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# US military halts exercises in Gulf over Qatar crisis

### American officials want dispute resolved sooner than later

## US OKs \$15bn sale of THAAD missile system to Saudi Arabia

WASHINGTON: The US government has approved the sale to Saudi Arabia of the advanced Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system for \$15 billion, the State Department said Friday. "This sale furthers US national security and foreign policy interests, and supports the long-term security of Saudi Arabia and the Gulf region in the face of Iranian and other regional threats," a statement said.

The green light for the deal, which Saudi Arabia has long sought, came one day after King Salman met Russia's President Vladimir Putin and signed a

preliminary agreement to look at Moscow's S-400 air defense system. The THAAD - which has already been supplied to Saudi Arabia's neighbors Qatar and the United Arab Emirates - is one of the most capable defensive missile batteries in the US arsenal and comes equipped with an advanced radar system.

Its recent deployment by the US military in South Korea to protect against any North Korean strike drew protests from Beijing, who feared its sensors would be able to penetrate into Chinese air space and upset the balance of power. The State Department said it would advise Congress that, in Saudi hands, the system would act to stabilize the situation in the Gulf and help defend US forces in the region and their allies, who face a growing Iranian missile capability. "The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not alter the basic military balance in the region," it said.

Officials told AFP that the sale, which can go ahead if the US Congress does not object within 30 days, should be seen

Continued on Page 11



KUWAIT: In this April 6, 2017 photo released by the US Defense Department, Gulf Arab soldiers take part in the Eagle Resolve exercise. — AP

DUBAI: The US military has halted some exercises with its Gulf Arab allies over the ongoing diplomatic crisis targeting Qatar, trying to use its influence to end the months-long dispute, authorities told AP on Friday. While offering few details, the acknowledgement by the US military's Central Command shows the concern it has over the con-

flict gripping the Gulf, home to the US Navy's 5th Fleet and crucial bases for its campaign against the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, as well as the war in Afghanistan.

The Qatar crisis began June 5, when Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates launched an economic boycott while closing off

the energy-rich nation's land border and its air and sea routes. The quartet of Arab nations pointed to Qatar's alleged support of extremists and overly warm ties to Iran. Qatar long has denied supporting extremists and shares a massive offshore natural gas field with Tehran that makes its

Continued on Page 11

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# Ali Al-Sabah Military College: Graduating men to defend their country since 1968

## College encompasses land, air and marine forces

By Nawara Fattahova

**KUWAIT:** Graduating men ready to defend their country is the goal of the Ali Al-Sabah Military College, one of the oldest colleges in the region. It was founded in 1968 as the Military College and the first batch of cadets graduated in 1970, and since then a batch graduates every year. Due to the Iraqi invasion in 1990, the college stopped functioning and reopened again in 1993 after it was rebuilt. In 1997, it was renamed after the late Ali Al-Sabah, who was the son of former Amir Sabah the 12th. He was one of the first students of the college and ranked first among his batch.

Kuwait Times toured the college to observe cadets training and learning. Although the temperature was above 40 degrees Celsius at 11:00 am, the cadets were training outdoors, sitting on the ground taking instructions from the trainers. Meanwhile, another batch of students was undergoing a test.

### Three forces

Ali Al-Sabah Military College encompasses three forces - land, air and marine. "The main one is the land force, with two study programs for students depending on their background," College Commander Maj Gen Staff Bader Al-Awadhi told Kuwait Times. "University graduates study for only a year, while high school graduates study for three years. But starting from this year (2017), we only accept university graduates for the land force. For the air force, high school and diploma graduates can apply, and this section was only set up last year. For the marine force, high school graduates can only apply if they have studied in the science stream."

Students undergo different types of athletic trainings to be fit to face any obstacle. They get trained to use various types of light weapons. Furthermore, they receive training on reading maps and using a compass, in addition to modern navigation systems. They learn how to deal with explosive materials and weapons of mass destruction. Beside these trainings, they also learn



**KUWAIT:** Ali Al-Sabah Military College Commander Maj Gen Staff Bader Al-Awadhi speaks to Kuwait Times. — Photos by Joseph Shagra



Ali Al-Sabah Military College Assistant Commander Brig Khaled Al-Otaibi speaks to Kuwait Times.



Col Adel Al-Kandari.

academic subjects such as English, administrative sciences, mathematics, psychology and computer science. "All the students of the marine force study abroad. Some air force students study here in Kuwait, while others study abroad. The students train in GCC countries, some Arab countries and in Europe. High school graduates study between three-and-a-half to four years for the marine and air forces, whether in Kuwait or abroad. They then obtain a bachelor's degree. Land force students only study in Kuwait at this college and graduate after one year," Awadhi explained. The following are excerpts from the interview with Maj Gen Staff Bader Al-Awadhi:

### College is ready to absorb more trainees after conscription became effective



and graduate after one year," Awadhi explained. The following are excerpts from the interview with Maj Gen Staff Bader Al-Awadhi:



Col Fawaz Al-Musallim gives a demonstration about the facilities of the Ali Al-Sabah Military College.

### Admission limit

**Kuwait Times:** How many students can be accepted annually at the academy?

**Awadhi:** The number depends on the demand of the General Army Headquarters, particularly the system administration (operations and planning department), which considers the needs of the army for the number of cadets. Currently, we have around 900 students of all grades studying at the college.

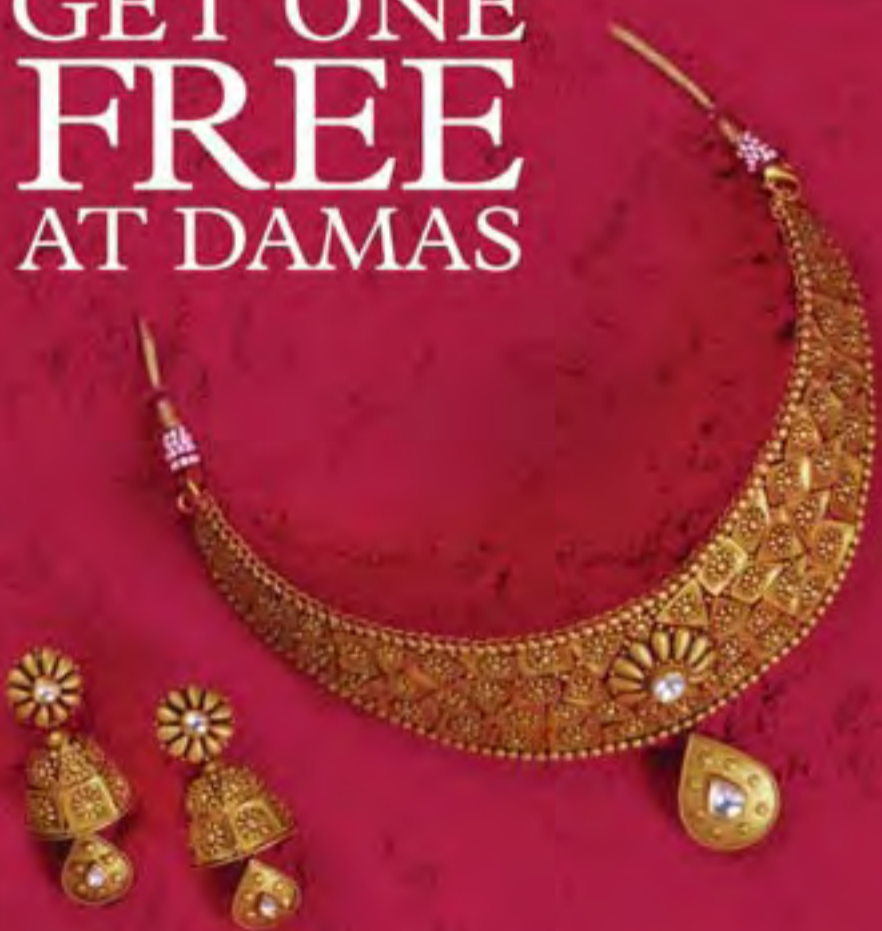
The age of high school graduates should be between 17 to 21 years. For diploma graduates, it is between 17 and

22, while for university graduates, it is up to 26 years. For masters' graduates, it is up to 28.

**KT:** What are the conditions (health or others) that would disqualify a student to register?

**Awadhi:** The applicant should pass various tests before being accepted at the college. These include a health test. In order to pass the test, the applicant should be medically fit. If he is fit, then he takes an aptitude test to check if his body is fit in case something was not clear in the medical test, in addition to other simple procedures.

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Ali Al-Sabah Military College's entrance.



Young cadets at Ali Al-Sabah Military College are given instructions.

Local



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah honors a graduate from Ali Al-Sabah Military College.



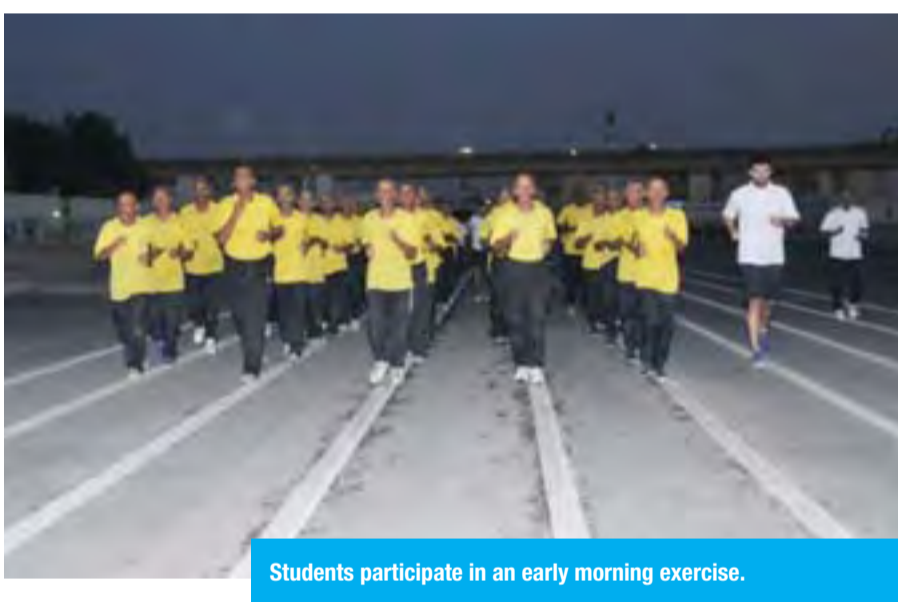
Cadets line up during a graduation ceremony for Ali Al-Sabah Military College students.



Students take a test inside the college.



Cadets are seen during a graduation ceremony for Ali Al-Sabah Military College students.



Students participate in an early morning exercise.

**Conscription**  
**KT:** Is the academy ready to accept all students after compulsory conscription takes effect this year?

**Awadhi:** The college has the capacity to welcome more students. The building is ready along with dorms and classrooms. But we focus on quality, not quantity. We prefer to have 25 students rather than 50 in one classroom. So we arrange our plans according to the number of trainers and academic staff.

Regarding conscription, applicants have to register at the Authority of National Service and Reserve, but they may not necessarily be accepted at our college. This year, about 400 men registered, while those who applied to enter the army were above 4,000. They are now waiting for the medical tests, which may be ready after approximately two weeks. Those who pass will take the aptitude test, and out of those who pass this test, we will accept the number required by the general headquarters.

**KT:** Does the academy train recruits from other countries - either for the Kuwait armed forces or for other armed forces?

**Awadhi:** We do have students from other countries including Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Jordan, Yemen and others. Also, there are cadets from the National Guard and the National Assembly Guard.

**KT:** Are there joint training programs with other local authorities or countries?

**Awadhi:** Yes, we have signed cooperation protocols with various bodies. This includes the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, which sends some of its experts to teach our students Islamic subjects and advanced Arabic language. We also cooperate with the Youth Ministry and the Public Authority for Sports. We also cooperate with the Saad Al-Abdullah Academy for Security Sciences in exchanging teachers, in addition to cooperating with the Ministry of Interior, the National Guard and Kuwait University.

**KT:** Walk us through an average day of training? What are the routines?

**Awadhi:** The students wake up before sunrise and pray Fajr prayers, then attend a physical education class, which is about an hour of training. This is followed by breakfast. Then the cadet takes a shower and wears the uniform to undergo field training and attends classes till 1:30 pm. This is followed by lunch. He then gets some rest till 4:00 pm. Then comes intensive training, where the student improves on the shortcomings he faced during the

day. He can choose field training, weapons training or physical education, in addition to compulsory studies for theoretical subjects to pass the exams. Then they have dinner and go to bed, as they have to sleep before 10:00 pm.

A new building for the Ali Al-Sabah Military College is being built. Last year, work started on the new building in Mutlaa, which will hopefully be completed by 2020. This will cover all training and entertainment needs of the college and is far from residential areas. It will be much bigger than the current college.

**Boot camp**

Kuwait Times also spoke to Assistant Commander Brig Khaled Al-Otaibi. The following are excerpts from the interview:

**Kuwait Times:** Is there a basic boot camp that all recruits go through? What does it consist of? Are recruits given choices for the areas or fields they wish to study?

**Otaibi:** Yes, the curriculum is different depending on the background of the student, whether he is a university or high school graduate. High school graduates have more theoretical studies, as university graduates have studied most of these subjects. We focus on political studies, as cadets should be educated in this field. At the end of the year, all cadets are evaluated to determine the field they like, so they can specialize in and later work in that field. It is better to do the thing they like rather than being placed in a field they don't like.

**KT:** How will the academy adjust or change its program with the advent of compulsory conscription in Kuwait?

**Otaibi:** Currently, there are no conscription students here, as the law was only issued this year. But after we accept the new recruits, their program will be different. Their training will be easier and only between three weeks to six months long.

**KT:** What are the specialists' fields and qualifications of the trainers?

**Otaibi:** They are all certified trainers with military licenses.

**KT:** Does the academy serve all branches of the Kuwait armed forces for training?

**Otaibi:** We supply cadets to all branches of the Kuwaiti army.

**KT:** What is the process for recruits once they complete the training? Where are the cadets employed after graduation?

**Otaibi:** In the Kuwaiti army or the academic field.

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## Local

## IPU needs to highlight Rohingya's plight: Speaker

KUWAIT: Kuwait will request urgent examination of the plight of Muslim Rohingya at the forthcoming conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) scheduled in a week in Saint Petersburg, Russia, the National Assembly Speaker has announced. Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem has held talks with President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Saber Hossain Chowdhury on Israel's breaches of the IPU constituent law and plight of the Muslim Rohingya, according to a statement released by the parliament press department on Saturday.

Emerging from the meeting with Chowdhury in Geneva, the parliament speaker said the discussions with the IPU chairman dealt with a large number of files that need to be examined at the upcoming IPU conference, due in a week in Saint Petersburg, Russia, namely the Israeli Knesset violations of the IPU charter and aggravating humanitarian crisis of the Rohingya.

"Our meeting with Mr Chowdhury which came a week ahead of his term expiry addressed most key issues that concern the Muslims and Arabs as well ourselves the Kuwaitis," he said, noting that the IPU must take stances toward these topics namely the recurring violations by the Knesset.

The talks with the IPU chairman, he added, dealt with the massacres that have been perpetrated against the Muslims of Myanmar, indicating that he agreed with Chowdhury (of Bangladesh) that the Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation would present an emergency term about



KUWAIT: National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Ali Al-Ghanem meets with President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Saber Hossain Chowdhury. — KUNA

the Rohingya at the upcoming convention. Ghanem added that the meeting dealt with "coordination regarding the next IPU chairmanship," noting that the union should have teeth and power to penalize violators of the UN principles, such as the Knesset.

He expressed hope that the new chairman would follow Chowdhury's example and adopt honorable stances toward "the issues that concern us." "We also hope that we will be able at the next conference to bury the hatchet

among the Arabs and Muslims and take specific and unified stances toward the presidency, the emergency topic and the other subjects."

Arab, Muslim and GCC legislators will hold consultative meetings ahead of the IPU conference, he indicated. Meanwhile, MP Yusuf Al-Fadhlah who attended the meeting noted that the talks with the outgoing IPU chief also dealt with the recurring aggression "by the Zionist entity in Palestine." — KUNA

## Trio deported for 'illegal' slaughtering

By Hanan Al-Saadoun and Agencies

KUWAIT: Kuwait Municipality Director General Eng Ahmad Al-Manfouhi said urgent measures were taken against three Asian workers after a video clip showing them slaughtering a horse went viral. The three were arrested and sent for deportation. The farm owner was sent to court for having unlicensed practice and carrying out slaughter on the farm. Manfouhi said there is no act in regards to banning the slaughter of horses. Since then, another video went viral on social media showing a person who claimed that he obtained permission from the horse's owner to take the animal, which appeared to be injured, then slaughter it in order to feed its meat to a number of dogs he owns. The man said that he tried to take the horse to licensed slaughterhouses, but was rejected,

so he hired the services of three people to do the slaughtering for him. The municipality is yet to release a statement to comment on those claims. Even if the three workers were proven innocent, their chances of escaping punishment remain slim because administrative deportation decisions in Kuwait are usually irreversible.

## Fires

Fire broke out in a Salmiya restaurant on Friday, and Salmiya and South Salmiya fire centers responded. The fire was put out without injuries.

## Campaigns

Residency detectives arrested 73 violators of various nationalities during an inspection campaign at Safafeer Market and Sharq industrial area. Separately, Hawally Municipality branch carried out an inspection campaign at restaurants and stores, resulting in issuing 23 citations for employing workers without a health certificate, having a sign without a license, use of areas outside the store and destroying 26 kg of foodstuff. Meanwhile, Ahmadi municipality issued 15 citations for food and sign violations and storage under unhealthy conditions, while 42 advertisements were removed from the streets.

## Drone

An Arab man was arrested for getting banned material into central prison with the help of a drone. A security source said Farwaniya Security Director Maj General Saleh Mater gave orders to follow the 37-year-old suspect who was then arrested at home along with the drone. The source said that police found 21 new mobile phones, chargers, illicit tablets, shabu and money. The suspect confessed to using the drone to deliver stuff to the central prison and was charging inmates for it. He was sent to the Drugs Control General Department.

## Maid hospitalized

An Asian maid who became hysterical refused to come out from under a vehicle in Andalus and was sent to the psychiatric hospital after finally stabilizing her. The sponsor said he was surprised with the maid's behavior because she is normally very well behaved.

## Reckless driver arrested

A reckless driver who nicknamed his car "the story of Taima fire" was arrested for disturbing the peace and endangering the lives of others. A security source said the

arrest came following complaints about the reckless driver whose car was spitting fire.

## Suicide

The body of a 19-year-old girl was recovered by the coroner after she hung herself in her parents' house. Investigations are underway to find the reason behind the suicide.

## Accident

A citizen escaped death when his vehicle collided into a house and ended in the basement. A security source said that a call about a collision and a person trapped in the vehicle was made. Firemen went to the scene and freed the man who was taken to hospital. Police said the man lost control and collided with the house.

## Fugitive caught

A bedoon who is sentenced to death was arrested in Kabd desert following stiff resistance. The suspect is convicted of attempting to kill two detectives among other charges. Mubarak Al-Kabeer detectives were tipped about a drugs dealer in Kabd so they obtained an arrest warrant, but when they went to the place he was in, he was armed and resisted them before being arrested.

## Ahli United Bank conducts blood donation campaign

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank recently conducted a successful blood donation campaign. The campaign was launched from the bank's head office on October 3, 2017 to the benefit of the Blood Bank. The aim was to help increase their reserves and to enable the Blood Bank to perform its effective role in providing essential support for patients and those injured in need of a blood transfusion.

It is worth mentioning that Ahli United Bank organized this blood donation campaign as part of its social responsibility program and to encourage employees in their humanitarian giving whilst increasing awareness of the significance of this initiative.



On this occasion, the bank issued a press release and said: "We are proud of this valuable humanitarian initiative as blood donation is considered an essential contribution in all societies." It added: "Simply, a blood donation may help save the recipient's life."

Ahli United Bank commended the excellent turnout from its employees to donate blood without whose positive involvement the campaign could not have been a success. Ahli United Bank emphasized that it is always keen to play an effective role in society and for its employees to be good role models for giving to the community.

## Precision surgeries not covered by health insurance hospitals

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi said services to be provided by health insurance hospitals once they open will not include precision surgeries, which will still have to be done at public specialized centers that would be open to all including expats. Harbi added that health insurance hospitals will serve expats working in the private sector alone, while those working for the government will be treated at public hospitals at the Health Ministry's expense. A shareholding medical insurance company was established a couple of years ago to build the health insurance hospitals for expats, but a specific date for their completion was not set. Meanwhile, Harbi said that 70 percent of the annual budget set for medicine, which reaches KD 330 million, goes to expats and that less than one third of the budget is spent on citizens. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of honoring a number of inventors, Harbi said the decision to increase health fees on expats was made to match the global

increase in medicine and medical technology prices. He said that the increase does not include urgent cases.

## Psychiatric hospital

The Psychiatric Medicine Hospital issued an internal directive on the fees to be collected from expats and exempted cases. According to the directive, exemptions include GCC nationals residing in Kuwait, Kuwaitis' wives, military personnel in service and their families, martyrs and POWs' first-degree relatives, inmates, social care home residents and Kuwaiti women's underage children.

## Compensations

Member of the Fadheelah Iraqi Islamic Party Ahmed Al-Ghareebawi said exporting Iraqi gas to Kuwait as part of the 1990/91 Iraqi Invasion compensation imposed on Baghdad will be the best solution, provided that gas is not sold for less than international prices and lead to wastage of Iraqi public funds. Ghareebawi added that Kuwait's approval to import gas from Iraq to help settle overdue compensations was a very important agreement in view of the current circumstances and the financial crisis Iraq is experiencing amidst its war on terror.

## Small projects

Well-informed sources said serious steps had been taken to improve the environment needed for small and medium projects and take them a step forward to encourage entrepreneurs, by distributing land plots needed for these projects, as recommended by the World Bank.

## local spotlight

## IS women



By Muna Al-Fuzai

Muna@kuwaittimes.net

Despite the progress in science and technology and the increasing number of educated women in the world, some women continue to fall victim to militant groups and pay the price of an unknown future and the children they give birth to as wives of terrorists. This issue must now be tackled by governments around the world with the fall of IS.

The military defeat of IS over the past few months in Syria and Iraq has led to unexpected problems that require a national strategy, regarding the women who were in that group, and their children too. Women and children of IS supporters were either displaced or captured, and are being held in detention in makeshift camps in northern Syria. They were detained by US-backed Kurdish fighters during operations around Raqqa and are now waiting to face the consequences of what they committed or were involved in.

When the so-called Islamic State encouraged women to join its newly founded 'caliphate', thousands of women from Europe, North Africa and the Middle East answered the call and moved to IS-controlled territory. "We were looking for paradise, but all we got was hell." This is a well-known comment by one of the arrested women of IS.

According to media reports, some of the women are Syrian, but not all. Many are from overseas. Some joined IS because they believed in it, while some just followed their husbands and lovers and a few wanted to escape from their parents. The romantic illusion turned into hell and slavery, sex, rape, suicide and torture.

The shift in women's participation from supportive to military roles and duties took place during the battle of Mosul, when IS was facing extreme pressures that became clearer with its defeat. In 2015, the Al-Khansa Brigade of women was established in the de facto IS capital Raqqa in Syria, which released a document on the roles of women in the group. They were sent to the frontlines in Syria, with reports of IS training female suicide bombers. When IS faced extreme pressure from Iraqi troops and its allies, a series of suicide attacks were conducted by women. The role of women in IS should be a reminder to policymakers working on the issue of women involved in violent extremism.

A German girl is facing trial and possibly the death penalty in Iraq for joining IS. She was persuaded to run away from Germany to join IS by a Jordanian girl, whom she spoke with online. She introduced her to a militant, so she fled to the hell of IS by her own choice. Now she is being held in Baghdad awaiting trial. The 16-year-old claimed she lived only as a 'housemaid' and did not take part in combat. This is something that needs to be examined and proved by evidence, because mere regret is not enough.

According to media reports, the girl, who left her home in Pulsnitz in eastern Germany a year ago to join the terror group, is desperate to return to Europe amid fears she could spend years in jail. Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al-Abadi said Iraq's judiciary will decide if the teenager will face the death penalty.

Is it fair to only face a trial and maybe be jailed or executed for the crimes all these women supporters did with IS? Do Western governments have a strategy on how they will deal with these women when they return back home, and how will they integrate in civil society again? What happens after jail time? There are potentially thousands of such women and there is no clear policy on rehabilitation. We have heard of some studies and ideas, but everything has been left on the Iraqi government's shoulders to think and decide.

There is a need to set up programs on this issue, and the Iraqi government must be updated with a transparent policy so that they can coordinate the process. Governments must not be allowed to ignore their duties and obligations on this. Human rights organizations must also take part to make teenage girls aware and not get fooled by strangers on the Web and end up dead or in jail. As much as we sympathize with the situation of women who have become victims with their involvement with terror groups, the guilty should not be set free and justice must prevail.

## Two MPs plan to grill info minister

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: The National Assembly's acting speaker refused to receive a request by opposition MPs Abdulkarim Al-Kandari and Riyadh Al-Adasani on Thursday to grill the information minister Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. The rejection came because the request was submitted after the official time and after consultations with the constitutional experts.

The two lawmakers allege that Sheikh Mohammad has committed a series of financial and administrative violations as a minister of information and as a state minister for cabinet affairs. The two MPs plan to file the grilling again after the weekend holiday today.

MP Kandari confirmed that the grilling request will be submitted during working hours, adding that the political questioning has become effective as of now. The lawmaker said that it is not possible to leave the information minister in his place while violations continued after a grilling against former information minister Sheikh Salman Al-Sabah led to his dismissal early this year. Kandari said that in case of a cabinet reshuffle or including Sheikh Mohammad in another ministerial post, it will trigger a constitutional dilemma, adding that he will be grilled immediately regardless of his new post.

MP Adasani said part of the grilling focuses on fees paid to the chamber of commerce and industry which is not an official body and the large stockpiles in the ministry which the minister failed to deal with. He warned that any question to ministers and is not answered will be transformed into a grilling. Adasani strongly lashed out at a parliamentary committee studying issues raised during the grillings against the prime minister this year and accused some members of trying to shield the premier. He warned against attempts to discuss the findings of the committee in public in the National Assembly saying this is a clear attempt by some MPs to protect the prime minister, adding that

International Monetary Fund  
Middle East Center for Economics and Finance  
KuwaitVacancy Announcement  
Capacity Development Advisor (Economist)

Applications are being solicited for the position of Capacity Development Advisor (Economist) at the IMF-Middle East Center for Economics and Finance (CEF) located in Kuwait. The CEF is an office of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with a mission to strengthen the skills of officials from Arab League countries in economics, finance, and policy formulation, done mainly through the delivery of training courses and seminars. This is a full-time position with an initial appointment term of two-years (renewable), and carries a competitive salary and benefits package commensurate with the successful candidate's experience and qualifications. For non-residents of Kuwait, relocation and living allowances are provided.

## Summary Description

We are seeking an experienced Capacity Development Advisor (Economist) to enhance our CEF-based economics and finance faculty. Prime tasks include teaching of selected courses delivered by the IMF, involvement in curriculum development, and conducting research in support of the CEF's training activities and series of seminars and conferences.

## Main Duties and Responsibilities

**Teaching:** Teach several advanced short courses in conjunction with the IMF and other international organizations. The audience will include public sector officials from Arab countries, especially officials from central banks, finance ministries and other government economic agencies.

**Course Development:** Develop new courses on topics of relevance to the region. In collaboration with staff in IMF headquarters or other international organizations, as needed. Course development will include the preparation of pedagogical material such as lectures and detailed quantitative case studies based on country experiences.

**Research:** Conduct original research on economic issues of relevance to the CEF's training mission and cooperate with universities, research institutes, and think tanks in the region.

## Qualifications

Candidates should have strong analytical skills in macroeconomics or finance, at least five years of practical experience with analyzing economic issues, especially in emerging and developing countries, as well as a substantial experience and interest in teaching.

Experience in providing advanced training to public sector officials in applied macroeconomic policy issues, finance and econometrics would be highly desirable. Applicants should hold a Ph.D. degree in economics or finance. Excellent teaching and communication skills and experience in Arabic and English are essential.

Closing date of the application is November 4, 2017.

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for the full vacancy information and to apply to requisition # 1701015

Local

# Zain sponsors First Kuwaiti Medical Innovations Conference

## In presence of health and social affairs ministers

**KUWAIT:** Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, sponsored the First Kuwaiti Conference for Medical Innovations and Innovations, organized by The Kuwaiti Association for Surgeons between September 28th and October 1st at Jumeirah Hotel. The conference came under the patronage and presence of the Minister of Health Dr Jamal Al-Harbi and Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Hind Al-Sabeeh, as well as president of The Kuwaiti Association for Surgeons Dr Salman Al-Sabah.

Zain's support to the conference came as part of its Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility strategy towards the health sector, through which the company aims to reinforce its joint collaboration with various leading medical entities in Kuwait, both from the public and private sectors. Zain is keen to contribute to the further development of the medical sector as well as raise health awareness within members of the community.

During the conference, Zain Group's Executive Director for Strategy and Business Development Malek Hammoud participated in a discussion panel entitled "Stories About Innovation in Kuwait", where he highlighted the great roles the telecommunications and IT sectors play in recent medical advancements, as well as the huge potentials of telecom innovations in providing new models for cutting costs, increasing efficiency of medical processes, wireless monitoring and tracking of patients data, and more.

Zain was present at the conference through its dedicated booth, where the company introduced visitors to its special and exclusive offers for doctors, surgeons, medical professionals, medical

staff, and other healthcare providers as a sign of appreciation to this crucial humanitarian profession. The conference witnessed a number of workshops and discussion panels that aimed at training new doctors and developing their skills, as well as discuss the latest innovations in medical and surgical processes around the world.

Zain's support is an extension of a series of partnerships the company is continuously adopting to serve its strategic and sustainable goals, ultimately contributing to the wellbeing and health of everyone in the community. Zain's contribution falls under the company's Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility strategies and aims to raise awareness within the community and shows its keenness in having a productive role in social and health activities.

Zain's solid Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability strategies primarily focus on the wellbeing of the entire nation. For that reason, the company has maintained its support to all kinds of initiatives that spread awareness and help make a difference. Every year, Zain launches its annual breast cancer awareness campaign, as well as cooperates with the Ministry of Health, and partners with the Kuwaiti Red Crescent for several awareness campaigns related to the health sector.

It is worth mentioning that Zain established Zain Hospital, specializing in ear, nose, and throat treatment. The hospital was constructed and equipped by the company to address the needs of the patients in the country, giving them the opportunity to head to a state-of-the-art health institution which is fully equipped with the latest medical equipment to serve their health issues.



### Part of Zain's Corporate Sustainability strategy



KUWAIT: Minister of Health Dr Jamal Al Harbi visits Zain's booth.



Malek Hammoud speaks at the conference.



KUWAIT: Zain's team visits the Hussain Makki Al-Jumma Center.

## #ZainGoesPink launches for the tenth consecutive year

**KUWAIT:** Zain, the leading telecommunications company in Kuwait, announced the launch of its tenth annual breast cancer awareness campaign (#ZainGoesPink) in partnership with the Ministry of Health's National Mammography Screening Program and Al Salam International Hospital. The campaign aims at spreading awareness amongst women about the importance of early detection to prevent breast cancer.

Zain's annual campaign, which went on for the past ten years, strongly reflects the company's Corporate Sustainability and Social Responsibility strategy, and coincides with the globally celebrated month of breast cancer during October of every year. The campaign mainly aims at spreading positive awareness about ways to prevent breast cancer, centered around the official goals set by the World Health Organization, most importantly the significance of mammogram tests and early detection.

The new campaign focuses on spreading informative video messages via Zain's social media channels throughout October, including medical tips in collaboration with the company's partners, as well as posting exclusive videos featuring breast cancer survivors Hebah Al Ansari and Shouq Al Othman, who share their journey into beating the disease with the public. The two activists will also participate in a special seminar to be held at Gulf University for Science and Technology (GUST), where they will share their experiences with the students.

The campaign also includes a comprehensive awareness program targeted at Zain employees,

which already started with a visit to Hussain Makki Al-Jumma Center and Shaikha Badriya Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah Center. In addition, Zain will hold an internal event at its main headquarters to encourage female employees to conduct early detection tests for themselves and their loved ones.

Zain was keen on strategically partnering with leading healthcare providers, both public and private, such as the Ministry of Health's National Mammography Screening Program and Al-Salam International Hospital, to enrich its steps into informing the public through the expertise of these organizations' experts, specialists, and consultants.

Zain's solid Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability strategies primarily focus on the wellbeing of the entire nation. For that reason, the company has maintained its support to all kinds of initiatives that spread awareness and help make a difference. Zain has previously partnered with the World Health Organization (WHO), cooperated with the Ministry of Health, and partnered with the Kuwaiti Red Crescent for several awareness campaigns related to the health sector.

It is worth mentioning that Zain established Zain Hospital, specializing in ear, nose, and throat treatment. The hospital was constructed and equipped by the company to address the needs of the patients in the country, giving them the opportunity to head to a state-of-the-art health institution which is fully equipped with the latest medical equipment to serve their health issues. You can follow Zain's Breast Cancer Awareness campaign on #ZainGoesPink and #ZainCSR.

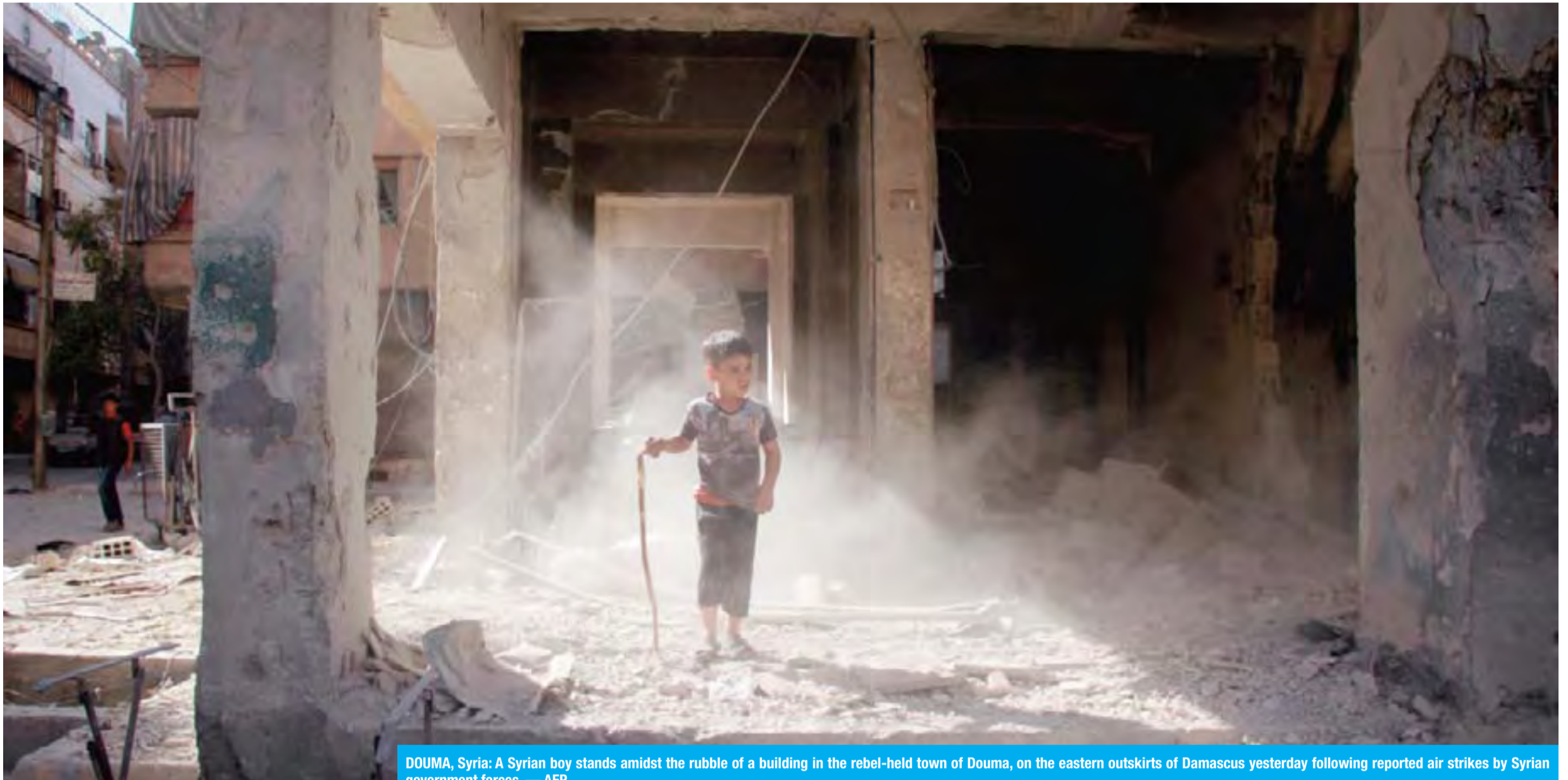


Deadly Hurricane bears down on Mexico and US

## Trump to send lieutenants to Pakistan with tough message

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DOUMA, Syria: A Syrian boy stands amidst the rubble of a building in the rebel-held town of Douma, on the eastern outskirts of Damascus yesterday following reported air strikes by Syrian government forces. — AFP

# Russia slays 180 Islamic State fighters, mercenaries in Syria

## Senior IS commanders including Al-Shishani confirmed dead

**MOSCOW:** Some 120 Islamic State fighters and 60 foreign mercenaries were killed in a series of Russian air strikes in Syria over the past 24 hours, the defense ministry in Moscow said yesterday. Puzzlingly, the ministry also said three senior IS commanders including Omar Al-Shishani had been confirmed dead as a result of an earlier Russian strike. Moscow reported Al-Shishani's death despite the fact that the Pentagon said in 2016 the notorious fighter had been killed by American troops in Iraq.

"A command post of the terrorists and up to 80 (IS) fighters including nine natives of the Northern Caucasus were destroyed in the area of Mayadeen," the ministry said, adding that another 40 IS fighters were killed around the town of Albu Kamal. Mayadeen is one of the Islamic State group's last bastions in Syria. In another air strike, more than 60 foreign mercenaries from the former Soviet Union, Tunisia, and Egypt were killed in the Euphrates Valley south of Deir Ezzor.

The ministry said "large numbers of foreign mercenaries" were coming into the Syrian border town of Albu Kamal from Iraq. It also said Russian forces had killed senior IS commanders Omar Al-Shishani, Alaa Al-din Al-Shishani and Salah Al-Din Al-Shishani, all natives of the Northern Caucasus. Moscow reported their deaths after taking "several days" to confirm the results of an earlier strike on the northern outskirts of Albu Kamal which destroyed an IS command post with more than 30 fight-

ers including the natives of the Northern Caucasus.

### 'Omar the Chechen'

The Pentagon announced in March 2016 that American forces had killed Shishani, one of the most notorious faces of IS known for his thick red beard. Shishani, whose nom de guerre means "Omar the Chechen," came from the former Soviet state of Georgia's Pankisi Gorge region, which is populated mainly by ethnic Chechens. He fought as a Chechen rebel against Russian forces before joining the Georgian military in 2006, and fought Russian forces again in Georgia in 2008. He later resurfaced in northern Syria as the commander of a group of foreign fighters and became a senior leader within IS.

The Russian defense ministry was not immediately available for further comment. Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, disagreed with Moscow's report. "Salah Al-Din

Al-Shishani is still alive and is somewhere in the regions controlled by jihadist groups in the west of Aleppo province. He is a famous commander, and his jihadist group is allied with the jihadists of the Al-Nusra front but only in their fight against the regime," he said. "He has no links with IS."

The advances against IS in Deir Ezzor have resulted in a heavy civilian death toll through Russian and coalition air raids. The Observatory said Russian air strikes on Thursday night killed 14 people, including three children, fleeing across the Euphrates on rafts near Mayadeen. Since it intervened in Syria in 2015, Russia has not acknowledged any civilian deaths from its strikes, and it dismisses the Observatory's

reporting as biased. Moscow has been staging air strikes in support of its ally Damascus targeting both IS in Deir Ezzor province and rival jihadists led by Al-Qaeda's former Syria affiliate in Idlib province in the northwest.

Meanwhile, two waves of air strikes on a jihadist-held

town in northwestern Syria have killed at least 13 civilians over the past 24 hours, a monitoring group said yesterday. Four children were among the dead in the early morning strikes on the Idlib province town, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said yesterday. Observatory chief Rami Abdel Rahman said the strikes were probably carried out by the Syrian air force, which has been carrying out an intensifying bombing campaign against jihadist targets in Idlib province alongside aircraft from ally Russia.

Like most of the rest of Idlib province, Khan Sheikhun is controlled by Hayat Tahrir Al-Sham, an alliance of jihadist factions dominated by Al-Qaeda's former Syria affiliate. The town hit the headlines in April when it was the target of a sarin gas attack that killed at least 87 people, 30 of them children. US President Donald Trump blamed the Syrian government for the attack and ordered cruise missile strikes on the airbase from which he said it had been launched. Damascus blamed jihadists on the ground for the deaths and received strong support for that position from Moscow. A safe zone was supposed to be established in Idlib and adjacent areas of Hama and Latakia provinces under a deal reached in May by rebel backer Turkey and government backers Iran and Russia. But during the summer the jihadists, who are not party to the agreement, drove out Islamist former allies from Idlib and took nearly full control. — Agencies



### Airstrikes kill 13 civilians in jihadist-held town

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Meanwhile, two waves of air strikes on a jihadist-held

## NRA, potent foe of gun controls

**WASHINGTON:** The latest US massacre, in which a lone man rained gunfire from a Las Vegas hotel window onto a country music concert below, killing 58 people, has again raised the issue of the country's lax gun regulation. But a week later, it's clear that the laws that allowed the now-dead shooter Stephen Paddock to amass 47 guns including military-style assault rifles and thousands of rounds of ammunition, will not change. And one key reason is the unquestionable power of the National Rifle Association (NRA). It has only five million members, but stirs trepidation in any politician it says threatens Americans' gun rights. With its normal allies, Republicans, controlling the White House and Congress, there is little chance of a move to significantly tighten restrictions on guns, despite the carnage last Sunday in Las Vegas.

### Rights under attack

Founded nearly a century and a half ago to promote marksmanship, the Washington-based NRA in the 1970s turned to defending the broadest view of the US Constitution's 2nd Amendment promise of a right "to keep and bear arms." That was a reaction to the 1968 Gun Control Act, which required firearms dealers to be licensed and placed restrictions on various types of

guns. The group's political influence grew slowly. But after a ban on new automatic weapons in 1986, a short-lived prohibition on assault rifles in 1994 and mandated background checks for some gun buyers, it established itself as the vanguard in protecting what many Americans view as their fundamental rights. Since the 1990s, the NRA has been able to deliver a powerful punch against local and national politicians it labels a threat to those rights, contributing to the defeat of many moderate candidates. The secret to its power is that supporters vote on one issue-gun rights while opponents are not nearly so focused. "They are good in exciting their constituency," with the result "an intense minority winning out over an apathetic majority," said Gary Jacobson, an emeritus professor of political science and elections expert at the University of California-San Diego.

### Rich war-chest

Financially powerful, the NRA does not lavish money on political candidates. According to the National Institute on Money in State Politics, it only donated \$21 million to candidates over the past 27 years, mostly in state and local elections. In Washington, it spends about \$3 million each year on lobbyists. But over the past 13 years, in 30 states that report the data, the NRA spent \$115 million to influence public opinion and political races indirectly by placing its own pro-gun advertisements on television and online, and helping other third parties get its message out.

"Elected officials generally know what is dangerous for them to do," said Harry Wilson, a professor at



UTAH: A bump stock device that fits on a semi-automatic rifle to increase the firing speed, making it similar to a fully automatic rifle, is installed on a AK-47 semi-automatic rifle at a gun store in Utah. — AFP

Roanoke College and author of three books on the politics of gun rights. But Wilson, an NRA member himself, says the size of the bloc is also greatly underestimated. It has broad support among non-gun owners and civil libertarians, he argues. "Gun owners are generally supportive of civil rights over all. It's a privacy thing. Some of them simply don't trust the government at all," he said. "This idea that everybody really wants gun control, and it's only the NRA that is opposing it, is simply a myth."

Wilson pointed to polls showing the NRA is favored more than President Donald Trump, the Republican Party and the Democratic Party. "The long-term trend in the country has been for gun rights," he added. For Jacobson, the NRA's stance has now become "the more orthodox position of Republicans," and its followers very much match Trump's base. That means there is little chance gun control advocates can make any gains after the Las Vegas horror. — AFP

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## International

# Deadly Hurricane bears down on Mexico and US

## Nate leaves at least 28 people dead

CANCUN: Nate reached hurricane status as it bore down on popular Mexican beach resorts and headed for the US Gulf Coast yesterday after dumping heavy rains on Central America and leaving at least 28 people dead. New Orleans, which was ravaged by Hurricane Katrina in 2005, leaving hundreds dead, and other cities on the US Gulf coast were under a hurricane warning. Louisiana, the state home to New Orleans, said President Donald Trump had quickly approved the release of federal aid to help mitigate the impact of the storm.

With the storm's top winds swirling at 129 kilometers per hour some 240 miles northwest of the western tip of Cuba, the US National Hurricane Center (NHC) warned that in the United States, "the combination of a dangerous storm surge and the tide will cause normally dry areas near the coast to be flooded by rising waters moving inland from the shoreline." The water was expected to peak at up to 2.5 meters above ground in some areas. Luis Felipe Puente, national coordinator of Civil Protection, recommended "avoiding aquatic, touristic and recreational activities" in Quintana Roo.

After moving across the Gulf of Mexico, the storm was set to make landfall along the central US Gulf Coast yesterday, the NHC said. Authorities canceled school in seven Mexican coastal towns and declared an orange alert for the northern half of Quintana Roo state. Swells expected to affect northwestern Caribbean land over the weekend "are likely to cause life-threatening surf and rip current conditions," according to US forecasters. New Orleans issued a mandatory curfew from 6:00 pm (2300 GMT), and mandatory and voluntary evacuation orders were issued for certain low-lying areas.

'Prepare now'

"Our greatest threat... is not necessarily rain, but strong winds and storm surge," said New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu. Unlike Hurricane Harvey, which dumped record amounts of rain while hovering over neighboring Texas for a week, fast-moving Nate was expected to quickly pass along a northerly path. Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards warned that while Nate was forecast to be a weak hurricane, it could still cause unexpected damage. "Anyone in low-lying areas... we are urging them to prepare now," he said.

In the neighboring state of Mississippi, lines formed at gas stations in areas within the potential path of the storm. Some offshore oil and gas rigs in the Gulf of Mexico were evacuated ahead of the storm's advance. Nate was still wreaking havoc in Central America, where heavy rains continued causing floods. Authorities in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras have declared a maximum or red alert. On Thursday, intense rains forced thousands from their homes, uprooted trees, knocked out bridges and turned roads into rivers across a swath of Central America.

### Hurricane season

"We were drowning. Thank God (emergency workers) helped us. The river

swelled so much it swept away our house, our pigs, our chickens—it swept away everything," said Bonavide Velazquez, 60, who was evacuated from her home in southern Nicaragua. Nicaragua bore 13 of the deaths, according to Vice President Rosario Murillo. In Costa Rica, where a national emergency was declared, 10 people died, including a three-year-old girl, after they were hit by falling trees and mudslides. An alert was issued for people to be wary of crocodiles that might be roaming after rivers and estuaries flooded. Three other people were killed in Honduras, and two in El Salvador. More than 30 people are list-

"Greatest threats are strong winds and storm surge"



GOASCORAN, Honduras: View of damages caused by the passage of Tropical Storm Nate, near Goascoran, in Valle department, Honduras. —AFP

ed as missing across the region.

The United States is recovering from two major hurricanes: Harvey, which tore through Texas in August, and Irma in September. Another powerful storm, Hurricane Maria, ripped through the Caribbean in late September, devastating several islands, including Dominica and Puerto Rico. Central America,

the Caribbean, Mexico and the southern United States suffer an Atlantic hurricane season every year that runs from June to November. But 2017 is already one of the worst years on record. —AFP

## Protesters call for Spanish unity amid Catalonia crisis

MADRID: Thousands of demonstrators rallied across Madrid yesterday calling for Spanish unity and demanding action to resolve a volatile political crisis over plans by Catalan separatists to declare independence. Madrid's central Colon Square was transformed into a sea of Spanish flags as several thousand people joined a "patriotic" march organized by activists to defend the unity of Spain.

Hundreds of others, all dressed in white, gathered in a nearby plaza outside Madrid city hall in a separate rally calling for dialogue to end the crisis, among them families with young children. The rallies followed days of soaring tensions after police cracked down on voters during a banned October 1 Catalan independence referendum, prompting regional leaders to warn they would declare unilaterally declare independence in days. "Rajoy, you wuss, defend the nation!" chanted one

group of young, mostly-male demonstrators as they marched into Colon Square waving Spanish flags as well as one bearing the francoist Black eagle. "It's reached a turning point and we need to get actively involved in the defence of Spain's values as a nation," added 52-year-old Joaquin Penas, an off-duty cavalry colonel with a Spanish flag draped round his shoulders. If Catalonia were to declare independence "it would be like cutting off an arm," he told AFP, saying there was "a lot of concern" about the government's perceived lack of action to resolve the crisis.

"I don't have much confidence in the government. It is not a very proactive government... (Prime Minister Mariano) Rajoy is anything but a leader. To be honest, he's awful." Tentative signs have emerged that the two sides may be seeking to defuse the country's worst crisis in a generation after



MADRID: Protesters gather holding Spanish flags during a demonstration against independence of Catalonia called by DENAES foundation for the Spanish Nation Defense at Colon square in Madrid yesterday. — AFP

Madrid offered a first apology Friday to Catalans injured by police during the vote. But uncertainty still haunts the country as Catalan leaders have not backed off from plans to declare the region independent.

In Cibeles Square, hundreds of others people clapped and waved their hands in the

air in a crowd which included many families with young children and babies but no flags. Yurena Diaz, a 36-year-old doctor with her dog Quillo on a lead, said she was demonstrating "so that there would be dialogue before we lose ourselves, so they they try and sit down and talk." —AFP

## US billboards ask for tips on gunman motive

LAS VEGAS: Tourists coming to gamble and party on the Strip will soon find something other than bright lights welcoming them to "Fabulous Las Vegas." Billboards will serve as a stark reminder that investigators remain stumped about what drove a gunman to mow down concertgoers from a perch in a high-rise casino hotel last Sunday. "We still do not have a clear motive or reason why," a frustrated Clark County Undersheriff Kevin McMahon said Friday. "We have looked at literally everything."

Investigators have chased 1,000 leads and examined Stephen Paddock's politics, his

investigators had reviewed voluminous video from the casino and don't think Paddock had an accomplice in the shooting, but they want to know if anyone knew about his plot beforehand. In their effort to find any hint of his motive, investigators were looking into whether he was with a prostitute days before the shooting, were scrutinizing cruises he took and were trying to make sense of a cryptic note with numbers jotted on it found in his hotel room, a federal official said.

The US official briefed by federal law enforcement officers wasn't authorized to discuss the matter publicly and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The official said investigators were interviewing other call girls for information and looking into at least a dozen cruises Paddock took in the last few years, including one to the Middle East. It is unusual to have so few clues five days after a mass shooting. McMahon noted that in past mass killings or terrorist attacks, killers left notes, social media postings and information on a computer, or even phoned police.

"The lack of a social media footprint is likely intentional," said Erroll Southers, director of homegrown violent extremism studies at the University of Southern California. "We're so used to, in the first 24 to 48 hours, being able to review social media posts. If they don't leave us a note behind or a manifesto behind, and

we're not seeing that, that's what's making this longer." What officers have found is that Paddock planned his attack meticulously.

He requested an upper-floor room overlooking the festival, stockpiled 23 guns, a dozen of them modified to fire continuously like an automatic weapon, and set up cameras inside and outside his room to watch for approaching officers. In a possible sign he was contemplating massacres at other sites, he also booked rooms overlooking the Lollapalooza festival in Chicago in August and the Life Is Beautiful show near the Vegas Strip in late September, according to authorities reconstructing his movements leading up to the deadliest mass shooting in modern US history. —AP

finances, any possible radicalization and his social behavior - typical investigative avenues that have helped uncover the motive in past shootings. "We have been down each and every one of these paths," McMahon said. "We all want answers." The FBI announced that billboards would go up around the city asking anyone with information to dial 800-CALL-FBI. "If you know something, say something," said Aaron Rouse, agent in charge of the Las Vegas FBI office. "We will not stop until we have the truth."

Paddock, a reclusive 64-year-old high-stakes gambler, rained bullets on the crowd at a country music festival from his 32nd-floor hotel suite, killing 58 and wounding hundreds before taking his own life. McMahon said

### News in brief

#### Gas canister bomb

PARIS: French prosecutors have charged three men in connection with a makeshift explosive device made of gas canisters placed inside an apartment block in western Paris, a judicial source said yesterday. The three, identified as Amine A, his cousin Sami B, and Aymen B, were charged late Friday with "attempted murder in an organized group in connection with a terrorist enterprise" and placed in pre-trial detention, the source said. All three were arrested on Monday evening, two days after the device was found in a block in the 16th arrondissement, one of the city's most exclusive neighborhoods. In total, police found four gas cylinders—two of them in the hallway attached to a mobile phone which investigators believe was meant to be used as a detonator. The other two were on the pavement outside. Amine A, 30, and Aymen B, 29, are both on the terror watchlist. Three of their associates who were taken for questioning earlier this week have all been released.

#### Road accident kills 14

QUETTA: A speeding passenger van collided head on with a bus carrying university students and staff yesterday, killing 14 people and wounding 27 others in southwestern Pakistan, officials said. The accident took place in the Mastung district of oil and gas rich Balochistan province. "Some of the passengers in the university bus, which was on a picnic trip, sustained injuries but none of them died. All those who died in the crash were aboard the passenger van," said senior local official Salahuddin Noorzai. Pakistan has one of the world's worst records for fatal traffic accidents, blamed on poor roads, badly maintained vehicles and reckless driving. Farid Somalani, a senior doctor in one of province capital Quetta's local hospitals where bodies and injured were taken, confirmed the death toll.

#### Cricket ball accident

DHAKA: A Bangladeshi teenager died in hospital in Dhaka after he was hit by a ball while umpiring a cricket match, police said yesterday. Rafiqul Islam, 17, was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College Hospital late Friday after being rushed there in critical condition following the incident at Balur Math ground in Bangladesh's capital. "A group of youths were playing cricket in the field and the boy was the umpire. He collapsed on the field after a ball hit him in the chest," local police chief Enamul Haque told said. "He is from a very poor family. His father is a rickshaw-puller and mother works as a housemaid. They buried him last night," he said. The incident comes three years after the tragic death of Australian batsman Phillip Hughes in similar circumstances. Hughes, who played 26 Tests, died from bleeding on the brain in November 2014 after being hit on the base of the skull by a ball during a domestic match in Sydney.

#### Gang-related violence

BALTIMORE: Three bodies, the victims of gang-related violence, have been found in the county that surrounds Maryland's capital, and several arrests have been made in the case, police said. Those were the only details Anne Arundel County Police Chief Timothy Altomare offered about the crimes at a news conference he conducted Friday, which he said at the beginning might be "an exercise in frustration." But the chief repeatedly urged that anyone who is in fear of gangs, which he said are present in each Anne Arundel community, should contact police immediately. "If you're in fear, if you think a gang wants to hurt you, I beg you to come talk to us," Altomare said. "We will move heaven and earth to get you the help you need."



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International

# Trump to send lieutenants to Pakistan with tough message

## US turning up the heat on nuclear-armed ally

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump will dispatch his top diplomatic and military advisors to Pakistan in the coming weeks, turning up the heat on a nuclear-armed ally accused of harboring terror groups. Weeks after Trump angrily accused Islamabad of providing safe haven to "agents of chaos," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson plans to depart for Pakistan late this month. He will be followed by Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis, according to US and Pakistani sources.

The one-two punch is designed to drill home Trump's message that Pakistani state support for jihadist groups has to end, according to officials briefed on the visits. Washington has long been frustrated by Pakistan's willingness to offer cross-border safe havens to Taliban factions and armed jihadist groups fighting US troops and their Afghan allies. The relationship reached the breaking point in 2011, when President Barack Obama sent commandos into Pakistan in 2011 to kill Al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, who was living in a military garrison town.

With little change since then, Trump came to office indicating that Washington's frustration had reached the point where something had to give. "We have been paying Pakistan billions and billions of dollars at the same time they are housing the very terrorists that we are fighting," he said in an August address. But in the six weeks since Trump signaled that tougher tone, there have been precious few signs that the calculus in South Asia has changed. Mattis told Congress this week that he will try "one more time" to "see if we can make this work."



### Pakistan accused of harboring terror groups

any change would not happen after Mattis's visit. Visiting Washington, Pakistan's foreign minister Khawaja Asif appeared unwavering. He lashed out at "hollow allegations" about Pakistan harboring terrorists as "not acceptable."

"That is not the way you talk to 70-year-old friends," Asif said bitterly. "Instead of accusations and threats we should cooperate with each other for the peace in the region," he added in confirming Tillerson's visit. While professing anger in public, Pakistani officials in private complain about receiving no concrete requests to target the Haqqani network or other groups. US officials have been reticent to share some intelligence for fear of tipping off targets with links inside Pakistan's government. Earlier this month, a US drone killed three suspected militants in an attack on a compound in Pakistan's tribal region.

Pakistani officials also complain of receiving mixed messages from the Trump administration, which is still struggling to find its feet under a mercurial commander-in-chief. A September meeting in New York between Vice President Mike Pence and Prime Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was said to be cordial, despite Trump's fire and brimstone rhetoric. "It was a very good meeting with the vice president," said Asif. After that, Pakistan officials said, they were surprised at a tougher tone outlined in public by Mattis and in private by Trump's National Security Advisor HR McMaster.

#### 'Call Pakistan's bluff'

Some optimists point to a visit by Pakistan's army chief to Kabul as evidence that Islamabad is moderating, after years of support propping up the Taliban. But many, having watched this debate for decades, are less convinced. The Taliban and groups like Lashkar-e-Taiba, they argue,



BALUCHISTAN, Pakistan: Pakistani mourners dig graves for the victims of a suicide blast outside the Sufi shrine in Jhal Magsi district in Balochistan.— AFP

remain a potent tool in the hands of Pakistani intelligence. "Of course they don't get the message" said Christine Fair, a South Asia expert at Georgetown University.

"Pakistan is not going to do anything different than its already doing unless the administration can figure out a way to do what no administration has previously done." "That is basically to call Pakistan's bluff and impose some meaningful punishment," Trump has warned that military aid—which was halved between 2012 and 2016 — could be cut further, a move that Fair dismisses as insufficient. "It's basically saying that we're going to cut back the money the

US taxpayer is giving to Pakistan," she said. "That's not punishment. Pakistan is not entitled to our money. What they are really talking about is giving Pakistan less of an allowance." Policymakers have considered revoking Pakistan's non-NATO ally status, with deep symbolic but limited practical impact.

Punitive economic sanctions—that could force Pakistan closer to China, Russia or Turkey—seem a long way off. And Pakistan remains vital for the United States as a route to resupply its forces in Afghanistan and for supplying the Afghan army.—AFP

#### 'Not acceptable'

"To this point, we have not seen any impact on military-to-military relations," said one Pentagon official, suggesting

### News in brief

#### Missing body parts

COPENHAGEN: Danish police said yesterday divers had found the head and the legs of Swedish journalist Kim Wall, who died in mysterious circumstances on an inventor's homemade submarine. Peter Madsen has been charged with killing the Swedish journalist who disappeared after she went on a trip with him in his submarine on August 10. He denies the charges. Madsen, a Dane, was arrested after his submarine sank and he was rescued. His lawyer Betina Hald Engmark told Reuters that she had been informed of the development, but had not received any material or documentation and decline further comment. Police identified a headless female torso that washed ashore in Copenhagen later in August as Wall's, but a cause of death has not been determined. Madsen has said Wall died in an accident when she was hit by a heavy hatch cover on board his submarine. Yesterday a police spokesman told reporters in Copenhagen that there were no fractures to Wall's skull.

#### Nursery arson attack

JANAUBA: Two children burned in an arson attack at a nursery school in Brazil succumbed to their wounds Friday, bringing the death toll to eight on the day the first victims were buried. Cecilia Davine Dias and Yasmin Medeiros Salvino, both aged four, died early in the afternoon, a hospital spokesman in Monte Claros, a city in southeast Brazil said. The tragedy unfolded Thursday morning in Janauba, a town of 70,000 people around 370 miles from Belo Horizonte, the state capital of Minas Gerais. A security guard at the nursery sprayed his young victims with alcohol before setting fire to the building. He himself died from burns a few hours later. According to local authorities, he had suffered from mental health issues since 2014. In total, seven four-year-old children were killed, along with a teacher aged 43. Another 40 people were treated at three hospitals in the region.

#### Malaysia nabs suspects

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has arrested four foreigners and four Malaysians for suspected involvement in terrorist activities linked to Abu Sayyaf, the Islamic State and Jemaah Islamiyah, the police said yesterday. Among the foreigners arrested were three Filipinos, one of whom is a permanent resident in Malaysia, and an Albanian. The arrests were made in the states of Sabah, Selangor and Perak between Sept 27 and Oct 6. Five suspects were arrested in the Borneo state of Sabah, suspected of assisting the Abu Sayyaf militant group's infiltration into Malaysia. Police said the arrested Albanian, a law lecturer at a local public university, has contact with Islamic State. Another two arrested are former convicts, previously found guilty in 2016 of participating in terrorist activities. One was arrested under suspicion of recruiting convicts in prison and planning an attack on Muslim, Christian and Hindu places of worship in Malaysia.

#### Suicide bombing kills 24

QUETTA: The death toll from a suicide bombing at a Shiite shrine in the country's southwest increased to 24 after four victims died at a hospital overnight, police said yesterday. A suicide bomber struck the shrine packed with worshippers in a remote village in Jhal Magsi district, about 400 kilometers east of Quetta in Baluchistan province on Thursday. Senior police officer Mohammad Iqbal said that more than 20 victims were still receiving treatment, some with critical wounds.

## North Korea preparing long-range missile test

MOSCOW: North Korea is preparing to test a long-range missile which it believes can reach the west coast of the United States, a Russian lawmaker just returned from a visit to Pyongyang was quoted as saying yesterday. Anton Morozov, a member of the Russian lower house of parliament's international affairs committee, and two other Russian lawmakers visited Pyongyang on Oct 2-6, Russia's RIA news agency reported. "They are preparing for new tests of a long-range missile."

They even gave us mathematical calculations that they believe prove that their missile can hit the west coast of the United States," RIA quoted Morozov as saying. "As far as we

worried about the prospect of new North Korean missile tests, moved into assets the market views as a safe haven in times of uncertainty.

Reuters was not able to independently verify Morozov's account, and he did not specify which North Korean officials had given him the information about the planned test. In Washington, a US official said that there had been indications that North Korea could be preparing for a missile test on or around Oct 10, the anniversary of the founding of the ruling Korean Workers Party and a day after the Columbus Day holiday in the United States.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, did not disclose the type of missile that could be tested and cautioned that North Korea in the past has not staged launches despite indications



### Pyongyang believes missile can reach West coast

Tensions have risen in recent weeks over North Korea's nuclear weapons and missile programs as Pyongyang has test-fired several missiles and conducted what it said was a test explosion of a hydrogen bomb as it advances toward its goal of developing a nuclear-tipped missile capable of hitting the US mainland. Morozov's comments drove up the price of US Treasury bonds, as investors,

that it would. A senior CIA analyst, speaking at a conference in Washington this week, said the North Korean government likely would stage some kind of provocation on Oct. 10 but did not elaborate on what form it might take.

"There is a clarity of purpose in what (North Korean leader) Kim Jong Un is doing. I don't think he's done," said Yong



North Korean leader Kim Jong-Un (right) visits Farm No 1116 under Korean People's Army (KPA) Unit 810 at an undisclosed location. — AFP

Suk Lee, the deputy assistant director of the CIA's Korea Mission Center, which was set up this year. "In fact, I told my own staff (that) October 10th is the Korean Workers Party founding day. That's Tuesday in North Korea, but Monday - the Columbus Day holiday - in the United States. So stand by your phones." Morozov's delegation had "high-level" meetings in Pyongyang, RIA news agency said, citing the Russian embassy in the North Korean capital.

Tensions over North Korea's nuclear program have been running high in recent weeks since Pyongyang staged a series of missile tests, and conducted a text explosion on Sept. 3 of what it said was a hydrogen bomb. There has also been an exchange of tough rhetoric between Pyongyang and Washington. US President Donald Trump threatened to "totally destroy" North Korea if it threatens the

United States. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un responded by calling Trump deranged and saying he would pay dearly for his threat.

China, North Korea's main ally, has backed sanctions against Pyongyang and on Saturday in response to the Nobel Peace Prize being awarded to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, said it backed a worldwide ban on nuclear weapons. "China has always supported a complete and total ban on nuclear weapons, but also believes that the goal of achieving nuclear disarmament cannot be achieved overnight and must advance gradually within the existing disarmament mechanism. China is willing to work with all parties to achieve a nuclear-weapon-free world," said China's foreign ministry. Morozov is a member of the LDPR, a right-wing populist party.—Reuters

## Turkey-backed rebels in a new Syria operation

ISTANBUL: Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday that pro-Ankara Syrian rebels were staging a new military operation in Syria's northwestern Idlib province with the aim of pushing out jihadists who control the region. The move comes as Turkey along with Russia and Iran prepare to set up a so-called "de-escalation" zone in Idlib in line with accords in peace talks in Astana aimed at ending the Syrian civil war.

Erdogan said the operation, which has not yet seen Turkish troops cross the border into Syria, was being conducted in coordination with Russia. "We are taking new steps to ensure security in Idlib. Today, a very serious operation is ongoing in Idlib and this will continue," Erdogan said in a televised speech in the western city of Afyon. Erdogan said many Syrians had fled to Idlib from neighboring Aleppo province, which was rocked by heavy fighting last year, and Turkey was not going to let them down.

#### 'No terror corridor'

Idlib is largely controlled by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS), a group led by Al-Qaeda's former Syria affiliate, which ousted

more moderate rebels in recent months HTS is not party to a deal brokered by Russia, Turkey and Iran for the safe zone in the province, one of four such "de-escalation" zones across Syria. Ousting HTS forces from the area will be needed to allow the arrival of Iranian, Russian and Turkish forces to implement a de-escalation zone.

"We will absolutely not allow the creation of a terror corridor along our borders," said Erdogan. He later told reporters the operation was led by Free Syrian Army (FSA) rebels and that the Turkish army was "not yet" operating inside Syria. State-run Anadolu news agency said there was a major build up of commando units and military vehicles around the town of Reyhanli bordering Idlib close to the Cilvegözü border crossing.

The Hurriyet daily said ultimately Turkey would ensure security in Idlib city and Russia in the surrounding area. Appearing to confirm this, Erdogan said: "Idlib is a region where we will provide protection in the inside and Russia on the outside." The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitor said Turkish army cranes had begun removing sections of the security wall Turkey has built on the border in preparation for an incursion. It said the operation was yet to formally begin.

#### 'Taking measures'

Turkey earlier this year wrapped up its months-long Euphrates Shield operation against jihadists and Kurdish militia in Aleppo province that involved both the Turkish army and Syrian rebels. Asked whether the Idlib operation would be similar to Euphrates Shield, Erdogan replied: "When you enter the boxing ring you don't count your

punches." A rebel commander participating in the operation, who spoke on condition of anonymity said in Beirut that "all the rebel groups" who took part in Euphrates Shield are participating in the latest operation. "The fighters number in the thousands and there are Turkish soldiers participating," he added, without giving further details. "The goal of the operation is to liberate Idlib fully from Tahrir Al-Sham."

#### Russia coordination

The move comes a week after Russian President Vladimir Putin held talks with Erdogan in Ankara, with both sides agreeing to push for the Idlib de-escalation zone. After those talks Putin declared the right conditions now existed to end the over six-year civil war that has killed an estimated 330,000 people since 2011. The Syrian Observatory in the last week has repeatedly accused Syria and Russia of carrying out deadly air strikes in Idlib province with heavy civilian losses. The Russian defense ministry said yesterday some 120 Islamic State group fighters and 60 foreign mercenaries were killed in a series of Russian air strikes in Syria over the past 24 hours.

Despite being on opposite sides of the conflict, Russia and Turkey have been working together intensely since a 2016 reconciliation deal ended a crisis caused by the shooting down of a Russian war plane over Syria. Russia, along with Iran, is the key backer of President Bashar al-Assad and Moscow's military intervention inside Syria is widely seen as tipping the balance in the conflict. Turkey, however, has backed rebels seeking Assad's ouster. Commenting on the coordination with Russia, Erdogan said: "Relations with the regime is something looked after by Russia, and we have taken measures in other areas."—AFP

## International

# Opposition supporters rally in Russia, calling Putin to quit

## More than 100 people detained across country

**MOSCOW:** Several thousand supporters of jailed opposition leader Alexei Navalny rallied across Russia on President Vladimir Putin's birthday yesterday, as police arrested more than 100 people. A thousand protesters turned up in rainy Moscow and 3,000 more people took to the streets in Putin's hometown of Saint Petersburg later yesterday, with protests also taking place in dozens of other cities.

The protests - called by Navalny after he was sent to jail for 20 days this week - were markedly smaller than the rallies he mustered in March and June when tens of thousands took to the streets against corruption. But police in Moscow also showed restraint, allowing the crowd of mostly young protesters to march along Tverskaya Avenue, the capital's main thoroughfare, in an apparent effort to avoid clashes on Putin's birthday.

Some 124 people were detained in the nationwide protests, some of them violently, said OVD-Info, a group that monitors politically motivated arrests. That figure is much lower than the earlier rallies. Police arrested more than 1,000 people in Moscow alone during the March demonstration. "This is unprecedented for Moscow," OVD-Info spokesman Artyom Platov told AFP. In Moscow, the crowd chanted "Happy birthday" and "Russia without Putin" and many held copies of the constitution and flags amid honks of support from passing cars.

Hundreds of policemen, some in riot gear and with dogs, were out on the streets to prevent people from going to Red Square. Navalny, a charismatic anti-corruption campaigner who aims to run in a presidential election next March, was arrested late last month as he was planning to travel to a rally in a provincial city. A court on

Monday sentenced him to 20 days in jail on charges of repeatedly violating a law on organizing public meetings. Officials say he is not eligible to run for president because he is serving a suspended sentence for fraud.

### 'Corruption everywhere'

Igor Klimov, a 20-year-old protester in Saint Petersburg, said he was not happy with Putin. "He has been in power for as long as I can remember myself and there's corruption everywhere," he told AFP. Svetlana Kiseleva, a 20-year-old student in Moscow, said she did not support Navalny but had joined the rally to demand political competition. "It's important to have a choice, to have an opposition," she told AFP. "I still think he would be better than Putin anyway."

Orest Cheresov, a 43-year-old manager, also said he was not a Navalny fan but wanted to see competitive elections. "There are people who think differently in Russia, just like there were in Nazi Germany," he said. "I believe he has the right to run in the elections."

Putin, who has ruled since 1999, turned 65 - the retirement age for Russian officials - and many protesters urged him to step down. He said this week he has not yet decided whether to seek another six-year term. But he is widely expected to run in - and win - the March election.

### 'Gulag awaiting us'

Navalny's campaign team had released a series of video addresses of prominent figures calling on Russians to take to the streets. "Gulag is awaiting us without political competition," entrepreneur Evgeny Chichvarkin, who lives in self-imposed exile in Britain, said in the video. Navalny, the



ST PETERSBURG, Russia: Riot police officers detain protesters during a rally yesterday. — AP

Yale-educated lawyer with a street-smart image and a penchant for catchy slogans, compared life under Putin's regime to a forced diet of "turnip": "If we do nothing, they will be feeding us this damn turnip for the rest of our lives. And our children too," he said in an address dictat-

ed from his cell this week. The Kremlin said Putin received on his birthday "numerous congratulatory messages and telegrams" including from 11 heads of state and later met with members of the Russian security council to discuss Syria. —AFP



## Russia faces presidential polls next year

officials - and many protesters urged him to step down. He said this week he has not yet decided whether to seek another six-year term. But he is widely expected to run in - and win - the March election.

## Belgium seeks to bring back children stranded by IS

**BRUSSELS:** The mass retreat of the Islamic State group from its territories in Syria and Iraq has left Europe grappling with the risk of foreign fighters returning home. But in Belgium, authorities are also turning their attention to repatriating children stranded in the war zones. With an estimated 500 citizens who have reached or attempted to reach the conflict zones, Belgium has the highest number of jihadists per capita in the EU.

The government has said there are at least 100 Belgian children under 12 years currently in Syria, who were either born there or were taken to the country with an adult. In May, a Belgian militant took his three-year-old daughter to Syria without the knowledge of her mother, despite being under electronic surveillance.

Justice Minister Koen Geens said the children are usually brought home via Turkey under the protection of Belgian police officers. He revealed that Belgium and NATO partner Turkey had set up a gathering point on Turkish territory for those children wanting to come back, usually but not necessarily with their mothers. "Fourteen children have returned," said Interior Minister Jan Jambon, "11 of them under six years old."

### 'Small' threat from children

The flow of foreign fighters to the conflict zone has partly reversed since the IS group's self-declared caliphate in Iraq and Syria began crumbling in the last year under assault from regional, US-backed and other foreign-backed forces. An EU report in December said a third of the estimated 5,000 European militants who went to Syria and Iraq had returned to Europe, and some may have orders to carry out attacks.

An unspecified number of wives and children have also returned to their homes throughout Europe, with officials concerned that they too could be planning violence. Jambon told lawmakers last month that the chances are "relatively small" that children so young have been radicalized. But he said these children would probably need psychiatric and other follow-up care to recover from traumas they might have suffered during the conflict.

Such support must constantly be "refined" to ensure the children settle properly into Belgian life, prosecutors from Belgium, France, Spain and Morocco said at a meeting this week in Dutch-speaking Flanders. Until now, children's aid officials in French-speaking Wallonia told AFP that they have cared for only four children in a specialized educational center.

Under Belgian law, a judge must review cases of children who are at least 12 and have committed an offence in war zones, but this has not yet happened in the region. That is a signal to some observers that the Belgian government has not done enough to try to help bring back its citizens from the Middle East battlegrounds.

### 'Complex problem'

"It's a complex problem. What can we do? Dispatch teams to identify the children? If the parent is dead, his nationality may be difficult to ascertain," a senior security official said on condition of anonymity. "In Turkey, Belgium provides consular services to help with repatriation, which is not the case in Syria and Iraq," the official said. "But the minor will have first had to cross the border."

Bahar Kimyongur, a Belgian researcher who works with UN human rights experts, said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan holds a key to the solution, at least for children stranded in the northwestern Syrian province of Idlib. "Erdogan has support through the Turkmen brigades. The Turks have lots of contacts and room for maneuver," Kimyongur told AFP. —AFP

## Man held after people hurt in crash near London museum

**LONDON:** Police detained a man near London's Natural History Museum yesterday after a vehicle apparently drove into pedestrians at a busy tourist spot, injuring a number of people. Witnesses and footage posted on social media suggested the man was pinned down on the ground by passers-by near the Victoria and Albert Museum. A police spokesman said it was too soon to say whether the incident was related to terrorism, and London Mayor Sadiq Khan said "details are still emerging".

The area, which includes the wide, semi-pedestrianized Exhibition Road which runs past the Science Museum, is popular with families and tourists, particularly on a Saturday afternoon. Footage and photographs posted on Twitter showed the detained man next to a black car with its door open and its bonnet severely damaged. Witnesses reported by some media said they had heard a loud bang. An AFP reporter said crowds in the area had fled screaming in panic.

Armed police were deployed to the scene and the whole area was subsequent-

ly cordoned off. The public were urged to avoid the area. Security is high in Britain after five terror attacks since March - four of them in London and one in Manchester - with the bloodshed claiming 35 lives. Three of the attacks in London involved the use of a vehicle to plough into pedestrians. Downing Street said Prime Minister Theresa May was being kept up to date with developments. In a statement, Khan made no mention of terrorism but said he was in close contact with Mark Rowley, the head of counter-terrorism policing, and the emergency services.

### 'Everyone flew in panic'

London's Metropolitan Police said they were called to the scene at 2:21 pm (13:21 GMT) after reports of a collision. "It is believed that a number of pedestrians have been injured. A man (no further details) has been arrested at the scene," the police said in a statement. "Enquiries to establish the circumstances and motive are under way." A spokesman later said the man had not been formally arrested, but had been detained.

## Polish Catholics pray at borders 'to save country'

**KODEN, Poland:** Thousands of Polish Catholics formed human chains on the country's borders yesterday, begging God "to save Poland and the world" in an event many viewed as a spiritual weapon against the "Islamization" of Europe. Reciting "Rosary to the Borders", they called to be protected from the dangers facing them. The episcopate insisted that it was a purely religious initiative. The goal was to have as many prayer points as possible along Poland's 3,511-km border with Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania, Russia and the Baltic Sea.

Fishing boats joined the event on the sea, while kayaks and sailboats formed chains on Polish rivers, local media said. During a mass, broadcast live by the ultra-Catholic Radio Maryja, Krakow archbishop Marek Jędraszewski called on believers to pray "for the other European nations to make them understand it is necessary to return to Christian roots so that Europe would remain Europe."

Archbishop Stanislaw Gadecki, head of the Polish Episcopal Conference, told the commercial radio station RMF FM that "the key objective of this manifestation is to pray for peace." The date was not chosen at random. October 7 is when Catholics celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, marking the 1571 victory of Christianity over the Ottoman Turks at the Battle of Lepanto.

A victory attributed to the recital of the rosary "that saved Europe from Islamization", the Solo Dios Basta foundation, organizing the event, said on its website. Many Poles see Islam as a threat. The conservative government,



GDANSK, Poland: A devotee takes part in a rosary prayer on the Baltic beach yesterday. — P

which enjoys the backing of a sizeable portion of the population, refuses to welcome migrants to Poland, which has very few Muslims of its own.

Nationalist Catholic activist Marcin Dybowski told AFP before the event that "a religious war between Christianity and Islam is once again underway in Europe, just like in the past." "Poland is in danger. We need to shield our families, our homes, our country from all kinds of threats,

including the de-Christianization of our society, which the EU's liberals want to impose on us," he said.

Twenty-two border dioceses have taken part in the event, with their faithful congregating in some 200 churches for a lecture and mass before travelling to the border to say the rosary. The prayers were also said at the chapels of several international airports. Polish parishes abroad said they would join the event too. —AFP



LONDON: A man is being restrained alongside vehicles on Exhibition Road between the Victoria and Albert (V&A) Museum and the Natural History Museum yesterday following an incident in South Kensington. — AFP



Members of Kuwait's women's ice hockey team take part in a training session at the ski lounge in Kuwait City on Sept 29, 2017. Fifty-six Kuwaiti women between the ages of 15 and 30 are now the proud owners of team jerseys emblazoned with their names on the back - some of them mothers who frequently bring their children to training. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

## US OKs \$15bn ...

Continued from Page 1

as part of an overall \$110 billion arms package that President Donald Trump promised the Saudi kingdom during a visit in May. "This potential sale will substantially

increase Saudi Arabia's capability to defend itself against the growing ballistic missile threat in the region," a statement said. "THAAD's exo-atmospheric, hit-to-kill capability will add an upper-tier to Saudi Arabia's layered missile defense architecture." The main US contractors who will profit from the sale are aerospace giant Lockheed Martin's space systems division and defense contractor Raytheon. — AFP

## US military halts exercises in Gulf over Qatar crisis

Continued from Page 1

citizens have the highest per-capita income in the world. Initially, US military officials said the boycott and dispute had no impact on their operations. Qatar is home to the massive Al-Udeid Air Base, the forward headquarters of Central Command which oversees the US-led coalition's bombing campaign of the Islamic State group and manages a direct line to Russia to manage Syria's crowded skies. But as the dispute went on, Defense Secretary Jim Mattis traveled to Doha to offer his support. The Trump administration also agreed to an in-the-works sale of F-15 fighter jets to Qatar for \$12 billion.

Responding to queries from the AP, Air Force Col John Thomas, a Central Command spokesman, acknowledged it would be cutting back on the exercises. "We are opting out of some military exercises out of respect for the concept of inclusiveness and shared regional interests," Thomas said in a statement. "We will continue to encourage all partners to work together toward the sort of common solutions that enable security and stability in the region."

Officials in Qatar did not immediately respond to a request for comment, while the boycotting nations have not acknowledged the disruption in military exercises with the US. The Qatar diplomatic crisis has torn apart the typically clubby Gulf Cooperation Council, a regional Arab bloc created in part as a counterbalance to Iran. The US military holds exercises in part to build the confidence of local forces, many of which use American-made equipment.

Among the exercises likely to be affected is Eagle Resolve, an annual exercise held since 1999 that has GCC countries send forces alongside Americans to simulate working as a multinational force in battle. This year's Eagle Resolve exercise, held in Kuwait in March, involved 1,000 US troops. US and Gulf allies also have regularly held joint, smaller-scale exercises in the region.

The American military's decision comes after an influential Republican senator said in June he'd withhold approval of US weapons sales to several Middle Eastern allies. Those moves together signal to Gulf countries that American officials want the crisis resolved sooner than later, said Kristian Coates Ulrichsen, a research fellow at the James A Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University.

"US officials could be using a pressure point to express their frustration that what they see as a needless crisis and a distraction from far more urgent regional issues is going on so long," Ulrichsen told the AP. "It is likely an indication to longstanding security and defense partners that US patience on this spat is not open-ended and is rapidly drawing to a close." — AP

## Islamic State: Defeating the virtual caliphate

PARIS: The Islamic State group may soon be defeated in Iraq and Syria but a "virtual caliphate" could be harder to conquer, experts and officials have warned. The propaganda machine will continue to exist in hidden corners of the dark web, inciting sympathizers to action, they say. "Defeating ISIL on the physical battlefield is not enough," General Joseph Votel, the top commander for US military forces in the Middle East, warned in a paper earlier this year. "Following even a decisive defeat in Iraq and Syria, ISIL will likely retreat to a virtual safe haven - a virtual caliphate - from which it will continue to coordinate and inspire external attacks as well as build a support base until the group has the capability to reclaim physical territory," said Votel.

He described this online network as "a distorted version of the historic Islamic caliphate: it is a stratified community of Muslims who are led by a caliph (currently Abu Bakr Al-Baghdadi), aspire to participate in a state governed by sharia, and are located in the global territory of cyberspace". The Islamic State group's loss of almost all its territory in Iraq and in Syria has damaged its online communication efforts, following a boom in propaganda operations in 2014-2015.

But it has not put an end to it completely. The IS "news

agency" and propaganda machine Amaq continues to claim responsibility for attacks and incite further violence. Most recently, it claimed that Stephen Paddock, the gunman who massacred 58 people in Las Vegas on Sunday, was an IS "soldier" - an assertion met with widespread skepticism. One theory is that IS is seeking to keep up publicity efforts to maintain relevance with its sympathizers and continue to recruit support, even as it faces military defeat on the ground in Iraq and Syria.

Researcher Charlie Winter, who wrote a report on IS' web presence for British think tank Quilliam, says the group will work to persuade followers that the idea of a caliphate is more important than its physical presence. "Censoring the Internet is not going to work," he told AFP. "Policy makers are focusing their attention on the

wrong part of the Internet, and that's problematic given that it's going to be a phenomenon to be dealt with in the next few years. Terrorists are now hiding in the deep web using encryption. There will always be a safe place for them on the internet regardless of what politicians like to say."

## IS propaganda machine will exist in dark web

Under pressure from public authorities, internet providers and major online players are beginning to put in place measures and procedures to disrupt IS' exploitation of the web. "But despite the increased vigilance of authorities and social networks the Islamic State has demonstrated significant resilience due to its flexibility and ability to adapt when facing the suppression of online jihadist content," according to French researchers Laurence Binder and Raphael Gluck. "It manages to still disseminate sufficiently to reach a pool of sympathizers and recruits." — AFP



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## Washington Watch

## Transformation of Jerusalem

By Dr James J Zogby

Last week a group of Likud members and experts presented Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu with a plan to carve up Arab Jerusalem in somewhat the same way that Hebron was dismembered. Some saw news of this effort as a positive sign that the Netanyahu government might be considering ideas that would end direct rule over almost 300,000 Palestinians. In fact, the intent was quite different.

The design behind the plan was both financial and racist. By shedding Israel of the responsibility of providing support for these Palestinians, "billions of shekels" would be saved. At the same time, by ridding itself of 300,000 Palestinians, Israel would insure Jewish demographic dominance in what remained of their part of Jerusalem.

What the plan does not consider is the fate of the Palestinians Israel would be casting off. Far from free, they would remain a captive people surrounded by a maze of settlements and a 28-foot Wall. And they would remain impoverished cut off from the rest of the West Bank and denied the ability to engage in meaningful commerce with the world beyond the Wall. Whether or not this proposed plan is ever implemented, it is clear that Israel's Jerusalem policy, since it first occupied the eastern part of the city, has been moving in this direction. They have sought to reconcile two imperatives: keeping control over the city, and "Judaizing" its character. This has had a devastating impact of the lives of Palestinians in the city and its environs.

Up until the early 1990's Jerusalem had served as the hub of Palestinian economic, cultural, social, and political activity. The city was not only the home of Palestine's most important religious sites and institutions, it was where hundreds of thousands of Palestinians throughout the occupied territories came to work or shop, to go to school, to receive medical treatment or social services, to attend cultural events, or to consult with professionals of all types. Even without a state, Jerusalem performed all of the functions of a capitol. After the Israelis occupied all of Palestine in 1967, it wasn't always easy for Palestinians to gain access to the city. There were periodic closures and checkpoints with which they had to contend. But, even with the burdens imposed by the Israeli authorities, Jerusalem remained the hub.

## Annexation

One way occupiers control perceptions is by naming their handiwork. The Israeli construct - "Greater Jerusalem" - is a misnomer. When the Israelis announced this fiction a few years after the 1967 war, it included not just the eastern part of the city but a large swath of West Bank land that included 28 other Palestinian villages. To mask this crime of illegal annexation, Israel began to call these villages "Arab neighborhoods", while referring to their settlements as "Jewish neighborhoods" of Jerusalem.

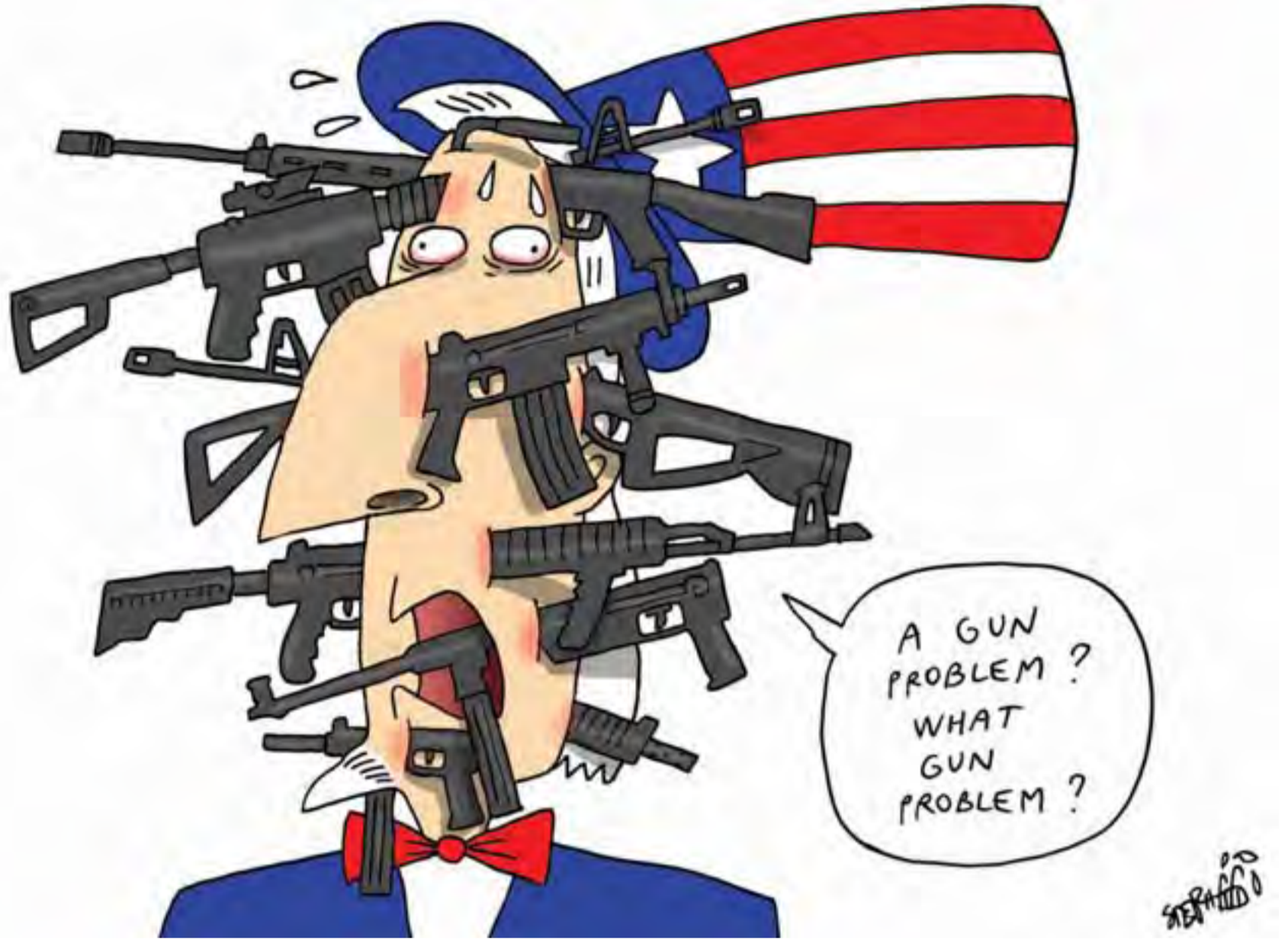
Palestinian life changed dramatically in 1994 after a Jewish terrorist massacred 29 Muslim worshippers in a Hebron mosque. Fearing a Palestinian reaction, then Prime Minister Rabin imposed a "closure" - one that would never be lifted. In the years that followed, the closure became intense with more rigorous enforcement. Permits to enter the city became more difficult to obtain. Palestinian institutions in the city were shuttered and foreign groups were advised that they were forbidden from holding meetings of a political nature with Palestinians in the city.

All during this time settlements were growing. Even before Israel began building its notorious wall, Jerusalem was being surrounded by a living concrete barrier of ever-expanding Israeli settlements snaking up and down the hills enclosing the city with a wall of Jewish-only housing. Sandwiched in between them are smaller Palestinian villages. Their land had been taken for settlement construction and now these ancient communities are dwarfed by the new Israeli apartment compounds that literally suffocate them. To make matters more burdensome, there are massive highways cutting through the landscape further dividing Palestinians from each other, taking their land, and separating them from access to their metropolis of Arab Jerusalem.

The impact of these policies was immediate and felt in all areas of life. Just a few years after the permanent closure was imposed, unemployment in Jerusalem and the surrounding areas had risen to shocking levels. Because Palestinians from the West Bank could no longer easily make it into the city, businesses and social and medical service facilities had to lay off employees and professional service providers closed their offices. Commercial enterprises were likewise suffering, as were cultural institutions.

Then came the construction of the Wall, which once again, Israel tried to camouflage by insisting that it be called a "barrier". In fact, throughout the environs of Jerusalem it is a 28-foot concrete wall complete with watch towers at intervals along the way as it cuts through the West Bank and several Palestinian communities. It has completed the separation and strangulation of Arab Jerusalem, further impoverishing and isolating its citizens. And it has accelerated settlement construction the confiscation of Palestinian land - creating captive Palestinian populations in "Greater Jerusalem".

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



## Nobel to nuke players: We are watching

They couldn't award it to Kim Jong Un or Donald Trump. That much was certain. But the granting of the Nobel Peace Prize to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons opened itself to a clear interpretation across Asia: When it comes to the nuclear-saturated war of words on the Korean Peninsula, attention must be paid and treaties must be signed. And it must be done in a preventative way, at top speed, before something happens that can't be undone.

Looming in the background of the award announcement Friday was the sometimes scalding, sometimes tepid, never silent geopolitical scuffle this year between the young leader of the third-generation Pyongyang regime and the always voluble president of the United States. Even the Nobel committee's language keyed in on that. It sounded like a plaintive cry to push parties to the negotiating table - to fix something that's already cracked before it's completely, irreversibly shattered.

The head of the group listed an assortment of the world's nuclear nations when she spoke after the win. But it was easy to find significance in the two she mentioned before all others - North Korea and the United States. And this was the immediate assessment from a Nobel historian: "The panel wants to send a signal to North Korea and the US that they need to go into negotiations." The prize, Oeivind Stenersen suggested, was also "coded support" of the Iran nuclear deal.

This year's Geneva-based winner, known as ICAN, was cited "for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons". From the vantage point of the Korean Peninsula and its surrounding countries, where people shudder weekly at volleys of intemperate words and missile or bomb tests, such a treaty seems a

distant dream. And few of the key players seem anywhere near a Nobel Peace Prize. North Korea just conducted its sixth and by far largest nuclear test, moving closer to its goal of mounting a nuclear warhead on an intercontinental ballistic missile. It has repeatedly threatened to obliterate the United States from the map. Such bellicose language from the North is common. It has spent years issuing over-the-top dispatches through its propaganda apparatus promising to destroy the United States.

In recent months, however, Pyongyang's invective has been matched almost blow by blow for the first time by



## US has one of world's largest nuclear arsenals

equally aggressive language from Washington under the Trump administration, or at least Trump himself. The US president has shown no hesitation in cutting through the niceties of diplomatic lingo to excoriate the North and threaten to wipe it out of existence.

He has dubbed Kim "Little Rocket Man" and said his regime may not be long for this world. The US, of course, has one of the world's largest nuclear arsenals, even after

significant reductions since the Cold War. It remains the only nation on the planet to use nuclear weapons during a war. In the past four weeks alone, Trump has used words like these, in a recent tweet: "Just heard Foreign Minister of North Korea speak at UN. If he echoes thoughts of Little Rocket Man, they won't be around much longer!"

And Kim, who bestowed upon Trump the rarely used insult "dotard" and pronounced him senile, has used words like these: "Now that Trump has denied the existence of and insulted me and my country in front of the eyes of the world and made the most ferocious declaration of a war in history that he would destroy (North Korea), we will consider with seriousness exercising of a corresponding, highest level of hardline countermeasure in history."

Public posturing, sure. But not exactly language that points the way toward common ground, either. The tension in word and deed between Washington and Pyongyang has faded slightly in recent days as the in-the-moment news cycle marches forward, but history shows that to be temporary. Another early-morning missile test, another intemperate remark or worse will put it right back on center stage. The awarding of the \$1.1 million prize to ICAN helps that happen, too, though even the group's executive director, Beatrice Fihn, said she "worried it was a prank at first" when she got the call from the Nobel committee.

Against this backdrop - and in Northeast Asia, a region that remains the only place where nuclear weapons were used against a civilian population during a war - the awarding of the Nobel Peace Prize in this manner implies one key point. The influential body, which often uses the prize to set the agenda of where the light gets shone, is saying to Kim Jong Un and Donald Trump, among others: We've got our eye on you, and the world needs to look harder, too. — AP

## In Pacific, tensions evoke troubling nuclear legacy

As a young boy growing up on Bikini Atoll, Alson Kelen spent idyllic days playing on the beach and fishing. His grandfather built canoes and his father tended the land. With fewer than 150 people on the remote Pacific island it was a close community, he says, with few signs of the former US nuclear testing program other than the concrete bunkers he was told to avoid and the sunken ships in the lagoon. But in 1978, when Kelen was 10, officials evacuated everybody. It turned out they'd been premature in declaring the Marshall Islands atoll safe again for humans. Radiation levels were still dangerously high.

More than 70 years after the first tests, the atoll remains contaminated today. It's part of a troubling nuclear legacy that continues to affect islands and people across the Pacific long after the US, Britain and France stopped their testing programs there. As nuclear tensions rise in the Asia-Pacific region, Kelen and others are reflecting on that legacy anew.

North Korea has discussed testing a hydrogen bomb in the Pacific after earlier firing a missile over Japan and threatening Guam. US President Donald Trump has threatened to "totally destroy North Korea" if provoked and called leader Kim Jong Un "Rocket Man."

The dictator has responded by calling Trump a "mentally deranged US dotard". Kelen says that if the threats do escalate to a nuclear test or even an attack, "it would be a huge, huge disaster". The 49-year-old says he has no idea if his exposure to radiation during the four years he lived on Bikini as a boy has affected his health. He says scientists used to test him and his family regularly, but stopped within a couple of years of them leaving the atoll.

Scientists have calculated that about 1.6

percent of all cancers developed by Marshallese people exposed to radiation can be attributed to the nuclear tests. For some islanders who were close to the blasts, the rate rises to 55 percent. The nuclear tests exacted an enormous social toll on Bikini residents and their children, who are now scattered across the Marshall Islands and beyond and have been left without a homeland. Kelen says they've lost the ancestral land that's central to their identity.

"Ninety percent of Bikinians have never seen Bikini. It's a legend; it's a fairy tale," he said. "They know more about Hawaii and the US mainland than Bikini." The US government first asked Bikini residents to leave temporarily in 1946. It then conducted a series of tests over a dozen years, including detonating a massive hydrogen bomb hundreds of times more powerful than the nuclear bombs the US dropped on Japan during World War II.

The inhabitants were moved to other islands that proved inhospitable. Kelen's family eventually ended up in Majuro, the capital. He says his parents always planned to return to Bikini but got to spend just four years there before being told to leave again. Kelen's father died two years ago and his mother, now 93, is too old to travel. "They told us we were relocated from Bikini for the good of mankind, to bring peace to the world. But I think nuclear is the same as climate change," Kelen said. "It benefits the big countries and ruins the small countries."

Bikini residents have received some compensation from the United States. But many people, including Marshall Islands President Hilda Heine, say it's not enough. Heine said in a speech this year that the removal of the Bikini residents produced "inconsolable grief, terror and righteous anger" that hadn't



In this July 25, 1946 file photo, a huge mushroom cloud rises above Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands following an atomic test blast, part of the US military's "Operation Crossroads". — AP

diminished in the seven decades since, and had been exacerbated by the US being dishonest about the extent of the radiation and its effects.

Five thousand kilometers away in Tahiti, French Polynesia, Roland Oldham is also grappling with nuclear testing's legacy. He is president of Moruroa e tatou, an organization that represents victims of French tests at Moruroa and Fangataufa atolls. The nuclear tests lasted 30 years, ending in 1996, the year the United Nations adopted the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty.

Studies have shown that people in the region during the tests had an increased risk of developing thyroid cancer. But information on radiation exposure remains classified, making it hard to estimate the risks.

Oldham says those who worked directly on the testing program suffered high rates of cancer and other health problems. He says it's difficult to get good statistics on the

health effects on the broader community because of the continuing secrecy.

Much of the later testing was carried out underground, but some radiation has leaked. Oldham fears the problem could get much worse because parts of the atolls are in danger of subsiding. Oldham, 66, says he sailed around Moruroa while completing his military service with the French Navy in 1970. He says he never saw or felt anything, and doesn't know if he was exposed to radiation or the extent of that exposure.

Oldham says the heated rhetoric between the leaders of North Korea and the United States has made much of the Pacific vulnerable at the moment because of US military bases in places like Guam, Japan and South Korea. "The day the two guys throw a punch at each other," he said, "the whole area will be suffering." He says he worries that mankind is headed toward its own destruction by nuclear weapons.—AP

Sports

**Karunaratne joins 3,000 Test run club**

**DUBAI:** Sri Lankan opener Dimuth Karunaratne yesterday completed 3,000 Test runs during his marathon knock of 196 in the second and final Test against Pakistan in Dubai yesterday. The 29-year-old left-hander reached the milestone when on 141 he smashed a boundary off pacer Mohammad Amir during second day's play. He becomes the 12th Sri Lankan to score 3,000 or more runs, in a 44-Test career, finally bowled off an inside edge off pacesman Wahab Riaz. Karunaratne batted for nine hours and seven minutes, facing 405 balls off which he cracked 19 boundaries and a six. Kumar Sangakkara leads the table of highest Test run getters for Sri Lanka, amassing 12,400 runs in 134 Tests while his long time partner Mahela Jayawardene has 11,814 runs in 149 matches. Karunaratne made his debut against New Zealand at Galle in 2012 and his previous best Test score was also at the same venue, scoring 186 versus against the West Indies in 2015. Here is the list of Sri Lankan batsmen with 3,000 or more runs. — AFP



**Croatia sack coach Cacic ahead of crunch qualifier**

**ZAGREB:** Croatia sacked coach Ante Cacic and named Zlatko Dalic as his replacement yesterday ahead of their crunch World Cup Group 1 qualifier in Ukraine, the Balkan nation's Football Association (HNS) president Davor Suker said. "Dalic is the new coach and will be in charge for the last game away to Ukraine," Suker told a news conference in the Croatian capital. "The HNS executive board made a unanimous decision after a long night to terminate cooperation with Cacic. "We took only four points in the last four games and had no choice but to take this course of action." The 50-year old Dalic, a former midfielder who spent the bulk of his career at Croatian side Varteks Varazdin, coached Emirati team Al Ain in the past three years and took them to the Asian Champions League final in 2016. Cacic, unpopular with many of the Croatia players and most fans, was dismissed after Friday's 1-1 home draw with Finland left their hopes of reaching next year's tournament in Russia hanging in the balance. —AFP

**'We're not 20 years old anymore', says Nadal**

**BEIJING:** World number one Rafael Nadal responded to a simmering debate about the amount of tennis the top stars play, saying: "We are not 20 years old any more." The 31-year-old Spaniard reached the final of the China Open yesterday, seeing off Bulgaria's Grigor Dimitrov in three sets. Despite his advancing years Nadal is enjoying a stellar season following a catalogue of injuries in previous seasons, winning five titles including the US Open and French Open. But many of his rivals are suffering injury or fatigue as the season approaches its climax, with Novak Djokovic, Stan Wawrinka, China Open defending champion Andy Murray and Japanese star Kei Nishikori all missing. However, the oldest of the lot, Roger Federer, is set to compete in Shanghai next week and Nadal refused to add his powerful voice to those demanding fewer tournaments. —AFP



# Indians beat Yankees 9-8 in 13 innings, take AL Division lead

**Justin Turner hit a three-run homer in the first inning**

**CLEVELAND:** Yan Gomes' single in the bottom of the 13th inning lifted the Cleveland Indians to a wild 9-8 victory over the New York Yankees in Game Two of their American League Division Series as the home team took a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five series. Austin Jackson led off the bottom of the inning by drawing a walk from Dellin Betances (0-1), and then stealing second base.

Gomes then worked the count to 3-2, and hit a hard chopper down the third base line that eluded diving third baseman Ronald Torreyes. The ball rolled down the left field line as Jackson raced home with the winning run. Josh Tomlin (1-0), the last of eight Cleveland pitchers, pitched two scoreless innings to get the win.

Francisco Lindor hit a grand slam off Chad Green in the sixth and Jay Bruce hit a game-tying homer off David Robertson in the eighth as the Indians rallied from an 8-3 deficit. Gary Sanchez, Aaron Hicks and Greg Bird homered for the Yankees before Lindor and Bruce forced extra innings. Cleveland ace Corey Kluber allowed six runs in 2 2/3 innings. New York's CC Sabathia allowed four runs-two earned — 5 1/3 innings. Astros 8, Red Sox 2

Carlos Correa hit a two-run homer in the first inning and a two-run double in the sixth as Houston rolled to a second straight rout of Boston in Game Two of their ALDS. Correa was 2-for-4 as the Astros secured a 2-0 series lead with Game Three set for Fenway Park in Boston on Sunday. Jose Altuve went 2-for-3 with two runs, two walks and an RBI single

after hitting three homers in the best-of-five series opener. Houston left-hander Dallas Keuchel (1-0) survived a 30-pitch second inning and threw into the sixth, allowing one run on three hits and three walks with seven strikeouts. Boston's Drew Pomeranz (0-1) allowed four runs on five hits and one walk over two-plus innings.

**CUBS 3, NATIONALS 0**

Anthony Rizzo had a pair of two-out RBI hits and Kyle Hendricks pitched seven strong innings as Chicago began defense of its World Series title by blanking Washington in Game One of the National League Division Series. Hendricks (1-0) allowed two hits, struck out six while throwing 106 pitches. Washington's Stephen Strasburg (0-1) held the Cubs hitless for 5 2/3 innings before allowing a pair of unearned runs in the sixth. Strasburg allowed three hits and struck out 10 in seven innings. Kris Bryant ended Strasburg's no-hit bid with an RBI single that scored Javier Baez, who reached on an error by third baseman Anthony Rendon.

**DODGERS 9, DIAMONDBACKS 5**

Justin Turner hit a three-run homer in the first inning, and drove in five runs as Los Angeles beat Arizona in Game One of their National League Division Series. Turner finished the night with the home run, two singles, a walk, continuing his prowess that began in 2014. In 19 career playoff games,



**CLEVELAND:** Cleveland Indians' Yan Gomes, second from left, is hugged by pitcher Josh Tomlin and mobbed by teammates after Gomes hit a game winning RBI-single in the 13th inning of Game 2 of baseball's American League Division Series against the New York Yankees. —AP

Turner is hitting .383 (23-for-60) with three homers and 17 RBIs. A.J. Pollock, J.D. Martinez, Ketel Marte and Jeff Mathis homered off Clayton Kershaw (1-0).

Kershaw allowed four runs and five hits in 6 1/3 innings. Arizona starter Taijuan Walker (0-1) allowed four runs and four hits in one inning. —Reuters

**Dominant Hamilton seizes Suzuka pole with record lap**

**SUZUKA:** Formula One leader Lewis Hamilton smashed the Suzuka track record to seize a dominant Japanese Grand Prix pole position yesterday with Ferrari rival Sebastian Vettel lining up alongside on the front row.

The Mercedes driver produced a stunning fastest lap of one minute and 27.319 seconds for his first pole at the 5.8km track and 71st of his career. The time shattered seven times world champion Michael Schumacher's previous outright best at the circuit by 1.6 seconds. "Incredible," said the Briton, in post-qualifying interviews conducted by his former McLaren team mate Jenson Button in front of the crowd. "It's been a really good day and every lap was fantastic.

"It's my first time. I'm running out

of opportunities to get this pole, so I was like 'I've got to make sure I make it stick today'," added the Briton, who was on pole in Japan at Fuji in 2007 for McLaren.

His team mate Valtteri Bottas was second quickest, 0.332 seconds adrift but drops five places down the grid due to an unscheduled gearbox change.

The penalty will elevate Vettel to the front row of the grid, putting the two title contenders side by side for Sunday's heavyweight battle between multiple champions.

Hamilton, who leads the German by 34 points with just five races to go, brushed aside a suggestion about how aggressive Vettel might be into the first corner.

"I don't know. He won't be any more aggressive than I am," said the

triple champion. "I've got eight metres. I need to make sure I keep the eight metres that I have and get a good start. Starts have generally been strong this year."

Vettel, a four times world champion, needs a big result this weekend to close the gap after suffering successive setbacks to his bid for a fifth title.

"I'm reasonably happy," he said. "I tried everything on the last run, I knew I had to take a bit more risk...I would have loved to have been a bit quicker but it's quite amazing with the new cars around here. I love the track."

Saturday was Hamilton's 10th pole of the season and marked a convincing return to the top of the timesheets for Mercedes after the champions struggled for pace at the last two races in Singapore and Malaysia.

Australian Daniel Ricciardo set the fourth-fastest time ahead of Red Bull team-mate Max Verstappen, winner in Malaysia last weekend. —Reuters



**SUZUKA:** Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton of Britain steers his car on the way to getting pole position for the Japanese Formula One Grand Prix at Suzuka Circuit in Suzuka, central Japan, yesterday. — AP



Abdullah Al-Fadel

**KIB sponsors Abdullah Al-Fadel in Jet Ski Championship in US**

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait International Bank (KIB) continues to offer its support and sponsorship to Kuwaiti Jet Ski champion, Abdullah Al-Fadel, who is competing in the World Jet Ski Championship held in the State of Arizona in the United States, which is taking place until today (Oct 8). In preparation for the championship, Al-Fadel prepared two fully-equipped watercrafts to compete in tournaments for senior professionals.

On this occasion, Manager of the Corporate Communications Unit at KIB, Nawaf Najia, stated: "KIB remains dedicated to supporting and fostering the talents of national athletes, such as Al-Fadel, particularly

those with outstanding track records of success and prestigious achievements. We believe that we have a responsibility as national financial institution to support our country's talented athletes. We continue to strive to provide these young stars with the financial and moral support they need, to enable them to participate in international championships where we are certain they will continue to elevate Kuwait's status and profile, both regionally and internationally."

Najia lauded Al-Fadel's impressive athleticism, as well as his unwavering dedication to attending a number of trainings and camps that fine-tune his skills. He also wished him success in the championship, as he continues to uphold his title as world champion - which he received at last year's competition.

It is worth noting that KIB has always been a firm believer in the importance of supporting and sponsoring local talented athletes who are brimming with determination and a passion to succeed, and continues to encourage them to work on developing their talents and honing their skills as they proudly represent Kuwait in on the global scene. Accordingly, these sponsorships further highlight the important role that KIB's social responsibility program plays in serving the local community.

## Sports

# Knights win inaugural game by rallying past Dallas Stars 2-1

## Jaroslav Halak stops all 11 shots he faced in relief

### NHL results/standings

Las Vegas 2, Dallas 1; Tampa Bay 5, Florida 3; Columbus 5, NY Islanders 0.

Western Conference							Eastern Conference						
Central Division							Atlantic Division						
	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS							
Chicago	1	0	0	10	1	2	Toronto	1	0	0	7	2	2
Colorado	1	0	0	4	2	2	Tampa Bay	1	0	0	5	3	2
St. Louis	1	0	0	5	4	2	Detroit	1	0	0	4	2	2
Nashville	0	1	0	3	4	0	Boston	1	0	0	4	3	2
Dallas	0	1	0	1	2	0	Montreal	1	0	0	3	2	2
Minnesota	0	1	0	2	4	0	Ottawa	0	0	1	4	5	1
Winnipeg	0	1	0	2	7	0	Buffalo	0	0	1	2	3	1
							Florida	0	1	0	3	5	0
Pacific Division							Metropolitan Division						
Edmonton	1	0	0	3	0	2	Columbus	1	0	0	5	0	2
Los Angeles	1	0	0	2	0	2	Washington	1	0	0	5	4	2
Anaheim	1	0	0	5	4	2	Philadelphia	1	1	0	5	5	2
Las Vegas	1	0	0	2	1	2	Pittsburgh	0	1	1	5	15	1
Vancouver	0	0	0	0	0	0	New Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arizona	0	1	0	4	5	0	Carolina	0	0	0	0	0	0
San Jose	0	1	0	3	5	0	NY Rangers	0	1	0	2	4	0
Calgary	0	1	0	0	3	0	NY Islanders	0	1	0	0	5	0

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



DALLAS: James Neal #18 of the Vegas Golden Knights scores his second goal in team history against Kari Lehtonen #32 of the Dallas Stars in the third period at American Airlines Center. — AFP

DALLAS: James Neal scored twice in the third period Friday night, rallying the Golden Knights to a 2-1 NHL victory over the Dallas Stars in the debut of the first major pro sports franchise in Las Vegas. The expansion team was playing five days after the shooting that killed 58 people in Las Vegas, and the Dallas players honored the desert city by forming a line next to their Vegas counterparts before the national anthem. With the video board reading "Viva Las Vegas" above the players, the public address announcer said "Dallas stands with Vegas and those affected by the horrifying tragedy." Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 45 of 46 shots to help the Golden Knights become the first expansion to open with a victory since the Ottawa Senators in 1992. They also spoiled coach Ken Hitchcock's return to Dallas 18 years after he directed the franchise's only Stanley Cup title. Both of Neal's goals came against Kari Lehtonen after Ben Bishop left with an apparent

facial injury after taking a puck to the mask. Bishop had stopped all 19 shots in his Dallas debut after coming over in a trade with Los Angeles and signing a long-term contract with the Stars.

### BLUE JACKETS 5, ISLANDERS 0

Pierre-Luc Dubois scored in his NHL debut and Sergei Bobrovsky made 29 saves in the Columbus Blue Jackets' victory over the New York Islanders in season opener for both teams. Rookie Sonny Milano scored 1:07 into the game, and the 19-year-old Dubois made it



## Ben Bishop left with an apparent facial injury

5-0 midway through the second period. Cam Atkinson, Ryan Murray and Zach Werenski also scored, newcomer Artemi Panarin had three assists, and Alexander Wennberg added two assists.

Islanders starter Thomas Greiss made 21 saves before being pulled after giving up Dubois' goal. Jaroslav Halak stopped all 11 shots he faced in relief. With all of the offensive opportunities created by the Blue Jackets, it could have stopped 20 shots. New Panthers Bob Boughner took the loss in his NHL coaching debut. — AP

from the back wall to Milano for a 10-footer that he snapped past Greiss.

### LIGHTNING 5, PANTHERS 3

Steven Stamkos set up the go-ahead goal in his return from a right knee injury as Tampa Bay beat Florida in their opener. Stamkos missed the final 65 games last season with a torn meniscus in the knee, an injury that required surgery. He sent a pass from the left circle through the slot to Vladislav Namestnikov, who put Tampa Bay up 3-2 from near the post 59 seconds into the final period during a power play. Ondrej Palat had two goals, and Brayden Point and Nikita Kucherov also scored for the Lightning. Andrei Vasilevskiy made 33 saves. Florida got goals from Connor Brickley, Mark Pysyk and Jonathan Huberdeau, and Roberto Luongo stopped 20 shots. New Panthers Bob Boughner took the loss in his NHL coaching debut. — AP

## Colts to celebrate Peyton's place in Indy's hearts

INDIANAPOLIS: Bill Polian remembers walking into the RCA Dome for Peyton Manning's home debut in 1998, peering into the stands and seeing all those Dan Marino jerseys. When he wanted an explanation, the future Hall of Fame executive was told Indiana's football fans started following the Dolphins when former Purdue quarterback Bob Griese was winning Super Bowls and never switched their allegiance. Polian, who attended high school in the Bronx and grew up a die-hard Yankees fan, never completely understood why they wouldn't support their hometown team.

Within a few short years, Manning and his teammates had converted them. Suddenly, an oft-empty stadium was selling out so often the organization needed a season-ticket waiting list. And so many fans dressed in royal blue and white, many bearing the familiar No. 18, that television analyst John Madden often dubbed Indy as the home to the most jerseys in any NFL stadium.

Today, Manning will be inducted into the team's Ring of Honor and become the first player from the franchise's Indianapolis era to have his jersey retired. "He put the sheen on the horseshoe, and the horseshoe, because of him and Jim Irsay and Tony (Dungy), really means something now," Polian said. "He had a pretty special antenna and connection with fans."

By almost any measure, Manning had one of the greatest careers in NFL history. He started 227 consecutive games, including the playoffs, and finished as the league's career leader in yards passing (71,940) and touchdowns (539). His 6,125 completions and 9,380 attempts are second all-time.

He holds records for most TD passes in a season (55), most yards passing in a season (5,477), most 300-yard games (93), most games with a perfect passer rating (five), most 4,000-yard seasons (14), most come-from-behind wins (45), even most interceptions by a rookie (28). His 14 Pro Bowl appearances are tied for the most ever.

His trophy case includes a record five NFL MVP awards and two Super Bowl rings. For most teams, the numbers would warrant erecting a statue outside the stadium he helped fund and that will happen Saturday. Of course, Manning did more than win on the field: He helped this basketball-crazed state and a city known far and wide for the Indianapolis 500 embrace football.

"Inside the stadium in those early days, it was hit or miss whether or not the other team was going to have as many fans as you did," said former deputy mayor Steve Campbell, a longtime season-ticket holder who starts a new job with the Colts on Monday. "Two, maybe three years in, inside the stadium, outside the stadium at tailgate areas, that was the moment I think the Colts truly became solidified as Indianapolis' team and not just the team that came from Baltimore. He was not only an ambassador for the team and the NFL, he was an ambassador for the city."

It wasn't a coincidence. The Louisiana-born kid who grew up a fan of his dad's team, the New Orleans Saints, and played four seasons of college football at Tennessee felt so at home in the small market of Indianapolis that he warned Polian if he didn't draft him No. 1 overall in 1998, he'd kick the Colts' butts for 15 years. Manning's football talent was obvious. Polian's research also indicated he would be an even bigger hit in the community. Winning and winning big came in time. Manning made an even bigger impact with casual or non-football fans with what he did outside the team complex.

He started the Payback Foundation to help underprivileged children and left town with his name on a children's hospital. He made Indianapolis a chic destination for celebrities and their memorabilia. He hosted high school football games at Lucas Oil Stadium and left handwritten notes for people he wanted to thank or who simply needed a pickup.

It wasn't an act, and it paid dividends in ways Manning may still not completely understand. "When Peyton was drafted, he wouldn't accept losing," Greenwood High School assistant coach Dom Battinau said. "You see these kids now who are winning because of Peyton. You see the metropolitan Indianapolis area was ranked third in high school football talent last year and I think the interest was created from him, from his excitement on the field, his leadership, the way he carried himself and the fact he did it the right way. I think kids kind of take a look at what's cool and what's in, and to see this guy winning at a high level and doing it the



File photo shows Peyton Manning (centre) during the game.

right way, it was a draw." And something everyone turned into some semblance of currency. When team owner Jim Irsay asked city and state leaders to help build a new stadium to keep the Colts competitive, Irsay and Polian did the heavy politicking. Their trump card, though, always was Manning.

"I still think we would have pursued it because it was the right thing to do for the city," Campbell said before contemplating what would have happened without Manning. "Our strategy probably would have been a lot different. But I think having an ambassador like Peyton was just what we needed, and I have no idea how it would have turned out without him."

Manning was released by the Colts in March 2012 and signed with Denver where he continued breaking records for four more years. But he was never far from the hearts of Indy fans. When he returned to Lucas Oil Stadium for the first time in October 2013, the Marino jerseys had been replaced by a sea of No. 18s - some in blue, some in orange, some in both and Manning received a standing ovation before the game started.

Almost 20 years after first joining the Colts, Manning remains one of the rarest athletes of his generation - a transformational figure Polian compared to the likes of Mickey Mantle, Willie Mays, Duke Snider and Frank Gifford.

"They became transcendent athletes, they become identified far more with the community than the team. I'm not sure we've had anyone in Indianapolis who was that way before," Polian said. "He (Manning) wanted to be not only Indy's quarterback but one of its most productive and giving citizens. It's ironic with all the records he set, first ballot Hall of Famer and two Super Bowl championships, the Payback Foundation, the children's hospital and the revitalization of high school football in Indianapolis are far more important."

It's one reason everyone wants to have a part in the weekend celebration. The list of speakers for Saturday's statue ceremony includes Mayor Joe Hogsett, former Gov. Mitch Daniels, Irsay, Dungy, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and longtime center Jeff Saturday. — AP

## KFH renews sponsorship of Kuwaiti shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House (KFH) renewed sponsorship of the Kuwaiti Shooter Fehaid Al-Deehani to participate in the international competitions. KFH has an extended partnership with Al-

Deehani KFH sponsorship comes as part of its long standing endeavors to support and patronize the Kuwaiti champions who raise the name of Kuwait at the international forums and global events. It also

reassures the bank's ongoing commitment towards assuming social responsibility.

KFH has been always committed to its society as it attaches great importance to the achievements of national talent. It sponsors their participations and motivates them for further success and winning more trophies while achieving outstanding global titles that raise the Kuwaiti flag high in regional and international competitions.

It is worth noting that KFH had offered a 2 KG Gold award to the Gold Medalist Fehaid Al-Deehani in recognition of his triumph in capturing the gold Olympic medal in the Rio 2016 Olympics.



Al-Deehani receiving sponsorship from Yousef Al-Ruwaieh.

Sports

# Spain makes it to World Cup, Serbia unable to clinch a spot

## Serbs can still secure first place with a home win against Georgia

**BARCELONA:** Spain secured its 11th straight World Cup appearance aided by Italy's home draw against Macedonia on Friday, while Serbia blew a chance to make it to next year's finals in Russia after a loss at Austria. Spain comfortably defeated Albania 3-0 in a match in which defender Gerard Pique, an outspoken defender of Catalonia who had been harassed by Spanish fans during the week, received a mixed reaction from the home supporters.

"Despite everything that happened this week we were able to play a great match," Isco said. "We have to be proud of having already qualified for the World Cup with one game yet to be played." Italy practically secured a playoff spot but it was jeered by fans after drawing with Macedonia 1-1 in Turin. Even a victory would have kept the Italians in a difficult position to surpass Spain for first place in Group G because of its worse goal difference.

Serbia needed a win against Austria to clinch its spot from Group D but it lost 3-2 in Vienna, while Wales kept its chance alive by beating Georgia 1-0 despite Gareth Bale's absence. Iceland stayed on the path to becoming the smallest nation to qualify for the World Cup after beating Turkey 3-0 in Group I.

The group winners automatically qualify, while the best eight second-place finishers from the nine groups advance to the playoffs. Here's a look at the action:

### GROUP D

Serbia conceded an 89th-minute goal in its loss to already-eliminated Austria, while Wales won at Georgia without injured star Gareth Bale thanks to a goal by Tom Lawrence just after halftime.

The Serbs can still secure first place with a home win against Georgia tomorrow. But Wales was only a point behind Serbia, and Ireland was another point back and still

alive after defeating Moldova 2-0 in Dublin. Wales and Ireland meet tomorrow to decide their fate.

### GROUP G

Spain defeated Albania with first-half goals by Rodrigo, Isco, and Thiago Alcantara in a match marked by mixed reaction toward Pique, who was booed and applauded by different parts of the crowd of nearly 30,000 fans in Alicante.

Many fans have targeted Pique for being openly critical of the Spanish government's handling of the independence referendum organized by Catalonia on Sunday, when authorities and voters confronted each other in violent clashes.

Italy's chance of winning the group ended with a surprise draw in Turin. Defender Giorgio Chiellini put the Italians ahead shortly before halftime but Macedonia substitute Aleksandar Trajkovski equalized near the end. "The jeers at the end were deserved looking at how we played after the break," Italy coach Gian Piero Ventura said.

Liechtenstein fell at home to Israel 1-0 for its ninth straight loss. Liechtenstein has been outscored 35 to one.

### GROUP I

Iceland was at the top of the group after its stunning 3-0 win at Turkey. With Finland surprisingly holding Croatia to 1-1 away, and Ukraine taking three points from Kosovo after a 2-0 away win, the tightest group in European qualifying will have to be decided tomorrow in the last round of matches.

Iceland leads with 19 points, and Croatia and Ukraine are two points behind. Turkey is out of contention with 14 as well as Finland with 8. Iceland is a clear favorite when it hosts last-placed Kosovo in its last qualifier, while Croatia has to travel to Ukraine. — AP



## Iceland tops group after its win at Turkey



**DUBLIN:** Ireland's Harry Arter, right, and Moldova's Petru Racu battle for the ball during the 2018 World Cup qualifying, group D match at the Aviva Stadium, Dublin, Ireland, Friday. — AP

## Qatar World Cup head says 'no risk' to event

**LONDON:** The regional blockade on Qatar poses "no risk" to the 2022 World Cup going ahead, the tournament head said on Friday, maintaining that logistical obstacles are being overcome and building work is continuing with only "minimal" cost increases.

The energy-rich nation's land border and its air and sea routes have been closed off for four months since Bahrain, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates launched an economic boycott. It has forced World Cup organizers to find alternative sources for materials to complete the venues being used by the region's first major soccer tournament.

"We have come under criticism and attack over the years, but we have always faced our critics," Qatar World Cup supreme committee secretary general Hassan Al Thawadi told The Associated Press. "Our projects are going ahead as scheduled. This (blockade) is no risk in relation to the hosting of the World Cup." The diplomatic crisis that has torn apart the Gulf Cooperation Council stems from allegations Qatar supports for extremist groups in the region, charges denied by Doha.

When Qatar's sole land border with Saudi Arabia was closed and sea traffic cut off, World Cup organizers were forced to investigate their "Plan B," including brining in supplies from Turkey. The Qataris express confidence FIFA is not exploring a "Plan B" of its own for an alternate 2022 host.

"Every project has contingency plans and we have had contingency plans in place from the very start," Al Thawadi said in an interview during a visit to London to attend a summit staged by the Doha-based sports organization, Aspire Academy. "Once the blockade came into play we contacted the main contractors, we put in place alternative supply chains, we sourced alternative materials from alternate suppliers."

Only the Khalifa International Stadium, which will also host the world track championships in 2019, has been completed. Qatar is building another seven stadiums for use by 32 teams at the tournament in five years. "I'm very happy to say that our project scale is on time and there is no significant impact on our projects," Al Thawadi said. "As of today we haven't seen a significant impact on the cost. There might have been some minimal increase in terms of establishing alternative supply chains but these have been absorbed very, very quickly and been normalized as these supply chains have been put in place."

Qatar is investing more than \$150 billion on infrastructure to handle the World Cup in the tiny desert nation. Under pressure from activists, Qatar has been compelled to raise living standards and worker rights for the large migrant workforce being relied on to construct venues. Al Thawadi said organizers are "always improving" worker welfare standards. Qatar has also staved off calls for the country to be stripped of the World Cup after facing investigations into the conduct of its bid. FIFA ethics investigators found that the Qataris used a full range of lavishly funded state and sports agencies to deliver the victory in the 2010 vote. But a World Cup bidding report, published for the first time in June, concluded there was no "evidence of any improper activity by the bid team." — AP

## US back on track for World Cup, Pulisic leads rout of Panama

**ORLANDO:** Christian Pulisic burst up the field, scoring with a brilliant touch to complete an 11-second, break-neck, field-length attack just eight minutes in. Then his cross found Jozy Altidore's right foot like an arrow striking a bull's-eye, leading to a two-goal lead in the 19th minute. Exhale, US fans.

Altidore converted a penalty kick with a chip in the 43rd after Bobby Wood was fouled, Wood added a goal in the 63rd and the United States routed Panama 4-0 on Friday night to put the Americans back on track to reach next year's World Cup.

"We needed a win, but the job's not done," Pulisic said. The US ended a three-match winless streak in qualifying and with 12 points moved two ahead of Panama into third place - the last automatic berth - in the North and Central American and Caribbean region. Honduras has nine points going into its match Saturday at Costa Rica, which is second with 15.

Goal difference means the Americans put themselves in great shape to reach an eighth straight World Cup, almost certainly with a win Tuesday in their finale at already eliminated Trinidad and Tobago and likely with a draw against the Soca Warriors if Honduras fails to win Saturday at Costa Rica. The U.S. is plus-five to minus-two for Panama and minus-seven for Honduras.

"We're well positioned to hopefully qualify for Russia. The game in Trinidad is not going to be an easy one," said coach Bruce Arena, who led the US at the 2002 and 2006 World Cups, then returned after the Americans opened the hexagonal last fall with two losses under Jurgen Klinsmann.

"This team went from 0-2 in November with a minus-five goal differential, we're now at plus-what, five, right?" Arena said. "I know everyone thought we were going to qualify in whatever, six games in 2017. It doesn't happen that way. So I think we're moving along well. We've advanced from sixth to third position with goal differential. Now we have to finish it off on Tuesday in Trinidad."

Playing his first international match since he turned 19 last month, Pulisic was moved to central midfield from the left flank and sparked the attack from the opening whistle with pace and ball control seldom seen from an American. "He was able to just disrupt them in so many ways and you saw the difference he can make in the middle of the park, being able to go each way and just being so dynamic," Altidore said. "I hate to kind of pour too much praise on him. I know he's a

## US beat host India 3-0 in Under-17 World Cup opener

**NEW DELHI:** When US players walked onto the field for their opener at the Under-17 World Cup against India in New Delhi, they were greeted by India Prime Minister Narendra Modi, dressed in white, in front of a crowd of 46,312. "I think it was amazing. I know walking out of the tunnel I had a smile on my face," US defender



**ORLANDO:** Christian Pulisic #10 of the United States attempts a shot on goal during the final round qualifying match against Panama for the 2018 FIFA World Cup at Orlando City Stadium on Friday in Orlando, Florida. — AFP

young kid. He's got a lot of work to do. But you can't help not see the difference he makes when he's on the field, especially when he's in the middle of everything."

Tension had built after last month's 2-0 loss to Costa Rica in New Jersey and a 1-1 tie at Honduras. The Americans had dropped to fourth, which earns a playoff next month against Australia or Syria, and were in danger of finishing fifth and missing the World Cup for the first time since 1986.

A loss would have meant the US could finish no better than fourth. "Of course there was pressure," defender Matt Besler said. "We all felt it and felt a big responsibility for the team and for our country."

Arena started five attacking players, with Pulisic flanked by Darlington Nagbe and Paul Arriola, and Altidore and Wood up top. Panama coach Hernan Dario Gomez said the U.S. was "superior in total" and the score could have been 10-0 at halftime.

"On a night where so much was on line, maybe everything, we played in a way from the get-go that gave no doubt as to who was going to win the game," US captain Michael Bradley said. Pulisic fed an open Altidore for a good opportunity in the third minute, Arriola shot wide in the fourth and Wood in the fifth.

After Gabriel Gomez broke free from Omar Gonzalez and shot wide from 19 yards, Tim Howard's goal kick was headed forward by Wood about 10 yards past midfield. Altidore one-timed the ball square to a sprinting Pulisic, and the midfielder reached back with his left leg to flick the ball ahead. Pulisic jumped to avoid defender Roman Torres' challenge and used the outside of his right foot to play the ball forward.

As goalkeeper Jaime Penedo came off his line, Pulisic used the outside of his right foot again to tap the ball wide and jumped over Pinedo's outstretched arm. At the edge of the 6-yard box and just 2 yards from the endline, Pulisic reached with his right foot to slot the ball in, completing a 112-yard US move. Pulisic tumbled over as the ball rolled in for his eighth goal in 19 international appearances, his fourth in the hex.

"Jozy just laid it off to me and I was just gone, I guess," Pulisic said. Pulisic created the second goal when he played the ball between his feet and faked Michael Murillo on the left flank. Pulisic broke free and fed Altidore, who split the center backs and redirected the ball in from 5 yards for his first goal of the hexagonal - the 11th of 14 US goals in the hex that Pulisic played a part in.—AP

Chris Durkin said after scoring the second goal in the Americans' 3-0 victory Friday. "It presented a tough game for us, because I could tell the Indian players were obviously very confident." Josh Sargent converted a penalty kick in the first half, and Chris Durkin and Andrew Carleton added goals in the second. "We didn't play great, to be fair. I think we can play much better," US coach John Hackworth said. "Our execution wasn't good in the final third." Sargent, a forward from O'Fallon, Missouri, who signed with Germany's Werder Bremen last month, was tripped in the penalty area and beat Dheeraj Moirangthem to the goalkeeper's right with a penalty kick in the 30th minute.

Durkin, who debuted for DC United in the 2016 US Open Cup, doubled the lead in the 51st with a left-foot-

ed volley from just past the penalty spot that deflected in off a defender after India failed to clear Blaine Ferri's corner kick.

Carleton, who made his Major League Soccer debut for Atlanta United in May, rounded Moirangthem to score on a counter in the 84th after an Indian shot hit the crossbar and George Acosta collected the ball and made a through pass.

"It was a little bit frustrating. I felt like I almost had a couple earlier in the game," Carleton said. "I feel like we were persistent, like we fought through it." The US out-shot India 19-8 and leads Group D on goal difference over Ghana, which opened with a 1-0 win over Colombia. The Americans play Ghana tomorrow in New Delhi and Colombia on Thursday at Navi Mumbai. —AP

**13** Indians beat Yankees 9-8 take AL Division lead



**14** Colts to celebrate Peyton's place in Indy's hearts



**15** Spain makes it to World Cup, Serbia unable to clinch a spot



BEIJING: Caroline Garcia of France hits a return during her women's singles semi-final match against Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic at the China Open tennis tournament in Beijing. — AFP

## Halep tops ranking, Nadal in final

### Halep will play Caroline Garcia in Beijing final

BEIJING: Simona Halep will take over the top ranking after reaching the China Open final yesterday, and Rafael Nadal will play Nick Kyrgios for the men's title. Halep beat French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko 6-2, 6-4, ensuring that when the WTA rankings are updated on Monday she will be the first women's No. 1 from Romania.

Halep could have reached No. 1 earlier but was upset in the French Open final by Ostapenko in their first career meeting. "Of course it's the best moment in my life, and I want just to keep it," Halep said in Beijing.

"And I have a few more dreams in my career. I tell you one, only one. To win a Grand Slam." Halep only had to reach the final this week - and not lose to Elina Svitolina of Ukraine in the final - to knock Garbine Muguruza from the top spot. Muguruza retired during her opening match on Monday because of a cold. Top-seeded Nadal defeated third-seeded Grigor

Dimitrov of Bulgaria 6-3, 4-6, 6-1 in the semifinals, his tour-leading 60th match win. Dimitrov's only victory against the Spaniard in 10 matches came last

year in the China Open quarterfinals. On Saturday, his backhand cross-court winner secured the second set, on a second set point, on Nadal's serve in the 10th game. But Nadal took immediate control of the third set, racing to 4-0. Kyrgios didn't drop his serve in ousting second-seeded Alexander Zverev of Germany 6-3, 7-5 in the other semi. The Australian had an impressive 70 percent first-serve percentage and posted 11 aces to none for Zverev, who is nor-

mally known for his serving prowess. Nadal and Kyrgios are tied at two matches apiece in their head-to-head, but the Australian won their latest outing in August in straight sets in the Cincinnati quarterfinals. Nadal is one of three players, along with Roger Federer and Zverev, to win five titles this year. He won the China Open 12 years ago.

"It's very important for me to continue with the positive feelings after winning the US Open," Nadal said. "To be back here and be in the final with that very tough draw I had since the beginning is a great effort." Looking for her sec-

ond title of the year after winning in Madrid, Halep will play Caroline Garcia of France in the Beijing final. Garcia beat Petra Kvitova 6-3, 7-5 in the second semifinal. Ostapenko entered the semis without dropping a set. But Halep dominated the first set, breaking Ostapenko's serve in the first game at love. She cemented her lead with another break in the seventh game for 5-2 to serve out the set.

In the second, Halep surrendered a 3-2 lead with a service break in the sixth game, but went on to break serve again in the ninth. At 40-0 in the final game, Halep won with a clean forehand winner down the line.

Garcia, who saved a match point against Svitolina, is on a 10-match winning streak. Garcia lost in straight sets to Halep in the Montreal quarterfinals in their last meeting. "That's the kind of match I want to play, against the top players," Garcia said of today's final against Halep. "She's a very tricky player." — AP

“ And I have a few more dreams in my career ”

### Yadav inspires India to big win in rain-hit T20

RANCHI: Spinner Kuldeep Yadav led an inspired bowling effort to help India down Australia by nine wickets in the rain-shortened first Twenty20 international in Ranchi yesterday. Chasing a revised target of 48 runs in six overs, the hosts achieved the win with three balls to spare. Opener Shikhar Dhawan, on 15, and skipper Virat Kohli, on 22, remained unbeaten.

But it was left-arm wrist spinner Yadav who set up India's 1-0 lead in the three-match series as he returned figures of 2-16 to restrict Australia to 118-8 in 18.4 overs when rain stopped play for about two hours. Opener Aaron Finch's 30-ball 42 was the only bright spark for the David Warner-led side. Australia were jolted ahead of the clash with regular regular

skipper Steve Smith forced out of the series with a shoulder injury. In reply, the hosts lost Rohit Sharma early after the opener was bowled by paceman Nathan Coulter-Nile for 11. He hit a four and a six during his seven-ball stay.

The left-right batting combination of Dhawan and Kohli then took the attack to the opposition as they hit six boundaries between them to ensure a big win. Earlier the Indian bowlers never allowed the opposition batsmen to get going after being put into bat. Fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah backed up Yadav's efforts with two strikes.

Warner was out in the first over after chopping a seaming delivery from fast bowler Bhuvneshwar Kumar onto his stumps. He made eight with the help of two boundaries. Finch then put together a 47-run second-wicket stand with Glenn Maxwell to raise hopes of an Australian recovery but spinners soon turned on the heat. Leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal got Maxwell for 17 and Yadav bowled Finch in the 10th over to rattle the visitors' top order.

Bowlers kept coming on to get wickets at regular intervals to flatten the Australian batting. The second T20 is scheduled on Tuesday in Guwahati. — AFP



RANCHI: India's captain Virat Kohli (L) is watched by Australia's wicketkeeper Tim Paine as he plays a shot during the first Twenty 20 cricket match between India and Australia. — AFP



## Business

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017

**18** NCC launches Kuwait's first 'Innovation Lab'**20** Danube Group enters Kuwait market, invests \$20 million**21** Al-Sayer and Toyota unveil new 2018 Hilux TRD

The new headquarters of 'La Caixa - CaixaBank' are pictured in Valencia yesterday. — AFP

# Business leaders push Catalonia in crisis

## Bank customers are worried as situation turns critical

**MADRID:** After the judges, police and politicians, Spanish business leaders are stepping into the ring to resist Catalan separatists' efforts to break the region away from Spain. Several big companies have announced plans to shift their legal headquarters out of the region after Catalan leaders threatened to declare independence.

They include the region's two biggest banks, CaixaBank and Sabadell, and energy company Gas Natural.

The move is a precaution against the fiscal and economic turbulence posed by the independence drive. It is also a tactic to pressure the separatists.

### Alarm and uncertainty

Having vowed to block independence, the central government on Friday passed a decree to make it quicker for companies to shift their legal headquarters from one region to another. Under the decree, banks are no longer

obliged to consult all their shareholders before switching regions. Changing where they are legally registered would save Catalan companies from dropping out of the eurozone if the region did break from Spain, allowing them to retain access to European Central Bank financing. It would also mean their taxes go to the Spanish treasury and not to any new Catalan fiscal authority. Tensions rose this week after separatists held an outlawed referendum last Sunday, marred by police violence against voters. Economy Minister Luis de Guindos blamed the jitters on "irresponsible policies" by the Catalan government.

"They are causing alarm and uncertainty, and that is the worst thing that can happen in the business world," he told a news conference.

### Financial 'tsunami'

Sabadell announced on Thursday it was shifting its reg-

istered base—but not its staff—to the eastern city of Alicante. The next day CaixaBank said it was moving its domicile to Valencia to protect customers and staff due to "the current political and social situation in Catalonia." Commentator Manel Perez in Catalan daily La Vanguardia called the procedure a strong "symbolic" move by "the world of Catalan high finance, in coordination with the central government." "It is a tsunami that is rushing over the promised unilateral declaration of independence," he wrote. Juan Fernando Robles, an academic from CEF business school, said "it is obviously a move to calm financial markets' and customers' uncertainty," in a column in the financial daily El Economista.

But "it is more a cosmetic change than a concrete one, because no one believes that Catalonia is going to become independent." Some bankers and their customers were privately nervous about the Catalan situation. One

CaixaBank branch manager who asked not to be named told AFP that some customers had withdrawn money for fear of losing it. Estate agent Tamara Diez, 36, said she got money jitters as independence tensions mounted. "Two weeks ago I started to get worried and thought of taking our money out of Sabadell," she told AFP.

"But now that they have moved to Alicante I feel much safer." Robert Tornabell, a banking specialist at Catalan business school ESADE, said there had been some withdrawals but "not big amounts—there is no panic for the time being." But he said the banks "have no choice" but to move domicile in the circumstances. "By doing so they exert very strong pressure, because the separatists had promised that no companies would leave," he said.

The impact on the region could grow with a knock-on effect on banks' various subsidiaries, insurers and property firms. — AFP

## Sudan eyes economic revival as US lifts trade sanctions

**KHARTOUM:** Up until a few years ago, Sudanese engineer Ahmed Abdallah used to manage his family's expenses on his \$400 monthly salary but he has since had to take out loans to make ends meet. With the US State Department's announcement Friday of an end to some of its toughest economic and trade sanctions on Sudan, Abdallah and his fellow Sudanese are looking forward to a brighter future.

"We've been barely able to survive as my salary cannot cover even our essential needs," the private sector employee told AFP at his home in an impoverished neighborhood of Omdurman, the twin city of Sudan's capital Khartoum. "At times when several needs come together, it just becomes impossible," he

said as his four children played outside the family's mud and brick house. Economic conditions in Sudan have been mired in persistent fiscal deficits, high inflation and the trade embargo imposed by Washington in 1997 over Khartoum's alleged support for Islamist militant groups.

On Friday, Washington announced that the embargo will be lifted from October 12, ending Sudan's two decades of isolation from Western markets. The financial sanctions had put restrictions on international banking transactions, exchange of technology and spare parts, and other cumbersome trade regulations have hampered economic growth. — AFP

## 1,400 Air Berlin workers to lose jobs: Union

**FRANKFURT:** About 1,400 Air Berlin workers may soon be out of a job, some as early as the end of this month, according to a union paper obtained by AFP yesterday. Many of the cuts would hit the bankrupt airline's ground personnel and administration staff, whose contracts could end by the end of the month or in February 2018. According to the document, Air Berlin could also soon stop operating, with only its subsidiary Niki continuing to fly.

The German airline triggered bankruptcy proceedings in August after losing a cash lifeline from its biggest shareholder Etihad Airways. Lufthansa has emerged as the leading bidder for Air Berlin's assets, including valuable landing and takeoff slots at German airports.

The group has already bought or holds an option to buy some 20 Air Berlin aircraft that were leased to its low-cost Eurowings airline in recent months.

Air Berlin has some 8,600 employees, including part-time workers, according to DPA news agency. Lufthansa has said it plans to hire up to 3,000 people for the expansion of Eurowings, anticipating an accelerated hiring process for Air Berlin workers. But it does not guarantee them employment.

Air Berlin chief executive Thomas Winkelmann



DUESSELDORF: This file photo taken on September 12, 2017 shows aircraft of German airline Air Berlin parked at the airport in Duesseldorf, western Germany, after the troubled airline had to cancel flights due to "operational reasons". — AFP

said in September that up to 80 percent of workers could find work with Lufthansa and British EasyJet, the remaining bidders for parts of the stricken business. EasyJet has given him no information on whether it plans to recruit Air Berlin employees. Negotiations with the two airlines are due to conclude on October 12. Unions have criticized management for not keeping them informed of the progress of discussions.

In late September, one of Germany's most

powerful unions Verdi urged Air Berlin and its potential buyers to establish a "bailout" for employees. Verdi also urged the creation of a "transfer company" that would prepare laid-off workers for new employment by providing them professional assistance, qualification and job placement. Technical details around winding up the carrier are to be thrashed out in the coming weeks and any final deal will need to be approved by European regulators. — AFP

Business

# National Co for Cleaning launches first 'Innovation Lab' in Kuwait

## Expert outlines challenges, opportunities in Kuwait

**KUWAIT:** In an interview, Jared Willis from Berkeley Research Group Kuwait, outlined the objectives and vision of the first Innovation Lab in Kuwait being launched by National Company for Cleaning and spoke about risks and opportunities in supporting the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Kuwait. Excerpts:

**Question: What are the elements of the program?**

**Willis:** The program will include a one-week course to introduce foundational concepts to entrepreneurs that will enable them to map out, build and learn how to monetize their ideas. This course will use the Business Model Canvas and Lean Startup methodologies pioneered by Jerry Engel, an associate professor at the Haas School of Business and founder of the Lester Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of California, Berkeley. Business Model Canvas is a strategic management and lean startup template for developing new or business models. Lean Startup is a scientific approach to creating and managing startups to get a desired product to customers' hands faster.

Following the one-week course, the selected teams will be given a reasonable budget to undertake an intensive period of customer discovery lasting four weeks to allow the teams to identify their customers by taking their main assumptions about who their customers are, the exact problem they are proposing to solve for the customer, how the customer will buy that solution and turning these assumptions into hypotheses that will be tested. During this four-week period, BRG and Kuwait Ventures will conduct office hours and coaching sessions with the teams in which we will brainstorm jointly and provide support and guidance. At the end of this phase, our team will collect feedback on milestones reached and make a recommendation to the NCC on which teams of entrepreneurs are worthy of consideration for further mentoring and training and potential investment by NCC.

**Question: How will you judge the program's outcome?**

**Willis:** Our goal is to give a return-on-investment to NCC and set in place partnerships and strategic collaborations that are the foundation of future success for NCC and the entrepreneurs. Since we are looking to solve a business problem facing NCC and its subsidiaries, we are open to a wide range of potential outcomes. For instance, it is possible that several teams will be incubated by NCC and become subsidiaries. It is also possible that individuals will be hired by NCC outright if that makes the most sense to both sides. A successful outcome would also be venture capital investment by NCC in several companies whether or not they are directly related to NCC's core lines of business. We also have high expectations for teams coming from within NCC and are hoping to give them the space and support they need to solve a problem that they face from up-close but perhaps didn't have the time needed to develop a dynamic solution.

**Question: Who is eligible to apply for this program?**

**Willis:** The Innovation Lab is open to any Kuwaiti or foreign national currently residing in Kuwait. I think that is unique in that most if not all of the current programs are only open to Kuwaiti nationals, which is a wonderful phenomenon, but we believe there is untapped talent and ideas among all the residents of Kuwait, which NCC stands to benefit from. We have been actively reaching out to other stakeholders in the entrepreneurial community in Kuwait to explain the program and recruit participants. We believe that this is an opportunity



for a "win-win" between NCC, entrepreneurs and the incubation, acceleration and/or government organizations that provided initial support for the projects we match with NCC.

**Question: What constitutes a relevant project?**

**Willis:** For this Innovation Lab, we are casting a relatively wide net for potential applicants and there are minimal restrictions on relevant projects. The program is open to individuals, teams, current companies and employees from NCC and its subsidiaries. Although the Innovation Lab is not limited to certain sectors, top priority is given to projects relevant to NCC's core business lines. These include municipal waste management, environmental waste management, indoor cleaning, pest control, agriculture, valet parking and landscaping among others.

**Question: How will you support the youth? Are there specific terms and conditions?**

**Willis:** Unlike perhaps other incubation or government mechanisms to engage and support Kuwait's youth, this program is not intended as a public relations or corporate social responsibility mechanism for NCC nor is it subject to a traditional "cookie cutter" approach. At our core, we at BRG are business consultants and we are looking to solve a strategic business challenge faced by NCC through engaging with motivated, creative and hard-working entrepreneurs in Kuwait. We and NCC are open to a wide range of outcomes and the next steps of our collaboration will be determined by the outcomes of this first Innovation Lab.

**Question: What is your advice to potential applicants?**

**Willis:** My advice to potential applicants who have not ventured into entrepreneurship before is to try and think outside the box. There is a wonderful energy in Kuwait right now and it's easy to see why many look at initial success stories and try to replicate them. I think the best ideas come from those "ah-hah" moments when a particular problem arises or when passion feeds into an idea. NCC operates in some fields that are ripe for innovation and new ideas such as recycling,



agriculture, cleaning and waste management. This is a unique opportunity to quickly test that "ah-hah" moment and potentially turn it into a scalable business with the assistance and investment of an established strategic partner.

For those with pre-existing startups, this is a great chance to test your idea with a large company that has a wide range of customers and business lines, and forge a unique strategic collaboration. There is a huge opportunity for mutual benefit and I think this will be the beginning of a trend across Kuwait with other large corporations.

**Question: How did you develop this program?**

**Willis:** BRG developed this program in coordination with our partners at Kuwait Ventures using inspiration from similar corporate programs that exist outside of Kuwait as well as by looking at the gaps and challenges facing current programs being run in Kuwait. We believe it maximizes the chances of success and will serve the business and strategic goals of the entrepreneurs and NCC. I hope it becomes a model for other programs and initiatives in Kuwait, tapping into the unique energy and talents of local entrepreneurs to inject innovation into established companies.

**Question: What do you see as the challenges and opportunities facing the Kuwaiti entrepreneurial community?**

**Willis:** In July 2017, BRG Kuwait completed a study on the

entrepreneurial ecosystem in Kuwait and in particular investigated the issue of location - where Kuwaiti startups choose to start their companies, strategic considerations faced when they scale, grow and/or relocate. Clearly the youth and their entrepreneurial spirit have the potential to drive economic growth and diversification of Kuwait's economy. Nowhere else in the region is there the talent, support and diversity behind the entrepreneurial phenomenon as in Kuwait, which is why it has attracted so much attention in Kuwait and the broader GCC.

Still, we found that the business environment and legal structure, despite recent reforms, is an impediment to businesses scaling and keeping their headquarters in Kuwait and there is a risk to lose startups to places like the UAE, which have positioned themselves as an open and friendly place to do business and have put the necessary legal, immigration and other reforms in place.

We also found that the emphasis on food and beverage enterprises in Kuwait or really any locally-focused businesses that rely on the spending power of Kuwaiti nationals will struggle to have the intended impact on the economy unless these businesses scale and attract revenue from outside Kuwait, or Kuwait begins to attract large amounts of tourists locally.

Despite these challenges, I think there is broader awareness of the reforms required to ensure that Kuwaiti companies grow and remain rooted in Kuwait, and a healthy dialogue on the strategic areas and sectors that the country needs to invest in, starting with the youth. Our collaboration with NCC is proof of the recognition that the future lies in tapping and harnessing this entrepreneurial energy, and I expect the results to speak for themselves.



### Legal structure still a hurdle to business

## Gulf Bank hosts red's ninth monthly draw winners

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank was pleased to host red's ninth monthly draw winners in its head office on October 4, 2017, where Manal Barakat, Manager of red and Nassour - Consumer Banking and Mohammad Al-Otaibi, Corporate Communications Manager, greeted them and handed them the prizes.

Winners' names were announced on Thursday, 28 September 2017 in a draw that was held at the bank's head office, under the supervision of Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The red account draw resulted the

announcement of three students who won prizes ranging from an iPhone 7 plus to an Apple Watch and they are:

- Dehayem Mesbeh Dehayem Al-Majdi- iPhone 7 Plus
- Ali Sayed Ahmad Sharaf Al-Haddad- iPad Pro
- Hasnaa Rabian Mutlaq Al-Subaie- Apple Watch

Gulf Bank's red is a dedicated account for high school, college and university students aged between 15 and 25, which does not require a minimum deposit. Eligible customers

will get the chance to enter the draw automatically and on a monthly basis, upon transferring their student allowances.

Each month, an iPhone 7 plus, an iPad Pro, and an Apple Watch will be gifted to three lucky winners until January 2018. The next draw dates are announced as follows:

- October 23, 2017
- November 20, 2017
- January 11, 2018

In addition to the Apple prizes, students will have the opportunity to win a Fiat 500C-Model 2017 at the annual car draw, upon transferring their allowance. Also, movie tickets at all Cinescap theatres will be available for only KD2 seven days a week. red customers can also shop from the USA or the UK with a dedicated company (edfa3ly), which provide a mail box for internet shopping services from their website <https://kw.edfa3ly.co/GulfBank>



Manal Barakat and Mohammad Al-Otaibi from Gulf Bank with the winners

red customers can now also transfer money from anyone, from any local bank into their Gulf Bank account through the all new e-pay service, which also allows customers to pay their mobile bills for

Zain, Ooredoo, and Viva and buy iTunes and Google Play cards, instantly using the new 'e-Pay' service available on Gulf Bank's Online Banking and Mobile Banking App.

### EXCHANGE RATES

AL-MUZAINI EXCHANGE CO.

ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japanese Yen	2.689
Indian Rupees	4.636
Pakistani Rupees	2.872
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.973
Nepali Rupees	2.902
Singapore Dollar	223.710
Hongkong Dollar	38.786
Bangladesh Taka	3.702
Philippine Peso	5.944
Thai Baht	9.090

GCC COUNTRIES

Saudi Riyal	80.827
Qatari Riyal	83.249
Omani Riyal	787.162
Bahraini Dinar	804.840
UAE Dirham	82.523

ARAB COUNTRIES

Egyptian Pound - Cash	19.850
Egyptian Pound - Transfer	17.125
Yemen Riyal/for 1000	1.217
Tunisian Dinar	124.650
Jordanian Dinar	427.520
Lebanese Lira/for 1000	2.019
Syrian Lira	0.000
Morocco Dirham	32.465

EUROPEAN & AMERICAN COUNTRIES

US Dollar Transfer	302.900
Euro	358.030
Sterling Pound	403.160

Canadian dollar	243.980
Turkish lira	85.560
Swiss Franc	313.240
Australian Dollar	239.590
US Dollar Buying	301.700

GOLD

20 Gram	249.070
10 Gram	127.450
5 Gram	64.570

DOLLARCO EXCHANGE CO. LTD

Rate for Transfer Selling Rate

US Dollar	302.100
Canadian Dollar	244.875
Sterling Pound	408.660
Euro	359.530
Swiss Franc	293.695
Bahrain Dinar	801.800
UAE Dirhams	82.640
Qatari Riyals	83.465
Saudi Riyals	81.420
Jordanian Dinar	427.375
Egyptian Pound	17.133
Sri Lankan Rupees	1.975
Indian Rupees	4.631
Pakistani Rupees	2.866
Bangladesh Taka	3.721
Philippines Peso	5.947
Cyprus pound	17.979
Japanese Yen	3.705
Syrian Pound	1.590
Nepalese Rupees	2.902

Malaysian Ringgit	72.835
Chinese Yuan Renminbi	46.145
Thai Bhat	10.105
Turkish Lira	85.730

BAHRAIN EXCHANGE COMPANY

CURRENCY BUY SELL

British Pound	0.389731	0.399731
Czech Korune	0.005731	0.017731
Danish Krone	0.043672	0.048672
Euro	0.350387	0.359387
Georgian Lari	0.134911	0.134911
Norwegian Krone	0.033846	0.039046
Romanian Leu	0.081676	0.081676
Russian ruble	0.005265	0.005265
Slovakia	0.009030	0.019030
Slovenia Krona	0.033274	0.038274
Swiss Franc	0.303631	0.314631

Australasia

Australian Dollar	0.227414	0.239414
New Zealand Dollar	0.209015	0.218515

America

Canadian Dollar	0.236663	0.245663
US Dollars	0.298800	0.303220
US Dollars Mint	0.299300	0.303220

Asia

Bangladesh Taka	0.003247	0.003831
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Chinese Yuan	0.044012	0.047512
Hong Kong Dollar	0.036843	0.039593
Indian Rupee	0.004201	0.004889
Indonesian Rupiah	0.000018	0.000024
Japanese Yen	0.002603	0.002783
Korean Won	0.000255	0.000270
Malaysian Ringgit	0.067867	0.073867
Nepalese Rupee	0.003022	0.003192
Pakistan Rupee	0.002747	0.003037
Philippine Peso	0.005844	0.006144
Singapore Dollar	0.216701	0.226701
Sri Lankan Rupee	0.001606	0.002186
Taiwan	0.010007	0.010187
Thai Baht	0.008711	0.009261

Arab

Bahraini Dinar	0.796348	0.804848
Egyptian Pound	0.014216	0.020124
Iranian Riyal	0.000084	0.000085
Iraqi Dinar	0.000193	0.000253
Jordanian Dinar	0.422613	0.431613
Kuwaiti Dinar	1.000000	1.000000
Lebanese Pound	0.000156	0.000256
Moroccan Dirhams	0.021209	0.045209
Omani Riyal	0.780333	0.786013
Qatar Riyal	0.078909	0.083849
Saudi Riyal	0.079687	0.080987
Syrian Pound	0.001284	0.001504
Tunisian Dinar	0.118599	0.126599
Turkish Lira	0.078850	0.089150
UAE Dirhams	0.081043	0.082743
Yemeni Riyal	0.000984	0.001064

## Business

## BAYAN WEEKLY MARKET REPORT

# Boursa Kuwait equities remain mixed amid lackluster trading, selling pressure

## Market cap gains marginally despite fluctuations

**KUWAIT:** Boursa Kuwait ended last week with mixed performance. The Price Index closed at 6,662.11 points, down by 0.26 percent from the week before closing, the Weighted Index increased by 1.76 percent after closing at 438.29 points, whereas the KSX-15 Index closed at 1,028.73 points up by 3.14 percent. Furthermore, last week's average daily turnover decreased by 45.04 percent, compared to the preceding week, reaching KD 31.61 million, whereas trading volume average was 165.92 million shares, recording an increase of 56.79 percent.

The fluctuation witnessed by Boursa Kuwait during the last week came in parallel with the optimism state witnessed by the investment arena in the market after the official promotion of Boursa Kuwait to the Secondary Emerging market by FTSE Russell, which was reflected on the performance of the Weighted and KSX-15 indices, to realize good growth by the end of the week, supported by the active purchasing operations that concentrated on the leading and operational stocks, while the Price Index continued recording losses for the third consecutive week, however limited, in light of the continued quick speculations for profit collection, that the small-cap stocks were subject to, which formed a pressure factor on the Index and pushed it to decline by the end of the week.

The market capitalization's gains for Boursa Kuwait during the last five sessions reached KD 400 million, as it reached by the end of last week KD 29.27 billion, up by 1.38 percent compared to its level in a week earlier, where it reached KD 28.87 billion. On an annual level, the market

cap gains for the listed companies in the Primary Market since the beginning of the year reached 15.21 percent compared to its value at end of 2016, where it was KD 25.41 billion. (Note: The market cap for the listed companies in the Primary Market is calculated based on the average number of outstanding shares as per the latest available financial statements).

As per the daily trading activity for the Boursa: the market initiated the week's trading with mixed closings to the three indices, amid a noticeable growth in the three trading levels, especially the value which increased by approximately 79 percent, as both of the Weighted and KSX-15 indices were able to realize increases in light of the active purchasing trend that targeted a number of leading stocks in the market, while the Price Index dropped in light of the continued profit collection operations on some small-cap stocks that witnessed a clear growth during the previous weeks. The second session witnessed a continued fluctuation of the three indices, as the Price Index was able to join KSX-15 Index in the green zone after a limited fluctuated performance with an upward trend, while the Weighted Index declined slightly by the end of the session: such performance came amid a decreased trading activity compared to the previous session, where the cash liquidity dropped by around 37 percent, and the volume declined by 22 percent.

The fluctuation continued to be in control over the closings of the market indices in the mid-week session, as the Price Index's performance dropped due to the selling pres-

ures that targeted some low-priced and idle stocks, especially at the end of the session and the auction period, while the purchasing and collection operations witnessed by the leading stocks contributed in pushing the Weighted and KSX-15 indices to close in the green zone, amid a noticeable improvement in the market cash liquidity levels.

On Wednesday's session, the three market indices were able to realize gains for the first time since the beginning of the week, as a result to the collection movement executed by the investment groups, and the continued purchasing activity on the heavy stocks, amid continued increase in the trading activity on both levels, the value and the volume. On the end of week session, the fluctuation returned once again, as the Weighted and KSX-15 indices closed in the green zone supported by the continued purchasing operations that targeted some heavy stocks, which enhanced the weekly gains of the indices, while the profit collection operations returned to push the Price Index to close in the red zone. For the annual performance, the Price Index ended last week recording 15.90 percent annual gain compared to its closing in 2016, while the Weighted Index increased by 15.31 percent, and the KSX-15 recorded 16.24 percent growth.

### Sectors' Indices

Seven of Boursa Kuwait's sectors ended last week in the green zone, four recorded declines, whereas the Health Care sector's index closed with no change from the week before. Last week's highest gainer was the Insurance sector,

achieving 1.73 percent growth rate as its index closed at 1,135.62 points. Whereas, in the second place, the Real Estate sector's index closed at 961.95 points recording 1.45 percent increase. The Banks sector came in third as its index achieved 1.35 percent growth, ending the week at 968.70 points. On the other hand, the Technology sector headed the losers list as its index declined by 4.12 percent to end the week's activity at 549.67 points, followed by the Industrial sector, as its index closed at 1,737.66 points at a loss of 2.97 percent. The Consumer Services sector was the least declining as its index closed at 928.47 points with a 0.49 percent decrease.

### Sectors' Activity

The Financial Services sector dominated a total trade volume of around 359.03 million shares changing hands during last week, representing 43.28 percent of the total market trading volume. The Banks sector was second in terms of trading volume as the sector's traded shares were 21.55 percent of last week's total trading volume, with a total of around 178.75 million shares.

On the other hand, the Banks sector's stocks were the highest traded in terms of value; with a turnover of around KD 63.86 million or 40.40 percent of last week's total market trading value. The Telecommunications sector took the second place as the sector's last week turnover was approx. KD 40.49 million representing 25.62 percent of the total market trading value. — Prepared by: Studies & Research Department - Bayan Investment Co.

## Ooredoo, first to introduce the fastest and newest Netgear Router in Kuwait

**KUWAIT:** Ooredoo Kuwait announced it has recently launched the new Netgear Router that is the fastest mobile and fixed router. The device is sold exclusively at Ooredoo and is a major upgrade in Ooredoo's portfolio, allowing users to experience the world's first gigabit class LTE mobile router and enable them to enjoy maximum download speeds of 1 Gbps; bringing our mobile broadband experience to unparalleled new heights.

Ooredoo Kuwait stated that it is proud to be the first to introduce this device in Kuwait. This is a continuation to its ongoing efforts to enrich customers' lives by providing them with the latest developments in the field of telecommunications technology. This router combines ultrafast download speeds of CAT 16 LTE advanced 4-band Carrier Aggregation and a 4x4 MIMO into one device, which provides the best internet connection experience.

The new device, manufactured by Netgear, is capable of providing speed up to 1 Gbps, and boasts a powerful battery for all day



use. It can be used as a power bank for other devices, can connect up to 20 other devices on its superfast WiFi and also includes a LAN port. Ooredoo has always been keen to be the pioneer in providing its customers with the latest technologies. This particular major upgrade in devices will enable customers to stream ultra HD video content and use virtual reality devices freely, in addition to the latest trends in the field of technology.

Interested customers can purchase the router from Ooredoo branches and experience the enhancement available in Kuwait. For more information, please visit any of Ooredoo branches or authorized dealers and be the first to enjoy this new privilege in addition to our online shop: [shop.ooredoo.com.kw](http://shop.ooredoo.com.kw)

## Puerto Rico bank says 4 months too long to wait for power

**SAN JUAN:** Puerto Rico needs to accelerate the timetable for restoring its power grid or else residents will flee for the mainland rather than live without electricity for months, the chairman of the territory's largest bank said on Friday.

In an interview with Reuters on Friday, Banco Popular Chairman Richard Carrion said prolonged

outages could shrink the US territory's economy and hurt its banking system. More than two weeks after Hurricane Maria hit the island, most of Puerto Rico is still without electricity.

With about \$40 billion in assets, Banco Popular is Puerto Rico's biggest financial institution. Carrion said 85 of the bank's 169 branches were open, and that only about 40 percent of its cash machines were operating. Puerto Rican authorities have estimated that it will take at least four months to restore the electrical grid, something Carrion says is "not acceptable."

"The economy will suffer, and it may push people who are on the fence to say, 'we're leaving,'" he said, potentially pushing the bankrupt territory into even worse financial straits. —Reuters

## BAYT.COM WEEKLY REPORT

## 10 ways you can stay motivated and find a job

The process of finding a job can be daunting even for the most optimistic of people. When you start searching, there seems to be no end in sight. As time passes and rejections pile up, it is easy to fall into despair. The onset of negativity and lack of optimism can be devastating to your job search. If you feel like the will to fight is slipping away, here are ten tried-and-true tips from Bayt.com to bring it back in full.

### 1. Divide and Conquer

Split up the ultimate goal of finding the job you want into smaller, more manageable tasks. This will keep you focused and keep you from feeling overwhelmed. Create mile-markers for your journey and set your own deadlines. By planning it step by step and being your own drill sergeant what seems, at first, like an impossible task will become doable. These tasks can range from setting up informational interviews to reviewing your CV with a trusted colleague or friend.

### 2. Find a Professional Soulmate

If you find yourself feeling disheartened by the amount of jobs that you are either over-qualified or under-qualified for, then take a step back and get some perspective. Look up your career idols, whether they are in your industry or not. Even the most successful person you know would have had to overcome obstacles in order to get where they are. Sometimes, all a person needs is a reminder that they are not alone and that things really do work out in the end.

### 3. Ask for Second Opinions

While you might feel reluctant to share your CV with anyone but your employer, having someone take a second look at your CV or cover letter is an absolute must. Choose someone whose professional judgement you trust. If things aren't working out with the positions you are applying for, it could be that there is need for improvement in your CV or even mistakes that you had not previously noticed. Remember, if you find writing a CV difficult, you could always opt for a professionally written CV and cover letter.

### 4. Take a Breather!

All work and no play isn't the most productive technique. Therefore, avoid isolating yourself from your social, personal life and schedule some off-time where you can relax, de-

stress, do the things you enjoy and connect with the people around you. Self-care is crucial to keep yourself from falling into a void of exhaustion and self-doubt.

### 5. Put Yourself First

It's easy for your self-esteem to take a dive when facing rejection, and this can be a determination killer. Make a list of positive traits about yourself based on your interests, achievements and hobbies as well as your personality. The one person who can understand you completely is yourself. Maybe you're empathetic, compassionate, whip-smart or really funny. Stay aware of your strengths and most valuable skills and traits.

### 6. Keep Your Head Held Up High

This is the most challenging item on the list. Going through this period of time with a positive outlook seems almost impossible when all the jobs you've applied for seem to be eluding you. We've all been there. Just keep calm and remember that if that job did not work out, then it wasn't meant to be, at least not at this moment in time, and that there is a job out there just for you.

### 7. Set Targets

Set targets for how many applications you want to send or how many informational interviews you want to schedule in a week. Having weekly quotas to fulfill could give you the extra espresso shot you need when you're having a midweek slump.

### 8. Find Some Muse

Get inspired! Do not underestimate the power of a motivating or uplifting talk or video. Hunt through YouTube or TEDTalk and watch the videos that entice you the most. The power of positive energy is so great that it can grab you even through a screen. In other words, when you yourself are feeling lost or demotivated, it is always good to get out of your own head and take a look at your surroundings. Get inspired by the people around you.

### 9. Reward Yourself

While it's good to keep yourself in check, you should always reward yourself when you've accomplished something. Whether it's polishing your CV, writing a new cover letter or closing a target for applications sent, giving yourself a little treat could be everything you needed to succeed. Sometimes it is the small victories that help you win the battle.

### 10. Widen your parameters

Don't forget that there is an abundance of free resources and tools available to you online via leading job sites, such as Bayt.com. You can apply for over 10,000+ jobs on any given day, read up on the industry's latest research, engage with your fellow job seekers, and establish your own personal brand online.

**CONDOLENCES**

**BURGAN BANK**

Board of Directors, Executive Management and Staff

wish to offer their heartfelt  
condolences to

**Mr. Maitra Pinak P.M. Narian**

Board Member

on the sad demise of his

**Father**

May his soul rest in peace  
and may God grant comfort  
and strength to the  
bereaved family members  
during this time

# Danube Group enters Kuwait market, invests \$20 million

Group opens first Danube Home store in Kuwait



KUWAIT: (Left) Bollywood actress and former Miss Universe pageant winner Sushmita Sen with Rizwan Sajan, Adel Sajan and other officials during the launch of the Danube store in Kuwait. (Right) Ribbon-cutting ceremony.—Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



KUWAIT: Bollywood actress and former Miss Universe pageant winner Sushmita Sen during the launch ceremony.

**KUWAIT:** Danube Group, UAE's largest diversified conglomerate with interests in building materials, property, construction and home furnishings entered Kuwait market with a bang. The group invested \$20 million in Kuwait and opened its first Danube Home store with plans to open more in the coming years. The company is moving from strength-to-strength, expanding its foothold globally, with 2,800 plus work force across strategic locations in the GCC, China and India.

Rizwan Sajan, Founder and Chairman, Danube Group said: "I am glad to announce Danube's entry in the new market 'Kuwait'. Though in Kuwait the oil industry and government sector dominate the economy, with crude oil reserves estimated at nearly 101.5 billion barrels, approximately 7 per cent of the world's reserves, we are very confident that hard work and determination to succeed will definitely give us good results. Kuwait is trying to modernize the structure of its economy and I think for a company like us this is the perfect time."

He further added, "This is a bold step, but it has definitely sent the right signal out to all. The expansion has always played a vital role in the growth strategy of the group and certainly involves commitment to its customer. I am confident that our future customer of Kuwait will also be satisfied with our quality, commitment and hard-work. I would sincerely like to thank each and every staff members for all the hard-work they put in to help the company to achieve its goal."

Commenting on the new launch, Adel Sajan, Director of Danube Group, said: "Thank you all for your support and I would personally like to welcome each one of you present here. We have opened our first Danube Home with an aim to provide affordable home furniture with the high-end quality for all. Whether it's the Middle East, North Africa or

Western world, home improvement sector has grown rapidly in the past few years and will definitely keep growing."

Danube Group has established itself as a pioneer in offering high value for money to customers and hard work & quality is the success mantra for the brand. The company has been honored with numerous awards and accolades at the national, regional and international level for the leadership, innovation, excellence in the sector.

Danube Group traces its origin through Danube Building Materials. Established in 1993, the company provides more than 25,000 products in stock and in-house value added services in all of its multiple set of showrooms across the Middle East region and India. The company operates from its head offices in JAFZA with logistics facilities across the region which amounts to 5.5 million square feet and includes kiln drying facility, factory and warehouses of the group.

From a small trading firm, Danube has grown into one of the largest building materials company in the region, with its diversified branches worldwide including UAE, Oman, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and India, in addition to procurement offices in China and Canada. Danube has a team of 1,800 plus people working across strategic locations across the GCC and India.

Among its flagship companies, Danube Home - the Home Interior Retail arm - has showrooms in major shopping malls across the region and in India. In UAE it has showrooms in Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai Festival City, Bawadi Mall - Al-Ain, Abu Dhabi and standalone outlets in RAK, Fujairah and Abu Dhabi as well. In Oman we have 5 showrooms (Salala, Nizwa, Sohar, Baraka and Al Khuwair). Danube Home has a showroom in Bahrain - Salamabad as well.



Rizwan Sajan, founder and Chairman, Danube Group.



Group to open more stores in Kuwait soon



Business

# Style with attitude: Al-Sayer and Toyota unveil new 2018 Hilux TRD

Hilux TRD redefines tough performance



—Photos by Joseph Shagra

KUWAIT: Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer & Sons (MNSS), one of the Al-Sayer Group Holding Companies launched the tougher and bolder yet cool new 2018 Hilux special edition powered by Toyota Racing Development (TRD) accessories. The launch press conference held at Toyota Al-Rai Showroom was attended by Scott McNicol General Manager Toyota Sales, Hamad Al-Fouzan Product Planning Manager, representatives from Toyota Group Sales and Marketing along with distinguished members from press and media.

Hilux TRD redefines tough performance highlighting tough yet emotional design with enhanced exterior appearance and comfortable interiors. The latest edition of Hilux has a refined contemporary look as well as excellent on and off road capability. It will also appeal to active young individuals, private and family customer base. With generations of success behind, a Hilux is always the best choice.

According to Scott McNicol, "This event is dedicated to Kuwait community of motoring enthusiasts, as we are going to unveil the new 2018 Toyota Hilux TRD, carrying the true spirit of Toyota racing, featuring an exclusive accessories pack from Toyota Racing development TRD."

The impressive TRD accessories available in 2018 Hilux include TRD Front bumper spoiler, Daytime Running Lights, TRD Sports bar, TRD Bed liner under rail A-Deck, TRD Alloy Wheels R17 inch which will be available in striking colors Pearl White, Nebula Blue, Crimson Spark Red. TRD render each car instantly recognizable as unique examples, with sharper designs.

"The new Hilux is tougher than ever. High powerful engine 4000 cc - 235 HP with Tiptronic 6 Speed

Transmission. You will find Hilux stunning in design and amenity - outside and inside. Performance and safety are greatly upgraded, with a new frame and suspension and range of features. All of this with the impressive accessories package from TRD. TRD reflects Toyota brand promise to drive stylish, youthful, and innovative" commented Hamad Al-Fouzan.

### Renewed spirit, new era for pickup

Since the introduction of the first Hilux in 1968, over 16 million have been sold in more than 180 countries and regions. The name Hilux, a combination of the words "high" and "luxury", was given to underline the truck's splendor and superiority over the competition, and the new slogan best illustrates its reputation as a sturdy, all-conquering vehicle constantly evolving to set new benchmarks for comfort and performance.

To truly understand the expectations of customers and the challenges they face on a daily basis, Toyota's development teams travelled the globe, getting direct feedback from customers and driving on a wide variety of different roads to get a feel for different usage conditions. The development process also benefitted from invaluable feedback received directly from Hilux drivers. Some wished they could make long transcontinental trips without worrying about running out of fuel. Others described how hard it is to stay alert and drive safely during grueling long-distance journeys with extended stretches of rough driving.

Above and beyond conventional ideas of toughness, the eighth-generation Hilux provides ride comfort that make long, tough drives less grueling, a quiet cabin that allows communication in any conditions, and enhanced cruising range thanks to improved fuel efficiency.

### Experience Toyota's true essence

What is unique to TRD is that the company was founded by a group of engineers who enjoy a great passion for motorsports and were truly eager to spread the excitement and essence of motoring. All of TRD products are designed and developed by those engineers who have deep understanding and passion for all kinds of races - from competitive and endurance, to autocross, drifting and grassroots - both in Japan and overseas. For over half a century, they have worked hard to improve the car's performance as well as the driver's connection with



his car. "TRD will do what others cannot do". This was and still is their motto. They try to continuously polish their skills and craftsmanship to give customers the joy of not just striking good looks, but also good performance.

These are just a few of the reasons of why they have earned the "Racing Development" signature in the brand name. Every bit of their racing DNA is poured into each of the part, making their products extraordi-

### 2018 Hilux TRD Specification

- Vehicle Stability Control (VSC) - Trailer Sway Control (TSC) - Hill-Start Assist Control (HAC)
- Tiptronic Transmission (ECT) 6 Speed
- Keyless entry
- Start / Stop button to start engine
- Special Fabric seats
- Navigation system + Bluetooth + DVD
- Electronic side mirror with chrome and signal light
- Rear Glass retractable
- Available in striking colors

nary in the most emotional and inspirational way.

### Commitment to customer service



"Mohamed Naser Al-Sayer is committed to the strategy of steady development in market with promising expansion plans to offer greater value for our customers. In the future, in addition to the new model launches from Toyota, we will continue to open new Toyota facilities in Fahaheel, Jahra and Abu Futeirah. With Toyota and Al-Sayer you are always guaranteed the best products, services," added Scott McNicol.



## Technology

## NoufEXPO organizes EGOV5

Commenting on the upcoming fifth round of the e-Government Forum (EGOV5) under the motto of Digital Transformation, Eng. Qussai Ibrahim Al-Shatti, Acting General Manager of the Central Agency for Information Technology (CAIT), said that EGOV5 will discuss one of the growth and development tracks that all countries seek today. He said, "This year, again, we enjoy the patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. His Highness has always been keen to support this event for his firm belief that advanced technology is the way forward. His Highness will be represented by His Excellency Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Acting minister of Information, and Chairman of the Board of CAIT during the opening ceremony: a highly appreciated initiative added to the valuable role His Excellency is carrying out in leading CAIT's programs."

Al-Shatti said, "Through the motto of Digital Transformation, we intend to unambiguously clarify the path that developing e-Government programs pass through. Digital transformation is a comprehensive development journey that affects all government agencies, their departments, their business processes, their staff, and the tools and technologies they use. This journey has to be controlled by strict governance frameworks that define responsibilities and make best use of available resources. Only this can lead to the gradual, yet successful, change towards useful and efficient electronic government services."

"However, Digital Transformation is not a government specialty. It is, as well, inevitable for all private sector enterprises in order to help them survive and grow. Having said this, it is important to emphasize that the



Eng. Qussai Al-Shatti

ecosystem of e-Government programs include many private sector services such as electronic payment systems, e-commerce systems, and Internet services. These are vital for the success of e-Government implementations. We hope that our partners, the global and local technology vendors, will contribute to Kuwait's Digital Transformation journey that CAIT is leading in cooperation with all other government agencies," he added.

Acting General Manager of CAIT confirmed that CAIT will announce the results of the e-Services



HH Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah

Excellence Awards during the opening ceremony of EGOV5. The Award was launched last year during the opening ceremony of EGOV4. Al-Shatti added, "Benefiting from our experience last year, we have added several criteria to the evaluation process of electronic services and experiences. Among these are information security, information privacy and accuracy, and availability of user help and guidance. We are gradually moving to adopt industry best practices for the e-Services Excellence Award."



Sheikh Mohammed Abdullah

"I would like to extend my invitation to all government agencies to take role in this event and showcase their e-services and plans, as well as participate in the e-Services Excellence Award. EGOV5 will be an excellent venue to network with the participating global, regional, and local technology vendors to solidify and boost their e-Government development and digital transformation programs. NoufEXPO, the organizing company, is closely working with EGOV5's Scientific Committee at CAIT to finalize the event's proceedings," he concluded.

## N Korea gets second web connection via Russian firm

SEOUL: A state-owned Russian company has opened up a second internet connection for North Korea which could strengthen Pyongyang's cyber capabilities and undermine US efforts to isolate the regime, security experts said. The activation of the new line from TransTeleCom was first detected Sunday by analysts at Dyn Research, which monitors global internet connectivity. The new connection supplements the existing link provided by China Unicom, which has almost exclusively routed North Korean internet traffic since 2010.

The additional line gives Pyongyang "significantly more resilience against attacks on their network infrastructure," said Bryce Boland, the chief technology officer in the Asia-Pacific for cybersecurity firm FireEye. The Washington Post reported earlier that the US Cyber Command had carried out attacks against hackers in North Korea aimed at cutting off their access to the Internet. The operation ended yesterday, the report said.

North Korea has a 6,800-strong unit of trained cyberwarfare specialists, according to Seoul's defense ministry, and has been accused of launching high-profile cyberattacks including the 2014 hacking of Sony Pictures. But with only one internet provider to rely on, the regime has often found itself vulnerable to external cyberattacks against its own network infrastructure. North Korea suffered several internet connection failures—some which lasted for hours—shortly after the Sony attack, which many suspected to be a US retaliation. —AFP

## Prague hackers' congress to address 'financial freedom'

PRAGUE: A hackers' congress launched in Prague on Friday will discuss new cryptocurrencies and other tools to combat the erosion of financial freedom around the world, organizers said. "Technology will allow users to shake off economic dependence on the state and achieve financial and personal freedom," co-organizer Martin Sip said in a statement at the start of the three-day event. Organizers cited the anonymous cryptocurrencies Monero and Zcash, crypto-markets and decentralized exchange offices as examples of tools that could boost financial freedom.

Amir Taaki, a British-Iranian hacker and expert on the bitcoin cryptocurrency, told reporters in Prague that the western world was going through a social crisis rooted in its economic system. "Today, most of the work that people do in their lives has absolutely no meaning and no purpose whatsoever," said Taaki, who founded Britcoin, Britain's bitcoin exchange. "What is guiding this mechanistic system that uses human



## Tech will allow users to achieve freedoms

beings as objects is... a system of financial enslavement," he said, adding that the system wielded "a really sinister form of social control".

"Our task is to... challenge this system of hierarchy and the state to restore back people's sense of autonomy and free life." "We have to find new forms of economic organization... (and) bitcoin is the biggest tool that we have to challenge the power of the central banks today." Wearing a cap, sunglasses and a mask at Prague's Institute of Cryptoanarchy, which is hosting the congress, a hacker nicknamed Smuggler said freedom suffers in a financial system dominated by central banks.

"We're living in a world where we don't really have money in the sense that we can just transact, but we always have money with permission," he said. Earlier this week, reports said the US-based investment bank Goldman Sachs was looking into ways to trade bitcoin to meet client demand.

This would mean a breakthrough as large banks have so far avoided trading in bitcoin due to its reputation as a conduit for illicit activity.

But financial companies have been active in the development of "blockchain," the underlying technology of bitcoin, which is seen as a potentially major breakthrough. Bitcoin reached the psychologically important milestone of trading at \$5,000 on September 1. It has been retreating since then, trading at \$4,375 on October 2. —AFP

## Mattel scraps plan for digital assistant for kids

WASHINGTON: US toy giant Mattel said Thursday it was cancelling its plan to deliver an artificial intelligence-infused digital speaker for children, following complaints from privacy groups and lawmakers. The device called Aristotle was announced in January during the Consumer Electronics Show as a kid-friendly alternative to digital assistants such as Amazon's Alexa-powered speakers and Google Home, and which could also be used as a baby monitor.

But several activist groups and at least two US lawmakers said Aristotle threatened to undermine privacy and could open up children to marketers, hackers and other threats. Mattel said in an email to AFP that its new chief technical officer Sven Gerjets, who joined the company in July, "conducted an extensive review of the Aristotle product and decided that it did not fully align with Mattel's new technology strategy."

"The decision was then made not to bring Aristotle to the marketplace as part of an ongoing effort to deliver the best possible connected product experience to the consumer," the statement said. Last month, US Senator Ed Markey and Representative Joe Barton sent a letter to Mattel chief executive Margaret Georgiadis warning of privacy issues with the device. —AFP

## Huawei holds opening ceremony of its ICT Skill Competition with KDIPA

KUWAIT CITY: Huawei Technologies Kuwait, a leading global Information and Communication Technology solutions provider, recently held the opening ceremony of the local edition of its global ICT Skill Competition 2017, in a strategic partnership with Kuwait Direct Promotion Investment Authority (KDIPA). Aimed at university students, the program seeks to identify and nurture Kuwait's finest ICT talent fostering the development of the young leaders of tomorrow responsible for driving the country's digital transformation.

The nation-wide competition is held in line with Huawei's commitment to support Kuwait's 2035 vision aimed at fueling the growth of key sectors and industries, and advancing digitalization. The competition, launched for the very first time in Kuwait this year, is a critical initiative for enhancing the quality of future ICT professionals, a key pillar in Kuwait's agenda of building a knowledge-based economy. The competition increases national ICT competitiveness and contributes to local communities.

Students from Kuwait's leading universities have registered for the competition with many more expected to enroll in the coming days. All candidates will undergo rigorous tests. Fifteen among them will then compete in Kuwait's finals that will take place between 5 and 10 November. Kuwait's three finalists will be given the opportunity to travel to Huawei's Headquarter in Shenzhen, China, where the final stage of the competition will take place between 11 and 15 December.

"We are very proud to launch this competition aiming to spearhead innovation and advance the ICT skills of the local population, in close collaboration with KDIPA, leading Kuwait universities and other stakeholders. We wish the technology leaders of tomorrow every success and congratulate them for being at the forefront of innovation as Kuwait enters a new digital era," said Trevor Liu, Huawei Technologies Kuwait CEO. The opening ceremony was attended by senior officials from KDIPA, The Embassy of China to the State of Kuwait, Kuwait University, American University of Kuwait, American University of the Middle East, Australian College of Kuwait, media representatives and Huawei Technologies Kuwait senior management. The most exceptional team of achievers will be awarded US\$ 30,000 cash prize, the next two teams will claim second place and three teams will be awarded third place.

The next seven teams will receive excellence prizes, while six tutors and five academic institutions will also be recognized with the 'Excellent Tutor' and 'Best Academy' Prizes. Winners of the Kuwait Finals will be granted traineeship or employment opportunities with Huawei, as part of its



CEO of Huawei Technologies in Kuwait, Trevor Liu honors Mohammed Yousif Yacoub, Assistant Director General for Business Development at KDIPA



Trevor Liu honors representative of China Embassy to Kuwait

Enterprise Business Group, where they will be exposed to a combination of innovative technologies, including cloud computing, Software-Defined Networking (SDN), Big Data, and Internet of Things (IoT) and interact with ICT experts from different industries such as government, oil & gas and banking. All competition winners will be rewarded with Huawei's latest laptops and smartphones.



— Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

Health

# 'Orthorexia': When healthy eating ends up making you sick

## Orthorexia creeps into wider usage

PARIS: People, it seems, have never been so afraid of their food-and, say some experts, an obsession with healthy eating may paradoxically be endangering lives. Twenty-nine-year-old Frenchwoman Sabrina Debusquat recounts how, over 18 months, she became a vegetarian, then a vegan-eschewing eggs, dairy products and even honey-before becoming a "raw foodist" who avoided all cooked foods, and ultimately decided to eat just fruit.

It was only when her deeply worried boyfriend found clumps of her hair in the bathroom sink and confronted her with the evidence that she realized that she was on a downward path. "I thought I held the truth to food and health, which would allow me to live as long as possible," said Debusquat. "I wanted to get to some kind of pure state. In the end my body overruled my mind." For some specialists, the problem is a modern eating disorder called orthorexia nervosa.

Someone suffering from orthorexia is "imprisoned by a range of rules which they impose on themselves," said Patrick Denoux, a professor in intercultural psychology at the University of Toulouse-Jean Jaures. These very strict self-enforced laws isolate the individual from social food gatherings and in extreme cases, can also endanger health.

Paris nutritionist Sophie Ortega said she had one patient who was going blind due to deficiency of vitamin B12, which is needed to make red-blood cells. B12 is not made by the body, and most people get what they need from animal-derived foods such as eggs, dairy products, meat or fish or from supplements. "A pure, unbending vegan," her patient even refused to take the supplements, said Ortega. "It was as if she preferred to lose her sight... rather than betray her commitment to animals."

### Disease disguised as virtue

The term orthorexia nervosa was coined in the 1990s by the then alternative medicine practitioner Steven Bratman, a San Francisco-based physician. To be clear, orthorexia is not an interest in healthy eating-

it's when enthusiasm becomes a pathological obsession, which leads to social isolation, psychological disturbance and even physical harm. In other words, as Bratman said in a co-authored book in 2000, it's "a disease disguised as a virtue."

But as is often the case in disorders that may have complex psychological causes, there is a strong debate as to whether the condition really exists. The term is trending in western societies, prompting some experts to wonder whether it is being fanned by "cyber-chondria"-self-diagnosis on the internet.

### Not medically recognized

Orthorexia is not part of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, set down by mental health professionals in the United States that is also widely used as a benchmark elsewhere. The fifth edition of this "bible," published in 2013, includes anorexia nervosa and bulimia nervosa, but not orthorexia. "The term orthorexia was proposed as a commonly used term but it is not medically recognized," said Pierre Dechelotte, head of nutrition at Rouen University Hospital in northern France and head of a research unit investigating the link between the brain and the intestines in food behavior.

Even so, says Dechelotte, it has a home in the family of restrictive food-related disorders-but it's not on the radar screen." Alain Perroud, a psychiatrist who has worked in France and Switzerland over the course of a 30-year career, says orthorexia "is much closer to a phobia" than to a food disorder. As with other phobias, the problem may be tackled by cognitive behavioral therapy-talking about incorrect or excessive beliefs, dealing with anxiety-provoking situations and using relaxation techniques and other methods to tackle anxiety, he suggested.

Denoux contends that between two and three percent of the French population suffer from orthorexia, but stresses that there is a lack of reliable data as the condition has not been officially recognized. Denoux's figure seems coherent to Dechelotte, who says that



CALIFORNIA: This file photo shows salad bar selections at a Ralph's Supermarket in Irvine, California. —AFP

“It is a disease disguised as virtue”

women seem to be more than twice as susceptible to the problem as men.

### Bubble of restriction

Outside the world of clinicians, orthorexia seems to be creeping into wider usage. American blogger Jordan Younger has helped to popularize the term, documenting her own painful downward spiral-since reversed-into unhealthy living. On her blog, she describes it as "a bubble of restriction," obsessing over a diet that was "entirely vegan, entirely plant-based, entirely gluten-free, oil-free, refined sugar-free, flour-free, dressing/sauce-free, etc."

Those who seem to be most worried about healthy food are often concerned about food scandals in the

West, Pascale Hebel from the Paris-based CREDOC research centre said. Over nearly three decades, Europe has experienced a string of food safety scandals-beginning with mad-cow disease and continuing recently with insecticide-contaminated eggs-as well as mounting opposition to the use of antibiotics, genetically modified foods and corporate farming practices.

The disorder reflects a craving for control, suggested Denoux: food is seen as a form of medicine to fix a western lifestyle that may be seen as polluting or toxic. "We are living through a time of change in our food culture, which has led us to fundamentally doubt what we are eating," said Denoux. Among believers, this "suspicion of being poisoned is deemed proof of insight." —AFP

## From poacher to ranger: Saving China's Siberian tigers

SUIYANG, China: In the northern mountains bordering Russia, everyone knew the spry Chinese man as a skilled and ruthless hunter-the kind who once killed a mother black bear as her cubs looked on. But instead of stalking the woods for prey, Liang Fenggen now roams the hills without a rifle, working as a ranger to save the area's endangered Siberian tiger population and protect other wildlife. "When I think about what I used to do, it seems so cruel," said Liang, 61, who lives in a small house at the foot of the mountains in northeast Heilongjiang province.

Liang's conversion is the result of efforts by nonprofits like the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Wildlife Conservation Society, which are harnessing the knowledge of local poachers to rescue Siberian (also known as Amur) tigers from extinction. At the crack of dawn every morning, the expert tracker patrols the forested area by foot in search of data for conservation

research: a tiger print here, some wild boar faeces there.

The plight of the world's largest cats is reflected in red banners along the trails leading to the dense woods which proclaim: "Siberian tigers are mankind's friends." About 540 are estimated to exist in the wild in a huge area straddling Russia, China and possibly North Korea, having made a comeback from the brink of extinction in the 1940s, when only around 40 Amurs were left, according to WWF. Their biggest threat is humans-both those who poach the tigers to sell their parts on the black market and those who illegally hunt their prey. While Liang has never seen a Siberian tiger-his targets were wild boars and black bears-he says he was indifferent to their plight, and even more so to how his own hunting contributed to the depletion of their food sources. "I thought of animals as a prize to be captured," Liang said, "until I slowly had a change of heart."

### Familiar territory

Liang ascends the wooded mountains wearing a full camouflage outfit, complete with cloth strips wrapped tightly around his ankles to keep water out. In the winter, he braves minus 30-degree Celsius temperatures. The ranger collects Siberian tiger waste samples for DNA population tracking and uses a GPS device to transmit the coordinates of paw prints and deer carcasses-evidence of paths the tigers have travelled. It is all familiar terrain for Liang, who traversed the mountains as a precocious kid killing for sport and survival.

Even while food shortages plagued the country during Chairman Mao Zedong's rule, Liang's family always had enough to eat because he and his father would bring home wild boars. "It's known around the country that Liang was ever the practiced poacher," said Jin Yongchao, an officer in WWF's northeast China office. "He has influenced many others." Some 30 Heilongjiang hunters have traded in their hunting rifles for ranger uniforms, Jin said.

Working in conservation did not always come naturally to Liang. After he was recruited in 2004 to become a ranger for Suiyang's forestry bureau, he surreptitiously



CHINA: In this picture, Siberian tigers sleep under a shelter at the Hengdaohezi Siberian Tiger Park in Hengdaohezi township on the outskirts of Mudanjiang. —AFP

continued hunting after dark. "It was a hard habit to kick," said Liang, who finally stopped more than a decade ago. Now, he said, "as long as my body allows and as long as the forestry bureau needs me, I will continue to protect the tigers with my whole heart and soul." —AFP

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What's On

# Hardee's, MSAL celebrate International Elder's Day



Within its social responsibility and in celebrating the International Day for Older Persons in collaboration with MSAL, Hardee's restaurants helped cheer up the elderly during the annual ceremony organized by MSAL's social care sector held under auspices and with the presence of Minister of Social Affairs and Labor and Minister of State Economic Development, Hind Al-Sabeeh. AMERICANA's administrative manager in Kuwait, Ehab Rehan said that Hardee's participation in this celebration is part of its constructive social responsibility towards various sects of the Kuwaiti society.

## LuLu Hypermarket launches 11-day Festival of Egypt

LuLu Hypermarket, the leading retailer in the region, launched the 11-day Festival of Egypt promotion at all its outlets on October 5, 2017. The festival was inaugurated at the Hypermarket's Al-Dajeej branch by His Excellency Yasser Atif, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Kuwait, along with the top management from LuLu Hypermarket, in the presence of a large crowd of shoppers and well-wishers.

The Festival of Egypt, which runs from October 4 to 14, showcases the wide diversity of Egyptian foods including specialty cheese, fresh fruits, tender vegetables, fish, meat and olives. Among the products being highlighted at the festival are luscious mangoes, oranges, strawberries, grapes, watermelons and pomegranates.

A cultural extravaganza is also being held as part of the festival and features traditional music and dances of Egypt, including the famous Saidi horse-dance, zaffa the marriage procession dance and the vibrant tanoura. In addition, special magic shows and painted clowns will entertain children on October 5 and 6.

The promotion period will also witness several competitions, including clay modeling and a fashion show of traditional costumes for children below the age of 12. The Festival of Egypt once again reiterates LuLu Hypermarket commitment to interacting with their customers at every touch-point. The promotion also creates opportunities for people from different communities to come together and enjoy each other's cultures, cuisines and foods.



## CBK organizes blood donation campaign



Within its humanitarian activities, the Commercial Bank of Kuwait (CBK) recently organized a blood donation campaign for its employees. CBK's assistant director for PR and publicity, Amani Al-Wer'a said that the campaign was organized in collaboration with the Central Blood Bank to help increase the strategic reserves of blood and provide health facilities with the amounts needed to save patients' lives.

## Singer Kavalam Sreekumar to attend NAFO Onam fest

Renowned Malayalam singer Kavalam Sreekumar is coming to Kuwait to present 'Ragamanjari,' a signature musical concert organized by NAFO Kuwait as part of its Onam celebrations. Son of Padmashree late Kavalam Narayana Panicker, Sreekumar will present rare compositions of classical songs, Onam folk songs, folk songs and poetic renditions during the celebrations.

He will be accompanied by prominent instrumentalists and percussionists: Balamurali - violin, Hari Perunna - mridangam, Iqbal Koyilandi - tabla and Ragesh V Ramakrishnan - ginjara. Nafo Kuwait is celebrating Onam 2017 on October 13, 2017, at the Indian Community School, Khaitan from 10 am onwards. A variety of cultural stage shows by NAFO family members, portraying the nostalgic memories of Onam and cultural heritages of India will also be highlights of the day-long celebrations. A grand traditional "Onasadya" will be served to all the guests and attendees.



Japanese movie "The Projects - Japan - 2016" directed by Junji Sakamoto will play in Yarmouk Cultural Center on October 12, 2017 at 7 pm.



TV



00:00 REC 3 Genesis  
01:20 Judge Dredd  
03:00 The Gallows  
04:20 The Tower  
06:20 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part II  
08:35 Big Game  
10:05 Judge Dredd  
11:40 Blackhat  
13:55 6 Ways To Sundown  
15:35 Batman: The Killing Joke  
16:55 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part II  
19:10 The Legend Of Zorro  
21:20 Entrapment  
23:15 Wyrnwood: Road Of The Dead



00:45 Swamp Brothers  
01:13 Swamp Brothers  
01:49 Swamp Brothers  
02:08 Swamp Brothers  
02:35 Swamp Brothers  
03:00 Swamp Brothers  
03:25 Swamp Brothers  
03:50 Swamp Brothers  
04:15 Swamp Brothers  
04:39 Swamp Brothers  
05:02 Rugged Justice  
05:49 Rugged Justice  
06:36 Night  
07:00 Night  
07:25 Whale Wars  
08:15 Treehouse Masters  
09:10 Treehouse Masters  
10:05 Treehouse Masters  
11:00 Treehouse Masters  
11:55 Treehouse Masters  
12:50 Dinosaurs In The Outback  
13:45 Wild Animal Rescue  
14:40 Dogs 101: New Tricks  
15:08 Dogs 101: New Tricks  
15:35 Swamp Brothers  
16:03 Swamp Brothers  
16:30 Swamp Brothers  
16:58 Swamp Brothers  
17:25 Swamp Brothers  
17:53 Swamp Brothers  
18:20 Expedition Mungo  
19:15 Man-Eating Super Squid  
20:10 Pit Bulls & Parolees  
21:05 Wildest Latin America  
22:00 Wildest Latin America  
22:55 Untamed & Uncut  
23:50 Untamed & Uncut



00:00 EastEnders  
00:30 The Good Karma Hospital  
01:20 The Durrells  
02:10 Kat & Alfie: Redwater  
03:05 Doctor Foster  
04:00 Doctors  
04:30 EastEnders  
05:00 Death In Paradise  
06:00 Father Brown  
06:50 EastEnders  
07:20 Stella  
08:10 New Tricks  
09:10 Doctors  
09:40 EastEnders  
10:10 Father Brown  
11:00 The Coroner  
11:50 Stella  
12:35 New Tricks  
13:30 Doctors  
14:00 EastEnders  
14:30 Father Brown  
15:25 Stella  
16:10 New Tricks  
17:10 The Coroner  
18:00 Doctors  
18:30 EastEnders  
19:05 Father Brown  
20:00 Kat & Alfie: Redwater  
21:00 Luther  
21:50 Unforgotten  
22:40 Unforgotten  
23:30 Doctors



00:00 Paranormal State  
00:30 Paranormal State  
01:00 The Haunting Of...  
02:00 They Took Our Child, We Got Her Back  
03:00 Escaping Polygamy  
04:00 Paranormal State  
04:30 Paranormal State  
05:00 The Haunting Of...  
06:00 The First 48  
07:00 The First 48  
08:00 Private Crimes  
08:30 Private Crimes  
09:00 Cold Case Files  
10:00 Cold Case Files  
11:00 Evil Up Close  
12:00 Evil Up Close  
13:00 Evil Up Close  
14:00 Nightmare In Suburbia  
15:00 Nightmare In Suburbia  
16:00 Homicide Hunter  
17:00 Homicide Hunter  
18:00 Cold Case Files  
19:00 Cold Case Files  
20:00 The First 48  
21:00 Homicide Hunter  
22:00 I Didn't Do It  
23:00 Homicide: Hours To Kill



00:05 Problematic With Moshe Kasher  
00:30 The Half Hour  
00:55 Tosh.0  
01:20 Tosh.0  
01:45 Russell Howard's Stand Up Central  
02:10 Russell Howard's Stand Up Central  
02:35 South Park  
03:00 The Daily Show - Global Edition  
03:25 Inside Amy Schumer  
03:50 Another Period  
04:15 Idiotsitter  
04:40 Nathan For You  
05:05 Tosh.0  
05:30 Disaster Date  
05:55 Ridiculousness Arabia  
06:20 Framework  
07:15 Lip Sync Battle  
07:40 Lip Sync Battle  
08:05 The Jim Gaffigan Show  
08:30 Brotherhood  
08:55 Workaholics  
09:20 Idiotsitter  
09:45 Nathan For You  
10:10 Tosh.0  
10:35 Framework  
11:25 Disaster Date  
11:50 Comedy Central Presents  
Comedy 3alwagef  
12:17 Impractical Jokers  
12:40 Lip Sync Battle  
13:05 Lip Sync Battle  
13:30 Nathan For You  
13:55 The Jim Gaffigan Show  
14:20 Brotherhood  
14:45 Workaholics

15:10 Friends  
15:35 Ridiculousness Arabia  
16:00 Comedy Central Presents  
Comedy 3alwagef  
16:30 Impractical Jokers  
16:55 Workaholics  
17:20 Brotherhood  
17:45 Idiotsitter  
18:10 The Jim Gaffigan Show  
18:35 Lip Sync Battle  
19:00 Lip Sync Battle  
19:25 Impractical Jokers  
19:50 Friends  
20:13 Friends  
20:35 Real Husbands Of Hollywood  
21:00 The President Show  
21:30 Ridiculousness Arabia  
22:00 The Half Hour  
22:25 Lip Sync Battle  
22:50 Real Husbands Of Hollywood  
23:15 Detroiters  
23:40 The President Show



00:30 Destroyed In Seconds  
00:55 Destroyed In Seconds  
01:20 Destroyed In Seconds  
01:45 Destroyed In Seconds  
02:10 Playhouse Masters  
03:00 Playhouse Masters  
03:50 Ultimate Survival  
04:40 Ultimate Survival  
05:30 Finding Bigfoot  
06:20 How It's Made  
06:40 How It's Made  
07:00 Finding Bigfoot  
07:50 Finding Bigfoot  
08:40 How It's Made  
09:05 How It's Made  
09:30 How It's Made  
09:55 How It's Made  
10:20 How It's Made  
10:45 How It's Made  
11:10 How It's Made  
11:35 How It's Made  
12:00 How It's Made  
12:25 How It's Made  
12:50 Destroyed In Seconds  
13:15 Destroyed In Seconds  
13:40 Destroyed In Seconds  
14:05 Destroyed In Seconds  
14:30 Destroyed In Seconds  
14:55 Destroyed In Seconds  
15:20 Destroyed In Seconds  
15:45 Destroyed In Seconds  
16:10 Destroyed In Seconds  
16:35 Destroyed In Seconds  
17:00 How It's Made  
17:25 How It's Made  
17:50 Guinness World Records  
Smashed New Zealand  
18:15 Guinness World Records  
Smashed New Zealand  
18:40 Troy  
19:30 Serious Desert  
19:55 Serious Desert  
20:20 Space Dealers  
21:10 Mermaids: The New Evidence  
22:00 Storm Chasers  
22:50 Storm Chasers  
23:40 Storm Chasers



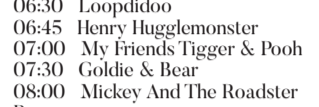
00:30 Kindred Spirits  
01:20 Adnan Syed: Innocent Or Guilty?  
02:10 Evil Online  
03:00 I Am Homicide  
03:48 Forbidden: Dying For Love  
04:36 True Nightmares  
05:24 Disappeared  
06:12 Fatal Encounters  
07:00 Disappeared  
07:50 Disappeared  
08:40 Disappeared  
09:30 Disappeared  
10:20 Disappeared  
11:10 Grave Secrets  
12:00 I Almost Got Away With It  
12:50 I Almost Got Away With It  
13:40 I Almost Got Away With It  
14:30 I Almost Got Away With It  
15:20 I Almost Got Away With It  
16:10 Fatal Encounters  
17:00 Vanity Fair Confidential  
17:50 Vanity Fair Confidential  
18:40 Vanity Fair Confidential  
19:30 Vanity Fair Confidential  
20:20 Vanity Fair Confidential  
21:10 Is O.J. Innocent? The Missing Evidence  
22:00 Disappeared  
22:50 Devil In The Details  
23:40 Kindred Spirits



00:00 Hank Zipzer  
00:25 Alex & Co.  
00:45 The Hive  
00:50 Evermoor Chronicles  
01:15 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
01:40 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
02:05 Binny And The Ghost  
02:30 Binny And The Ghost  
02:55 Hank Zipzer  
03:15 The Hive  
03:20 Hank Zipzer  
03:45 Alex & Co.  
04:10 Alex & Co.  
04:35 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
05:00 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
05:25 Binny And The Ghost  
05:45 The Hive  
05:50 Rolling With The Ronks  
06:00 Jessie  
06:25 Liv And Maddie  
06:50 Descendants 2  
08:35 Bunk'd  
09:00 K.C. Undercover  
09:25 K.C. Undercover  
09:50 Stuck In The Middle  
10:15 Stuck In The Middle  
10:40 Teen Beach 2  
12:20 Stuck In The Middle  
12:45 Stuck In The Middle  
13:10 Stuck In The Middle  
13:35 Stuck In The Middle  
14:00 Stuck In The Middle  
14:25 K.C. Undercover  
14:50 K.C. Undercover  
15:15 Jessie  
15:40 Jessie  
16:05 Descendants Wicked World  
16:10 Girl Meets World  
16:35 Austin & Ally  
17:00 Austin & Ally  
17:25 Descendants 2  
19:15 The Zhuzhus  
19:30 Liv And Maddie  
19:55 Elena Of Avalor  
20:10 Jessie  
20:45 Bizaardvark  
21:15 Austin & Ally  
21:35 Stuck In The Middle  
22:00 Bunk'd  
22:25 Miraculous Tales Of Ladybug & Cat Noir  
22:50 Lolirock  
23:10 Sabrina Secrets Of A Teenage Witch  
23:35 Binny And The Ghost



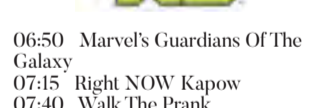
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00:15 Calimero  
00:30 Art Attack  
00:55 Henry Hugglemonster  
01:05 Loopdidoo  
01:20 Henry Hugglemonster  
01:35 Calimero  
01:50 Henry Hugglemonster  
02:05 Art Attack  
02:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
02:40 Loopdidoo  
02:55 Henry Hugglemonster  
03:10 Art Attack  
03:35 Loopdidoo  
03:50 Calimero  
04:05 Art Attack  
04:30 Henry Hugglemonster  
04:45 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:00 Art Attack  
05:20 Henry Hugglemonster  
05:45 Loopdidoo  
06:00 Henry Hugglemonster  
06:15 Calimero  
06:30 Loopdidoo  
06:45 Henry Hugglemonster  
07:00 My Friends Tigger & Pooh  
07:30 Goldie & Bear  
08:00 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
08:30 Doc McStuffins  
09:00 PJ Masks  
09:30 Sofia The First  
10:00 Sofia The First  
10:30 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
11:00 The Lion Guard  
11:30 The Lion Guard  
12:00 The Lion Guard  
12:30 The Lion Guard  
13:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
13:30 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
14:00 Sheriff Callie's Wild West  
14:30 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
15:00 Goldie & Bear  
15:30 Miles From Tomorrow  
16:00 Doc McStuffins Toy Hospital  
16:30 My Friends Tigger & Pooh  
17:00 The Lion Guard  
17:30 Sofia The First  
18:00 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
18:30 Mickey Mouse Clubhouse  
19:00 PJ Masks  
19:25 Harry And Bip  
19:35 The Lion Guard  
20:05 Goldie & Bear  
20:35 Mickey And The Roadster Racers  
21:05 Doc McStuffins Toy Hospital  
21:35 Miles From Tomorrow  
21:50 Jake And The Never Land Pirates  
22:20 Sofia The First  
22:50 PJ Masks  
23:20 Henry Hugglemonster  
23:40 Loopdidoo



00:15 Supertruckers  
01:00 Fast N' Loud  
01:45 Kings Of The Wild  
02:30 Misfit Garage  
03:15 Fast N' Loud  
04:00 The Island With Bear Grylls  
04:45 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive  
05:35 How Do They Do It?  
06:00 Outback Truckers  
06:45 Misfit Garage  
07:30 Fast N' Loud  
08:15 Kings Of The Wild  
09:00 Garage Gold  
09:25 How Do They Do It?  
09:47 How Do They Do It?  
10:10 Alaskan Bush People  
10:55 Alaska: The Last Frontier  
11:40 Supertruckers  
12:25 How Do They Do It?  
12:47 Garage Gold  
13:10 Alaska: The Last Frontier  
13:55 Kings Of The Wild  
14:40 Outback Truckers  
15:25 Fast N' Loud  
16:10 Misfit Garage  
17:00 How Do They Do It?  
17:25 How Do They Do It?  
17:50 Garage Gold  
18:20 Garage Gold  
18:50 Kings Of The Wild  
19:40 How Do They Do It?  
21:00 Idris Elba: No Limits  
21:50 Mega Trains  
22:40 What On Earth?  
23:30 Fast N' Loud  
06:00 Disney II  
06:25 Supa Strikas



00:15 Supertruckers  
01:00 Fast N' Loud  
01:45 Kings Of The Wild  
02:30 Misfit Garage  
03:15 Fast N' Loud  
04:00 The Island With Bear Grylls  
04:45 Bear Grylls: Mission Survive  
05:35 How Do They Do It?  
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12:25 How Do They Do It?  
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14:40 Outback Truckers  
15:25 Fast N' Loud  
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17:00 How Do They Do It?  
17:25 How Do They Do It?  
17:50 Garage Gold  
18:20 Garage Gold  
18:50 Kings Of The Wild  
19:40 How Do They Do It?  
21:00 Idris Elba: No Limits  
21:50 Mega Trains  
22:40 What On Earth?  
23:30 Fast N' Loud  
06:00 Disney II  
06:25 Supa Strikas



06:50 Marvel's Guardians Of The Galaxy  
07:15 Right NOW Kapow  
07:40 Walk The Prank  
08:05 Marvel's Ant-Man  
08:10 Gravity Falls  
08:35 Gravity Falls  
09:00 Kirby Buckets Warped  
09:25 Kirby Buckets Warped  
09:50 Supa Strikas  
10:20 Supa Strikas  
10:45 Mech-X4  
11:10 Mech-X4  
11:35 Right NOW Kapow  
12:00 Right NOW Kapow  
12:30 Walk The Prank  
12:55 Supa Strikas  
13:20 Kirby Buckets  
13:45 Marvel's Spider-Man  
14:10 Disney Mickey Mouse  
14:15 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
14:40 Gravity Falls  
15:05 Lab Rats Elite Force  
15:30 Milo Murphy's Law  
15:55 Right NOW Kapow  
16:25 Walk The Prank  
16:50 Penn Zero: Part Time Hero  
17:15 Mech-X4  
17:40 Gravity Falls  
18:05 Supa Strikas  
18:30 Marvel's Ant-Man  
18:35 Milo Murphy's Law  
19:00 Lab Rats  
19:25 Right NOW Kapow  
19:50 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
19:55 Mech-X4  
20:20 Walk The Prank  
20:45 Gamer's Guide To Pretty Much Everything  
21:10 Gravity Falls  
21:35 Marvel's Rocket And Groot  
21:40 Disney Mickey Mouse  
21:45 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
22:10 Lab Rats: Bionic Island  
22:35 Phineas & Ferb  
23:00 Programmes Start At 6:00am KSA



03:50 Mariah's World  
04:40 Mariah's World  
05:30 Celebrity Style Story  
06:00 Just Jillian  
06:50 E! News  
07:20 Just Jillian  
08:10 E! News  
09:10 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
10:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
10:50 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
11:40 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
12:30 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
13:20 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
14:10 E! News  
15:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
16:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
17:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
18:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
19:00 E! News  
20:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
21:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians  
22:00 WAGs Miami  
23:00 Keeping Up With The Kardashians



00:00 Man Fire Food  
00:30 Man Fire Food  
01:00 Restaurant Stakeout  
02:00 Mystery Diners  
02:30 Mystery Diners  
03:00 Man Fire Food  
03:30 Man Fire Food  
04:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
04:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
05:00 Guy's Grocery Games  
06:00 Roadtrip With G. Garvin  
06:25 Roadtrip With G. Garvin  
06:50 Man Fire Food  
07:15 Chopped  
08:05 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics  
08:30 Barefoot Contessa: Back To Basics  
08:55 The Pioneer Woman  
09:20 The Pioneer Woman  
09:50 Siba's Table  
10:20 Siba's Table  
10:50 Bake With Anna Olson  
11:20 Chopped  
12:10 Man Fire Food  
12:35 Man Fire Food  
13:05 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
13:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
14:00 Chopped  
15:00 Barefoot Contessa  
15:30 Barefoot Contessa  
16:00 The Pioneer Woman  
16:30 The Pioneer Woman  
17:00 Siba's Table  
17:30 Siba's Table  
18:00 Bake With Anna Olson  
18:30 Bake With Anna Olson  
19:00 Man Fire Food  
19:30 Man Fire Food  
20:00 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
20:30 Diners, Drive-Ins And Dives  
21:00 Siba's Table  
21:30 Siba's Table  
22:00 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous Food Academy  
22:30 Jenny And Reza's Fabulous Food Academy  
23:00 Chopped



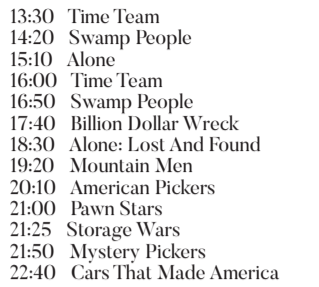
00:10 Coronation Street  
00:35 Coronation Street  
01:00 The Chase  
02:00 Coronation Street  
03:00 Coronation Street  
03:30 Coronation Street  
03:55 Catchphrase  
04:30 Catchphrase  
05:05 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
05:30 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
06:00 Doctor Thorne  
06:50 The Jonathan Ross Show  
07:50 Midsomer Murders  
09:30 Victoria  
10:25 Grantchester  
11:25 The Jonathan Ross Show  
12:20 Catchphrase  
12:55 Catchphrase  
13:55 Paul O'Grady: For The Love Of Dogs  
14:05 Tracey Ullman's Show  
14:35 Grantchester  
15:30 Victoria  
16:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
17:25 Midsomer Murders  
19:00 Catchphrase  
19:45 Doctor Thorne  
20:40 Victoria  
21:30 The Jonathan Ross Show  
22:25 Midsomer Murders



00:00 Ancient Aliens  
01:00 Ancient Aliens  
02:00 Ancient Aliens  
02:50 Ancient Aliens  
03:00 Ancient Aliens  
03:30 Ancient Aliens  
04:30 Ancient Aliens  
05:20 Ancient Aliens  
06:10 Ancient Aliens  
07:00 Ancient Impossible  
08:00 Ancient Impossible  
09:00 Serial Killer Earth  
10:00 Serial Killer Earth  
11:00 Hangar I: The UFO Files  
12:00 Hangar I: The UFO Files  
13:00 Ancient Impossible  
14:00 Ancient Impossible  
15:00 Serial Killer Earth  
16:00 Serial Killer Earth  
17:00 Hangar I: The UFO Files  
18:00 Ancient Aliens  
19:00 The Lost Evidence  
20:00 United Staff Of America  
21:00 Atlantis Found  
23:00 DB Cooper: Case Closed?



00:20 Mystery Pickers  
01:00 Mountain Men  
02:40 Leupold And Pitbull  
02:50 Storage Wars  
03:15 Pawn Stars  
03:40 Pawn Stars Australia  
04:05 Pawn Stars South Africa  
04:30 Pawn Stars South Africa  
05:00 Game Trade  
06:00 Big Easy Motors  
06:25 Big Easy Motors  
06:50 Duck Dynasty  
07:45 Counting Cars  
08:05 Counting Cars  
08:30 Pawn Stars  
09:25 Aussie Pickers  
10:10 Ax Men  
11:00 The Curse Of Oak Island  
11:50 Duck Dynasty  
12:15 Duck Dynasty  
12:40 Counting Cars  
13:05 Counting Cars



00:15 Straight To The Source: Korean Food  
00:45 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
01:10 Street Food Around The World  
01:40 Raw Travel  
02:05 Fish Of The Day  
02:35 Dog Whisperer  
03:30 Rustic Adventures Italy  
03:55 Cruise Ship Diaries  
04:50 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
05:20 Lee Chan's World Food Tour  
05:45 Rustic Adventures Italy  
06:15 Rustic Adventures Italy  
07:10 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
07:35 David Rocco's Dolce Vita  
08:05 Straight To The Source: Korean Food  
08:30 Straight To The Source: Korean Food  
09:00 Cesar To The Rescue  
09:55 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
10:20 Places We Go  
10:50 Places We Go  
11:15 Route Awakening  
11:45 Around The World In 80 Dishes  
12:40 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
13:05 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
13:35 Dog Whisperer  
14:30 My Pacific Quest  
15:25 Cruise Ship Diaries  
16:20 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
16:45 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
17:15 Rustic Adventures Italy  
17:40 Rustic Adventures Italy  
18:10 The Wine Show  
19:05 Cruise Ship Diaries  
20:00 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
20:30 John Torode's Malaysian Adventure  
21:00 Rustic Adventures Italy  
21:30 Rustic Adventures Italy  
22:00 The Wine Show  
22:55 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
23:20 Lyndey Milan - Taste Of Australia  
23:50 Dog Whisperer



00:10 Highway Thru Hell  
01:00 Seconds From Disaster  
01:30 Seconds From Disaster  
02:00 Big Fish, Texas  
03:00 Wicked Tuna  
04:00 Exploring Malaysia  
04:30 Exploring Malaysia  
05:00 Future China 2049  
06:00 Sea Patrol  
07:00 Highway Thru Hell  
08:00 Hard Time  
09:00 Locked Up Abroad  
Compilations  
10:00 Last Days Of Man  
11:00 Last Days Of Man  
12:00 Exploring Malaysia  
13:00 Exploring Malaysia  
14:00 Dog Whisperer  
15:00 Big Fish, Texas  
16:00 Wicked Tuna  
17:00 Future China 2049  
18:00 Seconds From Disaster  
18:30 Seconds From Disaster  
19:00 Big Fish, Texas  
20:00 Wicked Tuna  
20:50 Future China 2049  
21:40 Seconds From Disaster  
22:05 Seconds From Disaster  
23:20 Big Fish, Texas  
23:20 Dark Secrets Of The Lusitania



00:20 Walking With Giraffes  
01:10 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
02:00 Safari Brothers  
02:50 Survive The Wild  
03:45 Strangest Bird Alive  
04:40 World's Deadliest Animal Apocalypse  
05:35 Cougar v. Wolf  
06:30 Monster Fish  
07:25 Monster Fish  
08:20 Man v. Animal  
08:45 Man v. Animal  
09:15 Wild Case Files  
10:10 Dr. K's Exotic Animal ER  
11:05 Animals Gone Wild  
12:00 Freaks & Creeps  
12:55 Man v. Monster  
13:50 Savage Kingdom  
14:45 South Africa  
15:40 India's Lost Worlds  
16:35 The Blind Monkey  
17:30 Monster Fish  
18:25 Wild Colombia (1x60 Cutdown)  
19:20 South Africa  
20:10 India's Lost Worlds  
21:00 The Blind Monkey  
21:50 Monster Fish  
22:40 Wild Colombia (1x60 Cutdown)  
23:30 Freaks & Creeps



00:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
00:36 Rabbids Invasion  
01:00 Rabbids Invasion  
01:24 Sanjay And Craig  
01:48 Sanjay And Craig  
02:12 Winx Club  
02:36 Winx Club  
03:00 Harvey Beaks  
03:24 Harvey Beaks  
03:48 The Loud House  
04:12 The Loud House  
04:36 Breadwinners  
05:00 Breadwinners  
05:24 Get Blake  
05:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
06:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
06:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
07:00 The Loud House  
07:24 Rabbids Invasion  
07:48 Get Blake  
08:12 Harvey Beaks  
08:36 Sanjay And Craig  
09:00 Rank The Prank  
09:24 Henry Danger  
09:48 100 Things To Do Before High School

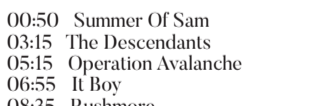
10:12 Game Shakers  
10:36 Regal Academy  
11:00 Winx Club  
11:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
11:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
12:12 The Loud House  
12:36 Rabbids Invasion  
13:00 Breadwinners  
13:24 Sanjay And Craig  
13:48 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
14:12 School Of Rock  
14:36 100 Things To Do Before High School  
15:00 Hunter Street  
15:24 Breadwinners  
15:48 SpongeBob SquarePants  
16:12 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
16:36 The Loud House  
17:00 Sanjay And Craig  
17:24 Harvey Beaks  
17:48 Hunter Street  
18:12 Henry Danger  
18:36 Nicky, Ricky, Dicky & Dawn  
19:00 School Of Rock  
19:24 Game Shakers  
19:48 Game Shakers  
20:12 SpongeBob SquarePants  
20:36 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles  
21:00 The Loud House  
21:24 Sanjay And Craig  
21:48 Rabbids Invasion  
22:12 Breadwinners  
22:36 Harvey Beaks  
23:00 SpongeBob SquarePants  
23:24 SpongeBob SquarePants  
23:48 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles



00:14 Paw Patrol  
00:36 Paw Patrol  
00:59 Paw Patrol  
01:24 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
01:46 Team Umizoomi  
02:09 Team Umizoomi  
02:31 Paw Patrol  
02:55 Paw Patrol  
03:19 Shimmer And Shine  
03:42 Shimmer And Shine  
04:05 Nella The Princess Knight  
04:27 Nella The Princess Knight  
04:50 Rusty Rivets  
05:14 Rusty Rivets  
05:37 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
06:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
06:24 Paw Patrol  
06:37 Dora The Explorer  
07:00 Zack & Quack  
07:21 Bubble Guppies  
07:44 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
08:07 Dora And Friends  
08:53 Nella The Princess Knight  
09:15 The Day Henry Met  
09:22 Paw Patrol  
09:45 Rusty Rivets  
10:00 Paw Patrol  
10:22 Paw Patrol  
10:44 Paw Patrol  
11:07 Paw Patrol  
11:29 Paw Patrol  
12:36 Paw Patrol  
12:59 Paw Patrol  
13:24 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
13:46 Team Umizoomi  
14:09 Team Umizoomi  
14:31 Paw Patrol  
14:55 Paw Patrol  
15:19 Shimmer And Shine  
15:42 Shimmer And Shine  
16:05 Nella The Princess Knight  
16:27 Nella The Princess Knight  
16:50 Rusty Rivets  
17:14 Rusty Rivets  
17:37 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
18:00 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
18:24 Paw Patrol  
18:37 Dora The Explorer  
19:00 Zack & Quack  
19:21 Bubble Guppies  
19:44 Blaze And The Monster Machines  
20:07 Paw Patrol  
20:30 Shimmer And Shine  
20:53 Nella The Princess Knight  
21:15 The Day Henry Met  
21:22 Paw Patrol  
21:45 Rusty Rivets  
21:57 Wallykazam!  
22:20 Fresh Beat Band Of Spies  
22:42 Zack & Quack  
22:52 Team Umizoomi  
23:15 Shimmer And Shine  
23:39 Shimmer And Shine



00:00 Toy Story 2  
01:35 Toy Story 3  
03:20 The Muppets  
05:05 Pirates Of The Caribbean: On Stranger Tides  
07:25 Toy Story  
09:00 Oliver & Company  
10:20 Toy Story 2  
11:55 Toy Story 3  
13:40 Oliver & Company  
15:00 Frankenweenie  
16:30 The Santa Clause 3  
18:05 Ice Princess  
19:45 Beverly Hills Chihuahua  
21:20 Frankenweenie  
22:50 Ice Princess



00:50 Summer Of Sam  
03:15 The Descendants  
05:15 Operation Avalanche  
06:55 It Boy  
08:35 Rushmore  
10:15 The Descendants  
12:15 Jappeloup  
14:25 Oleanna  
16:05 The Inevitable Defeat Of Mister & Pete  
18:00 Lawrence Of Arabia  
21:40 A Little Chaos  
23:40 Farewell My Queen  
OSN Movies Kids HD  
00:20 Hotel For Dogs  
02:05 Ghosthunters On Ice Trails  
03:50 DuckTales: The Movie  
05:10 Song Of The Sea  
06:50 The Incredible Adventures Of Professor Branstewart  
08:00 Ploddy Police Car  
09:30 Krazzy Planet  
10:45 Ozzy  
12:25 Funny Little Cars  
13:30 DuckTales: The Movie  
14:50 Song Of The Sea  
16:30 The Happy Cricket  
18:00 Ozzy  
19:40 Albert  
21:10 Swan Princess: Royally Undercover  
22:35 The Happy Cricket



00:15 End Of Days  
02:20 Con Air  
04:20 Seventh Son

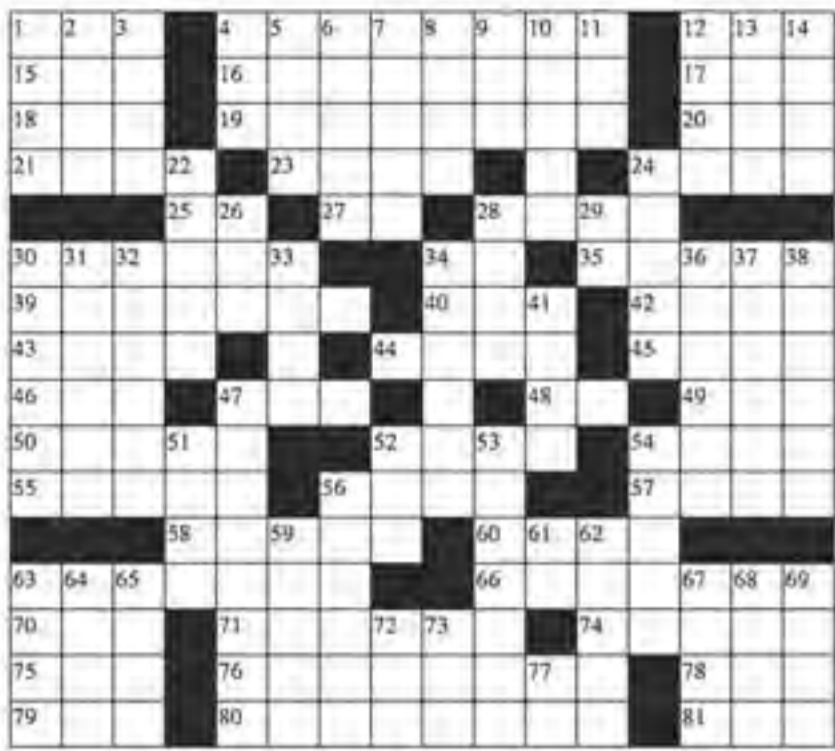
06:05 Spotlight  
08:15 Inception  
10:50 Dirty Dancing  
13:05 Seventh Son  
14:55 Max  
16:50 Forces Of Nature  
18:40 Nacho Libre  
20:20 Dangerous Minds  
22:00 St. Elmo's Fire  
23:55 Wanted



00:30 The Future Of...  
01:20 The Future Of...  
02:10 The Future Of...  
03:00 The Future Of...  
03:48 How Do They Do It?  
04:12 How Do They Do It?  
04:36 How Do They Do It?  
05:00 How Do They Do It?  
05:24 Food Factory  
05:48 Food Factory  
06:12 Food Factory  
06:36 Food Factory  
07:00 How Do They Do It?  
07:26 The Future Of...  
08:14 The Future Of...  
09:02 The Future Of...  
09:50 The Future Of...  
10:38 The Future Of...  
11:26 Mythbusters  
12:14 Mythbusters  
13:02 Mythbusters  
13:50 Mythbusters  
14:38 Mythbusters  
15:26 Food Factory  
15:50 Food Factory  
16:14 Food Factory  
16:38 Food Factory  
17:02 Food Factory  
17:26 How Do They Do It?  
17

Stars

CROSSWORD 1729



ACROSS

1. Characteristic of a mob.
4. Moths whose larvae are cutworms.
12. The part of the nervous system of vertebrates that controls involuntary actions of the smooth muscles and heart and glands.
15. Any of various primates with short tails or no tail at all.
16. Having a single pole.
17. (British) A waterproof raincoat made of rubberized fabric.
18. Having leadership guidance.
19. A river in northeastern Brazil that flows generally northward to the Atlantic Ocean.
20. One of the most common of the five major classes of immunoglobulins.
21. A fraudulent business scheme.
23. Sew up the eyelids of hawks and falcons.
25. A silvery ductile metallic element found primarily in bauxite.
27. An official prosecutor for a judicial district.
30. A port city in southwestern Iran.
35. Infestation of the pubic hair by crab lice.
39. A tricycle (usually propelled by pedalling).
40. The elementary stages of any subject (usually plural).
42. The fleshy part of the human body that you sit on.
43. The largest continent with 60% of the earth's population.
44. 10 jiao equal 1 yuan.
45. (Roman mythology) God of love.
46. Standard time in the 6th time zone west of Greenwich, reckoned at the 90th meridian.
48. Being ten more than one hundred ninety.
49. A dark-skinned member of a race of people living in Australia when Europeans arrived.
50. German writer (1830-1914).
55. Either of two large African antelopes of the genus *Taurotragus* having short spirally twisted horns in both sexes.
57. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
58. Yellow-fever mosquitos.
60. Other than what is under consideration or implied.
63. English author.
66. A genus of Paridae.
70. A loose sleeveless outer garment made from aba cloth.
71. Cause to undergo mutation.
74. (folklore) A corpse that rises at night to drink the blood of the living.
75. An arrangement of objects or people side by side in a line.
76. Robber flies.
78. To make a mistake or be incorrect.
79. The habitation of wild animals.
80. The state of being neat and smart and trim.
81. (meaning literally 'born') Used to indicate the maiden or family name of a married woman.

5. Type genus of the Anatidae.
6. Depleted of strength or energy.
7. Transient cessation of respiration.
8. Fossil fuel consisting of carbonized vegetable matter deposited in the Carboniferous period.
9. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
10. A brief description given for purposes of identification.
11. A constellation in the southern hemisphere near Telescopium and Norma.
12. Type genus of the Amidae.
13. Medium-sized tree having glossy lanceolate leaves.
14. The act of scanning.
22. Genus of sticky herbs with yellow flowers open in morning or evening but closed in bright light.
24. A morel whose fertile portion resembles a bell and is attached to the stipe only at the top.
26. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects.
28. A small cake leavened with yeast.
29. A radioactive element of the actinide series.
31. German mathematician and astronomer who made accurate measurements of stellar distances and who predicted the existence on an 8th planet (1784-1846).
32. One of 7 to 12 sons of Aditi.
33. A quantity of no importance.
34. South American plant cultivated for its large fragrant trumpet-shaped flowers.
36. A large fleet.
37. African tree having an exceedingly thick trunk and fruit that resembles a gourd and has an edible pulp called monkey bread.
38. The dense colorless framework of a chloroplast.
41. A South American shrub whose leaves are chewed by natives of the Andes.
47. A person who is paid to pray for the soul of another.
51. An unforeseen obstacle.
52. A potent estrogen used in medicine and in feed for livestock and poultry.
53. Be earlier in time.
54. Swelling from excessive accumulation of serous fluid in tissue.
56. City in northern Austria on the Danube.
59. Put out, as of a candle or a light.
61. A gonadotropic hormone that is secreted by the anterior pituitary.
62. Income (at invoice values) received for goods and services over some given period of time.
64. A slender double-reed instrument.
65. The first light of day.
67. A primeval personification of air and breath.
68. A republic consisting of 26 of 32 counties comprising the island of Ireland.
69. A river in north central Switzerland that runs northeast into the Rhine.
72. Angular distance above the horizon (especially of a celestial object).
73. A silvery malleable metallic element that resists corrosion.
77. A very poisonous metallic element that has three allotropic forms.

DOWN

1. A master's degree in library science.
2. An organization of countries formed in 1961 to agree on a common policy for the sale of petroleum.
3. English monk and scholar (672-735).
4. A United States liquid unit equal to 8 fluid ounces.

STAR TRACK



Aries (March 21-April 19)

There is a feeling that time is slipping away before you even get up this morning. There may not be enough hours in the day to accomplish all you want to do. Be fair to yourself and make a list with the most important chores at the top of the list. Set a stop time for additional projects and give up the rest of your list if family members need your attention. When your friends call, consider trading lists: laughter can then be enjoyed. Make a fun project out of your chores. There may be some painting or repair of some sort. You find yourself talkative and quick-witted. While working through your list, you may find the time good for thinking over your own affairs. You may have an insightful conversation with a senior member of the family that is encouraging.



Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Your attention is drawn to lovers, children and other people or things dear to your heart. Being appreciated and admired for the way you share and give of yourself is a powerful need and you enjoy returning the same appreciation to others. Your appreciation of others and the beauty in your life as well as the love of those around you are where you will be refreshed and relaxed. This afternoon there is time to bust out of your thoughts and try something fresh; perhaps you have never been to a flea market or a farmer's market. There is also much communication between friends. Philosophical disagreements can become overblown, however—careful. Family matters get top priority this evening. Play a sort of banking or shopping game to teach a child.



Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You will prosper through new insights, inventions and an independent point of view. Meditation and planning can only be productive if you write down your ideas, let them develop and begin to plan. Perhaps you have an art you would like to display. Anytime is a good time to begin the process of expressing your art. This may mean landscaping, music, drawing, photography, lighting, pottery, etc. You can expect a little boost, some sort of extra support or recognition from some new observer. Through your own ability to follow through and be expressive, you will be helping others. You could find that you are admired for your talents and for how quickly you show the results of your effort. If you are not with a mate at this time, you will be soon.



Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Sometimes you enjoy the feeling that anything is possible. Many days, like this one, encourage productive efforts, and you busy yourself unintentionally impressing the people around you. Through your work you encourage others to rise above the demands of the day and achieve your reach. There is a kind of restlessness for great emotional or physical experiences. Others cheer you on and wish they had your attitude for most any challenge. You are able to dispense with some of the unessential and develop what is most essential in your environment. You encourage better support because you are flexible, agreeable, security conscious and reliable. You look forward to the art of snow skiing, water polo, or some other adventure this winter.



Leo (July 23-August 22)

Memories come to the forefront of your mind as you work through some of your chores today. An old picture album or some school autograph book may come to your attention. You may be preparing your place for company or for the possibility of providing a place to freshen up before a reunion or a special social event. Meeting at your place before an event is a good thing as it renews a closeness from long ago. Whatever the case, you enjoy having people in your home and providing the necessities for their comfort—people enjoy your hospitality. You have done all this preparation work because you enjoy doing it, and if you really enjoy providing basic needs and special items for your guests, you might think of investing in a bed and breakfast.



Virgo (August 23-September 22)

You will be pleased at the progress you have made today—just take a look! This is a gratifying day. This may mean an art project or perhaps you are refurbishing the old family homestead. Support and praise should be coming, not only from family but also from neighbors and the general public as well. Some civic duty may be in order—your ideas are not challenged. You are right where you need to be at this time. You could have insight into your own feelings and inner, spiritual nature. A little playtime is in order this afternoon, perhaps a dinner with friends later this evening. Someone may suggest a camping trip or a group get-together; whatever you are in the mood to do, others will follow. You feel healthy and natural.



Libra (September 23-October 22)

Be open to those around you—listen to their words. Someone could challenge you on a very sensitive issue but this is the opportunity you have been waiting for as it gives you the opening to try out some new communication techniques. You have some insights that will help others as well as yourself today. Your friends are very pleased with the attitude changes you have developed over the last few months. New tools for communication, especially with a disagreeable person, are proving quite successful. Harmonious ties to others are what you yearn for: refinement and elegance are what you seek. The ideal partnership, the perfect balance, the highest standards of truth and beauty—these are some of the things that quicken your pulse.



Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Like wheat or grass blowing and bending in the wind, you can and will create ways to make projects and circumstances bend to your will; things have a way of working out smoothly. Here is a real opportunity to complete any personal projects and work out difficulties. You should be able to get your ideas across to family or friends with ease. Today and tomorrow are wonderful times to enjoy a short trip or begin a vacation. Good feelings and a sense of support make this a happy time; you are flexible as well as witty and people laugh and are merry in your presence. There are makings for a bright and witty day. Adding to a charity bag with a few old things brings back memories and helps to gracefully move you forward.



Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

There is a loan in the works today, whether it is for you or you see fit to loan money to another person, make sure an iou is dated and signed. In choosing whether to take or to give this loan, you consider the person and his or her past. You might admit or advise that rainy days and celebrations are good reasons to begin a savings account. You have a lot of optimism for whatever goals you set before yourself at this time. A new hobby may have your attention the remainder of the day. After you get really good at this hobby, it is possible that you could use this hobby to make a little extra income from time to time. Today you are either a good student or a good teacher. Self-control and setting limits are important. Later today is for a movie.



Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Professional advice this Saturday is advised. Financial savvy and a practical turn of mind are qualities that take on greater importance now. This could be a real-estate situation or an auction of some sort. You are a wheeler-dealer and seem to have a knack for knowing when to purchase the best buys. You also play the role of a facilitator and this can be a rewarding day. You value fairness in all things and go out of your way to be just. You appreciate others who have been successful and may surround yourself with those in power—be they politicians, officials, etc. Your sense of quality and discrimination may amount to some sort of livelihood for you. You could make your living with your good taste. Music and romance are available tonight.



Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

Beginning a diet is favored. Also on the list of things to do are the holiday list-making opportunities. Now is a great time to shop and find just the right thing for the right person on your list. It is also a good time to stock up on the canned goods that you won't have to purchase all at one time when those special dates approach. Any money or timesaving plan is a good one. Loved ones and other people or things dear to your heart are emphasized at this time in your life. Later today is for you and if you know of a massage therapist or health food store, this would be a good time to see what they have to offer. Relax now, you can show off your best self at a party later. A concert, civic affair or perhaps live theater can be enjoyed tonight.



Pisces (February 19-March 20)

A desire for the stimulation of new ideas and ideals is emphasized now. You may appear very at-ease today. Everything seems to be working together; you may find yourself expressive and outgoing. New friends and an involvement in fun activities make you hopeful that you can meet again. You can agree to regular meetings with these friends. You and your friends enjoy all the same activities and the grand thing about it all is that you are easygoing with each other. There are golf, tennis, bicycle tours, educational treks, etc. You may find that at this time of the year, some of you like to make things to send to a senior home or some other place where people need blankets or gloves to keep warm. The best part of today is that feeling of being useful to others.

Wordsearch Puzzle

Types of Music 2

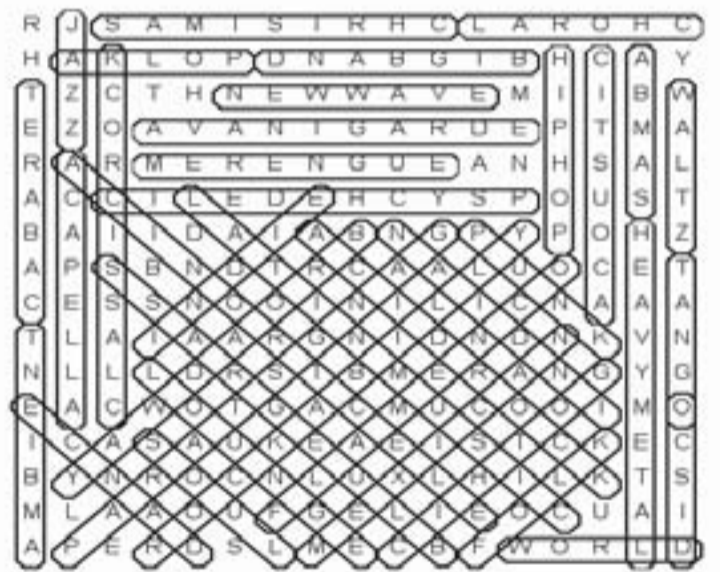
Find and circle all of the different types of music that are hidden in the grid. The remaining 15 letters spell an additional type of music.



- |             |                   |                |               |
|-------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
| ACID JAZZ   | CLASSICAL COUNTRY | GYPSY IRISH    | REGGAE        |
| AFRICAN     | DOO WOP           | MAMBO          | ROCK AND ROLL |
| ALTERNATIVE | ELEVATOR          | MARIACHI       | SALSA         |
| BEBOP       | EUROPOP           | MIDDLE EASTERN | SWING         |
| BLUES       | EXPERIMENTAL      | NEW AGE        | TECHNO        |
| BOLLYWOOD   | FOLK ROCK         | NEW ORLEANS    | TRIP HOP      |
| BOSSA NOVA  | FUNK              | OPERA          | TROPICAL      |
| BRAZILIAN   | GOSPEL            | POP MUSIC      | URBAN         |
| CELTIC      | GRUNGE            | PROGRESSIVE    | ZYDECO        |

Yesterday's Solution

Types of Music 1



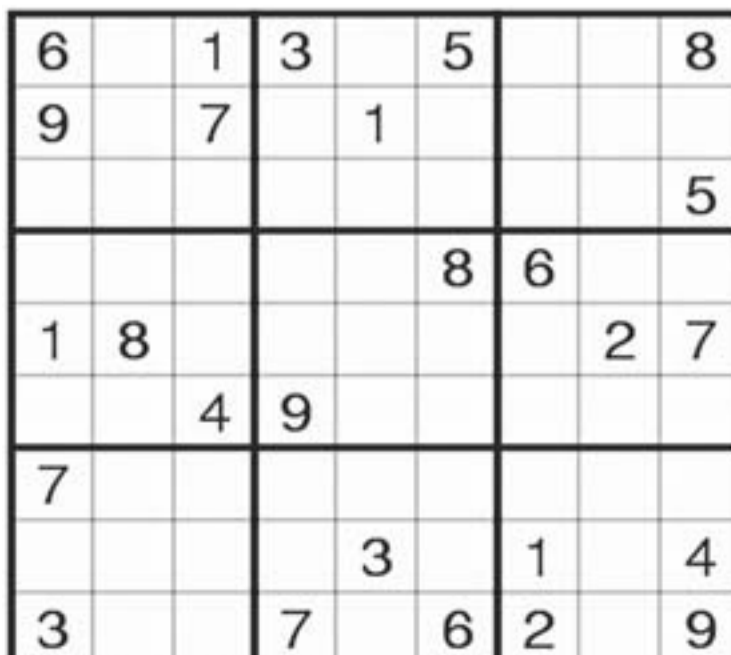
- |             |              |             |             |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| ACAPPELLA   | CHRISTMAS    | HIP HOP     | PSYCHEDELIC |
| ACID ROCK   | CLASSIC ROCK | INDIAN      | PUNK        |
| ACOUSTIC    | DANCE        | INDIE       | ROCKABILLY  |
| AMBIENT     | DISCO        | JAZZ        | SAMBA       |
| AVANT-GARDE | ELECTRONICA  | LATIN MUSIC | SOUL        |
| BIG BAND    | FLAMENCO     | LOUNGE      | TANGO       |
| BLUEGRASS   | FOLK         | MERENGUE    | WALTZ       |
| BROADWAY    | GANGSTA RAP  | MEXICAN     | WORLD       |
| CABARET     | GOthic       | NEW WAVE    |             |
| CHORAL      | HEAVY METAL  | POLKA       |             |

The hidden message is: RHYTHM AND BLUES

Yesterday's Solution



Daily SuDoku



Yesterday's Solution



# Kuwait Times Classifieds

Sunday, October 8, 2017

**Kuwait Times**  
 Now you can browse  
[www.kuwaittimes.net](http://www.kuwaittimes.net)  
 e-mail: info@kuwaittimes.net

**STATE OF KUWAIT**  
 DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
 METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 2627 - 2630  
 Fax: (+965) 24348714  
[www.met.gov.kw](http://www.met.gov.kw)



**Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours**  
 Issued 07/10/2017-07:00 LT UTC +3hr

**MIN Temperature 23 °C**

**By Night:** Fair and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas with light to moderate south easterly wind to southerly wind, with speed of 06 - 35 km/h with a chance for fog forming over some areas.

**By Day:** Hot with light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 22 km/h.



**Four-Day Forecast**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Expected Weather	Hot	Hot and Relatively humid specially over coastal areas	Hot and Relatively humid over coastal areas	Hot + rising dust over open areas
Min Temp °C	23	24	22	25
Max Temp °C	38	37	39	39
Wind Direction	variable	northerly easterly to variable	variable to south easterly	northerly westerly
Wind Speed km/h	06 - 22	06 - 28	08 - 32	20 - 45

All times are local time (GMT+3) unless otherwise stated

**Warnings & Weather Watches**

No warnings or weather watches

**Kuwait Forecast**

Station	MIN °C EXP	Max °C RBC
KUWAIT CITY	27	37
KUWAIT AIRPORT	23	38
ABDALY	19	37
BURFAN	19	32
SAHRA	24	43
FAILAKA ISLAND	22	39
SALMIYAH	28	32
AHMADI	28	32
JAL ALIYAH	21	41
QAROH ISLAND	31	33
URH AL-MARADH	30	33
NUWAISIB	23	37
WAFRA	29	40
SALMY	21	40
MUTRIBA	21	41

**Recorded Yesterday at Kuwait Airport**

Max Temp (°C)	35
Min Temp (°C)	21
Max Rel Hum (%)	38
Min Rel Hum (%)	12
Max Wind Speed (km/h) and Direction	28 N
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR	0 mm
Sunrise	05:44
Sunset	17:25

**Tomorrow Prayer Times**

Fajr	04:26
Sunrise	05:44
Zuhr	11:35
Aer	14:55
Sunset	17:25
Isha	18:42

**COMMERCIAL COMPANY**  
 Required Following Employees

- Accountants
- Data Entry Operators
- Rep. for Ministries
- Employee Affairs
- Receptionist & Secretary

karaz.kw@hotmail.com  
 99991526 - 22217517

**AIRLINES**

American Airlines	22087425
Kuwait Airways	22087426
Jazeera Airways	171
FlyDubai	22924455
Qatar Airways	22414400
KLM	22423888
Air Slovakia	22425747
Olympic Airways	22434940
Royal Jordanian	22420002/9
Reservation	22418064/5/6
British Airways	22433388
	22425635

The Embassy of Canada in Kuwait seeks a full time term (Nov - Aug)

**Trade Commissioner**

The applicants must speak English, and Arabic and be legally residing in Kuwait.

please consult our website  
[www.kuwait.gc.ca](http://www.kuwait.gc.ca)

for more information and instructions on how to apply prior to the closing date: 15/10/2017

Please note that only those chosen for further consideration will be contacted.

**WANTED DRIVER**

for a Kuwaiti family.

Tel: 97292576

**Required DRIVER**

For a Shipping Company with valid Transferable Visa

Contact: 24919796  
 97239948

**ACCOMMODATION**

Immediate sharing accommodation available for a small Indian Christian family in Salmiya, blk 10, near Garden. Contact 66195097. (C 5347) 5-10-2017

**EMERGENCY 112**

**SITUATION WANTED**

Indian, male, Architecture & MEP Draftsman with 12 years' Experience in UAE & Kuwait. Proficient in AutoCAD-2000 to 2016, Knowledge in REVIT-2014, MEP-Electrical, 3D-MAX, is looking for similar post for immediate placement. Call: 99076506. 5-10-2017

Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page ([www.kuwait-airport.com.kw](http://www.kuwait-airport.com.kw))

**DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION**

**Flight Schedule**

Arrival Flights on Sunday 8/10/2017				Departure Flights on Sunday 8/10/2017			
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time
THY	772	Istanbul	00:10	FEG	1933	Sohag	12:55
JZR	125	Bahrain	00:25	KAC	610	Cairo	13:00
KAC	786	Jeddah	00:30	KAC	514	Tehran	13:10
JZR	267	Beirut	00:35	AXB	393	Kozhikode	13:10
KAC	504	Beirut	00:45	KAC	662	Abu Dhabi	13:35
KAC	102	London	00:55	ICV	675	Luxembourg	13:50
DLH	635	Doha	01:00	KAC	672	Dubai	13:55
PGT	858	Istanbul	01:15	QTR	1078	Doha	14:10
JZR	539	Cairo	01:20	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:15
UAE	853	Dubai	01:40	FDB	059	Dubai	14:20
RJA	642	Amman	01:45	KAC	618	Doha	14:20
THY	1464	Istanbul	01:50	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:45
KKK	6506	Istanbul	01:55	KNE	529	Jeddah	14:55
KLM	446	Bahrain	02:05	KAC	304	Mumbai	14:55
QTR	1086	Doha	02:10	KAC	788	Jeddah	14:55
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	KAC	692	Muscat	14:55
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:25	OMA	303	Abu Dhabi	15:05
KAC	418	Manila	02:50	KAC	562	Amman	15:10
OMA	643	Muscat	03:05	OMA	645	Muscat	15:10
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:10	KAC	502	Beirut	15:25
KAC	382	Delhi	03:15	KAC	412	Bangkok	15:30
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	ABY	127	Sharjah	15:35
FDB	069	Dubai	03:15	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45
PGT	860	Istanbul	03:25	RJA	640	Amman	16:00
QTR	1076	Doha	03:45	FDK	801	Damascus	16:00
KAC	1544	Cairo	03:50	QTR	1072	Doha	16:15
LMU	510	Cairo	04:00	FDB	051	Dubai	16:15
JZR	553	Alexandria	04:05	JZR	125	Bahrain	16:25
KAC	346	Ahmedabad	04:15	KAC	118	New York	16:25
UAE	873	Dubai	04:15	JZR	787	Riyadh	16:35
KAC	358	Kochi	04:50	KAC	542	Cairo	17:05
KAC	784	Jeddah	05:00	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15
FEG	931	Alexandria	05:00	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30
THY	1414	TZX	05:05	JZR	777	Jeddah	17:35
DHX	170	Bahrain	05:10	JZR	177	Dubai	17:45
QTR	8511	Doha	05:20	QTR	1080	Doha	18:10
THY	770	Istanbul	05:25	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30
KAC	344	Chennai	05:30	JZR	483	Istanbul	18:30
KAC	332	Trivandrum	05:40	UAE	875	Dubai	19:05
KAC	362	Colombo	05:50	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:05
BAW	157	London	06:05	FDB	063	Dubai	19:10
KAC	678	Dubai	06:25	KAC	776	Riyadh	19:10
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:35	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:20
KAC	206	Islamabad	06:40	KAC	154	Istanbul	19:30
WAN	342	Sohag	06:40	KAC	616	Bahrain	19:40
KAC	302	Mumbai	06:55	KAC	674	Dubai	19:40
KAC	156	Istanbul	07:05	FDB	057	Dubai	19:50
KAC	354	Bengaluru	07:50	KAC	104	London	20:00
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	OMA	647	Muscat	20:05
KAC	384	Delhi	08:00	KAC	620	Doha	20:05
UAE	855	Dubai	08:25	DLH	634	Frankfurt	20:15
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	08:55	MEA	402	Beirut	20:15
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:00	QTR	1088	Doha	20:40
QTR	1070	Doha	09:25	KAC	166	Rome	20:55
IRA	665	Shiraz	09:25	KAC	564	Amman	21:00
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	KAC	172	Frankfurt	21:05
MSC	415	Sohag	10:15	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:10
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	ALK	229	Colombo	21:15
MEA	404	Beirut	10:55	UAE	859	Dubai	21:15
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:55	THY	764	Istanbul	21:30
QTR	1074	Doha	11:00	KAC	676	Dubai	21:35
WAN	114	Bahrain	11:00	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:50
PAL	668	Manila	11:00	QTR	1082	Doha	22:05
JZR	1443	Doha	11:10	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:10
JZR	561	Sohag	11:10	AIC	981	Chennai/Ahmedabad	22:25
KAC	742	Dammam	11:45	JZR	241	Amman	22:55
JZR	165	Dubai	11:50	JZR	185	Dubai	23:00
SAW	701	Damascus	12:30	JAI	574	Mumbai	23:00
UAE	871	Dubai	12:45	WAN	806	Sarajevo	23:30
KAC	774	Riyadh	12:45	MSR	2614	Cairo	23:30
				FDB	071	Dubai	23:35
				PIA	205	Lahore	23:40



## Kylie Jenner wants 'more privacy' with pregnancy

The 20-year-old television personality, who is reportedly expecting a baby girl with her boyfriend Travis Scott, prefers to stay indoors and have her friends and family come to visit her in the comfort of her own home because she wants to stay out of the public eye during her pregnancy. Speaking about the 'Life Of Kylie' star to PEOPLE, a source said: "Kylie prefers to stay home. She feels good, but her body is changing. She doesn't want to be photographed. At the moment, she wants more privacy. She has family and friends come to her house instead so she has company." Although the Kylie Cosmetics founder - who is the youngest of the Kardashian/Jenner brood - wants to keep a low profile in the upcoming weeks, she is believed to be "very excited" about motherhood as she talks about her baby "nonstop" and is shopping like "crazy" for her first child. The insider continued: "She is very

excited about the baby though. "She talks about the baby nonstop. She is already shopping like crazy." The beauty mogul is not the only member of the family who is starting a family, as Kylie's older half sister Khloe Kardashian, 33, is pregnant with her and Tristan Thompson's child, whilst Kim Kardashian West is having a third child via a surrogate. Although three of the siblings are pregnant, there is reportedly "no jealousy" between any of them, as they all hope as the babies grow up they will have more of a sibling bond. A separate source previously said: "Kim is really into the idea of a bunch of babies being born around the same time. She thinks they'll be more like sisters than cousins. Everyone in the family is just thrilled about the whole thing."

## Lady Gaga thought Isla Fisher was Amy Adams

The 'Bad Romance' hitmaker once mistook the 'Confessions of a Shopaholic' star for the 43-year-old 'Enchanted' actress when they met at a star-studded Hollywood bash, which saw the 31-year-old singer praised Isla for her role in 'American Hustle'. Speaking about the awkward moment on 'Jimmy Kimmel Live!', the 41-year-old actress said: "I remember one time I was at this fancy Hollywood party, the Vanity Fair [Oscars Party]. And I was there, excited, all dressed up, at the bar and schmoozing with showbiz types. And the crowds parted and there was Lady Gaga and she's heading right towards me. And she says, 'Thank you, your performance in American Hustle, Amy, was amazing.'" But Isla - who has Olive, nine, Elula, seven, and two-year-old son Montgomery with her husband Sacha Baron Cohen - has admitted she "loves" the musician "so much" that she didn't correct her on her mistake. Isla said: "And I'm thinking, 'Oh my gosh, it's Lady Gaga I love her so much I don't want to tell her the truth.'" But Isla soon regretted accepting the kind words from Lady Gaga - whose real name is Stefani Germanotta - because Amy was also at the event and was walking near to the pair during their conversation. And in an attempt to avoid any embarrassment the 'Keeping Up With the Joneses' funny woman decided to point out Amy to the blonde beauty, but pretended the star passing them by was Isla instead. Isla explained: "I look over her shoulder and there's Amy Adams walking into the party. So, I'm like, 'There's Isla Fisher.'"



## Idris Elba has 'a thing' for feet

The 45-year-old actor has admitted he has a fondness for the body part, and when he was filming 'The Mountain Between Us' with Kate Winslet he asked the 'Titanic' star to keep her socks on during an intimate scene because he "loves" toes too much, although his request made his 42-year-old co-star fear he disliked her feet. Speaking on 'The Graham Norton Show' on Friday (06.10.17), the blonde beauty revealed the 'Luther' star's secret fetish. She said: "We got naked but Idris asked me to keep my socks on. I thought he didn't like feet but, it is the opposite, Idris loves feet." And the British hunk confirmed: "I've just got a bit of a thing." Although Idris dished out the unusual demand, Kate has admitted she was the person on set who became "quite bossy" when they filmed the steamy sex session. And the movie icon has revealed she felt obliged to take control of the situation because she had the most experience filming raunchy scenes and because film director Hany Abu-Assad felt "really quite nervous" about approaching the scene. She explained: "I had to get quite bossy. I've done quite a lot of these scenes before and poor [director Hany Abu-Assad] was really quite nervous and had an extensive shot list and I thought, 'We are never going to get this done.'"

## Mark Wright is desperate to return home

The 30-year-old hunk has relocated to the US after landing a presenting job on the American entertainment news program 'Extra', but the co-host is already counting down the days until December when he plans to jet home to enjoy the festive season with his wife Michelle Keegan. The former 'The Only Way Is Essex' star told The Sun Online: "Now I've been here a month or two, I think I'm already ready to go back at Christmas. I probably will go back for three or four days just to be with the family. "Wherever I spend it Michelle will be with me anyway." However, Mark has admitted when he first arrived in America he had vowed to spend December 25 on the beach. Speaking about his original plans, the British heartthrob said: "At first I was like I'm going to do one Christmas away I'm going to stay in LA and go to the beach or something." And Mark's decision to reunite with his loved ones in a few months' time is because he is feeling "lonely". He previously said: "I've had the same group of friends since I was a kid. I miss them lots, I miss my family, my wife's away working, we can't get to each other right now because she's working solidly every day like I am, too. "I'm without my friends, without my family, without my wife - it's always going to be a bit lonely but I'm not complaining just yet." And staying in touch with his 30-year-old spouse has proved difficult as she has been busy filming the next installment of the military drama 'Our Girl' in Nepal, South Africa and Malaysia.



## Vogue Williams feared she'd never have children after split



The 31-year-old model-and-presenter's marriage ended in 2015 and it left her feeling "really worried" about her future and being unable to fulfil her dream of being a mother, but now she's found love again with 'Made in Chelsea' star Spencer Matthews, her fears have eased. She admitted: "My marriage broke up when what I really wanted in my life was children. "I really worried about it and thought, 'I'm not married any more. I'm probably never going to get the chance to have children.' "All those things run through your mind. "I don't worry about it any more - I have a boyfriend now." And Vogue is in a "happy place" in her life because of her relationship with Spencer, who she has been dating for seven months. She said: "I'm really in a happy place at the moment." "I think it does have a lot to do with meeting Spencer. I just feel much happier when I'm around him." However, she admitted they find it tough to be apart, so she's recently been making a number of trips to Greece, where the 28-year-old reality star has been filming 'Five Star Hotel'. She told Britain's HELLO! magazine: "The only thing I hate about our relationship is spending time apart. "But he really is supportive of me and I'm the same with him, so that's why I'm going to Greece again tonight. It's quite a trek to get to him, but it's great."



## Frances Bean Cobain Kimberley Walsh feared for her life on plane has extra 'security' in her relationship

The 25-year-old model - who is the daughter of the late Kurt Cobain and Courtney Love - has taken to social media to speak about her near death experience last month, which has "altered everything" she believed in, although she has tried to "avoid" talking about the incident. The brunette beauty has shared a string of images of the damaged aeroplane, which was on route to Los Angeles from France, on her Instagram account to explain her feelings during the mid-air accident. She captioned the post: "I've avoided talking about this because telling strangers struck me as a fruitless endeavor. But enough time has gone by to where I've sat with what this experience should mean on the grand scale of living my day to day life. So here it goes : A week ago on September 30th I boarded Air France

flight A380 (the irony being I changed my previously booked flight to this one that very day, so I could get home earlier). This would act as the moment that would alter everything I thought I knew. I have woken up everyday for the past week just grateful to wake up. When I felt the plane tilt, saw the wing directly in front of me catch fire, and basically came to grips with my own mortality I made a deal with myself. (sic.)" And the California-born star has revealed after surviving what could have been a fatal accident, she has "promised" herself not to try and "escape the moments of [her] life", and not "indulge" in certain clichés, but she has vowed to tell those close to her how much they mean to her.

The 35-year-old singer tied the knot with Justin Scott - the father of her sons Bobby, three, and Cole, 10 months - in January 2016 and because they had been together for 13 years before that, she found it "weird" that things felt different between them after they wed. She said: "It's weird because we've been together for what feels like forever but it did change a little bit [when we got married]. "It gives you that extra security. It's that feeling of being a family, rather than two individuals. "We already had Bobby and getting married does matter a little bit more when you have kids." The couple are hoping for an "exciting" anniversary celebration in 2018 because they did so little to mark the end of their first year of marriage. She said: "We didn't celebrate at all last year because we'd just had Cole. "We were both in bed. I was feeding and we were still very much in the baby zone so we said that next year we'd want to do something more exciting. "I'd like to go back to Barbados at some point and take Cole to see where we got married. "We might try and do that in January if we can fit things in." The former Girls Aloud star is thankful her older son took so well to having a little brother. She told Britain's OK! maga-

zine: "He's really good. He's never shown any signs of being jealous of Cole, which I was a bit surprised about as he's had all that time with us on his own. "Bobby is just starting to get to that stage where he can help me out." "So if I'm doing something and Cole is getting a bit whingey, Bobby will start amusing him."





## Tom Petty's cause of death has been 'deferred'

The 66-year-old music legend passed away last week after being rushed to hospital following a cardiac arrest but after the autopsy was completed, "it was clear further tests needed to be done," according to The Blast. One day after his cardiac arrest, Petty's agent Tony Dimitriadis revealed he passed away when his family agreed to switch off his life support after learning he had no brain activity. Petty was surrounded by his friends, family and his bandmates at UCLA hospital in Santa Monica, California, when he died. Tributes from fellow musicians and fans poured in after they learnt that the 'American Girl' hitmaker was fighting for life in hospital and among them was Kings of Leon rocker Nathan Followill, who said he'd struggle to perform after

hearing the news. He wrote: "Tom Petty was one of the biggest inspirations for me as a musician. This one will hurt for a long time. Truly one of the sweetest people on earth. Rest In Peace brother. It's going to be hard to take the stage tonight with such a heavy heart. Luckily music is what I use to get through tough times like these. Love one another." Petty shot into the limelight in 1976 when he and his band the Heartbreakers dropped hits 'Don't Do Me Like That' and 'Here Comes My Girl'. He also spent time in the supergroup The Traveling Wilburys - comprised also of Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison, George Harrison and Jeff Lynne - in the 1980s.

## Audrina reaches a living agreement with estranged husband

The former 'Hills' star filed for divorce from the BMX professional last month and obtained a temporary restraining order against him amid allegations he was "emotionally abusive", and he has now agreed to move out of their marital home, which is owned by Audrina. Although the court did not find that Corey was abusive, the restraining order has been reissued with modifications. He had been living in the house and refusing to leave but he has now agreed to move out and Audrina - who will move back in with their 14-month-old daughter Kirra - will pay him \$35,000 towards relocation costs. A source told E! News: "Audrina is focusing on her child and really just wants this to be over with. She's happy to be back in her house and has

worked hard to create a loving home there for Kirra. She likes being in Orange County because she's surrounded and supported by her friends and family." Corey, 35, has denied the alleged abuse, which the star claimed in court documents. In the paperwork, she alleged her estranged husband was at home with their daughter one evening, and when she arrived home, he started calling her names, prompting her to head upstairs with their little girl. However, she claims Corey followed them and then started to tell her how "f\*\*\*ed up" she was. When she started recording it on video, she alleged he told her to "grow some balls and pull the trigger and file for divorce", before taking her phone and deleting the video.

## Stone signs \$10 million deal with Louis Vuitton



The 'Battle of the Sexes' actress will become the new face of the French fashion brand for the next two years after agreeing to the lucrative deal. A source told Page Six TV: "LVMH has been pursuing Emma for nearly a year, she was initially reluctant, but now she has agreed to be the face of the brand for two years for a figure between \$6 and \$10 million." The company reportedly also approached Emma's 'La La Land' co-star Ryan Gosling but "Ryan repeatedly turned Louis Vuitton down because he doesn't do endorsement

deals". Meanwhile, Emma - who stars as tennis icon Billie Jean King in 'Battle of the Sexes' about King's famous match against male player Bobby Riggs in 1973 - recently revealed relished getting herself into tip-top physical condition to take on the part. Asked how she went about bulking up for the role, she said: "A lot of weightlifting, a lot of protein shakes. I never did it before and I loved it." Emma, 28, admitted she initially struggled to cope with the physical demands of adding the extra muscle. But, over time, the actress got used

to her workout regime and she eventually started to enjoy the challenge. She said: "For the first three weeks, you hate your life, and I know a lot of people hate exercising. I did. And then after three weeks when you're, 'I can lift this? I can do this?' It just becomes addictive. "It's just really incredible to feel strong. It feels so good."



## Kourtney slams womanizer Scott Disick

The 38-year-old reality TV star is fed up with seeing her former boyfriend - who is the father of her three children - photographed with a bevy of beauties and in a scathing attack, she called his women "hookers". In a clip for 'Keeping Up With The Kardashians', filmed before Scott, 34, started dating Sofia Richie, 19, she fumed: "Why can't he get it together? I have to handle it when he's out photographed with a different hooker every day." Kourtney's mother Kris Jenner implied that Scott was jealous after she jetted off for a girls' trip to Mexico and he was acting out. She said: "I think he was jealous. Because you were

having fun, spending time with other people." However, Kourtney insisted that Scott - who reportedly cheated on her in the past - had no right to be jealous. She said: "Well, that's really not fair. It's just like, I can't even live my life. I can't even go anywhere. He needs to get a f\*\*\*ing life and leave me alone." "All he does is try to make everybody else feel bad for him and try to make me look like the bad guy in the situation when clearly I'm not, from 10 years of this going on." But Kris insisted that Kourtney would be "sad" if Scott did in fact move on from their relationship.

## Liam Gallagher was 'drinking too much' after Oasis split

The 45-year-old singer admitted that he went off the rails for a while in between the band's split in 2009 - after a furious bust-up between Liam and his brother Noel - and his current comeback as a solo artist. He told USA Today: "A lot of personal stuff was going on. I was drinking too much. Then I thought, 'You know what? I'm gonna go live in Spain, get me head together and get some sun on me bones.'" And Liam revealed his comeback with his new album 'As You Were' was not influenced by a desire to recapture his fame but he simply wanted to get back to making music again. He said: "I didn't go, 'I just wrote a song because I'm not famous anymore and I must get back to the top of the charts' There's none of that nonsense. I don't need to get any more famous. God, no. I didn't miss it terribly. I just wanted the universe to plow me some songs, which it did. If you're good to rock 'n' roll, it'll be good to you. And I've been good to rock 'n' roll." Liam was the frontman in his and Noel's former band and while Noel has also gone on to find solo success, Liam claimed is not impressed with his 50-year-old

brother's voice. Speaking about his own voice, he said: "I should have taken better care of it. But I'm a snarly rock 'n' roll singer. You don't want to start watering it down because you'll end up sounding like Noel Gallagher. And we don't want that." Meanwhile, Liam recently admitted he misses being in a band with his brother.



## Aaron Carter has left rehab



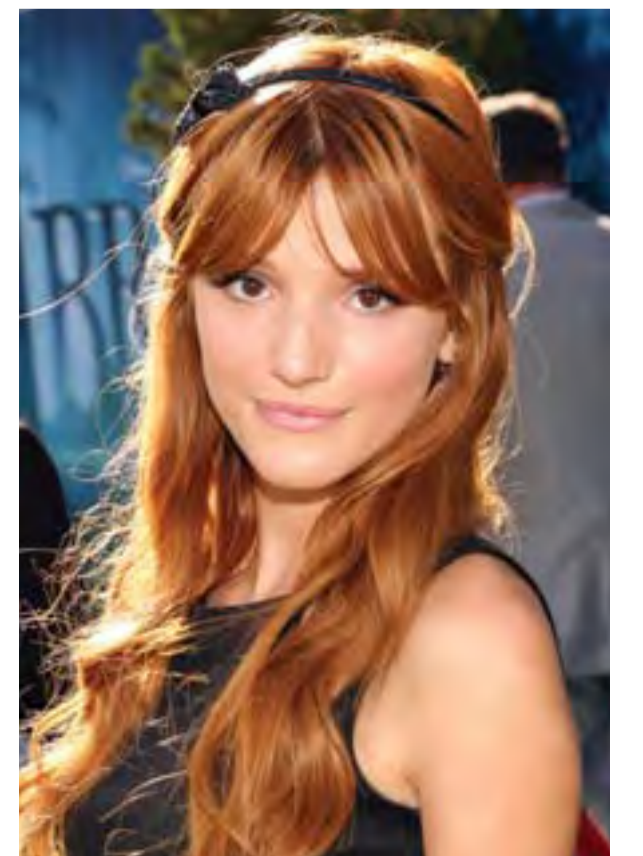
The 29-year-old singer checked into a treatment centre to "improve his health and work on his overall wellness" just two weeks ago, but after some unspecified "legal and personal matters" cropped up, he has decided to return home but remains "committed to his wellness". His representative, Steve Honig, told The Blast: "Aaron has left the facility where he has been working on his wellness. Several legal and personal matters arose that required his immediate and in-person attention. "He is still very much committed to his wellness and will be continually working toward being the best person possible." Aaron's representatives announced

on September 22 he had checked into rehab. They said in a statement "Aaron has decided to enter a facility to improve his health and work on his overall wellness. He is going to do this privately and focus all his attention on being the best person and performer possible. He is grateful for the support and love from his fans and looks forward to coming back stronger than ever before." His decision came after the 'I Want Candy' hitmaker admitted he is "concerned" about his health. He explained: "I'm concerned about my overall health because people tell me I look like I have AIDS or I look like I have cancer or I look like I'm dying." — Bangshowbiz

## Bella Thorne has numerous crushes

The 19-year-old actress - who came out as bisexual last year - revealed she has the hots for a number of famous women and would love to date them. She told Stylecaster.com: "Demi Lovato. That's an obvious one. I love Demi. We're close. She's amazing, just such a beautiful person inside and out. Love everything she stands for." "Kristen Stewart. I'm like, 'Please.' She's so hot. Oh. My. God. You put on those f\*\*\*ing Converse, girl. You put on that rock shirt, and you come to mommy. I literally love Kristen Stewart. "Who else is super-hot? Oh, Camila Cabello. I think she's so hot. I just saw her at a party the other night, but she was with a guy, so I wasn't gonna hit on her because she was with a date." However, Bella admitted that she finds it easier to date men than women because she never knows if women are into her or not. She explained: "It's so hard. I can't tell if a girl is trying to be best friends with me or if she wants to get with me or if she just

wants social media followers. I'm just so confused when a girl talks to me. Girls can be very flirtatious, so I don't want to make a move, and then you be like, 'Whoa, girl. Not what I was thinking, I don't roll that way.' "Then it's so awkward. So I end up usually dating more guys, because with guys, I know if a guy's hitting me up. They're not just texting me to be my bestie. I know they want something, of some sort. "I have this girl that's always, like, 'OMG, you're so gorgeous,' and she's always hitting on me, and I'm like, I don't know. I don't want to make a move and then you're, like, 'Oh, I'm not gay,' and then I'm, like, Oh, this is so awkward. Now you feel like I just ruined our friendship because it's just too weird." And Bella also claims that most girls she knows are only interested in hooking up because they are not out as lesbian or bisexual.



# Angola's 'kizomba' dance mesmerizes the world

In Mabor, a dusty and neglected corner of Luanda, the sound of a catchy beat rising means only one thing to the area's youngsters: time to dance the kizomba. The Angolan dance is gaining worldwide popularity and has a committed contingent of students in Mabor who are drawn to class by its romantic rhythms. "Stop! Boys stay still, only the girls move now. Like that, that's good!" said instructor Vitor Espescao, wearing a bright purple shirt as he guided his pupils.

The dancers followed his instructions closely, their bodies twisting in ever more suggestive ways, watched intently by a group of mesmerised small children. "It's what I really like about this dance — the joy, the enthusiasm and the harmony," said Espescao. Kizomba's origins are hotly debated.

It has Angolan roots and draws on influences from the Caribbean and Cape Verde, but it was secured in the popular consciousness by singer Eduardo Paim only in the 1990s. Its name means "party" in Kimbundu, one of the most widely spoken languages in Angola, and has even helped shape the semba, which is considered to be the nation's traditional dance.

The kizomba's swaying movements are performed by a couple in a close embrace but at a slower, more sensual pace than the semba. Angolans

quickly began taking up the kizomba. "It's a very calm style, very suave. You don't move too much and you dance calmly," said Elsa Domingos Cardoso, a 22-year-old student. "Whether it's the kizomba or the semba, dancing brings me joy."

## 'Everybody needs affection'

In recent years the kizomba has begun to spread across the dance floors of Europe, before being taken up across the world. "It's natural that it works everywhere," said Mario Contreiras, a keen amateur

kizomba dancer. "Everybody needs affection," said the Luanda-based architect, who has become something of an ambassador for the dance. "Elsewhere in the world, when they discover a dance which comes from Africa in which people intertwine themselves even if they don't know

each other... that really delights them."

Kizomba has become a fashionable phenomenon. It is already being taught in places as diverse as London, Paris, New York and Johannesburg, with festivals and workshops as far afield as Shanghai, Moscow, Tokyo, Mumbai and Auckland.

Angola has been better-known for its bloody civil war, its oil wealth or president Jose Eduardo dos Santos — who stood down last month after ruling for 38 years. But increasingly it is muscling in on the

crowded global dance scene. Local radio host Zelo Castelo Branco was at first proud of the attention that the dance was bringing Angola, but now he claims to no longer recognize the version performed overseas. Exported too widely, the dance is beginning to lose its soul, he said.

"Everybody dances the kizomba, that's good. But those who are teaching it abroad are changing the style," said Branco. "It's no longer a traditional, family affair that we can dance with our wives and children, our parents... it's extravagant — it's nearly a tarraxinha," he said, referring to kizomba's more adult, percussive cousin which some Angolans refer to as the "karaxinha". In largely Christian Angola, the tarraxinha is strictly the preserve of consenting couples.

## 'The kizomba is Angola'

Mateos Vandu Mavila, the leader of a dance troupe that trains in Mabor, refuses to allow his team to perform the tarraxinha when they appear at weddings or festivals. "It all depends on the age of those who are taking part in the celebration. We don't condone youngsters dancing the tarraxinha... It's way too sensual," he said. Contreiras, the architect, is frustrated by the confusion between the kizomba and the tarraxinha.

"People are seeking to link the kizomba with sensuality and a level of eroticism (but) for us it's something very serious, it's our form of self-expression, our culture," Contreiras joined the "kizomba in the street" project, initiated in 2012 in a bid to promote the dance and defend it from outside influences. Every Sunday night he transforms Luanda's sea front into a giant dance floor — free of charge and open to all.

"The goal is to promote the kizomba... to give



## Kizomba has become a fashionable phenomenon



Traditional Kizomba dancers and students practice "Kizomba" during a dancing class in the backyard of a house on August 27, 2017 in the Mabor district of Luanda. — AFP photos

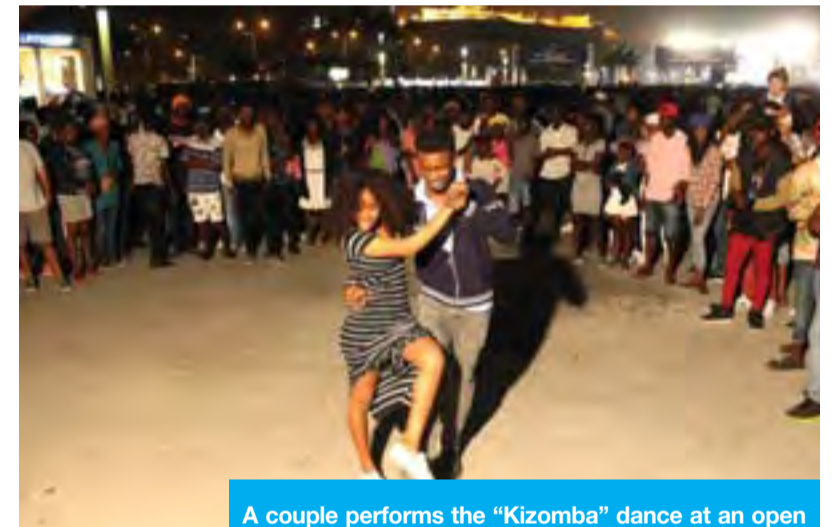


A teacher (R) gives advices as students practise "Kizomba" during a dancing class.



A couple performs the "Kizomba" dance at an open space.

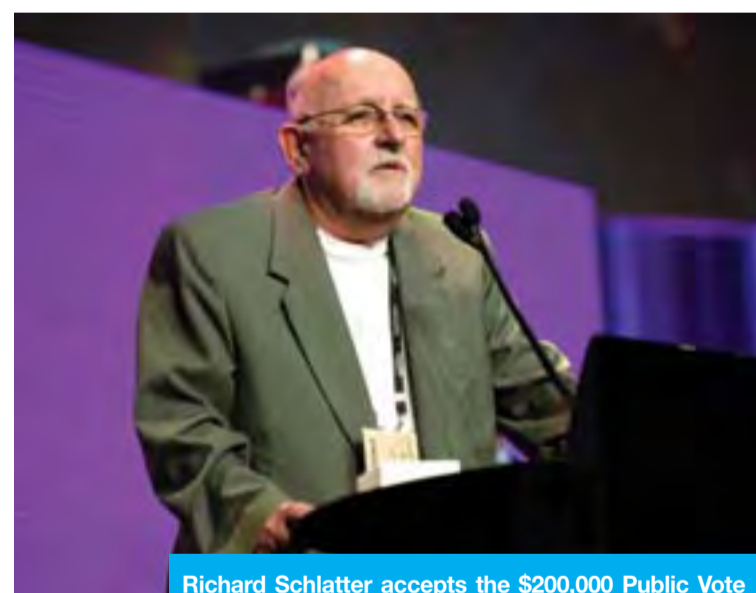
those who don't yet know it an opportunity to learn it and to protect Angola's dance culture," said Manuel Miguel, 26, one of the team responsible for the Sunday night spectacles. "The kizomba is a mirror of who we are and for our culture. Angola is the celebration and the kizomba is Angola." — AFP



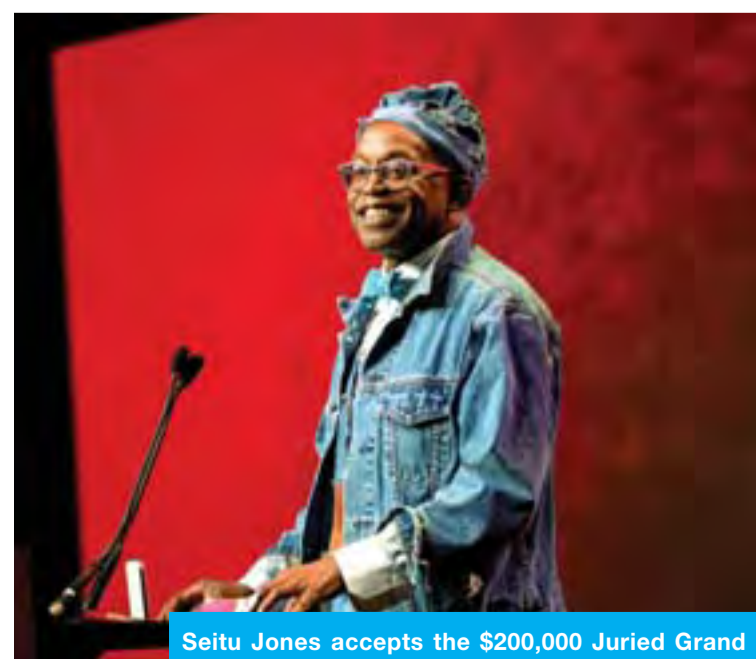
A couple performs the "Kizomba" dance at an open space in Luanda, as people watch them.



Richard Schlatter stands next to his entry "A. Lincoln" in Grand Rapids. — AP photos



Richard Schlatter accepts the \$200,000 Public Vote Grand Prize.



Seitu Jones accepts the \$200,000 Juried Grand Prize for "The Heartside Community Meal" during the ArtPrize Awards.

## Lincoln made of pennies among winners at Michigan art event

The winners of this year's international ArtPrize competition were announced during an event in western Michigan that's known for openness - and increasingly, this year, politics. A portrait of US President Abraham Lincoln made with more than 24,000 pennies was among the top prizes Friday in the ninth annual international ArtPrize competition. "A. Lincoln" by Richard Schlatter was awarded one of two \$200,000 prizes following a public vote in Grand Rapids, and for the other, a jury of experts selected Seitu Jones' "The Heartside Community Meal," which welcomed 250 residents to a 300-foot table in the city's Heartside Park last month for a healthy, locally grown meal. In all, \$500,000 prizes were awarded as part of ArtPrize Nine, culled from the work of more than 1,300 artists on display since last month at more than 170 venues. They will remain open through Sunday evening.

Nine years in, the open, experimental mission remains firm for the show that draws hundreds of thousands of attendees annually. It comes directly from founder Rick DeVos, grandson of multimillionaire Rich DeVos, a co-founder of direct-sales giant Amway Corp, an ArtPrize sponsor, and son of US Education Secretary Betsy DeVos. Her critics say she's hostile to public education and indifferent to civil rights, citing her push for school choice and her decision to end the Obama administration's rules for investigating allegations of on-campus sexual violence. School choice programs include charter schools, which are publicly funded but usually independently operated, and vouchers that help families cover tuition at private schools.

### Big statements

A spokeswoman said Rick DeVos wasn't available to comment. He told The Associated Press in 2011 that organizers "want to make sure everyone knows that ArtPrize can host really any type of expression." The show has works critical of Betsy DeVos and the Trump administration, including "For-profit Education" by Sarah Ellis, a Grand Rapids high school teacher. She says in an artist's statement that her video and installation-based piece reflects her concern over policies that harm "free and quality education for all." Her video shows a hammer striking plaster casts of the ancient Greek philosopher Plato, who is quoted in the work saying, "Education is teaching our children to desire the right things."

Detroit artist Eric Millikin's "Made of Money" consists of dollar bills cut up and fashioned into portraits of "great people,"

such as Nikola Tesla, Hedy Lamarr, Joe Louis and Edgar Allan Poe, who "died penniless." Millikin said his work is designed to remind "that our best people aren't always rewarded with wealth, and that our wealthiest people aren't always our best."

against the DeVos family - have been part of the competition since the beginning. In 2009, Anna Campbell exhibited "The Seeding Trilogy," which featured drink coasters with messages calling out efforts by members of the DeVos family to fight same-sex marriage.



Crowds look at Richard Schlatter's ArtPrize entry "A. Lincoln" in Grand Rapids.

Millikin said he has long known about the DeVos family through their wealth and political connections. He recalls in particular Betsy DeVos' husband, Dick DeVos, a former Amway president who unsuccessfully ran for Michigan governor in 2006. The DeVos family's support of ArtPrize kept Millikin away for the first eight years, but he saw the election of Trump and Betsy DeVos' cabinet appointment as a way "to make a statement." "That made it a better place (to exhibit) because I'm addressing a national figure," he told the AP. "It's equivalent to someone ... speaking up at the town hall."

ArtPrize Exhibitions Director Kevin Buist said political statements - including those

Buist said an increase in political pieces - and an increasing spotlight on them - is no surprise, given the current climate.

"Some (artists) are angry and they have a right to be angry," he said. "They're using ArtPrize as a vehicle to express that and to work through really complicated and tricky issues. "Of course, some of that is going to be directed toward the current administration, and some of our funders," he added. "That's fine. I'd be worried if that weren't happening." — AP

Lifestyle | Features

# Syrian dancers perform show about migration in Berlin

A group of Syrian dancers is going on tour across Germany with a show that tells of the plight that made them flee their homeland and of the hopes they have for the future. In "Come as You Are" - directed by Berlin-based choreographer Nir de Volf - the three refugees recount how the war in Syria started, their escape and journey through Europe and what it is like finding their dancing feet in a new country.

"In 10 years, Syrians will lead some German companies. Syrians will be the directors of German theatres and Syrian musicians will play in the Berlin Philharmonic orchestra," says one of the dancers, Medhat Aldaabal, swaying back and forth with closed eyes, flanked by two other dancers as they practice on an otherwise empty stage in the German capital. He continues: In 10 years "we give workshops in Syria, we will speak perfect German and travel around the world on our German passports."

**Avant-garde culture**

Aldaabal and one of the other dancers, Moufak Aldoabl, fled to Germany in 2015, as part of a wave of nearly 1 million migrants that entered the country that year. The third

dancer, Amr Karkout, came earlier this year. In Syria they were all professional dancers. Aldaabal graduated from the Higher Institute of Drama and Art in Damascus in 2014 and traveled across Syria with a dance company. But, their skills didn't translate easily in the German capital, known for its avant-garde culture and a highly competitive and international dance scene.

"Dance in Syria is very homogenous and based on ballet," the softly spoken Aldaabal says in the performance as the other two dancers pirouette behind him. "Ballet, ballet, ballet..." De Volf met the dancers in 2015. He was one of the thousands of people who volunteered time and money to help the new migrants find their way in German society. "Come as You Are" is the fruition of hours of sitting together, talking, taking notes and discussing. In part, it highlights their development as performers.

"We are doing this to show people how much we have changed since coming to Berlin - how much we have changed and developed and how many things we have learned," Aldaabal said. The show also deals with the sometimes mundane details of life as a migrant: Applying for work, finding a home and missing your family and friends who are somewhere else.

The performers mostly speak English, but break into German when talking about the agency tasked with helping unemployed people in Germany find work, or Arabic when talking about their upbringing and families. "The whole show is actually about their adaptation process," de Volf said. "It is not just about how happy they are to be in Europe, in a safe zone, but it is also about the difficulties of changing your physical habits and cultural codes."

The show has run twice in Berlin and is starting a German tour in late October, with the first stop in Leipzig. De Volf said the experience of the dancers as migrants can resonate with people around the world, and he hopes to take the show on an international tour soon. "This project is much beyond artistic mission. It is a simple human mission," he said. "To show empathy and to show understanding." — AP



Medhat Aldaabal, a 30-year-old migrant from Syria, practice ahead of a performance of "Come As You Are".



In this Sept 5 photo, Syrian migrants Medhat Aldaabal, Moufak Aldoabl and Amr Karkout, practice ahead of a performance of "Come As You Are" in Berlin. — AP photos

# Weinstein on 'indefinite leave' during harassment inquiry

Movie mogul Harvey Weinstein is on indefinite leave from the company he co-founded while an internal investigation into numerous sexual harassment allegations against him is completed, The Weinstein Co.'s board of directors announced Friday.

"We strongly endorse Harvey Weinstein's already announced decision to take an indefinite leave of absence from the Company, commencing today," the board said in a statement. "As Harvey has said, it is important for him to get the professional help for the problems he has acknowledged. Next steps will depend on Harvey's therapeutic process, the outcome of the board's independent investigation and Harvey's own personal decisions." The announcement came a day after The New York Times reported that the co-chairman of the Weinstein Co. has over the years reached at least eight legal settlements with women over a 11 e g e d harassment.

Attorney John Kiernan of the firm Debevoise & Plimpton LLP was named the head of the investigation. The Weinstein Co. board did not give a time frame for when the investigation would be completed. "We believe it is important to learn the full truth regarding the article's very serious accusations, in the interests of the Company, its shareholders and its employees," the company said. The statement was signed by four board members: co-chairman Bob Weinstein, who is Harvey Weinstein's brother, Tarak Ben Ammar, Lance Maerov and Richard Koenigsberg.

"strongly endorsed" Weinstein's decision to take the indefinite leave of absence.

Weinstein's attorneys also did not respond to emails seeking comment Friday. Weinstein has had a powerful perch in Hollywood for three decades, producing films like "Pulp Fiction" and "Shakespeare in Love," for which he won an Oscar. But his stature has diminished in recent years and his company has suffered from a string of executive exits, layoffs mounting lawsuits and delayed releases.

**'Abuse of power'**

The New York Times expose chronicled allegations against Weinstein from actress Ashley Judd and former employees at both the Weinstein Co. and Weinstein's former company, Miramax, over the course of several decades. The report made an enormous impact felt throughout the movie industry and

elsewhere. "This abuse of power must be called out, however powerful the abuser, and we must publicly stand with those brave enough to come forward," wrote actress America Ferrera on Twitter. Many others, including Lena Dunham and Brie Larson also added their voices to the uproar.

The board of directors has pressured Weinstein to step down from the company he helped create, said a person familiar with the board's deliberations who was not authorized to speak publicly. Weinstein has resisted, hoping to weather the storm. Discussions between Weinstein and the board have been heated and contentious, the person said.

Leadership of The Weinstein Co. will be assumed by Bob Weinstein and David Glasser, the company's chief operating officer. Weinstein on Thursday issued a lengthy statement that acknowledged causing "a lot of pain." He also asked for "a second chance." But Weinstein and his lawyers, including Charles J. Harder, have criticized the New York Times' report in statements and interviews, though neither has referenced anything specific.

"We are confident in the accuracy of our reporting," said a New York Times spokesperson in a statement. "Mr. Weinstein was aware and able to respond to specific allegations in our story before publication. In fact, we published his response in full."

The biggest beneficiary of funds from Weinstein and his family was the Democratic National Committee, which received about \$800,000 in several of its accounts, according to the center. Democratic National Committee spokeswoman Xochitl Hinojosa said the party plans to give more than \$30,000 to Emily's List, Emerge America and Higher Heights.

Rutgers University says it will not return a \$100,000 donation from movie mogul Harvey Weinstein for a position named after women's rights advocate Gloria Steinem. The university said Friday that Weinstein's donation was one of more than 425 that has been used to Gloria Steinem Chair in Media, Culture, and Feminist Studies at the school. The school says it can think of "no better use" of the donation than to apply it to the position and its work. — AP



In this Jan 6, 2016 file photo, producer Harvey Weinstein participates in the "War and Peace" panel at the A&E 2016 Winter TCA in Pasadena. — AP

The statement was not signed by several businessmen who were part of The Weinstein Co. board before the story broke. They did not return messages seeking comment Friday. Board member Dirk Ziff, a billionaire investor, resigned Thursday. Representatives did not immediately respond to questions about Weinstein's status with the film company. A person familiar with the board's deliberations but unauthorized to speak publicly told The Associated Press earlier Friday that Weinstein would be suspended from the company. But Friday's statement only said it



This picture taken on July 23, 2017 shows Indian singer and songwriter Gladson Peter performing in Mumbai. — AFP

# Indian one-man band strums and sings against smoking

Indian musician Gladson Peter strums the ukulele while blowing into a harmonica and smashing a cymbal using his foot as children from one of Asia's biggest slums clap and cheer. Peter, who can play 45 instruments, claims to be India's only one-man band and enjoys something of a fan following for his renditions of popular songs, including Ed Sheeran hits. The 24-year-old, a keen musician since the age of three, performs to raise awareness about the dangers of passive smoking after he lost part of a lung as a teenager.

"My shows are the hook through which I share my messages that can change someone's life. Many people have come up to me and apologized for tobacco consumption and have quit smoking," Peter told AFP. At college in his late teens two holes caused by tuberculosis were found in one of his lungs. Peter feared that he would never

play wind instruments again. Doctors said the disease could be exacerbated by passive smoking. So last year he decided he would form a one man band, playing 11 instruments, as part of his own anti-smoking awareness campaign. "We built the equipment in a week, rather miraculously, and I kick-started my performances," said Peter, who has since played around 200 concerts across India.

The instruments in his repertoire include guitar, melodica, bass drum, slide whistle and tambourine. He now plays 13 at once using a kit that weighs around 25 kilograms, no mean feat given his weakened lungs. "Though I cannot even run half a mile, my faith keeps me going and when I wear all the instruments and become the one-man band I feel empowered," he said. — AFP

# Kazuo Ishiguro: Social worker turned Nobel Prize Winner



British author Kazuo Ishiguro (L) holds a press conference in London on October 5, 2017 after being awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. — AFP photos



A man reads a book written by Japanese-born British novelist Kazuo Ishiguro at a book store in Tokyo.

Kazuo Ishiguro, the 62-year-old British novelist of Japanese origin who won the Nobel Prize for Literature on Thursday, once wanted to be a rock star, then became a social worker and only later in life turned to writing. Born in Japan and raised in England speaking Japanese at home, his writing has consistently explored this duality, something he credits with aiding his appeal.

"I've always looked at the world partly through my parents' eyes... (and) had a part of me that was Japanese," he said on Thursday in the garden of the north London home he shares with his wife. "That was quite good for me as a writer at the time when I was writing, because literature started to become very international." A prodigious writer since the early 1980s, he has penned eight books — as well as scripts for film and television — which have been translated into dozens of foreign languages and won numerous awards. But the author has remained more reclusive than some of his contemporary peers.

Ishiguro is still best known for "The Remains of the Day," which landed the Man Booker Prize for Fiction in 1989 and was turned into an Oscar-nominated film starring Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson. He later admitted to writing the book in a prolific four-week period. He has also

found fame more recently with "Never Let Me Go", his 2005 novel, and "When We Were Orphans", published in 2000. In awarding their prize on Thursday, the Nobel committee noted Ishiguro was most associated with themes of memory, time and self-delusion.

Despite his enviable success, Ishiguro has appeared modest in interviews. "I'm not a very inspired person," he told the Financial Times in 1995. "I don't have a lot of ideas." Asked what made novelists choose their often precarious occupation, he replied: "I won't say writers are crazy people because I don't care for stereotypes. But something is sufficiently out of line in their structure as people."

**Drifted into writing**

Ishiguro was born in Nagasaki, Japan, in 1954, but moved to England aged five, when his father began research at the National Institute of Oceanography. Intended as only a temporary move, the family eventually settled permanently in Guildford, a town some 30 miles southwest of London. After finishing school in the area, he enrolled at the University of Kent in Canterbury, where he read English and Philosophy.

The author, who plays the piano and guitar,

has said his first ambition was to become a rock star, but he drifted into writing instead. "This sounds very blasé... but (writing) wasn't necessarily what I wanted to do," he told the FT in the same 1995 interview.

**Grouse-beater at Balmoral**

Indeed, Ishiguro worked in several professions before settling on writing, including as a grouse-beater for the Queen Mother at Balmoral and as a social worker in Glasgow and London. His writing career finally launched during a creative break from social work. Ishiguro had enrolled in an MA course in creative writing at the University of East Anglia where his potential was spotted by the publisher Faber, which signed him.

He began writing full-time in 1982, enjoying sustained critical and commercial success ever since. The Nobel winner revealed on Thursday he is in discussions to continue harnessing his Japanese roots in a perhaps unexpected way: by writing a graphic novel. "This is a new thing for me and reconnects me to my Japanese childhood of reading manga," he said. — AFP

# Lifestyle

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2017



People wearing costumes pose for a "selfie" photograph as they gather at a bus stop before participating in a "Zombie Walk" on World Zombie Day, in London on October 7, 2017. World Zombie Day is an international annual event that grew from Pittsburgh's first ever Zombie Walk at Monroeville Mall in 2006 — the setting for Dawn of the Dead. — AFP

## A changing China on view in New York art show

A generation of artists deeply marked by the Tiananmen Square massacre, globalization and the liberalization of China's economy is at the heart of a new exhibition at New York's Solomon R Guggenheim Museum. The period bookended by Tiananmen (1989) and the 2008 Beijing Olympics witnessed what the museum's senior curator for Asian art Alexandra Munroe called "the greatest transformations in the lives of 1.3 billion people ever experienced in such a short span in all reported human history."

Radical socioeconomic and geopolitical changes experienced in such a short period of time could only be brutal. "Art and China after 1989: Theater of the World," which opened Friday and runs until January 7, "helps us understand the human impact of those changes," Munroe said, insisting it was not a comprehensive survey of Chinese contemporary art. She organized the show along with Chinese contemporary art experts Philip Tinari of the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art in Beijing and Hou Hanru, artistic director of Rome's MAXXI museum.

What the 71 featured artists and collectives filling most of the museum and its spiral structure "show us about their society and about ours is not always pretty," noted museum director Richard Armstrong. Many of the works have express political messages in the face of an authoritarian regime, created by artists often living and working outside of China.

Liu Zheng's poignant photographic prints show Chinese people on the margins of the race to economic development, while Wu Shanzhuan's "Today No Water" series plays with the bureaucratic language of state communications. The most spectacular work is Chen Zhen's giant "Precipitous Parturition," a dragon hung above the museum's rotunda whose body is made of intricately woven bicycle inner tubes with toy cars inside, reflecting China's transformation from a nation of bicycles to a nation of cars. But "it would be a misunderstanding of this exhibition to see it solely through the lens of politics," Munroe stressed. "It's the lens of life, chaos, globalization, neoliberalism." The show also explores the West's view of China and its art, the influence of man on his environment and the presence of a looming nuclear threat.

### Backlash

But long before the opening, three of the pieces due to be shown sparked waves of protests—both in public and on social media. Ultimately and suddenly, the museum pulled the works citing unspici-

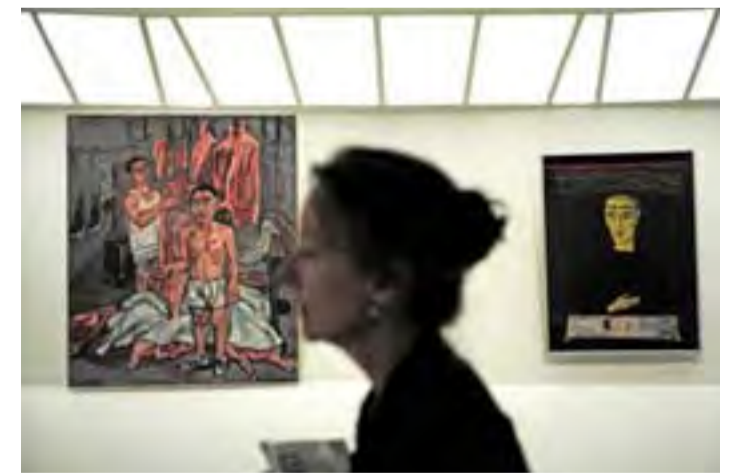
fied "explicit and repeated threats of violence" to its staff. But the decision also cut short an opportunity for public debate about morality and contemporary art.

Huang Yong Ping's "Theater of the World"—an enclosure of insects and reptiles vying for dominance—was installed without live creatures.

During a September interview with Artnet, Munroe had bluntly suggested that "if you can't survive" the piece, "don't bother seeing the rest of the show." A video featuring two pigs mating—their bodies temporarily tattooed by Xu Bing with Chinese characters and Roman letters—was pulled, along with another by Sun Yuan and Peng Yu showing dogs trained to fight instead strapped to treadmills facing each other in pairs in a fruitless struggle.

Both videos document past performances. Armstrong regretted that the works were pulled "before the public could consider what they say and why they had to be made in a certain way to say it." Munroe called it "perhaps the most painful decision in the history of the Guggenheim museum." "We hope that this controversy, which is in fact a fascinating controversy and a very timely one, can help the art world and our wider public—including this rather ferocious online community—to perhaps come together and to heal a divide that clearly needs to be healed," she added. — AFP

“Helps us understand the human impact of those changes”



People look at exhibits during the "Art and China after 1989: Theater of the World" media preview at the Solomon R Guggenheim Museum in New York. — AFP photos