FACES SCRUTINY

### YAHOO BLAMED INCIDENT ON 'STATE-SPONSORED ACTOR'

**WASHINGTON:** Yahoo on Friday faced pointed questions about exactly when it knew about a cyber attack that exposed the email credentials of 500 million users, a critical issue for the company as it seeks to prevent the breach from affecting a pending takeover by Verizon Inc. The internet company has so far not provided a clear, detailed timeline about when it was made aware of the breach announced Thursday. Yahoo blamed the incident on a "state-sponsored actor" but has not provided any technical information supporting that claim.

"We don't know a lot. We don't know how the bad guys broke in. We don't know when Yahoo first found out," said Jeremiah Grossman, chief of security strategy for SentinelOne and a former information security officer at Yahoo. In a Sept 9 regulatory filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Yahoo stated it did not have knowledge of "any incidents of, or third party claims alleging ... unauthorized access" of personal data of its customers that could have a material adverse effect on Verizon's acquisition.

Verizon, which said Thursday it learned of the breach within the past two days, agreed in July to pay \$4.83 billion for Yahoo's core business. If

the hacking prompts customers to leave Yahoo, the company may see its value erode. Yahoo was sued Friday in a California federal court by a user who accused it of gross negligence in its handling of the massive hacking. The suit, filed on behalf of all Yahoo users in the United States who had their personal information compromised, sought class-action status and unspecified damages. Some lawmakers swiftly called for close scrutiny of what the company knew and when.

"As law enforcement and regulators examine this incident, they should investigate whether Yahoo may have concealed its knowledge of this breach in order to artificially bolster its valuation in its pending acquisition by Verizon," Richard Blumenthal, a Democratic senator from Connecticut, said. Verizon declined to comment on how the breach might affect the deal. Sources familiar with the transaction say Verizon and its advisers are still examining the situation before determining what actions if any might be taken. The Financial Times reported Thursday that embattled Yahoo Chief Executive Officer Marissa Mayer knew of the breach in July, citing a person briefed on the matter.

The FT article did not specify if Mayer was aware of the hack announced Thursday or of a separate incident, in which a hacker calling himself Peace took to the dark web this summer to claim he was selling hundreds of millions of Yahoo credentials.

"Yahoo has never had reason to believe there is any connection between the security issue disclosed yesterday and the claims publicized by a hacker in August 2016. Conflating the two events is inaccurate," said a Yahoo spokesperson who declined to be identified by name, adding that Yahoo's investigation was still ongoing.

Sources familiar with the Yahoo investigation said that the company learned of the theft of data - which included encrypted passwords, names and emails but not banking information - only after probing the claims made by Peace, which Yahoo determined were meritless. Joseph Cox, a reporter with the technology news site Motherboard, said he emailed Yahoo on July 30 to ask if the company was aware that Peace was attempting to sell Yahoo data. Motherboard published a story on Aug. 1 stating Yahoo was "aware" of the hacker's claims. — Reuters



**NEW YORK:** Photo shows the Twitter logo displayed on a banner outside the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) in New York. — AFP

## INDIAN AIRLINE SAYS NOTE 2 EMITTED SMOKE IN PLANE

**NEW DELHI:** A Samsung Note 2 phone emitted smoke and sparks on a flight from Singapore to southern India, the airline said. The phone was found in the bag of a passenger in an overhead bin after other passengers reported smelling smoke in the plane, IndiGo said. It said there was no fire but sparks and smoke were coming from the phone. The crew used a fire extinguisher and then placed the phone in a container filled with water in a lavatory, the Indian airline said in its statement. The aircraft made a normal landing at the Chennai airport and all passengers deplaned normally, it said.

The phone will be examined to determine the cause of the incident, the airline said. The company said it had been informed of an incident in India with the Samsung Note 2, which uses a replaceable battery and was released in 2012. "We are in touch with local authorities to gather more information and investigate whether there were any external factors involved," the company statement said. Samsung has recalled 2.5 million newer Note 7 phones after dozens of reports of battery fires attributed to a manufacturing flaw. Authorities in several countries have banned their use in aircraft. — AP

## NASA TO REVEAL 'SURPRISING' ACTIVITY ON JUPITER'S MOON

**MIAMI:** There's something going on beneath the surface of Jupiter's icy moon Europa. But what? NASA teased a "surprising" announcement for Monday, based on Hubble Space Telescope images of the celestial body, which many experts believe could contain a subsurface ocean, even possibly some form of life. The US space agency has already proclaimed that Europa has "strong evidence for an ocean of liquid water beneath its crust and which could host conditions favorable for life." At Monday's announcement, "astronomers will present results from a unique Europa observing campaign that resulted in surprising evidence of activity that may be related to the presence of a subsurface ocean," it said in a statement.

The announcement will be made at a news conference at 2 pm (1800 GMT) Monday featuring Paul Hertz, NASA's director of astrophysics, and William Sparks, an astronomer with the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore. NASA announced last year that it intends to send a

robotic spacecraft, equipped with a suite of scientific instruments, to circle Europa in the 2020s. In 2012, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope "observed water vapor above the south polar region of Europa," suggesting water plumes may be erupting from the moon, the space agency said.

If those plumes are confirmed, and if they are found to originate from a subsurface ocean, scientists hope the spacecraft could study their chemical makeup, revealing characteristics of the water without having to drill through ice. Jupiter, nicknamed the king of the solar system, is surrounded by more than 50 moons. Last year, data from the Hubble Space Telescope confirmed that Jupiter's largest moon, Ganymede, has an underground ocean that contains more water than Earth's, broadening the hunt for places in the solar system where life might be able to exist. In the case of Ganymede, aurora-displays of light in the atmosphere-glimpsed by the Hubble Space Telescope allowed scientists to confirm the long-suspected subsurface saltwater there. — AFP



## FDA APPROVES LOWER-COST ALTERNATIVE TO BIOTECH DRUG HUMIRA

**WASHINGTON:** Federal regulators on Friday approved the first alternative version of the second-best selling drug in the world, Humira, the blockbuster injection used to treat rheumatoid arthritis and other inflammatory diseases.

The Food and Drug Administration cleared a near-copy of the drug, dubbed Amjevita, developed by Amgen Inc. Regulators approved the drug for more than a half-dozen conditions listed on the original drug's label, including severe psoriasis and Crohn's disease. Humira posted sales of nearly \$15 billion in 2015 and was for many years the top-selling

prescription drug in the world, according to data from IMS Health.

It's the fourth time that the FDA has formally approved a so-called biosimilar, the industry term for a lower-cost version of a biotech drug. Biosimilar drugs, long available in Europe, are thought to have the potential to generate billions in savings for the US health system. But currently only one biosimilar cleared by the FDA approval pathway is actually on the market in the US, Novartis' Zarxio, an alternative to Amgen's Neupogen that sells for about 15 percent less than the original product. The drug helps

boost red blood cells in cancer patients.

Amgen did not discuss plans for the drug's launch or price in a release issued Friday evening.

But Wall Street analysts have noted that AbbVie claims it holds patents protecting Humira until at least 2022. They have previously estimated that Amgen's version could launch sometime between 2018 and 2022, depending on the outcome of court litigation.

First approved in 2002, Humira accounted for 60 percent of AbbVie's total revenue last year. The injectable drug, which blocks chemicals linked to

inflammation, is part of a family of biotech drugs including Enbrel and Remicade, which are also facing pending biosimilar competition. Development of lower-cost anti-inflammatory drugs is considered pivotal in reducing US spending on specialty drugs, which has doubled to \$150 billion since 2010, according to IMS Health.

Thousand Oaks, California-based Amgen is itself a biotech powerhouse, and it too has medications facing competition from cheaper versions. The company is working to hedge those losses by developing lower-cost versions of competitors' drugs. —AP



**TIRANA:** A photo taken on September 18, 2016 shows a bear sitting in water in a cage at a restaurant. — AFP

## ALBANIA SEEKS TO LIBERATE CHAINED BEARS

### PHYSICAL AND MENTAL SCARS

**TIRANA:** The two five-year-old Albanian bears carry physical and mental scars from their days of mistreatment and captivity — Pashuk has marks from the tight chain on his neck, while Tomi is an alcoholic.

The pair are temporarily staying in Tirana zoo after they were rescued from their jailers, amid a new drive to liberate the Balkan country's cruelly caged brown bears. There are up to 250 of them roaming free in Albania's mountains, according to the international animal rights group Four Paws. But another several dozen, between 50 and 80, were taken from the wild as cubs.

Displayed in cages in restaurants or shackled on beaches, the bears' role is to amuse and attract tourists and well-heeled customers who can pose with the animals for one euro (\$1.1) per photograph. Tomi's former owner, who runs a restaurant 80 kilometers north of Tirana, allowed customers to serve their new furry friend beer and "raki", the traditional local tipple. "Coffee and alcohol, there was nothing better to wake him, as with my clients," the businessman, aged around 40, told AFP, declining to give his name.

Tomi, who now aggressively paces up and down, will on Monday be sent with Pashuk and another female bear to neighboring Kosovo, which has built a "bear sanctuary" after facing a similar problem. "Tomi is always stressed and this could be explained by his withdrawal from

alcohol," said Sajmir Shehu of Four Paws.

#### Threat of jail

In March, Albania's authorities made a deal with Four Paws pledging to liberate its bears and adopt a law making private possession of wild animals a crime against the environment, punishable by prison.

Until now, fines of 20 to 30 euros for keeping these animals were hardly a deterrent. But Albania wants to draw more tourists and does not want to raise controversy over animal abuse.

Environment Minister Lefter Koka insists the time of impunity is over: "Cruelty to animals cannot be a tourist attraction." "We have already identified more than 50 bears in cages," Koka told AFP.

Several of them have already been sent to parks and sanctuaries in other European countries, while two cubs are due to go to Germany. But what about the dozens of others, who are incapable of rediscovering a fully wild life? These animals are "stressed, passive, they bite, they have lost all reflexes to feed themselves, they are sad," said Zamir Dedej, the director general of Albania's Agency for Environmental Protection.

#### Dancing bears

"Our space is limited and we cannot keep them here long," said Mirjam Kastrati, director of

Tirana's small zoo, which is surrounded by concrete towers. A park would cost more than four million euros, an exorbitant sum for Albania, one of the poorest countries in Europe.

Koka is however determined to carry out his "Bear Forest" project, which he envisages in the Dajti mountain, 10 kilometres (six miles) east of Tirana. The tradition of exhibiting captive bears has a long history in the Balkans. In Serbia, a common phrase to disperse a curious crowd is: "What's going on? Is a female bear dancing?"

Although such capture was prohibited in Albania under dictator Enver Hoxha, the period of anarchy that saw communism collapse in the early 1990s opened the door to the practice. Nature, along with factories, was looted. Pheasants as well as eagles—the emblem of the country—have almost disappeared from the mountains. Like bears, they were officially protected. Yet no one protested.

Koka says citizens need educating if Albania is to preserve and restore its rich wildlife and it seems changing mindsets could take time. "The Table of the Bear", a chic restaurant in Tirana, draws members of the city's elite and has welcomed former US first lady Laura Bush among its most famous guests. Before sitting down to eat, it is fashionable to be photographed with Mark and Liza, aged 22, who for a decade have known only their cage. — AFP

## FEDS PUSH BACK ON STATES TARGETING PLANNED PARENTHOOD FUNDS

**WICHITA:** The Obama administration has proposed barring states and other recipients of federal family planning grants from placing their own eligibility restrictions on where the money can go, which would undermine the efforts of 13 Republican-led states to prevent such money from going to Planned Parenthood.

The Department of Health and Human Services is accepting public comments about the proposed changes to the Title X grant program until Oct. 7. It contends that these state restrictions have hurt the quality and geographic availability of family planning services to the poor families that Title X is intended to reach. It also says the program is cost-effective, noting that every grant dollar spent on family planning saves an average \$7.09 in Medicaid-related costs.

#### Welcomed change

The proposed rule change was welcomed by Planned Parenthood, which relies on Title X to provide reproductive health care services to 1.5 million patients across the country, making it the medical provider for about a third of the patients served by the grant program.

"This is critically important and I am grateful that the Obama administration is taking these efforts to make sure nobody stands in the way of the care that people need. These proposed regulations make it clear that politicians can't stop women from getting services," said Dr. Raegan McDonald-Mosley, chief medical officer for the Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

Title X is designed to provide contraception services, pregnancy tests, screening and treatment for sexually transmitted diseases and cancer screenings at little or no cost to low-income patients. It doesn't pay for abortions, except in cases of rape, incest or when the mother's life is endangered. Title X grants account for 10 percent of the public funding clinics receive for family planning services, with Medicaid picking up 75 percent, according to the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights.

Federal law prohibits blocking a qualified provider from getting Medicaid, and

no court so far has upheld a single attempt by a state to block Medicaid funding to Planned Parenthood, said Kinsey Hasstedt, a Guttmacher Institute policy expert. But because Title X is a grant program, some states have been more successful in restricting the disbursement of those funds, she said.

In 2011, Kansas established a tiered system for dispersing its Title X funding that favors county health departments and other providers that offer more comprehensive medical services, rather than those that specialize in reproductive health, such as Planned Parenthood.

The tiered system, which took effect in 2014 after an appeals court upheld its legality, made it harder for families to access medical services, particularly in the rural western part of the state, where Planned Parenthood closed a clinic in Hays and an unaffiliated family planning clinic shut down in Dodge City. The number of Kansans who received Title X services fell from 38,461 in 2011 to 24,047 in 2015 - a decrease of more than 37 percent, according to HHS.

Other Republican-led states have passed similar restrictions, including Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Indiana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin. If states don't scrap their restrictions, they stand to lose all their Title X funding. For 2015, that ranged from \$785,000 in New Hampshire to \$13.67 million in Texas, according to figures compiled by the National Family Planning & Reproduction Health Foundation. HHS said the Texas State Department of Health did not receive a 2016 Title X grant, while Kansas received \$2.52 million that year.

Abortion opponents, who have tried various ways of trying to defund Planned Parenthood because it provides abortions at some of its clinics, are outraged by the proposed Title X rule change.

"This is intended to undermine the state authority in Kansas - to undo tiering - and is intended to be a gift for Planned Parenthood," said Kathy Ostrowski, legislative director for the anti-abortion group Kansans for Life. — AP

## 35 US STATES SUE UK DRUGMAKER OVER MARKETING OF OPIOID

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Thirty-five states and the District of Columbia filed an antitrust lawsuit Thursday alleging that British drugmaker Indivior tried to keep cheaper, generic versions of Suboxone off the market, California's attorney general announced.

The complaint filed in the US District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania also names New Jersey's MonoSol Rx, a pharmaceutical dissolving-film company, for conspiring to corner the market on the popular medication used to treat people hooked on heroin and other painkillers.

According to the lawsuit, the company known today as Indivior was granted exclusive rights in 2002 to sell Suboxone tablets for seven years. When its rights expired, the company worked

with MonoSol Rx to make an oral strip form of the drug that they then marketed as safer than tablets, the complaint said.

The attorneys general allege the conduct is illegal "product hopping," where a company makes small changes to a product to keep cheaper alternatives off the market, said Pennsylvania's Attorney General Bruce R. Beemer in a press release Thursday. "When prescription drug companies unlawfully manipulate the marketplace to maximize profits, they put lives at risk and drive up the cost of health care for everyone," said California's Attorney General Kamala Harris in a statement.

Representatives of the two companies were not immediately available for comment. — AP



**MAIDUGURI, NIGERIA:** In this photo taken on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2016 health officials administer polio vaccine to children at a camp for people displaced by Islamist Extremist. — AP

## NIGERIA ADMINISTERS POLIO VACCINES AT MILITARY CHECKPOINTS

**YOLA, Nigeria:** Health officials in eastern Nigeria say they have started to administer polio vaccines to children at military checkpoints in an attempt to stop the spread of the crippling disease.

Abdullahi Hammandikko, a vaccination team leader in Taraba state, says up to 80 children are being vaccinated per day at one of the checkpoints. Nigeria was declared polio-free last year, but two new cases were discovered last month

among refugees in areas recently reclaimed from the extremist group Boko Haram. A third case was confirmed this month.

Officials have noted scattered resistance to the vaccinations by some parents, but Hammandikko says those stopped at checkpoints are cooperating. Dr. Innocent Vakai, Taraba's health commissioner, says anyone refusing the vaccination could be asked to leave the state. — AP

## POLISH DOCTORS HIT STREETS DEMANDING HIGHER WAGES

**VARSOVIE:** Thousands of doctors, nurses and hospital workers marched through central Warsaw Saturday demanding Poland's rightwing government spend more on public health, especially to hike notoriously low salaries. "After six years of studies and a thirteen-month internship, I earn 2,200 zloty (510 euros, \$580) per month," young doctor Bartłomiej Kolodziejczyk told AFP. "It's impossible to raise a family on that."

Protesters say that to earn a decent salary many physicians work up to 80 hours per week, and the long hours lead to exhaustion and pose a health risk to staff and patients. Protesters are demanding that Poland's populist Law and Justice (PiS) government immediately hike health spending to 6.8 percent of GDP as recommended by the World Health Organisation. Poland currently spends 4.5 percent of GDP on health.

In July, the PiS administration triggered outrage among health workers when vowed it would meet the WHO target by 2025. Speaking briefly at Saturday's rally, PiS Health Minister Konstanty Radziwiłł blamed the previous liberal government for the woes of the medical sector and vowed to raise spending each year.

Faced with low wages at home, around 10 percent of young doctors choose to work abroad, mostly in Western Europe, according to Polish media. An EU member of 38 million people, Poland has one of the lowest doctor-to-patient ratios in Europe. Around 6,000 health workers took part in the demonstration, according to Warsaw city hall. — AFP



**WARSAW:** Polish doctors and health professionals take part in demonstration demanding more finance support for public health service yesterday. — AFP



## MOBY LAUNCHES NEW ALBUM WITH ENVIRONMENTAL MANIFESTO

**NEW YORK:** Moby, the electronic artist known for his dark musical undertones and staunch advocacy of animal rights, has announced a new album in the form of an environmental manifesto. Entitled "These Systems Are Failing," the album to be released on October 14 will be the debut of his new act called Moby and the Void Pacific Choir.

Moby released an initial two tracks, which have echoes of the techno sound that made him famous in the 1990s but carry a forceful wall of guitar and bleak minor-key arrangements. A video for the title track starts with Moby dragging a microphone stand through a parking lot and into nature before a rapid-paced tour of consumer culture.

The video races through a supermarket before showing piles of chicks being dumped to their deaths in an egg factory and a sneering Donald Trump, the Republican presidential candidate. In a video manifesto to announce the album, Moby-appearing to be drowning in a pool of dark ambient music-questions the state of human civilization. "We're still acting as our ancestors acted, grasping for food, destroying nature, killing animals, killing each other, maintaining systems that haven't worked in a long time," he says. "These systems are killing us. These systems are killing

everything. These systems are failing. Let them fail!" Moby will release the album before Circle V, a new vegan music and food festival on October 23 that he has launched in Los Angeles, where the native New Yorker has relocated. The festival will be the only 2016 performance by Moby, who earlier in the year wrote a well-received memoir, "Porcelain."

Moby-who takes his stage-name from "Moby Dick" author Herman Melville, a distant ancestor-started as a guitarist in the hardcore punk scene of the 1980s before finding his calling as a DJ. While his lyricism is often minimal, Moby has routinely infused his views into his music, releasing essays with his albums to press for a vegan diet and to declare his belief in a tolerant form of Christianity. —AFP



**JOHANNESBURG:** Activists march to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in Sandton yesterday. — AP

## WILDLIFE MEETING OPENS AIMING TO SAVE SPECIES

**JOHANNESBURG:** Thousands of conservationists and top government officials went into talks in Johannesburg Saturday to thrash out international trade regulations on elephant ivory, rhino horn and hundreds of endangered wild animals and plants. The booming illegal trade of wildlife has put huge pressure on a treaty signed by more than 180 countries - the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

The plight of Africa's rhino and elephants, targeted for their horns and tusks, is expected to dominate much of the 12-day meeting. "We are now embarking on the largest meeting ever in the 43-year history of CITES," the convention's secretary general John Scanlon said at the start of the talks. "We are going to review trade controls of close to 500 species of wild animals and plants. High on the agenda we have the African elephants, the rhino, the pangolin... the silky shark," he said.

Illegal trade in wildlife is valued at around \$20 billion a year, according to CITES. The meeting will consider whether to tighten, ease or not impose trade controls on the myriad of species, including special types of wood. Scanlon lauded the high level of political support being shown for tackling the illicit wildlife trade, which is ranked among the world's largest illegal businesses alongside arms, counterfeit goods, drugs and human trafficking.

South Africa's President Jacob Zuma opened the Johannesburg talks. "Levels of exploitation of some animal and plant species are high and the trade is capable of heavily depleting their populations and even bringing some species close to extinction," said Zuma. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) chief Erik Solheim called for more action to protect wildlife. "We are not doing as well when it comes to protecting species. There is huge challenges and that is why this conference is so important. We need to step up to protect the elephants, the rhinos, the orangutans," said Solheim.

Scanlon said while all 183 CITES parties are "deeply committed to the survival of

wild animals and plants, they sometimes have differing views on the best way to achieve this". A coalition of 29 African countries is pressing for a total halt to the ivory trade to curb poaching of elephants, but other delegates believe it would only fuel illegal trading. A recent census revealed that the savannah elephant population has declined by 30 percent over seven years.

Britain's Prince William said in a pre-CITES speech this week that the census confirmed that "one of our planet's most treasured species is on course for extinction at the hands of poachers and traffickers". He added that when he was born there were one million elephants roaming Africa, but they could be extinct in the wild when his one-year-old daughter Charlotte turns 25.

### Insatiable Demand

CITES forbids trade in elephant ivory, but Namibia and Zimbabwe have made a proposal asking for permission to sell off stockpiles to raise funds for local communities that co-exist with the animals. On rhino horn trafficking, CITES banned that trade 40 years ago, but prohibition has not reduced illicit hunting, which has recently boomed in South Africa. Around 5,000 white rhino - a quarter of the population - have been slaughtered over the past eight years, with the majority killed in South Africa, home to 80 percent of the world's rhino.

Rhino poaching is driven by insatiable demand in Vietnam and China for the horn, which is mistakenly believed to have medicinal powers curing everything from hangovers to cancer. Other species high on the CITES radar are devils ray, rock geckos, tomato frogs and the African grey parrot. Scanlon warned that illegal wildlife trafficking was "occurring on an industrial scale, driven by transnational organized criminal groups".

Besides animals, timber will be a focus. When it first came into force in 1975, CITES only regulated a handful of timber species, but three years ago there were 600 types of timber listed under its appendices. This year there are 250 species proposed for listing, especially of sought-after rosewood. — AFP

## TO TRAIN DOCTORS, VERMONT SCHOOL SHIFTS TO HANDS-ON LEARNING TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS

**BURLINGTON:** The University of Vermont College of Medicine is changing the way physicians are trained by switching exclusively to a hands-on approach to learning designed to encourage students to solve medical puzzles rather than just memorizing body parts and diseases.

While most medical schools recognize the importance of active learning and use it in some of their classes, UVM is believed to be among the first in the country to commit itself to switching all its medical training to the new system. "Shifting completely away from the traditional lectures in that way, we are not familiar with any other medical school that has done that across all four years," said Lisa Howley, the senior director of educational affairs at the Washington-based Association of American Medical Colleges, which represents 145 medical schools and about 400 teaching hospitals.

The effort will get a boost from a \$66 million donation from 1942 medical school graduate Robert Larner that will provide \$4 million a year in perpetuity to help implement the changes. In announcing the donation Friday, the medical school, which has about 465 students, also said it was changing its name to The Robert Larner M.D. College of Medicine.

Making the switch presents a challenge to an educational system that, especially in the early years of medical school, relied on a doctor lecturing to students from the front of the room.

William Jeffries, associate dean at the UVM medical school, points to a 2014 study in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that determined students in traditional lectures were 1.5 times more likely to fail than students taught with active learning. "If this was a clinical trial of a new drug or a treatment, we would adopt it because we knew that the other method was inferior to the first method," Jeffries said. "We have to react to that evidence."

### New system

Here's how the process works in the new system:

In class, medical students might be given a case in which a patient is complaining of arm pain. The students would focus on which bone is most likely broken and the possible implications of the injury to the circulatory or nervous system.

"That means they have to know the anatomy, and then they have to say, 'Well, in the real world, what are we going to do with that information?'" said Dr. William Raszka, a pediatrician who teaches in the medical school.

"The family doesn't come in and say, 'I think my ulna's fractured.' They say, 'My son came in, he fell off the jungle gym and he's holding his hand,'" Raszka said.

To facilitate those types of discussions, the school is removing lined-up desks from classrooms and replacing them with tables where small groups of students can apply the information they learn before class and work together to find answers to questions posed by the teachers. The rarely used books in the medical school



**BURLINGTON, VERMONT:** In this Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016 photo, University of Vermont medical school Associate Dean William Jeffries poses in a hallway of the College of Medicine. — AP

library are going to be moved into storage and the information digitized.

The students will still be tested, but rather than focusing on memorized facts, they will be asked to solve problems and demonstrate higher levels of thinking. For some of the students, active learning has become routine. For some of the faculty, it's a big change.

Third-year medical student Soraiya Thura has been learning medicine under both systems. "It's a delicate balance," Thura said. "Some faculty members are great at doing it, and they have a natural ability to facilitate this kind of learning."

Raszka said there is resistance among the faculty because they are being asked to change the way things have always been done and it's much more difficult. "To develop active learning models takes an enormous amount of effort," he said.

UVM is about halfway finished with fully implementing the new system. The faculty will decide on a timetable for full implementation, Jeffries said, who added that it's important to have everyone on board. "If you've gone with a coalition of the willing but not everybody all in ... that's what's going to be the big challenge." — AP

## GERMANY PASSES NEW SEX WORKER PROTECTION, NO-MEANS-NO LAWS

**BERLIN:** German legislation designed to make life safer for sex workers, including making the use of a condom mandatory, and a stricter "no means no" law both passed their final hurdles Friday with approval from the upper house of Parliament. "Women and men have the right to sexual self-determination," said Manuela Schwesig, Germany's minister for women and families. "They can say 'no,' and have the right for that to be treated as 'no,' and they have the right to protection from any form of violence."

Legislation in 2002 that legalized prostitution gave sex workers social benefits but also led to the rapid growth of unregulated brothels, leading to calls for tighter controls.

The new legislation provides for stricter regulation of such establishments, and fore-

sees regular confidential conversations with sex workers to help ensure enforcement.

Schwesig said many men and women sex workers have been "defenseless against the power of brothel owners" but the new law will "protect them from exploitation and violence." The new regulations come into force on July 1, 2017.

The so-called "no means no" law aims to make it easier for victims of sex crimes to file criminal complaints by making all unwanted sexual activity illegal, including if the victim is not in a condition to give consent.

German law previously required victims to show that they physically resisted attack before charges for rape and other sexual assaults could be brought. It goes into effect immediately after it is formally signed by the country's president. — AP

# CLINIC PAGE



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Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
ر. فهد علي المخيزيم

استشاري أطفال  
M.B. Bch. FRCPC. FAAP. PEM



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The Baby World Bilingual Nursery celebrated the first week of this school year by a special carnival where kids received special gifts on the occasion.



## SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY

In collaboration with Kuwait Foundation for the advancement of Sciences and the American cooling and air-conditioning foundation, ASHRAE, InterTech Training and Consulting Incorporation recently organized a scientific conference on energy efficiency and air quality. The conference was held over two days with participation of 20 government bodies.

Speaking on the occasion, InterTech's marketing and business development manager, Sameer Al-Najdi said that InterTech targets achieving 80 per cent of indoor air quality and energy efficiency in various buildings. He added that the conference convened a large group of local engineers in the government and oil sectors.

### Greetings



### BIRTHDAY WISHES

Many Many Happy Returns of the Day our loving brother Rylan (Kunjunju). We wish that every one of your birthdays will be the happiest. May the Almighty shower His blessings on you. Ammu chechi, Rohan achachan



by Paul Albert Regasp



by Nouman Ghuman



by Anwar Sadath



by Johny Costa



by Remar L. Toledo



by Bader al Hattab



by Mohammed Zoeb



# Q8 Expats Photography Photowalk

**Q**8 Expats Photography Club hosted the 4th annual 500px Global Photowalk at Al-Shaheed Park, Kuwait. The Photowalk was attended by over 100 photography lovers from all levels of photography, beginners to pros. It was open and receptive to all age groups and nationalities. "The intention of arranging these grand events is to bring forward the creativity, inspire the beginners and create a learning environment for everyone" said the President of the club Adil Javed. Q8EPC has been ramping up a creative photography community since 2012 and they have hosted many mega events, workshops, training seminars and exhibitions. Many of their members are now working as full time photographers in several of Kuwait's industry.

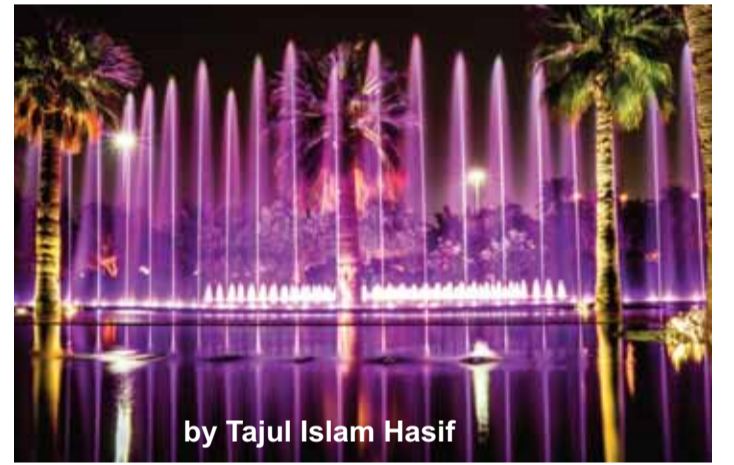
The topic of this year's Photowalk was "Action & Adventure" which was supported by the talented PK Jaguars Parkour Academy. Their excellent stunts all over the park kept the photographers busy and striving for the best shot. Other than that, there was a Q&A session regarding photo, video and business planning.

Q8EPC hosts monthly workshops and training in order to cultivate and promote photography among all age groups and levels of photography. Their website [www.Q8EPC.net](http://www.Q8EPC.net) gives information on all forthcoming events.

The Photowalk was supported by TAMRON Kuwait, leading manufacturer of Photo Lenses. They provided T-shirts to all attendees, discounts and a camera lens to the best photograph taken during the event.



by Mondell Salmon



by Tajul Islam Hasif

by Nishad Veliath



by Sadath

by Mohammed Aun



by Paul Albert Regasp

by Unnikrishnan



by Ahmad Boftain



by Faluk Adel



by Adil Javed



by Adil Javed





OSN MOVIES HD

ACTION

- 00:15 Zombie Apocalypse
- 02:00 Seventh Son
- 04:00 First Response
- 06:00 The Expendables 3
- 08:15 The Berlin File
- 10:30 Dracula Untold
- 12:15 Hercules Reborn
- 14:00 The Expendables 3
- 16:15 The Berlin File
- 18:30 Dracula Untold
- 20:15 Into The Storm
- 22:00 Savages

OSN MOVIES HD

DRAMA+2

- 01:30 Maps To The Stars
- 03:30 Fading Gigolo
- 05:00 Fury
- 07:15 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 09:15 Before I Disappear
- 11:00 A Stranger In Paradise
- 13:00 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 15:00 Memorial Day
- 17:00 The Melancholy Fantastic
- 19:00 A Stranger In Paradise
- 21:00 Lords Of London
- 23:00 Lucky Them

OSN MOVIES HD

DRAMA

- 01:30 Fading Gigolo
- 03:00 Fury
- 05:15 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 07:15 Before I Disappear
- 09:00 A Stranger In Paradise
- 11:00 Every Thing Will Be Fine
- 13:00 Memorial Day
- 15:00 The Melancholy Fantastic
- 17:00 A Stranger In Paradise
- 19:00 Lords Of London
- 21:00 Lucky Them
- 23:00 The Zero Theorem

OSN MOVIES HD

FAMILY

- 01:00 The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement
- 03:00 Homework Bound: The Incredible Journey
- 05:00 Wreck-It Ralph
- 07:00 Home
- 09:00 Black Beauty
- 11:00 Turner & Hooch
- 13:00 The Hunchback Of Notre Dame
- 15:00 Gulliver's Travels
- 17:00 Ernest Goes To Camp
- 19:00 Pirates Of The Caribbean: Curse Of The Black Pearl
- 21:30 Three Wishes
- 23:30 Gulliver's Travels

OSN MOVIES HD

COMEDY

- 00:15 The Night Before
- 02:15 The Babadook
- 04:15 The Duff
- 06:15 Far From The Madding Crowd
- 08:15 Selma
- 10:15 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This
- 12:15 50 To 1
- 14:45 The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
- 17:00 True Story
- 19:00 90 Minutes In Heaven
- 21:00 Unfinished Business
- 23:00 Unfinished Business

OSN MOVIES HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 The Babymakers
- 02:00 Sweet Home Alabama
- 04:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 06:00 Romy And Michelle's High School Reunion
- 08:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging
- 10:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 12:00 Sweet Home Alabama
- 14:00 Green Card
- 16:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging
- 18:00 Easy A
- 20:00 Scenes From A Mall
- 22:00 Army Of Darkness

OSN MOVIES HD

FESTIVAL

- 01:30 Veronica Guerin
- 03:15 Testament Of Youth
- 05:30 Listen To Me Marlon
- 07:15 Late Bloomers
- 09:00 Merchants Of Doubt
- 10:45 Veronica Guerin
- 12:30 Testament Of Youth
- 15:00 Philomena
- 17:00 Merchants Of Doubt
- 19:00 Dark Places
- 21:00 Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon
- 23:00 Heaven's Gate

OSN MOVIES HD

KIDS

- 01:00 Blackie And Kanuto
- 02:45 The Boxcar Children
- 04:30 The Heart Of The Oak
- 06:00 The Nutcracker Sweet
- 08:00 Miffy The Movie
- 09:45 Jungle Book: Mowgli's Adventure
- 11:30 The Flintstones & WWE: Stone Age Smackdown
- 13:00 The Boxcar Children
- 14:30 Bolts And Blip
- 16:00 Barnyard
- 18:00 Jungle Book: Mowgli's Adventure
- 20:00 Marvel's Hulk vs. Thor & Wolverine
- 22:00 Bolts And Blip
- 23:30 Barnyard

OSN MOVIES HD +2

- 00:00 The Stanford Prison Experiment
- 02:15 The Night Before
- 04:15 The Babadook
- 06:15 The Duff
- 08:15 Far From The Madding Crowd
- 10:15 Selma
- 12:15 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This
- 14:45 50 To 1
- 18:45 The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel
- 21:00 True Story
- 23:00 90 Minutes In Heaven

OSN MOVIES HD

PREMIERE

- 00:00 Hot Tub Time Machine 2
- 02:00 The Giver
- 04:00 Android Cop
- 06:00 Breathless
- 08:00 The Grand Seduction
- 10:00 Song For Marion
- 12:00 Hector And The Search For Happiness
- 14:00 Rage
- 16:00 The Grand Seduction
- 18:00 Pompeii
- 20:00 Kidnapping Mr. Heineken
- 22:00 Mad Max: Fury Road

OSN MOVIES HD

PREMIERE +2

- 00:00 The Visit
- 02:00 Hot Tub Time Machine 2
- 04:00 The Giver
- 06:00 Android Cop
- 08:00 Breathless
- 10:00 The Grand Seduction
- 12:00 Song For Marion
- 14:00 Hector And The Search For Happiness
- 16:00 Rage
- 18:15 The Grand Seduction
- 20:00 Pompeii
- 22:00 Kidnapping Mr. Heineken

OSN MOVIES HD

COMEDY CENTRAL

- 00:15 Love And Other Impossible Pursuits
- 02:00 Hurricane Season
- 04:00 Man To Man
- 06:30 Venom
- 08:15 Maleficent
- 10:00 Face Off
- 12:30 Nothing But The Truth
- 14:30 Half Light
- 16:30 Love And Other Impossible Pursuits
- 18:15 Hurricane Season
- 20:00 Stay
- 21:45 The Congress

OSN MOVIES HD

COMEDY CENTRAL

- 00:00 The Meltdown With Jonah And Kumail
- 00:50 South Park
- 01:15 Broad City
- 01:40 The Daily Show - Global Edition
- 02:05 Another Period
- 02:30 Broad City
- 03:00 Lip Sync Battle
- 03:25 Catch A Contractor
- 03:50 Ridiculousness
- 05:30 Impractical Jokers
- 06:20 Tosh.0
- 07:15 Hungry Investors
- 08:05 Ridiculousness
- 08:30 Ridiculousness
- 08:55 Impractical Jokers
- 09:20 Impractical Jokers
- 09:45 Key And Peele
- 10:10 Key And Peele
- 10:35 Ridiculousness
- 11:25 Hungry Investors
- 12:15 Key And Peele
- 12:40 Key And Peele
- 13:05 Impractical Jokers
- 13:55 Ridiculousness
- 14:45 Hungry Investors
- 15:35 Tosh.0
- 16:00 Tosh.0
- 16:30 Key And Peele
- 17:25 Workaholics
- 17:50 Impractical Jokers
- 18:30 Ridiculousness
- 19:27 Tattoo Disasters
- 19:50 Brotherhood
- 20:13 TUT
- 21:00 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah
- 21:30 John Oliver's New York Stand Up Show
- 22:18 Broad City
- 22:42 Tosh.0
- 23:05 Brotherhood
- 23:30 The Daily Show With Trevor Noah

OSN MOVIES HD

COMEDY CENTRAL

- 00:00 The Babymakers
- 02:00 Sweet Home Alabama
- 04:00 Bill & Ted's Bogus Journey
- 06:00 Romy And Michelle's High School Reunion
- 08:00 Angus Thongs And Perfect Snogging
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- 20:00 Scenes From A Mall
- 22:00 Army Of Darkness

OSN MOVIES HD

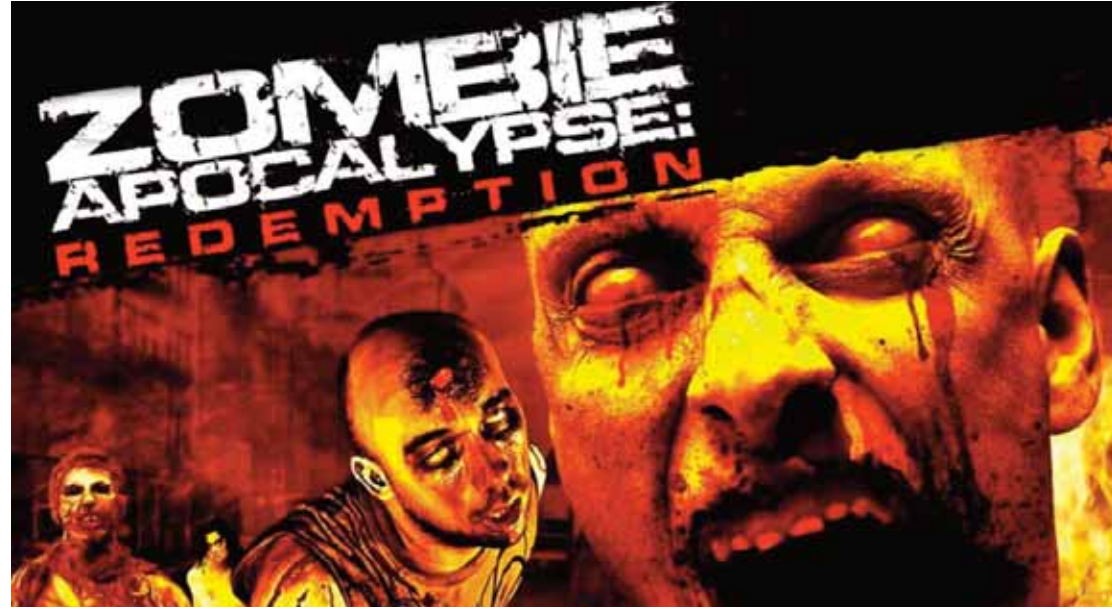
COMEDY CENTRAL

- 01:30 Veronica Guerin
- 03:15 Testament Of Youth
- 05:30 Listen To Me Marlon
- 07:15 Late Bloomers
- 09:00 Merchants Of Doubt
- 10:45 Veronica Guerin
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OSN MOVIES HD

KIDS

- 01:00 Blackie And Kanuto
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- 20:00 Marvel's Hulk vs. Thor & Wolverine
- 22:00 Bolts And Blip
- 23:30 Barnyard



ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

- 16:00 Amazing Wedding Cakes
- 17:00 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
- 17:30 Siba's Table: Fast Feasts
- 18:00 Andy Bates Brazilian Street Feasts
- 19:00 Cutthroat Kitchen
- 20:00 BBQ Crawl
- 21:00 Man Fire Food
- 22:00 Mystery Diners
- 23:00 Cutthroat Kitchen

- 20:30 Last Man Standing
- 17:00 Angie Tribeca
- 21:30 Fresh Off The Boat
- 22:00 Difficult People
- 22:30 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 23:00 The Simpsons

- 14:00 Fashion Star
- 15:00 Mom vs. Matchmaker
- 15:30 Mom vs. Matchmaker
- 16:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 17:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 18:00 Da Vinci's Demons
- 19:00 Transporter: The Series
- 20:00 Style By Jury
- 20:30 Style By Jury
- 21:00 Low Winter Sun
- 22:00 American Idol
- 23:00 The Listener

- 19:15 Penguins On A Plane: Great Animal Moves
- 20:10 Penguins On A Plane: Great Animal Moves
- 21:05 Dr. Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet
- 22:00 Tanked
- 22:55 Crocodile Hunter
- 23:50 Gator Boys

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:30 The Simpsons
- 01:00 The Simpsons
- 01:30 Saturday Night Live
- 02:30 Last Man Standing
- 03:00 The Mindy Project
- 04:00 Living With Fran
- 04:30 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 05:30 George Lopez
- 06:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 06:30 Suburgatory
- 07:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 07:30 Living With Fran
- 08:30 George Lopez
- 09:00 The Mindy Project
- 09:30 Baby Daddy
- 10:00 Fresh Off The Boat
- 10:30 Suburgatory
- 11:00 The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon
- 12:00 The Bernie Mac Show
- 12:30 Living With Fran
- 13:00 George Lopez
- 13:30 Suburgatory
- 14:00 The Mindy Project
- 14:30 Baby Daddy
- 15:00 Fresh Off The Boat
- 15:30 The Simpsons
- 16:00 The Simpsons
- 16:30 The Bernie Mac Show
- 17:00 Late Night With Seth Meyers
- 18:00 Dr. Ken
- 18:30 Last Man Standing
- 19:00 Angie Tribeca
- 19:30 Fresh Off The Boat
- 20:00 Difficult People
- 20:30 Cooper Barrett's Guide To Surviving
- 21:00 The Simpsons
- 21:30 The Simpsons
- 22:00 Web Therapy
- 22:30 Silicon Valley
- 23:00 Last Man Standing
- 23:30 Difficult People

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 House Of Cards
- 01:00 The Blacklist
- 02:00 The Last Kingdom
- 03:00 Mad Dogs
- 04:00 Marvel's Agent Carter
- 05:00 Good Morning America
- 06:00 The Amazing Race
- 07:00 C.S.I. Cyber
- 08:00 Stitches
- 09:00 Marvel's Agent Carter
- 10:00 The Amazing Race
- 11:00 C.S.I. Cyber
- 12:00 Stitches
- 13:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 14:00 Marvel's Agent Carter
- 15:00 Live Good Morning America
- 16:00 The Blacklist
- 17:00 The Ellen DeGeneres Show
- 18:00 Suburgatory
- 19:00 Containmentment
- 20:00 This Is Us
- 21:00 Notorious
- 22:00 How To Get Away With Murder
- 23:00 The X-Files

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 American Crime Story: The People vs O.J. Simpson
- 01:00 Six Feet Under
- 02:00 Eastbound & Down
- 03:00 High Maintenance
- 03:00 Quarry
- 04:00 Angry Boys
- 04:30 Getting On
- 05:00 The Jack Bull
- 07:00 Taking Chance
- 08:45 61\*
- 11:00 Walkout
- 13:00 Hysterical Blindness
- 15:00 Always Outnumbered
- 17:00 Walkout
- 19:00 It's Me, Hilary: The Man Who Drew Eloise
- 20:00 Treme
- 21:00 Veep
- 21:30 Togetherness
- 22:00 Outsiders
- 23:00 Strip Search

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:20 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
- 01:10 90 Days To Wed
- 02:00 Holiday Hijack
- 02:50 The Undateables
- 03:35 Strange Love
- 04:00 Strange Love
- 04:20 Toddler's Tiaras
- 05:10 Toddler's Tiaras
- 06:00 Super Soul Sunday
- 06:50 Holiday Hijack
- 07:40 Say Yes To The Dress: The Big Day
- 08:30 Little People, Big World
- 08:55 Little People, Big World
- 09:20 Kate Plus 8
- 10:10 Love, Lust Or Run
- 10:35 Cake Boss
- 11:00 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 11:25 Say Yes To The Dress
- 11:50 Super Soul Sunday
- 12:40 Oprah: Where Are They Now?
- 13:30 Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners
- 14:20 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 15:10 Toddler's Tiaras
- 16:00 Little People, Big World
- 16:25 Little People, Big World
- 16:50 Kate Plus 8
- 17:40 Love, Lust Or Run
- 18:05 Cake Boss
- 18:30 Buddy's Family Vacation
- 18:55 Buddy's Family Vacation
- 19:20 My Big Fat Fabulous Life
- 19:45 Say Yes To The Dress
- 20:10 Super Soul Sunday
- 21:00 Cake Boss
- 21:25 Cake Boss
- 22:40 Secret Eskimo Escape
- 23:30 Cake Boss
- 23:55 Cake Boss



INTO THE STORM ON OSN MOVIES ACTION HD

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Making Mr. Right
- 01:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 02:00 The Bridge
- 03:00 The Bridge
- 04:00 Project Accessory
- 05:00 Fit For Fashion
- 06:00 Fit For Fashion
- 07:00 Castle
- 08:00 Desperate Housewives
- 09:00 Desperate Housewives
- 10:00 The Bridge
- 11:00 The Bridge
- 12:00 Project Accessory
- 13:00 Fit For Fashion

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 01:15 Stargate SG-1
- 05:15 Face Off
- 06:00 Stargate SG-1
- 06:45 Sanctuary
- 07:30 Eureka
- 08:15 Smallville
- 09:00 Dark Matter
- 09:45 Sanctuary
- 10:30 Stargate SG-1
- 11:20 Eureka
- 12:10 Smallville
- 13:00 Sanctuary
- 13:45 Waterworld
- 16:00 Dark Matter
- 16:50 Smallville
- 17:40 Sanctuary
- 18:30 Stargate SG-1
- 19:20 Eureka
- 20:10 Smallville
- 21:00 Face Off
- 21:50 Face Off
- 22:40 Pitch Black

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Making Mr. Right
- 01:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 02:00 The Bridge
- 03:00 The Bridge
- 04:00 Project Accessory
- 05:00 Fit For Fashion
- 06:00 Fit For Fashion
- 07:00 Castle
- 08:00 Desperate Housewives
- 09:00 Desperate Housewives
- 10:00 The Bridge
- 11:00 The Bridge
- 12:00 Project Accessory
- 13:00 Fit For Fashion



OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 American Crime Story: The People vs O.J. Simpson
- 01:00 Six Feet Under
- 02:00 Eastbound & Down
- 03:00 High Maintenance
- 03:00 Quarry
- 04:00 Angry Boys
- 04:30 Getting On
- 05:00 The Jack Bull
- 07:00 Taking Chance
- 08:45 61\*
- 11:00 Walkout
- 13:00 Hysterical Blindness
- 15:00 Always Outnumbered
- 17:00 Walkout
- 19:00 It's Me, Hilary: The Man Who Drew Eloise
- 20:00 Treme
- 21:00 Veep
- 21:30 Togetherness
- 22:00 Outsiders
- 23:00 Strip Search

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Violetta
- 00:45 The Hive
- 00:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 01:40 Hank Zipzer
- 02:00 Binny And The Ghost
- 02:30 Violetta
- 03:15 The Hive
- 03:20 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 03:45 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 04:10 Hank Zipzer
- 04:35 Binny And The Ghost
- 05:00 Violetta
- 05:45 The Hive
- 05:50 Mouk
- 06:00 Jessie
- 06:50 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 07:15 Tsum Tsum Shorts
- 07:20 Liv And Maddie
- 07:45 Bunk'd
- 08:10 Austin & Ally
- 14:00 Stitches
- 09:00 Alex & Co.
- 09:25 Girl Meets World
- 10:15 Bizarroark
- 10:40 Rattatouille
- 12:30 The 7D
- 12:40 Star Darlings
- 12:45 Girl Meets World
- 14:25 Jessie
- 14:50 Jessie
- 15:15 Disney Cookabout
- 15:40 Dog With A Blog
- 16:05 Descendants Wicked World
- 16:10 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 16:35 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug And Cat Noir
- 17:00 Bizarroark
- 17:25 Adventures In Babysitting
- 19:00 Star Darlings
- 19:05 Stuck In The Middle
- 19:30 Jessie
- 19:55 Liv And Maddie
- 20:20 Best Friends Whenever
- 20:45 16 Wishes
- 22:15 The 7D
- 22:25 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 22:50 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch
- 23:10 Hank Zipzer
- 23:35 Binny And The Ghost

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:20 Chaos Caught On Camera
- 00:45 Mythbusters
- 06:00 Deadliest Catch
- 06:50 Misfit Garage
- 07:40 Fast N' Loud
- 08:30 Gold Divers
- 09:20 Garage Gold
- 09:45 How Stuff Works
- 10:10 How Do They Do It?
- 10:35 Unearthed
- 11:25 Countdown To Collision
- 12:15 Fire In The Hole
- 13:05 How Stuff Works
- 13:30 Storage Hunters
- 13:55 Garage Gold
- 14:20 Gold Divers
- 15:10 Alaska: The Last Frontier
- 16:00 Deadliest Catch
- 16:50 Fast N' Loud
- 17:40 Misfit Garage
- 18:30 How Stuff Works
- 18:55 How Do They Do It?
- 19:20 Gold Divers
- 20:10 Storage Hunters
- 20:35 Garage Gold
- 21:00 Diesel Brothers
- 21:50 Megastorm: World's Biggest Typhoon
- 22:40 Treasure Quest: Snake Island
- 23:30 Fast N' Loud



OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Making Mr. Right
- 01:00 Grey's Anatomy
- 02:00 The Bridge
- 03:00 The Bridge
- 04:00 Project Accessory
- 05:00 Fit For Fashion
- 06:00 Fit For Fashion
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OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Making Mr. Right
- 01:00 Grey's Anatomy
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- 09:00 Desperate Housewives
- 10:00 The Bridge
- 11:00 The Bridge
- 12:00 Project Accessory
- 13:00 Fit For Fashion

OSN FIRST HD

COMEDY

- 00:00 Making Mr. Right
- 01:



# CLASSIFIEDS



## KNCC PROGRAMME FROM THURSDAY TO WEDNESDAY (22/09/2016 TO 28/09/2016)

Airline	Flight	Route	Time	Airline	Flight	Route	Time
SHARQIA-1	SULLY	12:45 PM	PETE'S DRAGON	1:30 PM			
SULLY	2:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:30 PM		
PETE'S DRAGON	4:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:15 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:05 AM		
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	7:00 PM	FANAR-1					
ASHAN KHARGEN	8:45 PM	SULLY	11:45 AM				
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	11:00 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	1:45 PM				
SULLY	1:00 AM	PETE'S DRAGON	4:30 PM				
SHARQIA-2		THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	6:45 PM				
PETE'S DRAGON	11:30 AM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	9:30 PM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:45 PM	THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 AM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	4:30 PM	FANAR-2					
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	7:15 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	11:30 AM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	10:00 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	1:30 PM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:45 AM	ASHAN KHARGEN	3:15 PM				
SHARQIA-3		AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	5:30 PM				
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	12:15 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	7:30 PM				
HAVENIHURST	3:00 PM	AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	9:45 PM				
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	5:00 PM	ASHAN KHARGEN	11:45 PM				
HAVENIHURST	7:45 PM	FANAR-3					
THE LIGHT BETWEEN OCEANS	9:45 PM	HAVENIHURST	12:00 PM				
HAVENIHURST	12:30 AM	HAVENIHURST	1:45 PM				
MUHALAB-1		HELLIONS	3:45 PM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 AM	PETE'S DRAGON	5:45 PM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	2:00 PM	HAVENIHURST	8:00 PM				
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	4:45 PM	HELLIONS	10:00 PM				
PETE'S DRAGON	6:45 PM	HAVENIHURST	12:05 AM				
AL BAB YEFAWET AMAL	9:00 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 PM				
HAVENIHURST	10:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	3:15 PM				
HAVENIHURST	12:45 AM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	6:00 PM				
MUHALAB-2		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	8:45 PM				
SULLY	12:45 PM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	11:30 PM				
SULLY	3:00 PM	FANAR-5					
PINK - Hindi	5:00 PM	SULLY	12:45 PM				
MAJNU - Telugu	5:00 PM	SULLY	2:45 PM				
ASHAN KHARGEN	8:00 PM	SULLY	4:45 PM				
ASHAN KHARGEN	10:15 PM	PINK - Hindi	6:45 PM				
SULLY	12:30 AM	THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	9:45 PM				
MUHALAB-3		THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	12:30 AM				
THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN	1:00 PM						

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**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I, Mrs Fatima Mary Lancy Fernandes daughter of Joseph Fernandes, holder of Indian Passport No: K4564810 & Civil ID No: 265011009768 has changed my name to Violet Mary D'souza hereinafter in all my dealings and documents, I will be known by name of Violet Mary D'souza. (C 5216) 22-9-2016

**MATRIMONIAL**  
Alliance invited for a 28 year old Marthoma boy with master degree in mechatronics from University of Victoria - Canada, and currently working in Canada. Proposal invited from parents of educational girls. Email: sobinthomas0007@gmail.com (C 5215) 22-9-2016

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2. Is knowledgeable in Little League Baseball & Softball Rules  
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If interested Please contact Coach Jeff at: chief.umpire@q8bsc.com

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- A resident employee with 2-3 yrs. Experience in flower arrangement and gift packaging  
- can join immediately  
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ALSOUR : 22408168 ARDIYA :1803803 EXT:5107  
SHARO :1803803 EXT:5200 AL-RAI :1803803 EXT:5220  
Tilal Showroom : 1803803 EXT:5830  
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Attractive salary and benefits as per company policy will be provided for right candidates.  
Those interested please e-mail CV in English to hrlktech@gmail.com with testimonials, notice period, current and expected salary along with 3 references.

## Flight Schedule

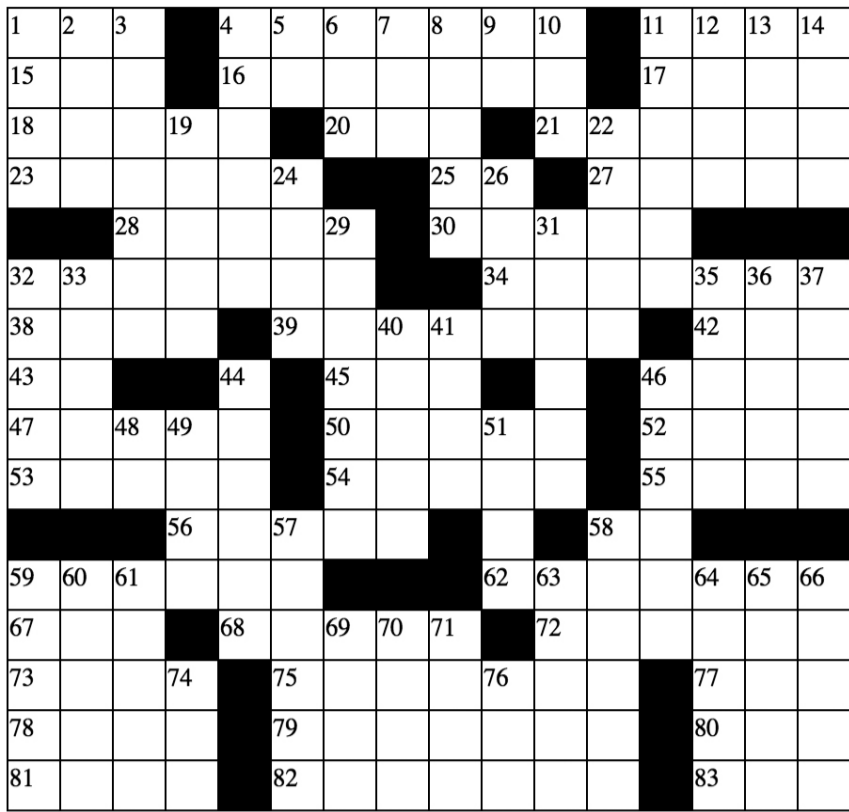
## Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

## DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION

Arrival Flights on Sunday 25/9/2016				Departure Flights on Sunday 25/9/2016			
Airlines	Flight	Route	Time	Airlines	Flight	Route	Time
MSC	415	Sohag	00:10	JZR	786	Riyadh	13:20
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	MSC	402	Alexandria	13:30
JZR	239	Amman	00:20	RJD	133	Abu Dhabi	13:50
JZR	267	Beirut	00:30	FEQ	932	Alexandria	13:55
CLX	852	Luxembourg	00:35	MSR	611	Cairo	14:00
FEG	951	Alexandria	00:35	THY	767	Istanbul	14:10
FDB	069	Dubai	00:55	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	IRC	527	Mashhad	14:35
QTR	1086	Doha	01:15	TBM	6314	Mashhad	14:40
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	PAL	669	Dubai/Manila	14:45
SAI	441	Lahore	01:30	KAC	773	Riyadh	15:00
KAC	1802	Cairo	01:30	MSR	576	Sharm el-Sheikh	15:00
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:40	KAC	673	Dubai	15:05
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	01:45	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:05
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	FDB	058	Dubai	15:05
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	KAC	617	Doha	15:15
KKK	6506	Istanbul	02:00	QTR	1079	Doha	15:15
MSC	501	Alexandria	02:00	KAC	741	Dammam	15:30
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:15	MSC	508	HRG	15:45
UAE	853	Dubai	02:25	JZR	188	Dubai	15:50
OMA	643	Muscat	02:35	KAC	612	Bahrain	16:00
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	BON	103	Sarajevo	16:05
RJA	644	Amman	03:10	OMA	646	Muscat	16:10
FDB	067	Dubai	03:15	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:15
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	KNE	530	Jeddah	16:20
QTR	1076	Doha	03:25	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:30	KAC	563	Amman	16:30
KAC	544	Cairo	03:40	NIA	252	Alexandria	16:50
KAC	514	Tehran	03:50	SYR	1616	Damascus	16:55
THY	1416	Bursa	04:05	RJA	641	Amman	16:55
JZR	555	Alexandria	04:15	KAC	675	Dubai	17:00
AVV	653	Alexandria	04:30	FDB	052	Dubai	17:00
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	JZR	266	Beirut	17:10
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	QTR	1073	Sharm el-Sheikh	17:15
THY	3920	Istanbul	05:10	UAE	858	Doha	17:25
THY	770	Istanbul	05:15	IRA	666	Dubai	17:40
UAE	2571	Dubai	05:30	SAV	511	Riyadh	18:10
SYR	341	Damascus	06:00	SAW	706	Dammam	18:15
JZR	529	Asyut	06:00	GFA	216	Bahrain	18:20
PAL	668	Manila/Dubai	06:25	JZR	181	Dubai	18:20
KAC	412	Manila/Bangkok	06:30	JZR	538	Cairo	18:30
BAW	157	London	06:40	CCE	342	Alexandria	18:35
JZR	563	Sohag	06:55	KAC	1801	Cairo	18:55
JZR	1541	Cairo	07:10	QTR	1081	Doha	19:05
FDB	5061	Dubai	07:15	JZR	128	Amman	19:15
JZR	503	Luxor	07:25	JZR	234	Bahrain	19:20
JZR	1335	Al Najaf	07:25	SYR	1616	Jeddah	19:25
KAC	382	Delhi	07:30	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	07:35	KAC	285	Dhaka	19:40
KAC	206	Islamabad	07:40	GFA	218	Bahrain	19:50
KAC	204	Lahore	07:40	FDB	064	Dubai	19:50
SVA	512	Riyadh	07:50	KAC	361	Colombo	19:55
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	ABY	124	Sharjah	19:55
KAC	302	Mumbai	07:50	IRM	1181	Mashhad	20:00
KAC	344	Chennai	08:15	CLX	856	Hong Kong	20:20
KAC	332	Trivandrum	08:15	JAV	622	Amman	20:25
KAC	352	Kochi	08:20	FDB	060	Dubai	20:30
KAC	362	Colombo	08:20	UAE	876	Dubai	20:35
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	JAI	571	Mumbai	20:35
JZR	557	Alexandria	08:30	KAC	331	Trivandrum	20:45
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:00	DLH	634	Doha	20:50
KAC	284	Dhaka	09:00	ABY	122	Sharjah	20:50
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	KAC	353	BLR	20:55
QTR	1070	Doha	09:20	KAC	543	Cairo	21:00
RJA	648	Amman	09:30	KAC	351	Kochi	21:00
FBA	833	Al Najaf	09:35	KNE	232	Riyadh	21:10
FDB	075	Dubai	09:40	MEA	403	Beirut	21:15
SAW	703	Damascus	09:45	OMA	648	Muscat	21:15
CCE	341	Alexandria	10:00	JZR	554	Alexandria	21:15
UAE	873	Dubai	10:40	MSR	607	Luxor	21:30
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	QTR	1089	Doha	21:45
JZR	1141	Dammam	10:40	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
IRM	1188	Mashhad	11:10	FDB	5054	Dubai	21:55
JZR	325	Al Najaf	11:20	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	21:55
RBG	553	Alexandria	11:30	ALK	230	Colombo	22:20
ABY	129	Sharjah	11:35	KAC	381	Delhi	22:25
IRC	6511	ABD	11:40	UAE	860	Dubai	22:25
FDK	801	Damascus	11:45	KLM	415	Dammam/Amsterdam	22:25
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	THY	1413	TXZ	22:25
IAW	157	Al Najaf	11:55	KAC	301	Mumbai	22:30
AVV	651	Sohag	12:05	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	22:55
FDB	075	Dubai	12:25	KAC	205	Islamabad	23:00
MSC	401	Alexandria	12:30	GFA	220	Bahrain	23:00
JZR	241	Amman	12:30	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	NIA	152	Cairo	23:10
FEG	933	Sohag	12:55	KAC	155	Istanbul	23:15
MSR	610	Cairo	13:00	FDB	8054	Dubai	23:15
RJD	132	Abu Dhabi	13:05	JZR	552	Alexandria	23:15
THY	766	Istanbul	13:10	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20



CROSSWORD 1381



ACROSS

1. A genetic disorder of metabolism.
4. Relating to or involving the stomach.
11. Twining perennials having cordate leaves and flowers arranged in conelike spikes.
15. The act of slowing down or falling behind.
16. (Hawaiian) A small guitar having four strings.
17. Surpassing the ordinary especially in size or scale.
18. A member of the Siouan people formerly living in the Missouri river valley in NE Nebraska.
20. (computer science) A coding system that incorporates extra parity bits in order to detect errors.
21. A female ogre.
23. Large tropical butterfly with degenerate forelegs and an unpleasant taste.
25. A highly unstable radioactive element (the heaviest of the halogen series).
27. An island of central Hawaii.
28. English theoretical physicist who applied relativity theory to quantum mechanics and predicted the existence of antimatter and the positron (1902-1984).
30. Proceeding from or ordered by or subject to a pope or the papacy regarded as the successor of the Apostles.
32. The great hall in ancient Persian palaces.
34. Covering that are used on a bed.
38. The capital and largest city of Yemen.
39. Stain (furniture) black to make it look like ebony.
42. An adult male person (as opposed to a woman).
43. A state in the Rocky Mountains.
45. South American wood sorrel cultivated for its edible tubers.
47. (Babylonian) A demigod or first man.
50. Any admirable quality or attribute.
52. Any culture medium that uses agar as the gelling agent.
53. Submerged aquatic plant having narrow leaves and small flowers.
54. An indehiscent fruit derived from a single ovary having one or many seeds within a fleshy wall or pericarp.
55. The girl friend of a gangster.
56. A drug (trade names Calan and Isoptin) used as an oral or parenteral calcium blocker in cases of hypertension or congestive heart failure or angina or migraine.
59. A Greek island west of Greece.
62. A Powhatan Indian woman (the daughter of Powhatan) who befriended the English at Jamestown and is said to have saved Captain John Smith's life (1595-1617).
67. The cry made by sheep.
68. The Uralic language spoken by the Yeniseian people.
72. Small often spiny insectivorous mammal of Madagascar.
73. Express or utter with a hiss.
75. The ball-shaped capsule containing the vertebrate eye.
77. The elementary stages of any subject (usually plural).
78. A member of an Iroquoian people formerly living on the south shore of Lake Erie in northern Ohio and northwest Pennsylvania and western New York.
79. Bears and extinct related forms.
80. A unit of electrical power in an AC circuit equal to the power dissipated when 1 volt produces a current of 1 ampere.
81. A quantity of no importance.
82. Have as an attribute, knowledge, or skill.
83. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.

DOWN

1. Walk heavily and firmly, as when weary, or through mud.
2. God of love and erotic desire.
3. Of or relating to or characteristic of Uganda or its people.
4. A great waterfall on the border between Brazil and Paraguay.
5. A state in northwestern North America.
6. French writer whose novels described the sordid side of city life (1804-1857).
7. Considerate and solicitous care.
8. A summary that repeats the substance of a longer discussion.
9. Being nine more than forty.
10. The corporate executive responsible for the operations of the firm.
11. (formal) A person who announces important news.
12. Affording unobstructed entrance and exit.
13. A city in Tuscany.
14. Interface consisting of a standard port between a computer and its peripherals that is used in some computers.
19. A member of a seafaring group of North American Indians who lived on the Pacific coast of British Columbia and southwestern Alaska.
22. A tract of land with few or no trees in the middle of a wooded area.
24. A native or inhabitant of Denmark.
26. A sock with a separation for the big toe.
29. Alternatively, a member of the family Nymphaeaceae.
31. The basic unit of money in Spain.
33. A genus of Ploceidae.
35. (psychoanalysis) An idealized image of someone (usually a parent) formed in childhood.
36. Connected with or belonging to or used in a navy.
37. Something twisted and tight and swollen.
40. A large body of water constituting a principal part of the hydrosphere.
41. A lawman concerned with narcotics violations.
44. Large bamboo having thick-walled culms.
46. Thigh of a hog (usually smoked).
48. The branch of computer science that deal with writing computer programs that can solve problems creatively.
49. Large burrowing rodent of South and Central America.
51. A ballistic missile that is capable of traveling from one continent to another.
57. (baseball) A list of batters in the order in which they will bat.
58. Spider monkeys.
60. Long-tailed arboreal mustelid of Central and South America.
61. Member of a Jewish sect that observes a form of strict Orthodox Judaism.
63. (Greek mythology) A Titan who was forced by Zeus to bear the sky on his shoulders.
64. An anti-TNF compound (trade name Arava) that is given orally.
65. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked on a skewer usually with vegetables.
66. The capital and largest city of Ghana with a deep-water port.
69. Someone new to a field or activity.
70. A strong-smelling plant from whose dried leaves a number of euphoriant and hallucinogenic drugs are prepared.
71. Wading birds of warm regions having long slender down-curved bills.
74. Relating to or characteristic of or occurring on the sea or ships.
76. A sweetened beverage of diluted fruit juice.

Yesterday's Solution

M	B	D		T	E	R	R	A	P	I	N		O	K	A	
A	R	A		A	P	I	A	C	E	A	E		P	A	R	
L	A	D		L	A	M	N	I	D	A	E		E	N	E	
A	G	A	M	A		A	G	N	I				O	R	A	N
			E		I		P	A	C	A			M	A	F	A
C	E	F	T	I	N		U	R	A	N	I	A				
A	N	O	R	A	K		R	B		C	H	A	R	T		
L	U	R	E			M		V		A	C	A	C	I	A	
A	R	B		W		I	D	E	A	L			N	A	P	
B	E	E	C	H		D	I	R	A	C			F	E	T	E
A	D	A	L	I	A		E	Y	R	A			A	D	A	D
		R	O	T	L		T	D		L	H					
A	B		S	W	O	P		K	W	A			D	A	B	A
D	U	D	E	E	N		B	I	O	N	T			G	A	L
A	B	A		E	S	C	A	L	L	O	P			H	A	G
M	O	B		K	O	R	D	O	F	A	N			A	L	A

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

It's important to be around people who share the same values as you right now. Your emotions are stirring around the issues and topics that mean the most to you, and if you are forced to deal with someone from the other side of things, you are likely to let your temper get the best of you. You're a passionate person, and your passions are hot right now. Walk away from people who try to push your buttons, too -- you don't need to get into any dramas with anyone.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You need to get your new plan or project launched as soon as you can, so if you need help, you need to ask for it today! Time is of the essence. Swallow your pride and talk to that person you know could get you right across the finish line -- find out if they have the time to come to your rescue. Use your charm to get them on your side, if you have to. Flattery might be your best bet, especially since this person considers you an excellent judge of character.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

If you could go anywhere at no cost, where would you go? Paris, to do some high-fashion shopping? Mars, to take a ride on the spaceship? Back in time to right a major wrong in history? Give this seemingly silly question some serious thought today -- nothing will ignite your creativity quite as much as limitless possibilities. This is a day to believe that anything is possible, because who knows? Maybe it! Thinking positively is never a bad use of your time.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Staying inside your comfort zone might not seem very adventurous, but if you stick to familiar people and experiences right now, you will gain a deep confidence that could propel you into a very powerful phase of life. Try to be more receptive to the idea that something doesn't have to be new to be fascinating or instructive. You can look backwards and see your future. All it takes is a fresh perspective and the courage to see the value in your past mistakes.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Unpleasant family conflicts are finally fading into the sunset now, so you can expect a greater deal of harmony in your home. You might even want to integrate some of your family members into your social circle! A casual dinner party might be just the ticket to introduce everyone. Good food brings out good conversation, so pick a menu that everyone will love -- or have it cooked isn't your thrill. When all the people who love you are in one room together, you'll feel it.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You will be with people with whom you are extremely compatible, today, but don't be afraid to disagree with them just for the sake of it. Everyone's in a good mood, so playing devil's advocate isn't going to make anyone mad. In fact, they might relish the chance to defend their position and get into a friendly debate about their views. Being in a circle of friends who always agree with each other is nice, but some times you need to mix it up a little bit to keep everyone on their toes.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Someone who isn't exactly your favorite person in the world will do something that makes your life a lot easier today -- and you need to be very vocal with your gratitude. That way, you will make it clear that you don't believe in being petty or holding grudges. Show the universe that you know how to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start with anyone who is willing to treat you with respect. You don't have to become their new best friend, but you do need to start over.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

If someone is getting on your nerves today, focus on the parts of their personality that you can understand well. There are aspects of them that you really appreciate, aren't there? Separating the good parts of people from their bad parts will enable you to keep from getting caught up in petty emotional soap operas that really don't matter in the long run. If you are forced into intense collaboration with some of these annoying folks today, keep a level head.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Your analytical skills are adequate for any research you're doing right now in your working life, but when it comes to figuring stuff out in your love life, you can't use logic. Facts are nonexistent -- you only have your gut to go on when it comes to emotions. People are too complicated to be figured out objectively, plus they are known to change their mind! If you want to unravel your feelings about someone, just let yourself feel what you feel. Don't try to tell yourself how to feel.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You might feel confused in your romantic relationship right now, but unfortunately there is no instruction booklet to consult. Your friends are there to offer you advice, but be careful not to take what they say literally. Every situation is different, and while what they say might resonate with you, it also might not create the same results for you that it did for them. Be faithful to yourself and what's in your heart. Ultimately, your heart will tell you what you need to do to protect yourself.



Aquarius (January 20- February 18)

Your vision is sharp today, and you should keep it open all day long. Be on the lookout for minor differences that could turn into major dramas if left unaddressed. Everybody else around you today is a bit distracted by their work. They aren't totally aware of the stuff going on at the sidelines. But details matter, and you should pay attention to them very carefully. If you have been itching to make some changes, today offers you a great opportunity to do just that.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

The line between reality and fantasy will get quite blurry today -- amazing coincidences, deja vu moments and double takes could lead you to believe that the hands of fate are pushing you in a very particular direction. And this could be true, which is exciting! You will feel a building sense of good energy, and your task today will be to give it someplace productive to go! Get involved in a project -- the more artistic the better. It's time to let your creativity run free.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Songs From the Year 2003

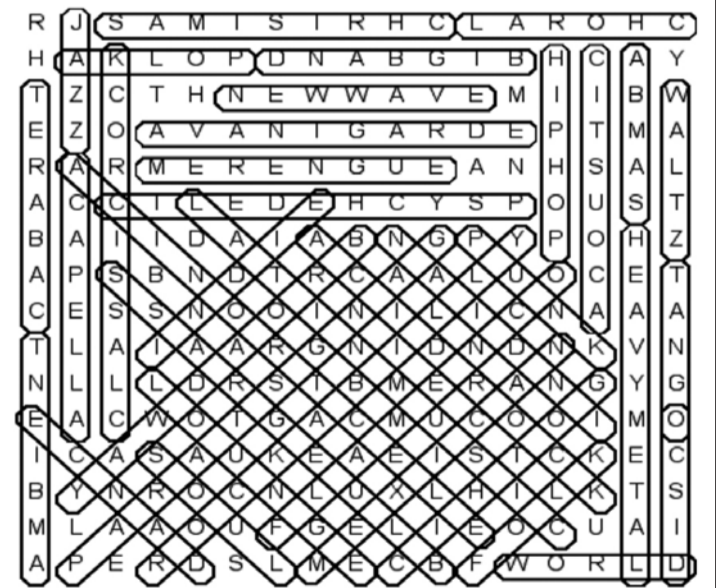
Find and circle all of the songs from 2003 that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 22 letters spell an additional song title from 2003.



- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| ALL I HAVE<br>ANGEL<br>BABY BOY<br>BEAUTIFUL<br>CLOCKS<br>COME OVER<br>DRIFT AWAY<br>FIGHTER<br>FRONTIN'<br>GET BUSY | GET LOW<br>GOSSIP FOLKS<br>HEADSTRONG<br>I CAN<br>I WANT YOU<br>I'M WITH YOU<br>IGNITION<br>IN DA CLUB<br>INTUITION | LANDSLIDE<br>LIKE A STONE<br>LIKE GLUE<br>MESMERIZE<br>MISS YOU<br>PICTURE<br>RAIN ON ME<br>RIGHT THURR<br>SAY YES<br>SENORITA | SO GONE<br>SOMEDAY<br>STAND UP<br>STUCK<br>SUGA SUGA<br>SUNRISE<br>SUPERMAN<br>TROUBLE<br>UNWELL |
|--|---|--|--|

Yesterday's Solution

Types of Music 1



- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
| ACAPPELLA<br>ACID ROCK<br>ACOUSTIC<br>AMBIENT<br>AVANT-GARDE<br>BIG BAND<br>BLUEGRASS<br>BROADWAY<br>CABARET<br>CHORAL | CHRISTMAS<br>CLASSIC ROCK<br>DANCE<br>DISCO<br>ELECTRONICA<br>FLAMENCO<br>FOLK<br>GANGSTA RAP<br>GOTHIC<br>HEAVY METAL | HIP HOP<br>INDIAN<br>INDIE<br>JAZZ<br>LATIN MUSIC<br>LOUNGE<br>MERENQUE<br>MEXICAN<br>NEW WAVE<br>POLKA | PSYCHEDELIC<br>PUNK<br>ROCKABILLY<br>SAMBA<br>SOUL<br>TANGO<br>WALTZ<br>WORLD |
|--|--|---|---|

The hidden message is: RHYTHM AND BLUES

Daily SuDoku

	5		7		4			
		4		5				7
6				9		2		
	6			2	5	7	4	
	9	3	8	6			1	
	4		7					1
9				8		2		
		2		9			6	

hard

Yesterday's Solution

5	1	8	7	4	2	3	6	9
6	3	4	9	5	1	2	7	8
9	2	7	3	8	6	1	5	4
2	5	6	8	1	9	4	3	7
4	7	1	5	2	3	9	8	6
8	9	3	4	6	7	5	2	1
7	4	2	1	3	8	6	9	5
1	6	9	2	7	5	8	4	3
3	8	5	6	9	4	7	1	2

medium



For labor-related inquiries and complaints:  
Call MSAL hotline 128

### Hospitals

Sabah Hospital	24812000
Amiri Hospital	22450005
Maternity Hospital	24843100
Mubarak Al-Kabir Hospital	25312700
Chest Hospital	24849400
Farwaniya Hospital	24892010
Adan Hospital	23940620
Ibn Sina Hospital	24840300
Al-Razi Hospital	24846000
Physiotherapy Hospital	24874330/9

### Clinics

Kaizen center	25716707
Rawda	22517733
Adaliya	22517144
Khalidiya	24848075
Kaifan	24849807
Shamiya	24848913
Shuwaikh	24814507
Abdullah Salem	22549134
Nuzha	22526804
Industrial Shuwaikh	24814764
Qadsiya	22515088
Dasmah	22532265
Bneid Al-Gar	22531908
Shaab	22518752
Qibla	22459381
Ayoun Al-Qibla	22451082
Mirqab	22456536
Sharq	22465401
Salmiya	25746401
Jabriya	25316254
Maidan Hawally	25623444
Bayan	25388462
Mishref	25381200
W Hawally	22630786
Sabah	24810221
Jahra	24770319
New Jahra	24575755
West Jahra	24772608
South Jahra	24775066
North Jahra	24775992
North Jleeb	24311795
Ardhiya	24884079
Firdous	24892674
Omariya	24719048
N Khaitan	24710044
Fintas	23900322



## PHARMACIES ON 24 HRS DUTY

GOVERNORATE	PHARMACY	ADDRESS	PHONE
Ahmadi	Sama Safwan Abu Halaifa Danat Al-Sultan	Fahaeel Makka St Abu Halaifa-Coastal Rd Mahboula Block 1, Coastal Rd	23915883 23715414 23726558
Jahra	Modern Jahra Madina Munawara	Jahra-Block 3 Lot 1 Jahra-Block 92	24575518 24566622
Capital	Ahlam Khalidiya Coop	Fahad Al-Salem St Khalidiya Coop	22436184 24833967
Farwaniya	New Shifa Ferdous Coop Modern Safwan	Farwaniya Block 40 Ferdous Coop Old Kheitan Block 11	24734000 24881201 24726638
Hawally	Tariq Hana Ikhlas Hawally & Rawdha Ghadeer Kindy Ibn Al-Nafis Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Salmiya-Amman St Hawally-Beirut St Hawally & Rawdha Coop Jabriya-Block 1A Jabriya-Block 3B Salmiya-Hamad Mubarak St Mishrif Coop Salwa Coop	25726265 25647075 22625999 22564549 25340559 25326554 25721264 25380581 25628241

### INTERNATIONAL CALLS



Afghanistan	0093	Lithuania	00370
Albania	00355	Luxembourg	00352
Algeria	00213	Macau	00853
Andorra	00376	Macedonia	00389
Angola	00244	Madagascar	00261
Anguilla	001264	Majorca	0034
Antiga	001268	Malawi	00265
Argentina	0054	Malaysia	0060
Armenia	00374	Maldives	00960
Australia	0061	Mali	00223
Austria	0043	Malta	00356
Azerbaijan	00994	Marshall Islands	00692
Bahamas	001242	Martinique	00596
Bahrain	00973	Mauritania	00222
Bangladesh	00880	Mauritius	00230
Barbados	001246	Mayotte	00269
Belarus	00375	Mexico	0052
Belgium	0032	Micronesia	00691
Belize	00501	Moldova	00373
Benin	00229	Monaco	00377
Bermuda	001441	Mongolia	00976
Bhutan	00975	Montserrat	001664
Bolivia	00591	Morocco	00212
Bosnia	00387	Mozambique	00258
Botswana	00267	Myanmar (Burma)	0095
Brazil	0055	Namibia	00264
Brunei	00673	Nepal	00977
Bulgaria	00359	Netherlands	0031
Burkina	00226	Netherlands Antilles	00599
Burundi	00257	New Caledonia	00687
Cambodia	00855	New Zealand	0064
Cameroon	00237	Nicaragua	00505
Canada	001	Niger	00227
Cape Verde	00238	Nigeria	00234
Cayman Islands	001345	Niue	00683
Central African	00236	Norfolk Island	00672
Chad	00235	N. Ireland (UK)	0044
Chile	0056	North Korea	00850
China	0086	Norway	0047
Colombia	0057	Oman	00968
Comoros	00269	Pakistan	0092
Congo	00242	Palau	00680
Cook Islands	00682	Panama	00507
Costa Rica	00506	Papua New Guinea	00675
Croatia	00385	Paraguay	00595
Cuba	0053	Peru	0051
Cyprus	00357	Philippines	0063
Cyprus (Northern)	0090392	Poland	0048
Czech Republic	00420	Portugal	00351
Denmark	0045	Puerto Rico	001787
Diego Garcia	00246	Qatar	00974
Djibouti	00253	Romania	0040
Dominica	001767	Russian Federation	007
Dominican Republic	001809	Rwanda	00250
Ecuador	00593	Saint Helena	00290
Egypt	0020	Saint Kitts	001869
El Salvador	00503	Saint Lucia	001758
England (UK)	0044	Saint Pierre	00508
Equatorial Guinea	00240	Saint Vincent	001784
Eritrea	00291	Samoa US	00684
Estonia	00372	Samoa West	00685
Ethiopia	00251	San Marino	00378
Falkland Islands	00500	Sao Tome	00239
Faroe Islands	00298	Saudi Arabia	00966
Fiji	00679	Scotland (UK)	0044
Finland	00358	Senegal	00221
France	0033	Seychelles	00284
French Guiana	00594	Sierra Leone	00232
French Polynesia	00689	Singapore	0065
Gabon	00241	Slovakia	00421
Gambia	00220	Slovenia	00386
Georgia	00995	Solomon Islands	00677
Germany	0049	Somalia	00252
Ghana	00233	South Africa	0027
Gibraltar	00350	South Korea	0082
Greece	0030	Spain	0034
Greenland	00299	Sri Lanka	0094
Grenada	001473	Sudan	00249
Guadeloupe	00590	Suriname	00597
Guam	001671	Swaziland	00268
Guatemala	00502	Sweden	0046
Guinea	00224	Switzerland	0041
Guyana	00592	Syria	00963
Haiti	00509	Serbia	00381
Holland (Netherlands)	0031	Taiwan	00886
Honduras	00504	Tanzania	00255
Hong Kong	00852	Thailand	0066
Hungary	0036	Togo	00228
Ibiza (Spain)	0034	Tonga	00676
Iceland	00354	Tokelau	00690
India	0091	Trinidad	001868
Indian Ocean	00873	Tunisia	00216
Indonesia	0062	Turkey	0090
Iran	0098	Tuvalu	00688
Iraq	00964	Uganda	00256
Ireland	00353	Ukraine	00380
Italy	0039	United Arab Emirates	00976
Ivory Coast	00225	United Kingdom	0044
Jamaica	001876	Uruguay	00598
Japan	0081	USA	001
Jordan	00962	Uzbekistan	00998
Kazakhstan	007	Vanuatu	00678
Kenya	00254	Venezuela	00582
Kiribati	00686	Vietnam	0084
Kuwait	00965	Virgin Islands UK	001284
Kyrgyzstan	00996	Virgin Islands US	001340
Laos	00856	Wales (UK)	0044
Latvia	00371	Yemen	00967
Lebanon	00961	Yugoslavia	00381
Liberia	00231	Zambia	00260
Libya	00218	Zimbabwe	00263
Lesotho	00266		

### STATE OF KUWAIT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
Fax: (+965) 24348714  
www.met.gov.kw

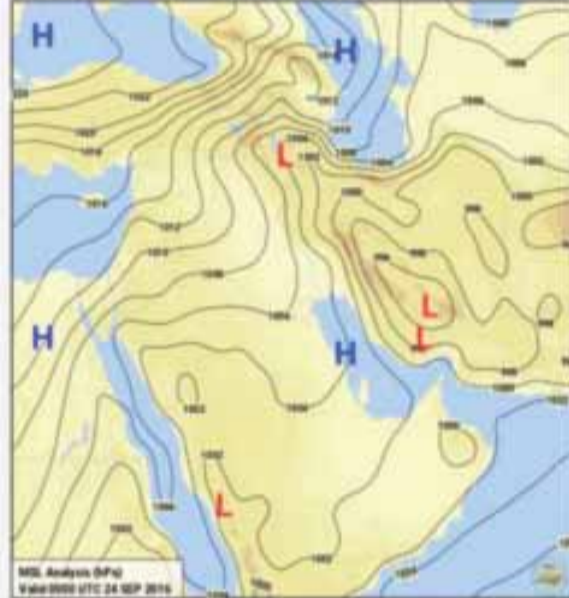
#### Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

Issued 24/09/2016-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

Max Temperature 42 °C

By Day : Hot with light to moderate freshening gradually at times north westerly wind, with speed of 15 - 40 km/h  
By Night : Fair with light to moderate north westerly wind, with speed of 12 - 35 km/h

SFC. CHART



#### Four-Day Forecast

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	hot	hot	hot	hot
Min Temp °C	27	25	24	24
Max Temp °C	40	41	42	43
Wind Direction	north westerly	north westerly to light variable	variable	variable wind changing to light to moderate north westerly
Wind Speed km/h	15 - 38	08 - 26	08 - 22	08 - 28

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

#### Warnings & Weather Watches

no warnings or weather watches

#### Kuwait Forecast

Station	MIN °C	REC	Max °C	EXP
KUWAIT CITY	30		41	
KUWAIT AIRPORT	28		42	
ABDULY	26		42	
BUBYAN	24		42	
JAHRA	29		42	
FALAKA ISLAND	28		41	
SALMIYAH	30		38	
AHMADI	31		40	
JAL ALYAH	26		42	
QAROH ISLAND	32		36	
UMH AL-MARADEM	32		37	
NUWAISIB	26		40	
WAFRA	23		42	
MANAGISH	25		41	
SALMIY	24		40	
HUTRIBA	26		43	

#### Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport

Max Temp (°C)	42
Min Temp (°C)	26
Max Rel Hum (%)	35
Min Rel Hum (%)	09
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	57 N
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm

#### Prayer Times

Fajr	04:18
Sunrise	05:37
Zuhr	11:40
Air	15:07
Sunset	17:43
Isha	19:00



## PRIVATE CLINICS

Ophthalmologists	
Dr. Abdallah Al-Mansoor	25622444
Dr. Samy Al-Rabea	25752222
Dr. Masoma Habeeb	25321171
Dr. Mubarak Al-Ajmy	25739999
Dr. Mohsen Abel	25757700
Dr. Adnan Hasan Alwayl	25732223
Dr. Abdallah Al-Baghly	25732223
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)	
Dr. Ahmed Fouad Mouner	2455050 Ext 510
Dr. Abdallah Al-Ali	25644660
Dr. Abd Al-Hameed Al-Taweel	25646478
Dr. Sanad Al-Fathalah	25311996
Dr. Mohammad Al-Daory	25731988
Dr. Ismail Al-Fodary	22620166
Dr. Mahmoud Al-Booz	25651426
General Practitioners	
Dr. Mohammed Y Majidi	2455050 Ext 123
Dr. Yousef Al-Omar	24719312
Dr. Tarek Al-Mikhazeem	23926920
Dr. Kathem Maarafi	25730465
Dr. Abdallah Ahmad Eyadah	25655528
Dr. Nabeel Al-Ayoobi	24577781
Dr. Dina Abdallah Al-Rafea	25333501
Urologists	
Dr. Ali Naser Al-Serfy	22641534
Dr. Fawzi Taher Abul	22639955
Dr. Khaleel Abdallah Al-Awadi	22616660
Dr. Adel Al-Hunayan FRCS (C)	25313120
Dr. Leons Joseph	66703427

Plastic Surgeons	
Dr. Mohammad Al-Khalaf	22547272
Dr. Abdal-Redha Lari	22617700
Dr. Abdel Quttainah	25625030/60
Family Doctor	
Dr Divya Damodar	23729596/23729581
Psychiatrists	
Dr. Esam Al-Ansari	22635047
Dr Eisa M. Al-Balhan	22613623/0
Gynaecologists & Obstetricians	
Dr Adrian arbe	23729596/23729581
Dr. Verginia s.Marin	2572-6666 ext 8321
Dr. Fozeya Ali Al-Qatan	22655539
Dr. Majeda Khalefa Aliyami	25343406
Dr. Ahmad Al-Khooly	25739272
Dr. Salem soso	22618787
General Surgeons	
Dr. Amer Zawaz Al-Amer	22610044
Dr. Mohammad Yousef Basher	25327148
Internists, Chest & Heart	
Dr. Adnan Ebil	22639939
Dr. Mousa Khadada	22666300
Dr. Latefa Al-Duweisan	25728004
Dr. Nadem Al-Ghabra	25355515
Dr. Mobarak Aldoub	24726446
Dr Nasser Behbehani	25654300/3

Paediatricians	
Dr. Khaled Hamadi	25665898
Dr. Abd Al-Aziz Al-Rashed	25340300
Dr. Zahra Qabazard	25710444
Dr. Sohail Qamar	22621099
Dr. Snaa Maarouf	25713514
Dr. Pradip Gujare	23713100
Dr. Zacharias Mathew	24334282
Dermatology	
Dr. Mohammed Salam Bern University	23845955
Dentists	
Dr Anil Thomas	3729596/3729581
Dr. Shamah Al-Matar	22641071/2
Dr. Anesah Al-Rasheed	22562226
Dr. Abdallah Al-Amer	22561444
Dr. Faysal Al-Fozan	22619557
Dr. Abdallateef Al-Katrash	22525888
Dr. Abdallah Al-Duweisan	25653755
Dr. Bader Al-Ansari	25620111
Neurologists	
Dr. Sohal Najem Al-Shemeri	25633324
Dr. Jasem Mola Hassan	25345875
Gastrologists	
Dr. Sami Aman	22636464
Dr. Mohammad Al-Shamaly	25322030
Dr. Foad Abdallah Al-Ali	22633135

Endocrinologist	
Dr. Abd Al-Naser Al-Othman	25339330
Dr. Ahmad Al-Ansari	25658888
Dr. Kamal Al-Shomr	25329924
Physiotherapists & VD	
Dr. Deyaa Shehab	25722291
Dr. Mused Faraj Khamees	22666288
Rheumatologists:	
Dr. Adel Al-Awadi	25330060
Dr. Khaled Al-Jarallah	25722290
Internist, Chest & Heart	
DR.Mohammes Akkad	2455050 Ext 210
Dr. Mohammad Zubaid MB, ChB, FRCP, PACC Assistant Professor Of Medicine Head, Division of Cardiology Mubarak Al-Kabeer Hospital	25339667
Consultant Cardiologist	
Dr. Farida Al-Habib MD, PH.D, FACC	2611555-2622555
Inaya German Medical Center	Te: 2575077 Fax: 25723123



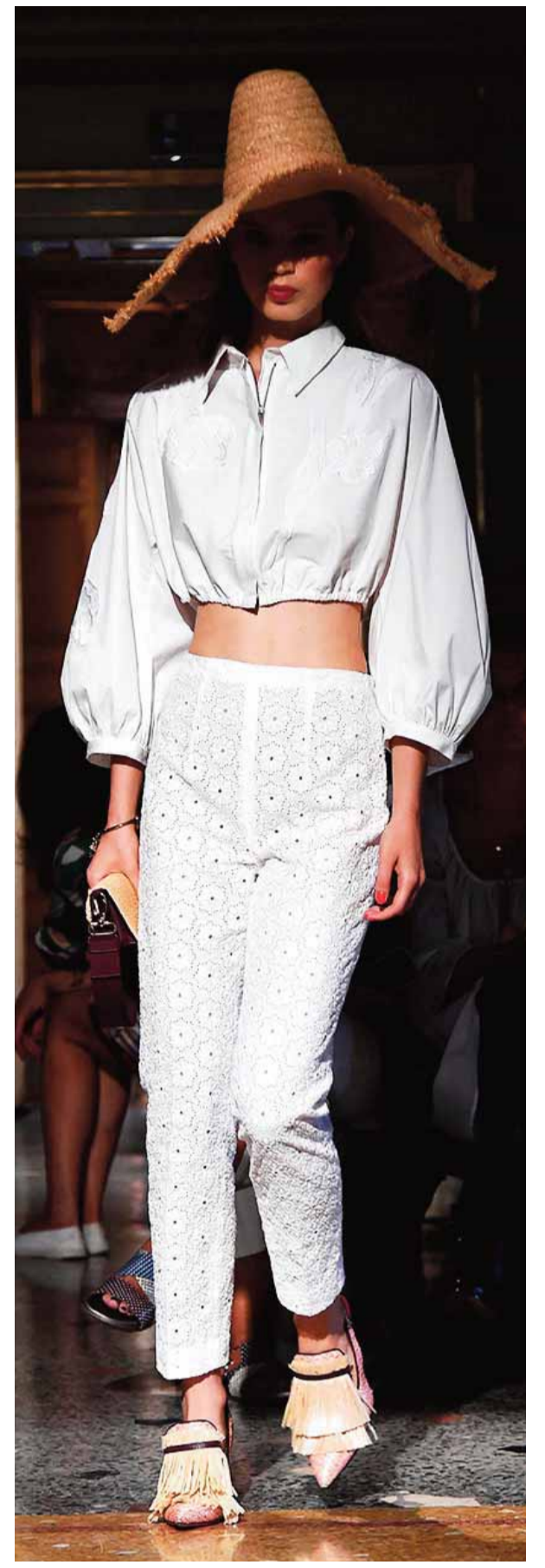
# Bottega Veneta



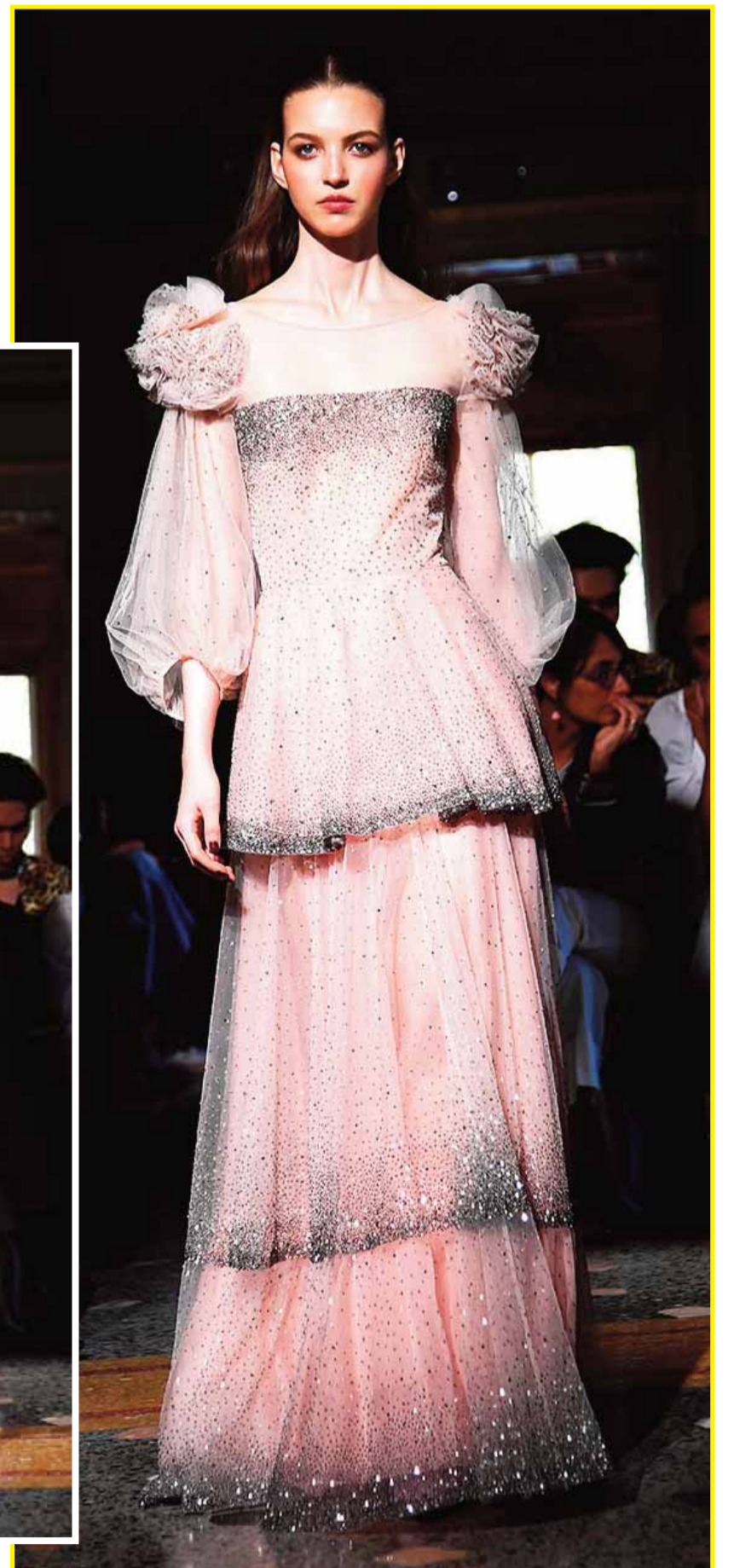
MILAN: Models present creations for fashion house Bottega Veneta during the 2017 Women's Spring / Summer collections shows at Milan Fashion Week yesterday. — AP photos



# Blumarine



MILAN: Models presenting creations for fashion house Blumarine during the 2017 Women's Spring / Summer collections shows at Milan Fashion Week yesterday. — APphotos





# Blurred lines help couture king to ready-to-wear success



MILAN: Designer Giambattista Valli greets the audience at the end of the show for fashion house Giamba during the 2017 Women's Spring / Summer collections shows at Milan Fashion Week on September 23, 2016. —AFP

**G**iambattista Valli says his fledgling ready-to-wear line is thriving thanks to spillover synergy from a haute couture operation that has made him a darling of the celebrity A-list set.

The Paris-based Roman designer has made his name with spectacularly beautiful and eye-wateringly expensive made-to-measure creations for the likes of singer Rihanna, George Clooney's wife Amal and, most recently, actress Emma Stone, who wowed this month's Venice film festival in one of his dresses.

In the process, Valli has been credited with making haute couture more relevant than it has ever been and providing a bridge between a rarified world and contemporary popular culture.

The way he sees it, it's all about ideas, and he has got so many, he needs different outlets to prevent them cluttering up his brain. "I have the exact opposite problem of someone having no ideas, my problem is too many ideas," Valli tells AFP in a backstage interview after the launch of his latest collection for his ready-to-wear label Giamba in Milan. "It was Karl Lagerfeld who said 'the more you do, the less you do' and that is totally right for me," he says. "There are other designers that work in a different way, they do one thing and it is already a lot for them. But you know for me one inspires the other one, they go in parallel. 'I have an idea and say it doesn't fit for (couture line) Giambattista Valli but it fits for Giamba, and it doesn't fit for Giamba but it does for Giambattista .... it is very nice.'"

The latest Giamba show featured a soundtrack including Valli's friend and muse Soko and was staged in an erstwhile aristocratic residence in the centre of Milan, the Palazzo Litta.

### '100 percent DNA'

Valli said he had imagined a back story of a young woman who had been raised in the house returning to it after a stay in Los Angeles.

After a night of partying with her oldest friends, she crashes out in her clothes and wakes up jet-lagged at 3:00 pm, puts on some music and pads around — it was the mood of that particular moment he wanted to infuse in his latest collection. "She walks around in the building in a very comfortable way," Valli explains. "She is a little bit for me like Alice in Wonderland. She is the kind of young woman or girl that is not scared to experiment in life, she is not scared to know other cultures, to mix it up, to have her own style, to be just herself..."

Being true to yourself is important to Valli.

Like his compatriot Giorgio Armani he guards the independence of his operation fiercely, even if that means foregoing the additional investment that could come with a stock market listing or a partnership with a luxury brand management company.

After four seasons of the Giamba line, he says he is happy with its steady expansion. "It is successful in a business way but it is successful too in the real world of women. And from a celebrity point of view, from an editorial (coverage) point of view. So it is very good, I am very happy."

"There is this kind of freshness it has — it's youthful, (about) embellishment, romanticism, but also a bit of the rebellion that there is in the haute couture I do. Some of the shapes come straight from the last couture collection."

Valli admits he felt flattered recently when he sat next to Armani's niece at an industry lunch and she highlighted the similarities between her 82-year-old uncle's business model and that of Valli, who turned 50 earlier this year.

Armani said recently that "absolute independence" was vital to him and Valli shares that credo. "Every single product that I do has to be 100 percent DNA of the house," he said. —AFP



MILAN: Models presenting creations for fashion house Giamba during the 2017 Women's Spring / Summer collections shows at Milan Fashion Week on September 23, 2016. — AFP photos





Store opening with HE Ms Neeta Bhushan Charge d'Affaires Indian Embassy.



# Weaving a legacy: An exclusive interview with celebrated designer Ritu Kumar

By Abigail Mathias

Success doesn't come overnight. It often involves years of dedication and sacrifice. That is probably something a veteran designer like Ritu Kumar could write reams about. The Indian fashion designer has been in the industry for the past 50 years and shows no signs of stopping.

Mrs Kumar recently opened her second store in Dubai Festival City Mall. From young and old her empire continues to grow from the by lanes of Delhi to Mayfair in London. She received one of India's highest honors, the Padma Shri in 2013. She's also a recipient of the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award, which has been awarded to the likes of Saint Teresa. After many years of dedicated work in fashion, she was also bestowed France's highest honor, "Chevalier des arts et des lettres" by the French government.

Discussing a long and illustrious career brings a smile to her face. Her brand was established in 1969 and is credited with being the first to have revived ancient Indian crafts interpreting them in to a contemporary vocabulary. Her brand has always been associated with rich colors, intricate embroidery and the fact that most of India's leading female celebrities wear her designs.

"When we were starting out, there were no road

maps to follow. You had to create your own path," says Mrs Kumar. At a time when few women followed independent careers, she carved a niche for Indian design in an international arena. "I was attending Paris Fashion Week four times a year and trying to manage a household at the same time, it was never easy," she laughs. In 1999 she published a book "Costumes and Textiles of Royal India" which chronicles the history of textiles and art design in India.

Today the Ritu Kumar design house has three brands, 'Ri', a premium bridal and couture line, Ritu Kumar a traditional brand offering ethnic semi-formal wear and Label, a contemporary pret line.

As an icon who has closely witnessed the growth of the fashion industry, her advice for those starting out is simple. "There's a very ill defined vision of fashion, particularly for someone who is just getting in to it. They tend to believe you are going to hit the ramp as soon as you step out of fashion school, and most of the time that never happens," she says. "Although everyone thinks it is only about glamour, in a lot of ways getting a fashion degree is like getting a doctoral thesis. Textile design is in itself a very demanding course. People tend to forget that you have to intern for many years and not everyone is destined to become a designer."

Discussing current trends she believes, "The shift is

towards less fuss and a more laidback look. Fabrics are also becoming important. We use a lot of natural fabric keeping the weather in mind." Her sub brand, Label, comprises mostly western silhouettes.

Today's Indian has evolved as well. "The younger generation doesn't define itself solely by history. They love their old traditions of course but will take it to a certain level. We haven't seen as much change in the last 400 years in India as we've seen in the past 40 years." Her designs reflect that blending of modernity and traditional values. She also mentions that there's a strong assertion of genders, particularly of the female race.

Now that her son Amrish Kumar is Creative Director of the label, we ask what the collaboration is like. She doesn't deny the generation gaps that creep in but adds that she would have never dreamt of adding Bollywood actress Kalki Koelchin as a brand ambassador had he not suggested it. She admits that her role as a mother in a challenging career was made easier by the extended family. "I think in some ways when you tread this path in India it is a little bit easier. I had a lot of help. We still have a tradition of the joint family. Of course having said that, careers are not easy especially when you have to be in many places all the time. There were times I had to travel in the middle of the children's school year. As a mother you are guilty all the time. Even

though it's in the past, the children will often look back and blame you saying 'You weren't there for this and that. I don't think that changes. It does sting a little'."

Ritu Kumar's designs have always been associated with the elite. They've been worn by the late Princess Diana. The international appeal has become an inherent feature of the pieces. She says, "Fashion is no longer localized. The lines are blurred in a positive way. Dressing well is no longer limited to just occasions or weddings. In terms of design there's less and less of copying the West. It's not necessarily only ornate but more international".

Speaking of her legacy she says, "I've worked with the textile crafts for a long time and there's a responsibility to a place where you've drawn so much from. You ought to give something back as well." The opening night for her newest store in the region begins with a fashion show. As outfits seem to fly off the shelves, it is clear that everyone wants a piece of Ritu Kumar.

(Abigail Mathias is a Freelance Senior Feature Writer based in the UAE)



## Lo'lo'a film

Lo'lo'a Art production House Company's chairlady, Sheikh Intisar Salem Al-Ali announced its company's participation in the 32nd Alexandria Film Festival with a movie titled 'Habib Al-Ardh, Fayege Abdul Jaleel'. Al-Ali noted that the festival is on in the period of September 21-27 in Alexandria, Egypt.

Al-Ali added that the film would compete with films from other 29 countries taking part in the festival. On his part, director, Ramadan Khesrouh expressed his joy when the festival administration chose his film and invited the producers to compete with 29 Arab and foreign countries taking part in the festival.







WASHINGTON: Last minute preparations are made for today's dedication ceremony at the Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture on the National Mall yesterday, where President Barack Obama will speak. — AP

## New African-American history museum took a decade to build

The National Museum of African American History and Culture opening this weekend in Washington took more than a decade to build. A look at some of the key milestones in its construction:

### Dec. 16, 2003

President George W. Bush signs legislation creating the museum. Early on, it is scheduled to open in 2011. It is expected to cost hundreds of millions of dollars, half of which will come from Congress and the rest from donations. The idea for museum and memorial traces back to 1915 and a group of African-American Civil War veterans.

### March 14, 2005

Lonnie G. Bunch III is named founding director of the museum. Before taking the job, he served as the president of the Chicago Historical Society. He had also worked at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History from 1989 to 2000 and at the California Afro-American Museum in Los Angeles from 1983 to 1989. His appointment is effective July 2005.

### Jan. 31, 2006

The Smithsonian's Board of Regents selects the museum's site on the National Mall near the Washington Monument. A total of four spots had been considered: two on the mall and two off the mall. The other site on the Mall was the

Smithsonian's Arts and Industries Building. President Bush had endorsed a site on the Mall.

### March 27, 2009

Officials unveil six design concepts proposed for the future museum. One concept includes a design with wetlands extending inside the museum. Another proposed design is oval-shaped.

### April 14, 2009

The Smithsonian selects a winning architectural concept for the museum. The design is inspired by an African headdress, and a bronze screen that wraps the building taking inspiration from metalwork in the South. The lead designer is David Adjaye, who was born in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and whose parents are from Ghana.

### March 10, 2010

The museum announces it will receive about 40 objects connected to abolitionist and Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman, including Tubman's favorite hymnal and a shawl given to her by Queen Victoria. The donation coincides with the 97th anniversary of Tubman's death on March 10, 1913.

### Feb. 22, 2012

President Barack Obama helps break ground for the

museum, calling it "not just a record of tragedy, but a celebration of life." He is joined by his wife, Michelle Obama, and former first lady Laura Bush. The ceremony is hosted by actress Phylicia Rashad, who played Clair Huxtable on "The Cosby Show." Curators estimate that they have collected 15,000 to 20,000 artifacts for the museum.

### May 14, 2013

The museum announces that it has acquired an object that will become a centerpiece of the collection: a slave cabin. The two-room cabin is from a former cotton plantation on Edisto Island in coastal South Carolina. It is taken apart board by board so it can be transported. "The reason we collect a cabin like this is it allows you to humanize the slavery experience," museum director Lonnie Bunch says at the time.

### June 11, 2013

The museum announces a \$12 million gift from Oprah Winfrey and says that the museum's 350-seat theater will be named after her. Winfrey had also given \$1 million in 2007. Other major donors with recognizable names include: the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; TV producer and writer Shonda Rhimes of "Grey's Anatomy" and "Scandal" fame, and philanthropist David M. Rubenstein, who has donated millions to other high-profile Washington projects. The museum is projected to cost \$500 million.

### Nov. 17, 2013

The museum installs its first artifacts: a Jim Crow-era railroad car and prison guard tower from the Louisiana State Penitentiary. The objects are so large they have to be hoisted in by cranes as the museum is being built. The railroad car weighs 77 tons. The tower is approximately 21 feet tall and 14 feet wide.

### April 14, 2015

The first of the 3,600 bronze-colored screen panels surrounding the building are installed. The panels are inspired by ironwork created by slaves in New Orleans and Charleston, South Carolina. The initial plan was for the panels to be made of bronze. After that was found to be too expensive and too heavy, designers eventually settled on aluminum finished to look like bronze.

### June 3, 2015

A construction worker working on the roof of the museum dies in a construction accident. He is identified as 35-year-old Ivan Smyntyna of Roswell, Georgia.

### Sept. 24, 2016

President Barack Obama will speak at the dedication of the museum, the Smithsonian's 19th. — AP

## Room for improvement: Paris' matchbox apartments

Thousands of Parisians round off a hard day's work with a trudge up six flights of stairs to a tiny, stuffy room they resignedly call home. In a city where it is notoriously difficult to find a flat—especially on a low budget and without the right paperwork—many rooms that once served as domestic helpers' sleeping quarters have been turned into apartments for rent.



PARIS: Ivan Lopez poses at his home, a less than 7 square meter apartment in the 5th district of Paris, on September 14, 2016. — AFP

It is borderline illegal to rent out these micro-apartments, typically wedged under a rooftop, as they measure less than nine square meters (100 square feet) and often lack proper ventilation. But many people simply cannot afford any better, and some, like receptionist Ivan Lopez, face other barriers. "I don't have a guarantor, no relatives in Paris, and I have a foreign accent," says Lopez, a 35-year-old of Mexican origin who rents a room measuring just 6.8 square metres for 370 euros (\$415) a month.

Repeatedly turned away by rental agencies, he has been unable to find better lodgings for eight years.

Lopez's bed, which doubles as a sofa and a storage space, is squeezed against an old fridge and a tiny shower stall. "I work the night shift, and in the morning it's really hot when I get back. I can't sleep in here," he says.

### Relic of bourgeois life

Flats that were once sleeping quarters for domestic workers are a relic of bourgeois life in the 19th and early 20th centuries

when they were referred to as "chambres de bonne"—maids' rooms.

Astonishingly, they still fetch sky-high prices of up to 11,000 euros a square metre in Paris's well-to-do neighborhoods. Victoire Ratrimison, 67, was a modern-day version of the traditional "bonne" when she moved into her sixth-floor perch in the chic northwest in 2011. Originally from Madagascar, she took a job as a domestic helper for a family living in the building. But the family soon moved out and tried to force her to leave. "They told me, 'We don't require your services anymore. We've found someone who charges 400 Euros a month,'" Ratrimison says as her eyes well up with tears. For lack of anything better, Ratrimison is clinging to the tiny space measuring 7.5 square metres, with no ventilation or heating. "I don't really live here, I just sleep here," she says, standing in a room with shelves packed right up to the ceiling.

Like Lopez, Ratrimison is holding her breath in the hope that authorities will officially declare her home to be uninhabitable. That would make their expulsion illegal and in turn force the owners or the state to find them proper housing.

According to the Abbe Pierre Foundation, a French NGO that fights for the rights of people living in substandard housing, authorities are dragging their feet on the issue. "Today, there are some 7,000 domestic helpers' rooms that serve as people's main place of residence, and which measure less than nine square meters. Still, in most cases, the state has not declared them uninhabitable," says the foundation's Sarah Coupechoux.

### Slow progress

The government's health agency for the Paris region says that around 50 of these rooms are declared uninhabitable each year, and the number is on the rise. Agency official Emmanuelle Beaugrand says an administrative court decided in 2013 that insufficient size is not the only criterion for declaring a space unfit for habitation. "For a room measuring seven to nine (square) meters, we no longer issue such orders systematically. Other criteria need to be met too, such as inadequate ventilation or layout," she says. Housing deputy at Paris city hall Ian Brossat pledges to put in place a plan "very soon" to reform these spaces. Albert Verdier took 15 years to find a better home than the 6.5 square meters he occupied for 350 Euros a month.—AFP



LOS ANGELES: In this Nov. 16, 2013 file photo, Maddox Jolie-Pitt, from left, Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt attend the 2013 Governors Awards. — AP

## Brad Pitt allegations relate to treatment of son

Allegations Brad Pitt was abusive on a private plane last week relate to the actor's treatment of his 15-year-old son, sources said Friday, as the FBI continued to gather information before determining whether to open an investigation.

FBI Spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said the agency hasn't made a decision on a formal investigation into what occurred on a plane ferrying Pitt, his wife Angelina Jolie Pitt and their six children. Several news outlets have reported that a child welfare agency in Los Angeles is investigating the well-being of the children, who range in ages from 8 to 15.

Sources familiar with the allegations, but not authorized to speak publicly, say the child welfare investigation centers on Pitt's conduct toward his son Maddox, 15, during an argument on the Sept. 14 flight. No law enforcement agency responded to the plane when it landed in Minnesota after the incident.

Amara Suarez, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, said the agency

could not confirm whether it was investigating Pitt or the well-being of the former couple's children.

Calls to the offices of Pitt's attorney, Lance Spiegel, and Jolie Pitt's lawyer, Laura Wasser, were forwarded to recorded messages stating their firms do not comment on clients.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce Monday and her lawyer released a statement the following day saying she came to the decision "for the health of the family." She listed their separation date as Sept. 15, the day after the alleged plane incident, and the actress is seeking sole custody of all six of the children.

Koochiching County, Minnesota, Sheriff Perryn Hedlund told The Associated Press on Thursday that Brad Pitt was on a plane that landed at the International Falls, Minnesota, airport near the Canadian border on Sept. 14.—AP