

**Kuwait medical team removes brain tumor**



**US and North Korean leaders trade insults**



**Milan loses at Sampdoria; Inter and Lazio win**



**Hemed gives Brighton revenge over Newcastle**



## MERKEL WINS FOURTH TERM; HARD RIGHT GAINS Foothold

ANTI-ISLAM, ANTI-IMMIGRATION PARTY GRABS 13 PERCENT



Min 23°  
Max 41°  
High Tide 02:14 & 15:18  
Low Tide 09:08 & 21:07

150 FILS  
NO: 17388  
32 PAGES

### MP THREATENS TO GRILL 2 MINISTERS

By B Izzak

**KUWAIT:** Opposition MP Shuaib Al-Muwaizri yesterday said he will file to grill the ministers of Oil and Social Affairs and Labor in the next term over a series of alleged violations. Muwaizri said the next term which opens in less than three weeks will be "extremely hot" claiming that the government violations continued. He called on the National Assembly to withdraw confidence against ministers who commit violations.

The lawmaker said he plans to file to grill the Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Hind Al-Sabeeh over the issues of the handicapped, widows, cooperative societies and manpower. He provided no details over the alleged violations. Muwaizri said he will also file to grill Oil Minister Essam Al-Marzouk, joining a host of lawmakers who threatened to grill the minister. He said the minister does not cooperate with the National Assembly and he is not competent to remain in his post.

He said that an employee in the oil sector exposed thefts and violations in the Ministry and informed the CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Corp.

Continued on Page 11



**BERLIN:** German Chancellor and CDU party leader Angela Merkel (center) addresses supporters after exit poll results were broadcasted on public television at the party's headquarters in Berlin yesterday. — AFP

**BERLIN:** Chancellor Angela Merkel clinched a fourth term in Germany's election yesterday, but her victory was clouded by the hard-right AfD party winning its first seats in parliament. Merkel, who after 12 years in power held a double-digit lead for most of the campaign, scored around 33 percent of the vote with her conservative Christian Union (CDU/CSU) bloc, according to exit polls. Its nearest rivals, the Social Democrats and their candidate Martin Schulz, came in a distant second, with a post-war record low 20-21 percent.

But in a bombshell for the German establishment, the anti-Islam, anti-immigration Alternative for Germany (AfD) captured around 13 percent, making it the country's third biggest political force. While the likelihood of the AfD winning seats was clear for months, commentators called its strong showing a "watershed moment" in the history of the German republic.

Supporters gathered at the party headquarters in Berlin, cried out with joy as public television reported the outcome, many joining in a chorus of the German national anthem. The four-year-old nationalist party with links to the far-right French National Front and Britain's UKIP has been shunned by Germany's mainstream. It is now headed for the opposition benches of the Bundestag lower house, dramatically boosting its visibility and state financing.

Alarmed by the prospect of what Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel branded "real Nazis" entering the Bundestag for the first time since World War II, the candidates had used their final days of campaigning to implore voters to reject the populists.

Continued on Page 11

## SAUDI FESTIVITIES STRESS UNITY

### TRUMP, SPORTS WORLD FACE OFF

**SOMERSET:** President Donald Trump renewed his spat with the sports world yesterday, again calling for National Football League owners to fire players who protest during the US national anthem. In an early morning tweet, Trump suggested fans could boycott NFL games in order to pressure teams to discipline players who protest the anthem. "If NFL fans refuse to go to games until players stop disrespecting our Flag & Country, you will see change take place fast," Trump wrote yesterday. "Fire or suspend!"



President Trump

In a second tweet, Trump said that the "league should back" fans who are upset about the protests. Trump is spending the weekend at his golf club in Bedminster, New Jersey, and held no public events on Saturday. On Saturday, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said Trump's first statements on the matter, which came during a political rally in Alabama on Friday, revealed an "unfortunate lack of respect" for the NFL and its players.

Continued on Page 11

**RIYADH:** Saudi Arabia is celebrating its National Day with an array of family-friendly festivities, including allowing women to enter the main stadium in the capital, Riyadh, for the first time, to see a performance recounting the country's founding 87 years ago. The King Fahd stadium has previously been reserved for male-only crowds to watch soccer matches. The kingdom has planned several days of festivities starting Saturday to whip up patriotism amid tensions over austerity measures, the arrest of prominent figures, a diplomatic standoff with Qatar and war in Yemen. Skyscrapers have been lit green in the color of Saudi Arabia's flag and adorned with towering images of King Salman and his son Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman, who was named heir in June. — AP



**RIYADH:** Saudi families arrive outside a stadium to attend an event commemorating the anniversary of the founding of the kingdom. — AFP



**BEIRUT:** A Lebanese Kurd takes a selfie with a portrait of Kurdish regional president Massoud Barzani during a demonstration in Beirut's Martyrs Square in support of the referendum vote. — AFP

## IRAN HALTS FLIGHTS TO KURDISH REGION, LAUNCHES WARGAMES

**KURDS HOLD INDEPENDENCE VOTE**

**DUBAI:** Iran halted flights to and from Kurdish regions in northern Iraq yesterday in retaliation to a plan by the autonomous Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) to hold a referendum on independence. It also started wargames at the Kurdish border. The air embargo is the first concrete retaliatory measure against today's Kurdish referendum which is rejected by the government in Baghdad and by Iraq's powerful neighbors, Iran and Turkey.

Iranian authorities stopped air traffic to the international airports of Erbil and Sulaimaniya, in Iraqi Kurdistan, upon a request from Baghdad, Fars News Agency said. Tehran and Ankara fear the spread of separatism to their own Kurds. Iran also supports Shiite groups who have been ruling or holding key security and government positions in Iraq since the 2003 US-led invasion which toppled Saddam Hussein.

Turkey, meanwhile, said yesterday its aircraft launched strikes against Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) targets in northern Iraq's Gara region on Saturday after spotting militants preparing to attack Turkish military outposts on the border. "Turkey will never ever tolerate any status change or any new formations on its southern borders," Turkish Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said. "The KRG will be primarily responsible for the probable developments after this referendum."

The KRG has resisted calls to delay the

referendum by the United Nations, the United States and Britain who fear it could further destabilize the region. The vote, expected to result in a comfortable "yes" to independence, is not binding and is meant to give the KRG a legitimate mandate to negotiate the secession of the autonomous region with Baghdad and the neighboring countries.

The KRG says the vote acknowledges the Kurds' crucial contribution confronting Islamic State after it overwhelmed the Iraqi army in 2014 and seized control of a third of Iraq. Iranian State broadcaster IRIB said military drills, part of annual events held in Iran to mark the beginning of the 1980-1988 war with Iraq, were launched in the Oshnavieh border region. The war games will include artillery, armored and airborne units, it said. Clashes with Iranian Kurdish militant groups based in Iraq are fairly common in the border area.

On Saturday, Turkish warplanes destroyed gun positions, caves and shelters used by PKK militants, a military statement from Ankara said. Turkey's air force frequently carries out such air strikes against the PKK in northern Iraq, where its commanders are based. Turkey's parliament voted on Saturday to extend by a year a mandate authorizing the deployment of Turkish troops in Iraq and Syria.

Continued on Page 11

## BAHRAIN KING WANTS ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL TO END

**DUBAI:** Hosting a Los Angeles event with the son of Bahrain's king, two prominent US rabbis let something slip to those in attendance: the ruler of the island nation thinks the longtime boycott of Israel by Arab countries should end. The rabbis' revelation of the king's opinion shouldn't come as too much of a surprise, however. Arab nations slowly have inched closer to Israel in recent years, in part because both sides remain incredibly suspicious of Iran's intentions as the wars in Iraq and Syria wind down.

Bahrain may prove to be the test case for other Gulf Arab nations about coming out of the closet about their mutual interests. It also allows the kingdom, still silent about the rabbis' comments, to draw attention away from its internal crackdown on dissent, which largely targets its Shiite majority. Bahrain, an island nation off the coast of Saudi Arabia connected by a 25-kilometer causeway, long has been known as more libertine than its ultraconservative neighbor.

Its bars and nightclubs attract cross-border traffic, as well as sailors based there with the US Navy's 5th Fleet. The island also hosts a small Jewish community, whose presence occasionally makes waves. An online video last year from Bahrain during Hanukkah caused a minor stir when it showed yarmulke-wearing Jews dancing with Arabs in traditional robes and kaffiyeh headaddresses. In February, Bahraini King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa hosted the two rabbis from the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Center, its founder Marvin Hier and associate dean Abraham Cooper.

Hier, who had just given a prayer at President Donald Trump's inauguration weeks earlier, said King Hamad brought up the Arab boycott of Israel on his own. The king "said he doesn't understand what the boycott against Israel accomplishes. He made it very, very clear. He said it emphatically," Hier told The Associated Press. "He said we have to chart a new course, one based on tolerance and digni-

ty, and that this was very important"

Cooper, who spoke separately to the AP, offered a similar recollection. "During the course of the meeting, the king brought up his personal opposition to the Arab boycott of Israel," he said. "He brought it up. It's not an issue we did." That conversation only got mentioned publicly in the last week, when the Simon Wiesenthal Center hosted King Hamad's son, Prince Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa. While there, the prince promoted a declaration signed by the king and announced Bahrain planned to open an "interfaith dialogue" center in November.

Bahrain's government, whose state media extensively covered Prince Nasser's visit, did not respond to requests for comment. That in itself is not surprising. The newly formed Arab League opposed the creation of Israel after World War II and opposed recognizing it following the 1967 Mideast War.

Continued on Page 11

In Brief

AVIATION SAFETY DISCUSSED

**KUWAIT:** Kuwait's national aviation safety committee discussed required amendments in the national aviation safety program in terms of international laws. The meeting, chaired by Director General of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Sheikh Salman Sabah Al-Salem Al-Humoud Al-Sabah, discussed the program's recommendations and measures in accordance with the laws of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), head of DGCA's technical office Saud Al-Mahroos said yesterday. —KUNA



GOLD PRICE DROPS

**KUWAIT:** Gold price went down by \$23 to reach \$1,295 per ounce in last week's trading in New York New Mix market, according to Sabaek Al-Kuwait Company. It added in its weekly report yesterday that gold's price went down due to various reasons, such as the recovering US dollar and a new sentiment for bold trading among stock and bond dealers. —KUNA



DOLLAR UNCHANGED

**KUWAIT:** The US dollar's exchange rate was unchanged at KD 0.301 while the euro went down to KD 0.360, the Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said yesterday. Meanwhile, the rate of the pound Sterling dropped to KD 0.406, the same case with the Swiss franc which exchanged at KD 0.311 mark. The Japanese yen stood still at KD 0.002. — KUNA



Photo

of the day



**KUWAIT:** Fahad Al-Salem Street, is located in downtown Kuwait City and surrounded by hotels and business towers. —KUNA photo

PANEL DISCUSSES HOW TO SUCCEED IN NEW MEDIA

By Faten Omar

**KUWAIT:** ArabNet organized a discussion panel titled 'MediaXchange' recently at Sirdab Lab in Kuwait City. The event featured a panel on 'what it takes to succeed in new media - online content and distribution,' which discussed the proliferation of mediums and platforms that consumers can access content on, and the time spent on traditional media outlets (reading physical newspapers and watching TV) that has shrunk.

According to Nielsen, TV viewership has been decreasing internationally, down by a staggering 30 percent within some demographics. Meanwhile, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region consumes 23.5 billion hours of video content each month, according to Deloitte. The region is also considered the second largest international consumer of YouTube content globally. Consumer interest and behavior is shifting towards social media channels and on-demand content.

During the discussion panel, Bilal Mourad, Regional Connect Director - MENA, IPSOS said that people want to express themselves "and that is why the world is developing in platforms in Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, and Snapchat. People want something fast." He added "Newspapers will not die in Kuwait, because the owners have their own traditional agenda they cannot change. Maybe they will shift to digital under the fait accompli."

Dana Al-Hanbali, managing partner of Beattie and Dane, said meanwhile: "We need to better understand our consumers, what they need and which channel is the best to use. I appreciate the infusers' cultures because they understand who they are talking to, and



**KUWAIT:** (From left) Rita Makhoul, Managing Editor of ArabNet, Dana Al-Hanbali, managing partner of Beattie and Dane, Bilal Mourad, Regional Connect Director - MENA, IPSOS and Nael Halabi, Managing Director at Vivaki Productions. —Photo by Joseph Shagra

how to reach them." Hanbali stated "I would love to talk to the media channels to discuss the best ways, but they do not want to take the risk to go on the creativity way."

Different types

For Nael Halabi, Managing Director at Vivaki Productions, traditional media still do not know how to deal with different types of channels. "The common mistake that all ads do is they put the same ad in all media chan-

nels. They do not know that each media has its own purpose."

Halabi noted that social media followers want something interesting, or else content would end up being a waste of time and money. "Customers are becoming less and less attentive because of a lot of distractions in many channels. We need to know how to improve the content," he explained.

He added "It is a mistake to use the same ad from TV on YouTube, because you have five

seconds to attract consumers. If the ad does not attract them, they will skip it. You need to change the story of the ad according to the media channel that you use. Social media is not a competitor; it complements traditional media to reach different people."

Interactive media

On the sidelines of the discussion, Kuwait Times spoke with Rita Makhoul, Managing Editor of ArabNet, who also moderated the panel. Makhoul pointed out that people no longer are interested in reading 4,000 words. Instead, they want visual content, short details with videos and pictures, as well as interactive material. "We felt that there is a gap. We have done some research, so we requested to do a media exchange across the region. More importantly, this will help educate the media about how to transform from traditional to digital means. Traditional media has been suffering and we want to help and support them."

She added that ArabNet received a lot of feedback talking about financial losses affecting traditional media in the region. "But there is always a way to get better," she said. "It is all about understanding the audience better. Whether it is Kuwait, Lebanon, United Arab Emirates or Saudi Arabia, all media in those countries are the same."

Makhoul revealed that ArabNet will hold the 'Digitize Kuwait' conference under the patronage of Khaled Nasser Al-Roudan, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of State for Youth Affairs, and the attendance of Sheikhha Al-Zain Al-Sabah, Undersecretary of the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs. ArabNet conference will be held on October 17-18 for the second year in a row.

The two-day conference particularly focuses on the Kuwaiti and GCC ecosystem. The event will highlight the latest trends and opportunities that have emerged in recent years in Kuwait. The main speakers will be startups and entrepreneurs from the Kuwaiti ecosystem who will have the opportunity to convene and have discussions in an open and inclusive environment.

This year, ArabNet Kuwait will feature top investors highlighting their investment strategies and the market trends, and successful entrepreneurs sharing best practices for fundraising, team-building and scaling. Digital commerce is flourishing in Kuwait, with KNET processing over \$1.6 billion in online transactions in Kuwait in 2016. Banks, retailers, and service businesses are increasingly investing in digital innovation to meet consumer demands. ArabNet Kuwait will highlight the latest trends in e-retail and e-commerce - including omnichannel and on-demand strategies - as well as fintech and banking innovation - including mobile banking / payments and the future of the branch.

Furthermore, two competitions will be held at ArabNet Kuwait; the Ideathon competition for entrepreneurs with innovative digital ideas that have not been built, and the Startup Battle competition for entrepreneurs with innovative digital young startups less than two years old.

This round table gathers content producers, journalists and new media professionals to discuss the diverse landscape of online (and mobile) platforms: best practices in content production and adapting to various platforms and skills needed to produce and stay-up-to-date with new platforms.

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KFH ANNOUNCES SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CALL CENTER EMPLOYEES

**KUWAIT:** KFH Group DGM - Banking Services at Kuwait Finance House Khaled Al-Subai'e said that front line desk employees are given significant care and attention. Further care is also given to customer service employees who are dealing with customers either directly through traditional channels (branches - showroom - direct sale) or via modern technology methods e.g. telephone or internet which comes as a reiteration of KFH strategy to provide customer care in various means and at various levels through highly qualified and trained employees.

Subai'e stated, during the inauguration of a training session for the new KFH recruits at call center or online service center, that accelerated technical development has made major change in the concept of online service provided. It has made them as important as other departments even though they are not in direct contact with the customers. They are one of the main pillars of KFH and therefore they had to be prepared and trained professionally to exceed customers' expectations. KFH customers prefer to use technology currently and receive service through various channels. He affirmed that KFH has taken care of both service channels including the development of technical methods



and training of employees to perform the service and provide the best possible service by using modern technology. The training program comprises 18 Kuwaiti employees. Employees receive a package of highly distinguished

banking products and programs, details on the role of call center at banks and financial institutions and the performance and goal achievement standards and how to deal with customers.

## Legalese

DOMESTIC WORKERS  
IN KUWAIT

By Attorney Fajer Ahmed

**D**omestic workers in Kuwait can sometimes have really tough jobs. They work in large houses with big families running errands from cleaning, washing, cooking, and entertaining the children for exceptionally low salaries. We should be grateful for them, yet some people take advantage of them, or even worse, speak about them or refer to them as commodities, selling them back and forth or putting up ads referring to their domestic worker as property.

## Return

**Question:** I got my domestic worker more than 100 working days ago and now I am not happy with her service. She does not want to take care of my kids anymore. The office does not want to return her. What should I do?

**Fajer:** Let us make one thing clear: there are laws that organize the relationship between domestic workers and their employers and it is a work relationship. I understand that you have a contract with an office but your domestic helper is not an item that you have purchased. Please be nice to her. Please treat her like a human being, the same way you would want to be treated by your employer. Be considerate. As her employer, if the 100 days pass and you would like to terminate her, then you will have to face consequences. You need to give her notice and you need to make sure she returns to her home country safely or finds another job and then transfer her residency.

## First time

**Question:** I know that hiring a domestic worker is a responsibility and it is my first time. What advice can you give me?

**Fajer:** I am glad you understand that it is a responsibility. It is very important that you understand this. Here is some advice that hopefully is helpful:

1. Please make sure any domestic worker that you hire get to keep her passport.
2. I know that you might want to lock your house at all times, especially if you have kids, but make sure you do not lock domestic workers in.
3. They should not be working more than 12 hours a day, that means the other 12 hours they can do what they want.
4. They should have a day off once a week. This is the law. Please let them go where they want.
5. If your hiring them because you want them to be nannies, please make sure they have experience and that they understand that.
6. They deserve bonuses, termination indemnity, and other monetary benefits.

I hope the above was helpful, if you have any further questions please email me at ask@fajertelawyer.com. If you are a domestic worker in Kuwait and you are in danger, please email me.

## LAWMAKER BACKS BEDOON RIGHTS

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** MP Majed Al-Mutairi yesterday filed a proposed bill to protect Bedoon (stateless) people's civil and social rights, said informed sources, noting that Mutairi called for officially using the description 'Stateless' as a nationality in official documents, and granting dependents residency visas as long as their sponsors hold valid ones and as long as they were born in Kuwait. The lawmaker also asks that the government grant Bedoons civil IDs with five-year renewable validity by which a holder will have access to free medical treatment, free education including higher education, issue birth and death certificates and register marriage, divorce and inheritance, all types of drivers licenses, passports and travelling documents, retirement and social security, the right to choose between working for the public or private sectors and the right of land ownership.

## Briefs from parliament

MP Shuaib Al-Muwaizri said that many issues had been suspended during the summer vacation though many financial violations existed in various government bodies. Muwaizri also warned that the coming parliamentary term would be a 'hot' one because the executive power violations continued. He also said that the parliament should call for filing no-confidence motions against any minister with violations under his jurisdiction.

Further, Muwaizri promised to grill the minister of social affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh over issues involving the disabled, widows, coops and manpower. He also noted that he would grill the oil minister because he was 'uncooperative' and does not deserve to remain in office. "Citizen Essam Al-Mehaid recently exposed violations and thefts at the oil ministry and reported to Kuwait Petroleum Corporation's (KPC) CEO who did nothing but dismiss Mehaid himself," the lawmaker explained, adding that another citizen, Fraij Al-Fraij, was

also being harassed because he refused a bribery offered by a contractor.

## Literary doctors to be investigated

Health Minister Dr Jamal Al-Harbi recently ordered the formation of a special committee to investigate the topic of doctors who had finished high school in the literary section. Kuwait's high school system is divided into two sections: literary and scientific. Having a high school degree from the scientific is a prerequisite to studying medicine according to Kuwait's academic system. Harbi also stressed that a doctor should hold a degree from an international university or a college accredited in Kuwait.

"The whole image is not yet clear and the information still needs to be verified with the ministry of higher education", he underlined. On another concern, Harbi issued decision number 367/2017 on amending article one of the ministerial decision number 466/1998 pertaining to regulating work at polyclinics as well as adjusting the authorities of clinics' managers who would be deputized for two renewable years.

## Massage parlor 'cabins' to be inspected

Kuwait Municipality's Director Ahmad Al-Manfouhi announced instructing all municipality emergency

teams to impose regulation number 87/2015 pertaining with public stores in terms of removing all doors on cabins and rooms in various spas and massage parlors. In this regard, the capital municipality emergency team leader Zaid Al-Azmi said that inspection campaigns would commence on October 1st to make sure that those doors, if any were used, matched the regulations of not exceeding the height of one meter and that they should leave a space of 50 centimeters above the ground. Al-Azmi added that violators would receive three-day notices to remove violations to avoid further penal measures and closure.

## REGISTER FOR 'GULF BANK 642 MARATHON' ON NOVEMBER 18TH

**KUWAIT:** Gulf Bank is pleased to announce registration for the 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon' is now open. Register online at: [www.gulfbank642marathon.com](http://www.gulfbank642marathon.com). The 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon' will be held on Saturday, November 18, 2017 at 7:00 am. We hope to see you all again this year.

No other event enables participants to tour Kuwait's beautiful landmarks in an atmosphere that is filled with energy and excitement. The event starts and ends at Souq Sharq, and the race route is on Gulf Road, passing by Souk Al-Mubarakiya, the Gulf Bank head office, the Grand Mosque, Al-Seif Palace, the National Assembly, Kuwait Towers, as well as other landmarks. We will again be coordinating with relevant authorities to close the roads to ensure the safety of the walkers and runners.

This event caters to all levels, from challenging athletes to beginners and even families, this includes four different distances/categories: Family Fun Walk/Run (5km); Souq Run for regular runners (10km); Half Marathon for more advanced runners (21km); and Kuwait's only Full Marathon (42km).

Laila Al-Qatami, Assistant General Manager for Corporate Communications at Gulf Bank said: "We are thrilled to once again be working with our partners and friends at Pro-Vision Sports Management to bring you the 2017 edition of the 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon'. Together with these young Kuwaiti entrepreneurs, we have created an event that puts Kuwait on the sporting map, as its only internationally certified marathon. Each year the

marathon also supports a cause, this year it's the Winter Emergency Campaign by UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency, aimed at providing warmth to refugees during the winter season."

Ahmed Al-Huzami, CEO of Pro-Vision Sports Management, added: "We had a fantastic event last year, with over 70 nationalities represented at the race. In fact, many dedicated marathoners came to Kuwait from the US, Europe, and the GCC, specifically to join the race. The 'Gulf Bank 642 Marathon' remains only road race in Kuwait to have three of its longer distance race categories accredited by the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS) and the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF Athletics), meaning that those races appear in the international calendar of races and serve as qualifying race for the major international marathons."

Ahmed Al-Majed, Managing Partner of Pro Vision Sport Management, stated: "When we started this marathon in 2014, we had hoped it would become an international event in Kuwait. Since establishing our partnership with Gulf Bank in 2015, we have seen the event grown exponentially and we expect this year to continue that trend. We are committed to further growing the race and to raising awareness of the importance of a healthy lifestyle. In fact, the number 642 represent the number of muscles in the human body, so join us on 18 November, and move those 642 muscles."

JAHRA HOSPITAL FIGHT,  
A FAMILY AFFAIR

By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** A video clip went viral on social media showing a brawl between brothers, an expat and several children in Jahra hospital, prompting response from the Interior Ministry. The Relations and Security Information Directorate General at the ministry said the video clip showing the fight was taken during a family's visit to the hospital to see their sick father. The statement noted that the fight was due to an earlier conflict between the family members. The two victims lodged a complaint at Naem police station. Detectives are summon-

ing the third brother and his children for further legal action.

## Inspection campaign

Farwaniya municipality's Andalus food center carried out an inspection campaign that covered several shops and coops in Andalus and Firdous, resulting in issuing five citations.

In another incident, residency detectives arrested several domestic helpers on Visa Article 20 for suspicion of signature forgery. An Asian and an Arab confessed to handing the transactions for a citizen to issue entry visas for Bangladeshis.

KUWAITI SURGEONS REMOVE  
MENINGITIC BRAIN TUMOR

**KUWAIT:** A Kuwaiti medical team has successfully removed a large meningitic tumor from the base of a patient's brain. Dr Humoud Al-Orooj, a chief surgeon at Al-Farwaniyah Hospital, said in a statement yesterday that specialist Fahad Al-Asousi led the team that conducted the surgery. The patient, who suffered no complications after the operation, recovered in a short period of time, he added.

Separately, a medical team from Kuwait Cancer Control Centre (KCCC) conducted yesterday quality tests for the newest positron-emission tomography device for inspecting tumors in Advanced Care Medical Center in Dubai, the UAE. Head of Nuclear Medicine Physics Unit at Kuwait Cancer Control Centre (KCCC), Dr Mishari Al-Nuaimi, said that the Kuwaiti physicians' team are inspecting the new technological innovation in integrated tomography and positron imaging domain.

This new technique helps in diagnosing patients' diseases and illnesses and monitoring various kinds of cancers. During latest years, tendency towards using radiation and radioisotopes in curing tumors increased, Dr Nuaimi said.

Kuwaiti medical cadres have a wide experience in utilizing such modern technologies, he affirmed.

KCCC, a pioneer center in operating latest medical imaging equipment, includes a specialized department of radiology medical physics since 1982. The Kuwaiti physicians' team is a distinguished one with high qualifications as it has conducted more than 50 quality tests on the modern nuclear imaging devices in UAE, Oman and Qatar, he said.

KCCC is a comprehensive center dedicated entirely to cancer Care across the State of Kuwait. It was founded in 1968 as a governmental center affiliated to the Kuwaiti Ministry of health. It is primarily made up of the Hussain Makki Juma building for Specialized Surgery, Sheikha Badriya Al-Sabah Medical Oncology Building, Faisal Sultan Ibn Issa Diagnostic Imaging building. With over 600 highly qualified medical oncology staff, KCCC is a 200 bed hospital complex located in Shuwaikh. KCCC treats over 2,000 cancer patients each year from Kuwait and the region. It is equipped with state-of-the-art medical devices. — KUNA

CENTRAL BANK SAYS MONEY  
SUPPLY DROPS 1.5% IN JULY

**KUWAIT:** The Central Bank of Kuwait (CBK) said yesterday that the money supply (M2) in July was KD 35.9 billion (about \$117 billion) down by 1.5 percent as compared to June. The CBK's economic research department said in a statistical report that the private sector deposits in local banks decreased by 0.2 percent in July 2017 to KD 32 billion (\$104.6 billion). Foreign assets were down in July by seven percent standing at KD 2.2 billion (about \$7 billion), thus the private sector total deposits reached KD 34 billion (about

\$114.5 billion). Meanwhile, local banks claims on the CBK, according to the statistical data, rose in July by 1.9 percent to KD 3 billion (about \$9.8 billion). Local banks' assets fell by 0.5 percent to KD 62.2 billion (about \$202.5 billion). Foreign assets at local banks dropped by 0.8 percent in July to KD 7.5 billion (about \$24.5 billion). Total assets at the CBK, according to the data, went down by 3.1 percent in July to KD 9.2 billion (\$30 billion), and foreign assets were also down by 2.9 percent to KD 9 billion (about \$29.4 billion). — KUNA

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# Kuwait Times 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations



Jumeirah Messilah Beach Hotel and Spa's Marketing Executive Hala Al-Awadhi, Account Manager (Action Group) Laila Al-Tarawneh and Senior Account Executive (Action Group) Ayah Joudeh meet with Kuwait Times Deputy General Manager Adnan Saad.



Marina Hotel's Director of Sales Wissam Injbar and Asdaa's Account Executive Maisaa Thaher present a cake to Kuwait Times.



KUWAIT: Flowers presented by Minister of Cabinet Affairs and Acting Minister of Information Sheikh Mohammad Al-Abdullah Al-Sabah. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat and Joseph Shagra



Flowers from Asdaa Burson — Marsteller.



Flowers from MEC.



Flowers presented by the Information Ministry's Undersecretary Tariq Al-Mezrem.



Maki Restaurant's Operations Manager Toufic Salloum and Marketing Business Development Coordinator Abdelhak Mehdi present a gift to Kuwait Times Deputy General Manager Adnan Saad.



Sheraton Hotel's Public Relations Manager Mazen Mohanna presents a cake to Kuwait Times.



Flowers from Al-Anbaa newspaper.



Inn & Go Hotel's Resident Manager Michael Nielsen and Assistant Event Sales Manager Lailany Juelar present a cake to Kuwait Times.

الجريدة

Al-Jarida

## AS SWEET AS HONEY

By Hassan Al-Essa

Corruption is sweet and that is why we like it, but, please do not get used to its sweetness," said Pope Francis in Nairobi in 2015 as quoted by Robert Rotberg on the interface of his book 'The Corruption Cure'. I believe that in Kuwait and in other friendly countries where one can be jailed or fined for expressing an opinion or uttering words of criticism, we suffer from being addicted to the sweetness of corruption. Many of us get used to it and those who reject such sweetness suffer from psychological pain.

If you wish to do a transaction at any government facility, the majority of which are dominated by corruption, you need to think of a relative or a friend who is capable of facilitating the process for you. For instance, if you want to renew your passport and avoid long queues or waiting for hours just to be rejected, those with connections have their transactions quickly tended to without waiting.

A low-ranking officer might also scold you for wearing wrong attire to a public facility. It is better to have connections to avoid such unjustified sufferings because of minor forms of corruption which is

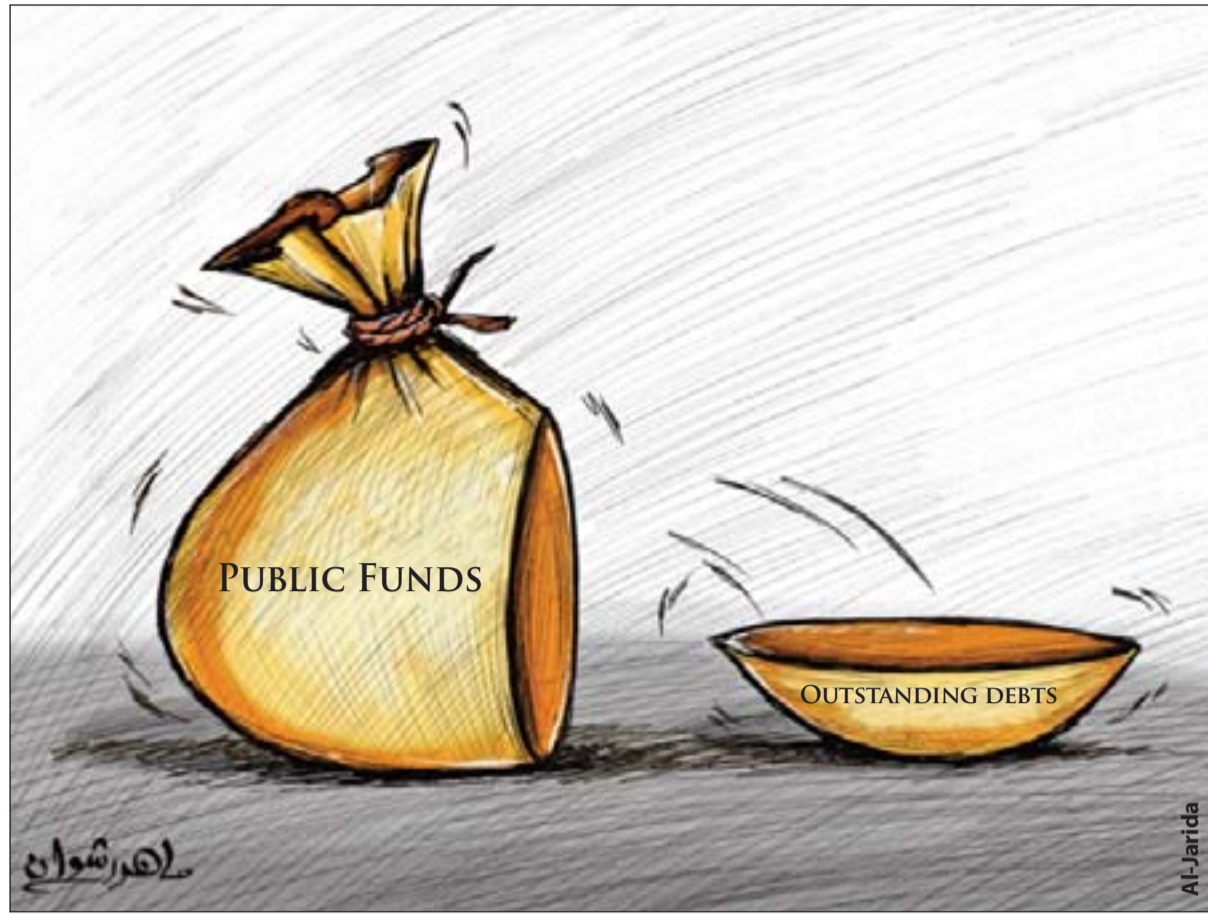
### The key to combating corruption lies in the hands of decision-makers

painful for one's dignity and undermines the law. Such corrupt clerks may unlawfully accept or reject transactions or custom-tailored billions-worth tenders to fit certain groups.

The key to combating corruption lies in the hands of decision-makers, their will and realization of its danger. The continuation of corruption at the current pace will accelerate the end of the state's age, drain out its assets and financial resources, promote a sense of bitterness, lack of justice and create despair within a community that has realized the futility of fighting the powers of corruption. This will all pave the way for terrorism and the states' doom's day; something that reminds me of Somalia.

An independent judiciary is also one of the most important counter-corruption measures. Like many African countries, Kenya has also suffered from a lot of corruption. Yet, the Kenyan supreme court deemed the recent presidential elections void, which was a very bold step by the judges who refused to yield before the dominating powers. Judiciary independence is not achieved by idle legislations. It is a tough task in many developing countries to protect the judiciary from being affected by politics.

— Translated by Kuwait Times



النهار

Al-Anbaa

## VERBAL PUBLICITY

By Thaar Al-Rasheedi

Surveying public opinion is not an easy task, especially when tackling constituents' and voters' satisfaction with the performance of their representatives in parliaments. What makes things even harder for surveyors is the chaos on various social media networks that have become accessible for anybody to market themselves so easily. However, despite such propaganda disturbance, conventional methods can also be used to get accurate public opinion surveys. For me, I believe the best way is to do surveys through diwaniya gatherings and the opinions of youth and influential figures about certain lawmakers.

I did a survey on how far the fourth constituency voters are satisfied with their MPs' performance regardless of digital media's fuss and bother. I found out that at least 60 percent of those lawmakers would be replaced in any coming elections, and I believe this applies for other constituencies because many of the MPs have completely and unjustifiably changed over the past few months compared to how they performed when they commenced their first term, namely on discussing budgets. They have now shifted

political orientation on so many issues.

Back to the fourth constituency, this led to a great deal of dissatisfaction towards MPs in general and towards a certain one in particular. During the survey, I heard comments like: "That is not the lawmaker we voted for," "He is not what we thought he would be," and "he changed by 180 degrees compared to what he had called for during electoral seminars" that are usually known as 'verbal publicity'.

**I found out that at least 60 percent of those lawmakers would be replaced in any coming elections**

Some MPs have failed to keep the promises they had made to their supporters which happened because of their own practices or those of their secretarial staff members or representatives. Those MPs ought to know that verbal publicity and gossip among people are much stronger than their paid propaganda campaigns. Accordingly, I would like to advise some MPs to adjust their performance and win more public support and satisfaction in case of the occurrence of near elections before concluding their tenures, which is so likely to happen.

— Translated by Kuwait Times

## Crime

Report

### DRUGS FOUND IN FARWANIYA

**KUWAIT:** Two Egyptians were sent to the Drugs Control General Department after being caught with various drugs. A police patrol in Farwaniya stopped a car driven by an Egyptian man and upon conducting a search, two bags of shabu, the local term for meth, and eight tablets of Tramadol were found. The same patrol noticed another expat walking in an open area suspiciously. They stopped the man and searched him and found a stick of hashish and a used joint. The man was arrested.

### Policewoman arrested

A policewoman was arrested at a check point, as she was discovered to be wanted on financial case. She was sent to concerned authorities.

### Girl missing

A citizen's daughter went missing after she went out with a friend for dinner. She asked the friend to leave her walking alone for a while, and she was having a phone conversation, then hung up all of a sudden and disappeared. The friend told the girl's mother who informed police.

— Translated from the Arabic press

### EXPATS HEALTH INSURANCE COVERS SEVEN BASIC SERVICES

**KUWAIT:** High ranking legal source said that law number 1/1999 regarding health insurance for foreigners, which stipulates imposing fees for health services, indicates that health services should be presented under the health insurance and assurance systems based on the rules of this law, in a way that does not contradict Islamic sharia.

The sources said that Article 3 of the law mentioned that insurance companies must present the health insurance services according to conditions and rules put forth by the health ministry, which are born by employers according to the law. These basic health services:

- Medical examination and necessary medication in clinics with general practitioner and specialists.
- Laboratory and x-ray tests.
- Surgical procedures except for cosmetic surgeries.
- Treatment and medicine costs.
- Staying in hospitals under normal circumstances and emergencies.
- Ordinary dental treatment.
- Medicines.

Furthermore, the law said: The foreigner can insure other additional and elective health services for additional charges, while the health minister can, according to Article 11, impose fees on foreigners for health services presented by the health ministry one month after this law becomes effective. — Al-Anbaa

### SABAH AL-AHMAD HERITAGE VILLAGE PREPARES FOR DECEMBER FESTIVAL

**KUWAIT:** Sabah Al-Ahmad Heritage Village continues to prepare for holding the National Heritage Festival early December, said the village's supervisor Mohammad Daifallah Sharar. The festival will include competitions for camels, birds, horses and sheep, Sharar, also Amiri Diwan Advisor, said yesterday. He added that registration for these competitions will begin mid November until the festival's launch. The village will have new attractions this season, including an old Kuwaiti town with all details, the old walls of Kuwait and extra seating areas for visitors, he said. Meanwhile, the official noted that the village also contains a large theater to host folkloric ceremonies and events, as well as a large children's playground with old and modern entertainment equipment. It also includes restaurants, coffee shops, children's cinema, green spaces, lakes, a hotel and folkloric museums, said Sharar. — KUNA

### INTERIOR DENIES TORTURE REPORTS

**KUWAIT:** The Ministry of Interior issued a statement yesterday denying reports circulated on the social media in Kuwait about the torture of an alleged criminal while handcuffed, describing such news as "baseless and lack credibility". A statement by the Ministry's General Directorate of Relations and Security Media said that what was published in the social media about the accused, charged for forgery and drugs possession and sentenced for 10 years in prison, were "not true". The criminal himself spread the photo on the social media with the help of the second accused, who was an officer in the Ministry of Interior and was sentenced to five years in prison. The defendant is the one who published those distorted images after escaping from the courtroom while the case was being probed. The Ministry denied that the accused was subject to any form of violence during the arrest.

### 'CULTURE CAN BRING ARAB STATES CLOSER'



Candidate for the presidency of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO) Saud Al-Harbi.

**KUWAIT:** Culture can bring Arab countries closer to unify their views on vital issues, said Kuwaiti candidate for the presidency of the Arab League Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organization (ALECSO). Saud Al-Harbi affirmed yesterday his desire to boost the work of ALECSO in protecting the Arab culture and identity and the Arabic language. He noted that he and Lebanese Minister of Culture Ghattas Khoury discussed cultural challenges in the Arab World. He added that Lebanon had largely enriched Arab culture through dictionaries, magazines, books and research.

Lebanon's representative in ALECSO's executive council Mohammad Farhoukh said that minister Khoury expressed his appreciation for Kuwait's funding of several cultural projects in Lebanon. He added that he had met with Lebanese officials to determine his country's stance on supporting the Kuwaiti candidate. Al-Harbi is currently the assistant undersecretary for curriculums and research at the Ministry of Education. ALECSO was established in 1970 under the Arab League. The organization aims to boost education and culture in the Arab World. — KUNA

### AL-NAJAT SOCIETY ASPIRES FOR INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

**NEW YORK:** Kuwait's Al-Najat Charity Society aspires to be among the humanitarian organizations recognized by the UN to enable it contribute to global humanitarian plans, visions and strategies, a society official said. Dr Jaber Al-Wanda, Al-Najat Deputy Director General, said engagement of Kuwait charitable organizations with their international counterparts helped the formers promote their humanitarian action in a transparent and institutionalized manner.

Al-Najat, one of Kuwait's oldest civil charitable societies, has many partnerships with American humanitarian organizations and is looking forward to expand this partnerships to international organizations, Al-Wanda said. Al-Wanda is in New York to participate in activities related to the UN sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2015-30. He said Kuwaiti laws that organized humanitarian and charitable action were among the oldest in the region, but participation in international meetings "helps us to gain expertise that contribute to the development of laws and regulations in the State of Kuwait"

Al-Wanda said Kuwait's humanitarian and charitable societies were facing growing responsibilities now after the UN honoring of Kuwait as a Humanitarian Center and His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah as the Humanitarian Leader. "This makes the (Kuwaiti) societies work constantly on developing their performance and operations to be internationally recognized," he said. Al-Najat, said Al-Wanda, participated in a number of UNGA sideline activities with the objectives of achieving the SDGs, which aimed at addressing poverty, improvement of education and health services, fighting extremism and extremist ideologies.

The society presented some recommendations and plans it believed would improve the global humanitarian action. "Our participation aims at benefiting from international expertise in order to place a roadmap and an action plan contribute to helping the needy at a larger scale," he added. Al-Wanda called on Kuwait's non-governmental charitable societies to participate in international humanitarian events to benefit from them. — KUNA

# Kuwait Times International

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## VATICAN FORCED TO EXPEL CHIEF AUDITOR FOR SPYING

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**Rohingya in Bangladesh need 'massive' assistance, says UN**

Page 9



MEXICO CITY: Two Argentinian rescue workers take a break with their sniffer dogs while participating in the search for survivors at a flattened building. — AFP

## MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS AID QUAKE VICTIMS TOUCHED FROM AFAR AND DESPERATE TO PROVIDE HELP

**LAS VEGAS:** When Luis Ramirez finally reached his mother after the powerful Mexico earthquake, he learned her home was so badly damaged that it had to be demolished. He considered getting on a plane from New York to help her find a new home, but it was too risky now that the program that has been shielding him from deportation is being phased out. He tried to send money, but the usual courier that he uses shut down because of the damage from the 7.1-magnitude quake in his home state of Morelos. "The situation is eating me alive because you can't do anything," he said about sending help to his mother from New York City.

The earthquake that killed nearly 300 people and destroyed dozens of buildings in Mexico set off a frantic response in communities around the U.S. as people desperately try to connect with their loved ones, figure out ways to send emergency help, money and goods as well as raise funds for smaller towns around the capital they say are receiving less help from the government. Those in the country illegally wish they could travel to help their loved ones cope with the aftermath but are afraid they wouldn't be able to return.

"We saw people desperately trying to connect with their families. Lines were down. They couldn't think of other ways to find their relatives," said Ana Flores, who heads an office for the Mexican state of Puebla in Passaic, New Jersey. "We have gone through all of the feelings from anxiety, to anguish and now trying to find all the support we can."

### One blow after the other

Traditionally a month of parties for Mexicans who celebrate the country's independence from Spain, September has dealt one blow after another. It started with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey in Houston, which has the third-largest population of Mexicans in the US. Then on Sept 5, President Donald Trump announced his decision to phase out the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program that shielded from deportation nearly 800,000 immigrants - the great majority from Mexico - brought to the US as children. Another earthquake struck in Mexico's southern coast on Sept 7, killing at least 90 people.

Tuesday's earthquake has Mexicans in the US glued to their televisions and their phones trying to get specific news from their local towns to help their families. Monica Dominguez, who lives in Huntington Beach, California, had been calling childhood friends who now work for Mexico's Civil Protection trying to pull strings to move the construction rubble from her grandparents' home in the town of Yauatepec south of Mexico City so her family can go out to the street. The old house where she lived when she was 5 collapsed when the wooden beams cracked, leaving it in ruins.

"All they were able to get out of there were some couches where they have been sleeping in the back. They have power but they are running out of food," she said. "There are so many of us with similar stories of suffering." In Las Vegas, Luis Ramon Corona-Rizo is helping collect funds among friends and hosting a car wash to raise money to send back home. Corona-Rizo says his parents and sister survived the quake and offered to use the money he sends to buy medicines and take them to a collection center. "A lot of people don't trust the government in Mexico, so I'm going to send the money to my family," he said.

A grocery store chain in Las Vegas that caters to the area's Hispanic community is also hosting a fundraiser this weekend at one of its shops where it will have local bands and sell tacos and donate proceeds to the Mexican Red Cross. In Miami, a group is hosting a Day of the Dead arts and crafts event for families and sending money from ticket sales to the Topos, a group of rescue workers who emerged after the 1985 earthquake killed thousands in Mexico. In San Diego, the chambers of commerce in the San Ysidro and Otay Mesa border communities launched a drive to collect donated goods and fly them to Mexico City on a private plane. The Mexican customs agency is waiving duties.

### Struck by horror

"Many of our employees have relatives and friends who were affected by the earthquake," said Ruben Anaya, chief operations officer of Mariana's Supermarkets in Las Vegas. "It is our duty as human beings to help when tragedies like the one that just happened in Mexico occur. Many of the videos we've watched are horrible."

The quake happened around the same time as Hurricane Maria ravaged Puerto Rico, and Mexican immigrants are joining efforts in places such as New York City where Puerto Ricans are also in distress. Both Univision and Telemundo broadcasters are also producing television specials this weekend with actors, singers and news anchors to help raise funds for those affected by the earthquake and hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico.

For immigrants like Ramirez, sending money is a race against time. His mother is confined to a room on her property that - unlike her home - the authorities have not condemned. Her poor health makes it impossible for her to wait in line for relief services, so Ramirez is hoping to send her money via wire transfer from his savings so she can get food and supplies at the store and find a new place to live, but so far it hasn't been easy. "She waited five hours at this place with so many other people waiting for money transfers to help them get by, only to hear that the funds could not go through," he said. "She went back home empty-handed and crying." — AP

## FIGHTER JETS, DRONES ON TABLE AS MATTIS VISITS KEY ALLY INDIA

**NEW DELHI:** Fighter jets, drone deals and shared concerns over Afghanistan's security look set to dominate the agenda when US Defense Secretary James Mattis visits India this week. Mattis is scheduled to arrive later today and is set to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his new defense minister, in the first visit by a top US official since Donald Trump became president in January. "The United States views India as a valued and influential partner, with broad mutual interests extending well beyond South Asia," a Pentagon statement said.

Trump and Modi met in June in Washington and the visit by Mattis is a sign "the political leadership in both countries place defense cooperation as a top priority", Mukesh Aghi, president of the US India Strategic Partnership Forum, told AFP. Delhi and Washington share concerns about Afghanistan, with Trump announcing a new strategy for the war-torn country last month which cleared the way for the deployment of thousands more US troops.

The president has urged India to increase assistance to Afghanistan's economy, and has lambasted Delhi's archival Pakistan for offering safe haven to "agents of chaos". Mattis "will express US appreciation for India's important contributions toward Afghanistan's democracy, stability, prosperity, and security", the Pentagon said.

Experts are not expecting any Indian boots on the ground, though there may be some role for Indian military expertise in supporting the US-led training and advisory mission with Afghan security forces. India has long vied with Pakistan for influence in Afghanistan, building dams, roads and a new parliament in the troubled country. Last year it offered some \$1 billion in aid. Delhi frequently accuses Islamabad of stirring up violence in Afghanistan and harboring militant groups.

### Arms sales

In 2016 the United States designated India a "Major Defence Partner" with the aim of increasing military cooperation and cutting red tape to ease defense deals. Mattis' predecessor Ashton Carter pushed hard for stronger defense ties and the Trump administration has not signaled any intention of changing course on this.

Trump has praised India for contributing to regional peace and stability and for buying US military equipment. Mattis is likely to seek to persuade India to buy Lockheed



US Defense Secretary James Mattis

Martin's F-16 Block 70 aircraft in a deal potentially worth \$15 billion. Lockheed Martin has offered the most upgraded version of the jet fighter to India, the world's largest weapons importer.

The US manufacturer is competing with Swedish defense giant Saab, whose Gripen E made its maiden flight in June. India has said it needs at least 100 single-engine fighters to counter the growing air threat posed by China and Pakistan. Saab and Lockheed have both offered to build the jets locally to comply with Modi's "Make-in-India" initiative, which aims to cut imports and build a domestic defense industry.

US giant Boeing has also offered to set up a plant in India for production of its F/A 18 Super Hornet aircraft if it wins a deal. A drone deal for the Indian Navy will also likely be up for discussion, a source familiar with the negotiations told AFP. "Since Chinese assets have started to dominate the Indian Ocean region, the Trump administration is keen on fast-tracking the acquisition of the drones," the source said. Many commentators have said that US-India cooperation is crucial to countering an increasingly assertive China, which has been developing its military capabilities in the Asia-Pacific. But Afghanistan will be front and centre when Mattis meets Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who will host her highest-level foreign delegation since being appointed earlier this month. The visit comes as the Indian army takes part in a two-week joint military training exercise in the United States to forge closer ties on counter-insurgency, regional security operations and peacekeeping. — AFP

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GX460	2016	Sleek Ecru ME	Beige	20,698	15,999
GX460	2016	Starlight Black GF	Beige	24,633	16,000
LX570	2015	Sleek Ecru ME	Beige	24,696	18,995
LX570	2015	Sleek Ecru ME	Beige	35,655	18,995
LX570	2015	Sleek Ecru ME	Beige	37,609	18,995
LX570	2015	Platinum Silver ME	Beige	15,201	19,750
LX570	2015	Sleek Ecru ME	Beige	16,814	18,995
LX570	2015	Mercury Gray MC	Beige	38,775	18,995
LX570	2016	Sonic Titanium	Beige	51,135	28,750
LX570	2016	White Pearl CS	Beige	31,500	25,750
RX350	2015	Starlight Black GF	Tan	43,288	11,995
RX350	2015	White Pearl CS	Tan	48,554	11,995
RX350	2015	Fire Agate M.M	Beige	72,855	11,995
RX450	2015	White Pearl CS	Black	32,211	13,750
RX450	2015	Mercury Gray MC	Black	39,816	13,750

## LEXUS SEDAN MODELS

MODEL	YEAR	EXT. COLOR	INT. COLOR	KM	PRICE KD
ES250	2015	Platinum Silver ME	Biege	42,483	9,995
ES250	2015	White Pearl CS	Biege	45,629	9,995
ES250	2016	Sonic Titanium	Clove (Wood Brown)	31,615	11,750
ES350	2016	Mercury Gray MC	Clove (Wood Brown)	20,027	13,599
ES350	2016	Graphite Black GF	Clove (Wood Brown)	17,544	13,995
ES350	2016	Sonic Quartz	Clove (Wood Brown)	22,861	13,995
IS200t	2016	Madder Red	Clove (Wood Brown)	0	11,495
GS450h	2015	Sonic Titanium	Saddle Tan	28,901	13,999
GS450h	2015	White Nova GF	Saddle Tan	26,357	13,999
GS450h	2015	Starlight Black GF	Saddle Tan	36,143	13,999
LS460	2015	Mercury Gray MC	Biege	38,324	16,995
LS460	2016	Sonic Quartz	Biege	26,618	18,995
LS460	2016	Fire Agate M.M	Biege	28,431	20,995
LS460	2016	Mercury Gray MC	Biege	0	24,995
LS600h	2015	Sonic Titanium	Biege	11,851	25,999





## TENS OF THOUSANDS FLEE RUMBLING BALI VOLCANO

**KARANGASEM:** More than 34,000 people have fled from a rumbling volcano on the resort island of Bali as the magnitude of tremors grows, prompting fears it could erupt for the first time in more than 50 years, an official said yesterday. Indonesia's disaster mitigation agency said the number of people fleeing their homes surrounding the volcano had tripled since Friday amid growing alarm that Mount Agung could erupt at any moment. "The evacuation process is ongoing and we expect the number of evacuees to continue to rise," the agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told AFP.

The volcano, the highest point in Bali and located about 75 kilometers from the tourist hub of Kuta, has been rumbling since August. Officials announced the highest possible alert level on Friday following the increasing volcanic activity, and urged people stay at least nine kilometers away from the crater. "I am actually very worried to leave, I left my cows and pigs at home because we were ordered to vacate our village immediately," villager Nyoman Asih who fled with her entire family told AFP.

The international airport in Bali's capital, Denpasar, was anticipating the

prospect of closure but no flight schedules had been affected as of yesterday. The airport has prepared buses and trains to divert passengers to alternative hubs in neighbouring provinces if the mountain erupts. Flight disruptions due to drifting ash clouds are not uncommon in Indonesia, which sits on a belt of seismic activity known as the "Ring of Fire".

Last year more than two dozen domestic and international flights to Bali's neighboring resort island Lombok were cancelled due to a drifting ash cloud from erupting Mount Rinjani. Bali officials said the island was still generally safe but urged tourists to stay away from tourism spots located within the danger zone. Pura Besakih temple, one of Bali's most prominent temples which is located just a few kilometers away from the mountain's slopes, has been closed to visitors since Saturday.

The Indonesian Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation said the tremors had grown more powerful yesterday. "The mountain has not erupted until now. The earthquakes are happening less frequently but the magnitude is getting stronger," Gede Suantika, a senior volcanologist at the agency told AFP. — AFP



**KUTUPALONG:** Rohingya refugees carry an elderly woman at the Kutupalong refugee camp yesterday. — AFP

## ROHINGYA IN BANGLADESH NEED 'MASSIVE' ASSISTANCE, SAYS UN

### 'INCREDIBLE OUTPOURING OF LOCAL GENEROSITY'

**COX'S BAZAR:** Bangladesh needs "massive international assistance" to feed and shelter the 436,000 Rohingya who have fled Myanmar in recent weeks, the head of the UN refugee agency said yesterday. UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi said there were "immense" challenges after visiting the overflowing camps around Cox's Bazar in southern Bangladesh. "I was struck by the incredible magnitude of their needs. They need everything — they need food, they need clean water, they need shelter, they need proper health care," he told reporters.

Grandi said there had been an "incredible outpouring of local generosity" but that now needed to be "beefed up by massive international assistance, financial and material". "That's partly why I am here, to help... the government organize that response," he said. The UN said yesterday that 436,000 Rohingya, a stateless Muslim minority, had arrived from Myanmar's Rakhine state since an outbreak of violence there a month ago.

Grandi said the influx had slowed in recent days but it was impossible to tell whether more would come. He also said his office was providing "technical assistance" to help Bangladesh register the Rohingya, whom Myanmar considers to be illegal immigrants. Bangladesh only recognizes a tiny fraction of around 700,000 Rohingya living in camps near the border with Myanmar as refugees, referring to the rest as undocumented Myanmar nationals.

It has "no plan for the time being" to grant

refugee status to the newly-arrived Rohingya, senior Bangladesh minister Amir Hossain Amu said yesterday. "We want Rohingya to return to their own land," said Amu, who chairs a cabinet committee on national security. Bangladesh has begun providing the new arrivals with identity cards and recording their biometric data, a process that began last week and is expected to take several months to complete.

Many hope that will allow them eventually to return to Myanmar. Civilian leader Aung San Suu Kyi said last week that those who had been verified as refugees from her country would be allowed back. Grandi said he hoped the UN's role would give the registration "the necessary credibility, which is so urgent not just for repatriation but for assistance". At the moment, UN agencies say it is difficult to ensure aid is distributed evenly because refugees are undocumented and are still moving from one place to another. Grandi said the scale of the influx — which he called the "fastest and most urgent refugee emergency in the world" — had made it difficult to assess needs quickly. But he added: "I think that the response is getting more organized." UNICEF said yesterday that a plane carrying 100 tons of emergency aid from Europe, including water purifying tablets, sanitary items and plastic tarpaulins, had reached Bangladesh.

#### Telecommunications banned

Bangladesh has banned telecommunication companies from selling mobile phone connec-

tions to Rohingya refugees, citing security concerns for the latest restrictions, officials said yesterday. Bangladesh's four mobile phone providers were threatened with fines if they provide any of the nearly 430,000 newly arrived refugees from Myanmar with phone plans while the ban is in force.

"For the time being, they (Rohingya) can't buy any SIM cards," Enayet Hossain, a senior officer at the telecoms ministry, told AFP yesterday. The decision Saturday to impose a communication blackout on the stateless Muslim minority was justified for security reasons, said junior telecoms minister Tarana Halim. Bangladesh already prohibits the sale of SIM cards to its own citizens who cannot provide an official identity card, in a bid to frustrate the organisational capacity of homegrown militants.

"We took the step (of welcoming the Rohingya) on humanitarian grounds but at the same time our own security should not be compromised," Halim said, without elaborating on what specific risk the Rohingya posed. Bangladesh's telecoms authority said the ban could be lifted once biometric identity cards are issued to the newly arrived refugees, a process the army says could take six months. It is just the latest restriction imposed on the Rohingya who have fled in huge numbers from violence in neighboring Rakhine State into squalid camps in Bangladesh's southernmost Cox's Bazar district in the past four weeks. — AFP

## NEW ZEALAND LEADERS LINE UP TO WOO PETERS THE KINGMAKER

**WELLINGTON:** Both of New Zealand's major political parties moved to open coalition negotiations with maverick MP Winston Peters yesterday after the country's general election stalemate left him in the position of kingmaker. Prime Minister Bill English was looking for his National Party to stitch up a deal as soon as possible, while Jacinda Ardern's opposition Labour Party was keen to wait until all postal and overseas votes are counted in two weeks before final deal is cut.

English appeared to be in the driving seat to form a government due to tensions among the opposition parties that would

need to unite to unseat him. His National Party performed strongly in Saturday's election to claim 46.0 percent of the vote and 58 seats, three short of the 61 needed to win. Labour, under charismatic newcomer Jacinda Ardern, polled 35.8 percent to take 45 seats, although that rises to 52 if the seven seats of close ally the Greens are included. It means both English and Ardern would need the nine seats held by Peters' New Zealand First party to get over the line and reach the majority required to form a government.

While English and Ardern prepared to pitch their case to Peters, the NZF leader went fishing yesterday, saying the main party leaders may make decisions "but they won't have the cards that matter." Peters made a number of "bottom line" demands during the campaign and said he would next consult his party members and officials "and then we'll tell you what we're prepared to do." — AFP

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## IS FIGHTER CHALLENGES PRINCE HARRY IN VIDEO

**SINGAPORE:** A Singaporean member of the Islamic State (IS) group in Syria has appeared in a video challenging Britain's Prince Harry to fight the jihadists, a monitoring group and authorities said yesterday. It is believed to be the first time that a fighter from the affluent city-state has featured prominently in one of IS's videos. In the video, a man identified as "Abu 'Uqayl" took issue with Prince Harry talking about a terror attack in London while on a visit to Singapore in June. "Why don't you come here and fight us if you're man enough, so that we can send you and your Apaches to hellfire, biidhnillah?" he said. — AFP

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## Kuwait Times

THE LEADING INDEPENDENT  
DAILY IN THE ARABIAN GULF  
ESTABLISHED 1961

Founder and Publisher  
YOUSUF S. AL-ALYAN

Editor-in-Chief  
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EDITORIAL : 24833199-24833358-24833432  
ADVERTISING : 24835616/7  
FAX : 24835620/1  
CIRCULATION : 24833199 Extn. 163  
ACCOUNTS : 24835619  
COMMERCIAL : 24835618

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## Focus

## SIX WAYS TO STAY COOL WITHOUT AIR CONDITIONING

By Megan Rowling

As heat becomes more extreme on a warming planet, millions more people are switching on air conditioners. But is machine-cooled air the best solution to rising temperatures? In poorer countries, many families cannot afford air conditioning - although that is changing fast in the cities of emerging giants such as China and India. Around the world, the number of air conditioners is expected to rise to 1.5 billion units by 2030 from 660 million in 2015.

In some richer, cooler countries like Britain or Finland, air conditioning hasn't traditionally been needed, and most private homes do not have the equipment installed. But with global average temperatures having risen by more than 1 degree Celsius since pre-industrial times, people are increasingly being jogged out of their physical and behavioral comfort zones, experts say.

"With climate change, we are going to be experiencing higher temperatures more generally - but also more frequent, more intense and longer heatwaves too," said Angie Bone, head of the extreme events and health protection team at Public Health England, a UK government agency. "The risks of heat can be under-estimated," she said. Even as their efficiency improves, air conditioners contribute to the problem of global warming, as they need power to run - much of which will be provided by burning fossil fuels in the near term.

So when the next heatwave hits, what are the greener alternatives for staying cool? Here are some ideas: Keep the temperature down at home: Barcelona city council, which activated measures to protect residents from heatwaves twice this summer, gives out practical advice, including closing blinds and shutters facing the sun and opening windows at night when the air cools down. Inside the house, rest in cooler rooms, and take a shower or use a wet towel to refresh yourself. If you don't have fans or any form of cooling equipment, spend at least two hours a day in public places with air conditioning, such as libraries or cinemas.

### Stay out of the heat

Don't go out or drive during the hottest part of the day if you can help it. If you must, wear a hat or carry an umbrella. Dress in light-colored, loose clothing. Avoid physical exercise, walk on the shady side of the street, drink plenty of water, and rest in cool places, says Barcelona city hall. Look out for your neighbors: Health experts agree that those most at risk from extreme heat are the elderly and people with existing health problems, such as heart conditions, high blood pressure and asthma.

That's especially true if they live alone. Young children and homeless people are also vulnerable. "Most of us do know somebody, either in our friends or family or community networks, who may be more at risk and who might just value a bit of extra support when it gets hot," said Bone of Public Health England. During the heatwave that struck Europe in 2003, about 2,000 deaths more than normal were recorded in England and Wales over the hottest 10-day period, mostly among older people in the southeast. England established a heatwave plan the following year, which recommends telephoning or visiting vulnerable people to make sure they are coping.

### Spread the word

The Red Cross is active in getting the message out to the public about how to stay safe in hot weather across Europe - whether by making home visits, handing out leaflets, using social media or putting its experts on TV or radio to give alerts and tips. Last month, it issued a statement warning of "serious health risks" as south and central Europe experienced the highest August temperatures in more than a decade. "It can be dangerous and deadly for people," said Tiina Saarikoski, a senior public health officer with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. In France, for example, Red Cross teams handed out water to the homeless in cities and provided information and door-to-door checks on the elderly and isolated.

### Using traditional methods

Before air-conditioning was invented in the early 1900s, architects and ordinary folks built homes using materials with natural cooling properties that were designed to keep out heat - from constructing thick stone walls to putting in small windows facing away from the sun. In Malaysian villages, traditional "attap" houses - wooden structures on stilts - are still a common sight. There is space for the wind to circulate under the house, which has a cooling effect, while the interior stays dry during floods. —Reuters

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## SEGREGATION LINGERS IN US SCHOOLS 60 YEARS AFTER LITTLE ROCK

By Errin Haines Whack and Andrew Demillo

Among the most lasting and indelible images of the civil rights movement were the nine black teenagers who had to be escorted by federal troops past an angry white mob and through the doors of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, on Sept 25, 1957. It had been three years since the Supreme Court had declared "separate but equal" in America's public schools unconstitutional, but the decision was met with bitter resistance across the South.

It would take more than a decade before the last vestiges of Jim Crow fell away from classrooms. Even the brave sacrifice of the "Little Rock Nine" felt short-lived - rather than allow more black students and further integration, the district's high schools closed the following school year. The watershed moment was "a physical manifestation for all to see of what that massive resistance looked like," said Sherrilyn Ifill, director of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

"The imagery of these perfectly dressed, lovely, serious young people seeking to enter a high school ... to see them met with ugliness and rage and hate and violence was incredibly powerful," Ifill said. Six decades later, the sacrifice of those black students stands as a symbol of the turbulence of the era, but also as a testament to an intractable problem: Though legal segregation has long ended, few white and minority students share a classroom today.

The lack of progress is clear and remains frustrating in the school district that includes Central High. The Little Rock School District, which is about two-thirds black, has been under state control since 2015 over the academic performance of some of its schools. The district has seen a proliferation of charter schools in recent years that opponents say contributes to self-segregation. Ernest Green still remembers the promise of the era that put him and the eight other students on the front line.

### War every day

After reading about the May 17, 1954, Brown v Board of Education decision in the local newspaper, he recalled: "I thought to myself, 'Good, because I think the face of the South ought to change.'" He and his classmates came face-to-face with Southern opposition after integrating Central. The first day of school was only the beginning of the hardships they would endure. Green described the experience as "like going to war every day." Threatening phone calls came to their homes nightly.

"For all of us, we decided that this was a year that we were going to support each other," said Green, now 76, and the only member of the Little Rock Nine to graduate from Central. "The principal of the school told me at one point ... that I didn't have to come to the ceremony, that they would mail me my diploma." Green ignored his suggestion, knowing the magnitude of his accomplishment. Sitting in the audience at graduation with his family was the Rev Martin Luther King Jr, then in the throes of the civil rights movement.

### The Lost Year

For the 1958-1959 school year when the district's high schools closed - known as "The Lost Year" - the remaining students either went to nearby public schools in the state or out of state where they had friends or relatives, or found other alternatives such as private schools, correspondence courses or early entrance into college.

Terrence Roberts, also one of the Little Rock Nine, said the challenge his former school district now faces is just part of a



**LITTLE ROCK:** In this Oct 2, 1957 file photo, the first black students to enroll at Central High School in Little Rock, Ark leave the building and walk toward a waiting Army station wagon following their classes. today marks the 60th anniversary of when nine black students enrolled at the Arkansas school. — AP

larger problem nationwide for public education. "To me it's a testament to the fact that we as a people have been reluctant to have a meaningful conversation about the need for public education," Roberts, now 75, said. "When you look at the history of public education, it's not surprising at all because public education has always been under the gun."

In the 2016-2017 school year, the average black student in Little Rock went to a school that was roughly 14 percent white, 14 percent Hispanic and 68 percent black, according to Arkansas Department of Education data. Twenty years ago, a black student in Little Rock would have gone to a school that was 27 percent white, 1.7 percent Hispanic and 70 percent black, historical data from the National Center for Education Statistics show.

"One of the important lessons we should take away from Little Rock is just how hard and difficult desegregation has been," said Ohio State University historian Hasan Kwame Jeffries. "Little Rock does a lot of foreshadowing. It anticipates the efforts by Southern states to find public money to defray the cost and expense of sending white children to private schools. This becomes part of the agenda for the next half-century."

Nationally, the numbers are similarly stark. The average black student nationwide in 1980 went to a school that was 36 percent white. In the 2014-2015 school

year, a black student would have gone to a school that was 27 percent white. Overall enrollment in public schools has been declining, and the racial gap has widened, according to NCES. In 2004, 58 percent of students enrolled were white, compared to 17 percent black and 19 percent Hispanic.

In 2014, public schools were 49.5 percent white - less than half for the first time since such data was first collected - 16 percent black and 25 percent Hispanic. Additionally, while nearly two-thirds of black and Hispanic students attend schools with at least 75 percent minority enrollment, only 5 percent of white students are enrolled in similar schools. While public schools are indeed more diverse, that diversity is including a decreasing share of white students.

### Reflections of Progress

Community leaders have vented over the "Reflections of Progress" theme that's been attached to the slate of events marking the 60th anniversary of Central High's desegregation, saying it doesn't acknowledge the backslide they've seen the district undergo. They're using the milestone to call attention to the state takeover of the district, comparing it to Gov Orval Faubus' efforts to block integration in 1957. "They're coming back to visit and to see what? They can visit any number of schools where there isn't any hint of desegregation," state Sen Joyce Elliott, a Democrat

from Little Rock, said, referring to the eight surviving members of the group, now in their 70s, who will return to mark the day.

"For the Little Rock Nine to come back to the same place where they started and the schools are under state control now by the state Board of Education, I think that is something that is the ultimate embarrassment for the state. That is not something to be celebrated, and it is not something to be remotely proud of." Some trace much of the current public school debate over school choice to what began in the wake of the Brown v Board decision as segregationist academies, and later Christian academies, opened throughout the South in response to desegregation.

"There has never been a moment where there has not been vociferous resistance to desegregation," Jeffries, the historian, said. "They used to couch it in explicitly racist terms. Now, it's this sort of colorblind language, but the desire remains the same." Civil rights lawyer Catherine Lhamon, who now serves as chairwoman of the US Commission on Civil Rights, noted that while meaningful integration happened across the country during the mid-1960s and 1970s, it was only through aggressive federal enforcement.

As integration became less of a political priority in the 1980s, re-segregation emerged. "Local control has never resounded to the benefit of black students," Lhamon said. "More often than not, it has been a means to mask discrimination and a failure to offer meaningful opportunity to all. It takes federal intervention now, too. That is something Congress promised us and that we have been able to rely on." Efforts by Elliott and others to stem the growth of charter schools in the district so far have had little success in the Republican state.

The Arkansas Board of Education approved three new charter schools in the district earlier this month, despite a request from the district's superintendent to hold off. "I would say pause for two years and allow the existing charter seat expansions that have already been approved to take place, allow what's going on in the Little Rock School District to play itself out, because we have really positive things going on with our academic scores," Superintendent Michael Poore said before the three charter schools were approved. Republican Gov Asa Hutchinson said he believes the district is showing it can innovate and compete with the charter schools. —AP



**LITTLE ROCK:** In this September 1957 file photo, marchers protesting against school integration head south from the State Capitol toward Central High School in Little Rock, Ark. — AP

BAHRAIN KING WANTS ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL...

Continued from Page 1

League members Egypt and Jordan each later made separate peace with Israel. At the heart of the Arab nations' dispute with Israel remains the creation of a Palestinian state and its withdrawal from occupied territory.

In recent years though, Arab nations, particularly in the Gulf, have become increasingly worried about Iran's growing regional influence following the nuclear deal with world powers and its military presence in Iraq and Syria. That's put them on the side of Israel, which points to Iranian leaders' constant call for the destruction of the Jewish state.

Just this week, Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah El-Sisi even held a public meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in New York, smiling for the cameras. Bahrain's move likely also would have the tacit approval of Saudi Arabia, as the oil-rich kingdom provides it needed financial support.

The suppression is at a level unseen since 2011, when its Shiite majority and others demonstrated as part of the wider Arab Spring, asking its Sunni rulers for reforms. Government forces, with help from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, crushed the uprising.

Activists at the time put the number of destroyed Shiite structures even higher. Sheikh Maytham Al-Salman, a Shiite cleric from Bahrain who works on trying to foster interfaith understanding himself, expressed skepticism about the government's new push.

"How can the government of Bahrain internationally promote dialogue while refusing to open the doors for dialogue and reconciliation locally?" Asked about Bahrain's crackdown, both rabbis said there was "no perfect country" in the world today.

US, NORTH KOREAN LEADERS TRADE INSULTS

Continued from Page 1

SEoul: US President Donald Trump dialed up the rhetoric against North Korea again at the weekend, warning the country's foreign minister that he and leader Kim Jong Un "won't be around much longer".

US Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin yesterday tried to dial back Trump's comments. "The president doesn't want to be in a nuclear war and we will do everything we can to make sure that doesn't occur," he said on ABC News.

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The North's official KCNA news agency said more than 100,000 people gathered for the rally on Saturday and delivered speeches supporting comments made by Kim earlier in the week.

100,000 people gathered for the rally on Saturday and delivered speeches supporting comments made by Kim earlier in the week. "We are waiting for the right time to have a final battle with the US, the evil empire, and to remove the US from the world," KCNA quoted Ri Il-bae, a commanding officer of the Red Guards, as saying.

Unprecedented

In an unprecedented direct statement on Friday, Kim described Trump as a "mentally deranged US dotard" whom he would tame with fire. Kim said the North would consider the "highest level of hard-line countermeasure in history" against the United States and that Trump's comments had confirmed his nuclear program was "the correct path".

Trump threatened in his maiden UN address on Tuesday to "totally destroy" the country of 26 million people if North Korea threatened the United States or its allies. It was not clear from Trump's latest tweet if he was referring to Ri and Kim, or North Korea more broadly.

IRAN HALTS FLIGHTS TO KURDISH REGION...

Continued from Page 1

The PKK launched an insurgency in 1984. More than 40,000 people have been killed in the conflict. It is designated a terrorist group by Turkey, the United States and the European Union. The US Embassy in Iraq cautioned its citizens that there may be unrest during a referendum, especially in territories disputed between the KRG and the central government like the multi-ethnic oil-rich region of Kirkuk.

Three Kurdish Peshmerga fighters were killed and five wounded on Saturday when an explosive device blew up near their vehicle south Kirkuk, security sources said. The explosion happened in Daquq, a region bordering Islamic State-held areas, the sources said.

TRUMP, SPORTS WORLD FACE OFF

Continued from Page 1

At the rally, Trump suggested any protesting football player was a "son of a bitch" and should lose his job. "Wouldn't you love to see one of these NFL owners, when somebody disrespects our flag, to say, 'Get that son of a bxxxx off the field right now ... He is fired!'"

Trump said in Twitter messages later on Saturday that, if NFL players wanted "the privilege" of high salaries, they "should stand for the National Anthem. If not, YOU'RE FIRED. Find something else to do!"

Several players have since made similar gestures of protest before games. As commissioner, Goodell reports to NFL owners, some of whom have supported Trump in the past. New York Jets owner Woody Johnson, a major Trump presidential campaign donor, was confirmed by the Senate last month as Trump's pick to serve as US ambassador to Britain.

Invitation withdrawn!

National Basketball Association players also struck back against comments by the president on Saturday after Trump clashed with one of the biggest stars in the NBA.

MERKEL WINS FOURTH TERM; HARD RIGHT...

Continued from Page 1

Germans elected a splintered parliament reflecting an electorate torn between a high degree of satisfaction with Merkel and a desire for change after more than a decade of her leadership.

Another three parties cleared the five-percent hurdle to be represented in parliament: the liberal Free Democrats at around 10 percent and the anti-capitalist Left and ecologist Greens, both at about nine percent. As Merkel failed to secure a ruling majority on her own and with the dejected SPD ruling out another right-left "grand coalition" with her, the process of coalition building was shaping up to be a thorny, potentially months-long process.

Breaking taboos

Merkel, 63, whose campaign events were regularly disrupted by jeering AfD supporters, said in her final stump speech in the southern city of Munich that "the future of Germany will definitely not be built with whistles and hollers".

Pundits said Merkel's reassuring message of stability and prosperity resonated in greying Germany, where more than half of the 61 million voters are aged 52 or older. Her popularity had largely recovered from the influx since 2015 of more than one million mostly Muslim migrants and refugees, half of them from war-torn Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.

The party has made breaking taboos its trademark. Gauland has called for Germans to shed their guilt over two world wars and the Holocaust and to take pride in their veterans. He has also suggested that Germany's integration commissioner Aydan Ozoguz, who has Turkish roots, should be "disposed of in Anatolia".

Searching for partner

The SPD said its catastrophic result would lead it to seek a stint in opposition to rekindle its fighting spirit. "This is a difficult and bitter day for German social democracy," a grim-faced Schulz, a former European Parliament chief, told reporters, adding that he hoped to remain party leader. This would leave Merkel in need of new coalition partners—possibly the pro-business Free Democrats, who staged a comeback after crashing out of parliament four years ago.

Schulz, 61, struggled to gain traction with his calls for a more socially just Germany at a time when the economy is humming and employment is at a record low. The SPD also found it hard to shine after four years as the junior partner in Merkel's left-right "grand coalition", marked by broad agreement on major issues, from foreign policy to migration.

MP THREATENS TO GRILL 2 MINISTERS

Continued from Page 1

But neither he nor the minister took any action and instead they fired the employee. Muwaizri also issued a warning to the Finance Minister over what he claimed are violations at Kuwait Investment Authority, the country's sovereign wealth fund.

In the meantime, 13 MPs yesterday signed a request calling to debate a crucial amendment to the Pensions Law in the first few sessions of the new parliamentary term starting around mid-October.

Head of the National Assembly Bedoons Committee MP Nasser Al-Dossari said yesterday the panel will hold an important meeting on Thursday to study a proposal calling to accept children of a certain category of bedoons or stateless people at public schools.

calling to accept children of a certain category of bedoons or stateless people at public schools. Dossari said that he and a number of MPs have submitted a proposal calling to admit (at public schools) children of bedoons who were included in the 1965 census.

In a related development, MP Majed Al-Mutairi submitted a draft law calling to grant bedoons all humanitarian and social rights. The draft law calls to describe bedoons as "stateless people" and not illegal residents as the government defines them.

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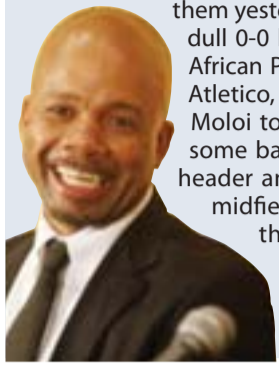
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### CHIPPA A LONG WAY FROM THE REAL DEAL

**JOHANNESBURG:** New Chippa United coach Tebogo Moloi wants his players to embrace elements from Spanish La Liga giants Real Madrid, Barcelona and Atletico Madrid. But there was no evidence of them yesterday as the Port Elizabeth-based club fought out a dull 0-0 home draw with Bloemfontein Celtic in the South African Premiership. "I admire the pressing and intensity of Atletico, the patience of Barcelona and the speed of Real," Moloi told reporters before the match. But all he got was some bad luck as the woodwork foiled a Moeketsi Sekola header and a Lerato Manzini shot. Former Orlando Pirates midfielder Moloi succeeded sacked Dan Malesela after three rounds and has drawn his three matches in charge. Both clubs have six points after six rounds and the stalemate lifted them one place—Celtic to 10th and Chippa to 11th. —AFP



### CLARKE BRACE BRINGS STEEL CITY DERBY JOY FOR UNITED

**LONDON:** Leon Clarke scored twice against his former club as Sheffield United upset local rivals Sheffield Wednesday with a 4-2 victory in an enthralling 'Steel City derby' at Hillsborough yesterday in the English Championship (second tier). United stunned the home crowd by going 2-0 up within a quarter of an hour thanks to John Fleck's sweetly-struck low drive from an indirect freekick in the third minute and then Clarke's cool finish after he was left one-on-one with Wednesday keeper Keiren Westwood. Wednesday pulled back a goal on the stroke of half-time when striker Gary Hooper hooked in the ball at the near post and after the break they piled on the pressure. That paid off when Portuguese substitute Lucas Joao equalised with a well-taken left-foot strike in the 65th minute but United responded superbly. Within two minutes, Winger Mark Duffy made a fool of Wednesday's Dutch defender Joost van Aken and then fired home from a tight angle to make it 3-2. —Reuters

### DEFENDING CHAMPION MARQUEZ WINS ARAGON GP

**MADRID:** Defending champion Marc Marquez won the Aragon MotoGP yesterday to take a 16-point lead in the world championship standings. It was an all Spanish podium, as Honda team mate Dani Pedrosa was second and Jorge Lorenzo third for Ducati. Italian Valentino Rossi, making a remarkable comeback barely three weeks after suffering a broken leg, finished fifth on his Yamaha after lying second earlier on. Team mate Maverick Vinales of Spain, who started on pole, was fourth and compatriot Aleix Espargaro of Aprilia sixth. Briton Cal Crutchlow was in contention for a top-six place but crashed and had to retire on lap 17. Marquez started the race in fifth position after crashing in qualifying and had a slow start but quickly gained on his rivals, taking the lead from Lorenzo in the 16th lap and charging to his fifth title of the season. "It was a difficult race." —Reuters



### NO. 7 WASHINGTON OVERCOMES SLOW START TO BEAT COLORADO 37-10

**BOULDER:** The No. 7 Washington Huskies warmed up in the cold rain without their shirts, then went out and undressed the Colorado Buffaloes in a 37-10 rout Saturday night in a rematch of last year's Pac-12 title game.

The Huskies collected a trio of interceptions, a blocked punt that led to a touchdown, a pick-6, five sacks, seven tackles for loss and a 202-yard, two-touchdown performance by running back Myles Gaskin.

"Anytime you get that many turnovers in a game, you've got a chance to do something special on offense," said Huskies QB Jake Browning, who was just 11 for 21 for 160 yards. "We usually get all the stats and TDs but we played really well on defense and capitalized on some opportunities."

Yet, the Buffs (3-1, 0-1) were still within a TD of the Huskies (4-0, 1-0) with three minutes left in the third quarter. That's when cornerback Myles Bryant's 35-yard interception return for a touchdown made it a two-score game and ignited a 20-0 finish that sent much of the shivering crowd streaming for exits.

Jordan Miller had two interceptions, one in the end zone, as the Huskies overcame a slow start to finish with a rout reminiscent of last year's 41-10 blowout of the Buffs in the conference championship. Despite pointing to this rematch ever since, the Buffaloes made too many mistakes to close the gap, including several fumbled snaps and a too-early slide on third down by quarterback Steven Montez that led to a punt - which was blocked.

Colorado trailed 10-7 at halftime and was still within a touchdown late in the

third quarter before the Buffs unraveled. Washington would end up outscoring the Buffs 27-3 after the break, sparked by Quinten Pounds coming down with a 43-yard touchdown pass from Browning between two defenders.

"The guy made an unbelievable catch on the post route," Colorado coach Mike MacIntyre said. "I still don't know how he caught it. It was an unbelievable catch." Pounds said Huskies coach Chris Petersen "always says when the ball is in the air compete for it and go get it like it's your last, so that's pretty much what happened."

Pounds never realized he was getting sandwiched by two defenders. "No, all I saw was the ball," he said. "That's what I was focused on." James Stefanou barely cleared the crossbar from 49 yards out to pull Colorado to 17-10.

Montez then tried to hit Bryce Bobo on a slant but Bryant stepped in front and his 35-yard pick-6 gave Washington a 24-10 lead. "You can't have three turnovers and expect to win the game," Montez said. "That's on me, and I got to take that."

The Huskies turned this one into another blowout with a 6-yard TD run from Salvon Ahmed and a 57-yard scoring scamper from Gaskin in the fourth quarter. Miller had two first-half interceptions as the Huskies built a 10-7 lead. His first one led to the go-ahead field goal and his second one came in the end zone with a minute left in the second quarter.

The Huskies fell behind 7-0 when Colorado went 75 yards on its opening drive and capped it with Philip Lindsay's 1-yard TD run. — AP



**BERGER:** Gold medalist Slovakia's Peter Sagan (C), silver medalist Norway's Alexander Kristoff (L) and bronze medalist Australia's Michael Matthews pose with their medals after the men elite road race of the UCI Cycling Road World Championships in Bergen, yesterday. — AFP

#### CYCLING

## PETER SAGAN WINS HISTORIC THIRD STRAIGHT WORLD TITLE

**BERGEN:** Slovakia's Peter Sagan pipped Norway's Alexander Kristoff in a photo-finish to win a historic third straight world title in Bergen yesterday. Sagan emerged out of the final corner in the perfect position on Kristoff's shoulder and just had enough to edge past the home favourite as Australia's Michael Matthews took third.

After his win, Sagan dedicated his victory to Italian Michele Scarponi, who died in April following a crash with a van near his home in Italy—he would have turned 38 today. "I want to dedicate this third world title first to Michele Scarponi because he has his birthday tomorrow. I'm very sorry this year, I want to wish luck to his family."

"And secondly I want to dedicate this victory to my wife, she's expecting a baby. It's a very nice finish to this season, I'm very happy." Sagan had revealed on Saturday that his preparation for the race had been disrupted by "sickness" and that he wasn't at his best. He had hardly been seen throughout the 267.5km race but was part of the small group that made it to the final kilometre to contest the sprint finish. And in winning he joined a select group of riders, including Belgian legend Eddy Merckx as three-time world

champions, and the first to do so in successive years. "It's something special, for sure it doesn't change anything, but for me it's something very nice," he added. Despite the length of the race it was only in the final 15km that a significant break was made that threatened to go all the way to the line. Frenchman Julian Alaphilippe attacked on the final ascent of Salmon Hill, the one climb on the 19km street circuit the peloton tackled 12 times. Only Italian Gianni Moscon could follow him but was then dropped with 4.5km left.

Alaphilippe couldn't hold on, though, and coming into the final few bends a select group of 26 riders was there to fight for victory. Only now did Sagan make his move and Kristoff didn't have the strength to hold him off.

#### 'UNBELIEVABLE'

Sagan admitted that he thought Alaphilippe, who looked hugely impressive when he attacked, leaving the likes of Olympic champion Greg Van Avermaet and former world champion Philippe Gilbert in his wake, might stay away. "It's not easy guys, in the last 5km I said already it's done, he (Alaphilippe) has gone," said Sagan. "After, guys were changing in front, after I

tried to go in a breakaway, after (Fernando) Gaviria tried to close (the gap) and after it came for a sprint—it's unbelievable!"

Despite his disappointment in missing out on becoming the second ever Norwegian world champion, Kristoff flashed Sagan a wry smile as he shook his hand.

"He (Kristoff) is racing at home, I'm sorry but I'm very happy to win again!" said Sagan.

Earlier in the day a 10-man breakaway had set off from the flag but despite quickly building a 10-minute advantage, they had been gobbled up with 80km left. Another eight-man group with big-hitters including Dutchman Lars Boom and Tim Wellens of Belgium got clear but could never stretch their lead much beyond 30-seconds and they were brought back with 25km to go. Alaphilippe at one point to have the strength to go the whole way but just as the drama intensified with 3km to go, a technical glitch meant the television cameras lost track of the racers.

By the time they came into the view of stationary cameras in the final kilometre, Alaphilippe had been caught and a sprint finish was a certainty. At that point, few could have doubted that Sagan would prevail. — AFP



**BOULDER:** Phillip Lindsay #23 of the Colorado Buffaloes carries the ball against the Washington Huskies at Folsom Field on Saturday in Boulder, Colorado. — AFP



## TOYOTA SECURES PODIUM FINISH IN CHALLENGING MEXICO ROUND

**KUWAIT:** Toyota GAZOO Racing completed a tight race in the fifth round of the 2017 FIA World Endurance Championship (WEC) and claimed a podium finish in the 6 Hours of Mexico. The #8 TS050 Hybrid, led by crew Sebastian Buemi, Anthony Davidson and Kazuki Nakajima, secured the third spot in the round, thereby earning the team's fifth podium of the season.

The #7 TS050 Hybrid of Mike Conway, Kamui Kobayashi and Jose Maria Lopez finished not long behind in the fourth spot and completed what was a fierce challenge posed by competing cars on the race course.

Takayuki Yoshitsugu, Chief Representative,

Middle East and North Africa Representative Office, Toyota Motor Corporation, said, "I congratulate the Toyota teams for displaying resilience and demonstrating a competitive spirit during this tough race. One of our aspirations for participating in motorsport activities is to test our cars in challenging conditions, refine the machines using insights and experiences gained from the track, and reflect those changes in the mass production vehicles to bring satisfaction and smiles on the faces of our customers. Moreover, the support of fans has been one of the driving factors behind our success in motorsports, and I would like to thank each one of them for

inspiring us to keep delivering better performance." On this occasion, Toshio Sato, Team President, said, "This was indeed a tough battle for the Toyota cars, but they fought well and completed a clean race. The #8 TS050 Hybrid held their nerves and gathered some good momentum especially towards the end to clinch the third spot, and the #7 did well to reach the fourth position too. That said, I am confident that the teams are significantly better than the results of the Mexican round. We detected a relative lack of downforce at the race, despite deploying the TS050 Hybrids with high-downforce on the race course. These learnings are part of a competitive race,

and these are areas of opportunities where we scrutinize the performance and work on refinements. We are eyeing the next round at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas."

The #7 and #8 drivers started the race strongly with a third and fourth spot, but both subsequently conceded their leads to competing cars. Both cars endured setbacks, but right after the 90-minute mark, driver Sebastian Buemi of the #8 TS050 Hybrid gathered speed to move up to the third place and survived a brief scare when the #28 car hit him in a slow corner. The caution flags went off yet again when a baseball from the nearby sports complex landed on the race track, but the #8

TS050 Hybrid built on the momentum while entering the final stint within the closing 35 minutes of the race. The #7 and #8 cars were once again neck-to-neck as the final lap closed in, but to maximize the points total for the World Championship-chasing #8 crew, driver Kamui Kobayashi of the #7 TS050 Hybrid eased off so that Sebastian Buemi of the #8 TS050 Hybrid could secure the third position as he drove past the chequered flag.

Toyota GAZOO Racing and the Toyota crew are now gearing up for the sixth round of the season which is slated to take place across the United States border at the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas.





# Sports

**Peter Sagan wins historic third straight world title**



**Olympic champion Kipchoge wins Berlin Marathon**



MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

OAKLAND'S MAXWELL FIRST MLB PLAYER TO KNEEL DURING ANTHEM



TOKYO: Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark poses with the winner's plate after beating Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova of Russia at the Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament in Tokyo, yesterday. — AP

## WOZNIACKI POWERS TO PAN PACIFIC TITLE IN TOKYO

**TOKYO:** Caroline Wozniacki ended her string of final failures by beating Russia's Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova 6-0 7-5 in Tokyo yesterday to win her second straight Pan Pacific Open title. The former world number one, who has now won the event three times, was contesting her seventh final of the season after losing the previous six.

The 27-year-old Dane, seeded third, burst

out of the gate behind a strong service game with two aces in a 21-minute first-set rout, looking fresh after her straight-sets triumph over world number one Garbine Muguruza the previous day. By contrast, Pavlyuchenkova's gruelling three-set semi-final win over Angelique Kerber appeared to have taken its toll and she struggled with accuracy, registering three double faults in the set. After being

swept aside in the opener, Pavlyuchenkova was far more competitive in the second and held her serve throughout until Wozniacki converted her third match point to break once more and seal victory in the 12th game of the set.

"It was my seventh final of the year and obviously after a while it gets harder and harder to get that last one," Wozniacki said in a court-side interview at the Ariake Coliseum,

which will host the tennis events at the 2020 Olympics.

"But I went out there and I just stayed focused and stayed aggressive, especially in the beginning and then it was going my way," added Wozniacki, now ranked sixth in the world. Overall, Wozniacki sent down six aces and failed to register a double fault or offer up a single break point, while her unseeded opponent

coughed up five double faults without managing an ace. Wozniacki's 26th career title also ensured that the Dane maintained her streak of winning at least one WTA tournament every year since 2008 as she became the fourth player to have captured the Pan Pacific Open title three or more times. The 26-year-old Pavlyuchenkova had been seeking her third title of the year and the 11th of her career. —Reuters

## HEMED GIVES BRIGHTON REVENGE OVER NEWCASTLE



Brighton & Hove 1



Newcastle United 0

**BRIGHTON:** Brighton and Hove Albion's Tomer Hemed grabbed the only goal as they ended Newcastle United's three-match winning streak with a 1-0 victory yesterday in a battle between two of this season's promoted sides.

Israel international Hemed scored in the 51st minute, to move Brighton up four places to 13th, while ending the feel-good factor at Newcastle, who had been fourth ahead of the weekend's games.

Rafa Benitez's side, who drop down to joint eighth, had pipped Brighton to the Championship (second tier) title by one point on the final day of last season, having beaten them at home and away.

They had more of the game after bringing on midfielder Jonjo Shelvey, who hit a post direct from a corner, but good chances were hard to come by.

Both sides had lost their two opening games in the Premier League before an improvement gave them greater confidence at the higher level.

Brighton were the brighter side until the later stages once goalkeeper Mathew Ryan had saved from Mikel Merino early on.

They nevertheless had to survive the best chance of the first half, when a fortunate deflection off a home defender fell to Newcastle's Joselu.

Yet the Spanish striker, who was signed from Stoke City after a loan at Deportivo La Coruna, pulled his shot past the far post.

In an impressive spell at the start of the second half the home side went ahead and thought they had scored a second. Dale Stephens was left unmarked at the far post to head a free kick square, from where Hemed hooked it in.

In almost the next attack Brighton captain Bruno crossed from the right for Solly March to squeeze in a shot that goalkeeper Rob Elliott blocked right on the line. Once Shelvey replaced Isaac Hayden, Newcastle looked more threatening. He swerved a corner onto the post, then dipped a free kick just over the bar. The

visitors finished with more shots and more on target than the home side but still lacked the cutting edge necessary to push them back into the top four.

Newcastle manager Benitez felt there was a foul by Bruno in the build-up to the goal and that his team deserved "a point at least".

Brighton's Chris Hughton, celebrating a second successive home win, played down an incident in which Newcastle players suggested Hemed had stamped on DeAndre Yedlin. "My first impression is no intent and knowing the individual I would say no intent," he told Sky Sports. — Reuters



BRIGHTON: Newcastle United's US defender DeAndre Yedlin wins a header above Brighton's English midfielder Solly March during the English Premier League football match between Brighton and Hove Albion and Newcastle United at the American Express Community Stadium in Brighton, southern England yesterday. —AFP

## NADAL AND FEDERER TEAM UP TO WIDEN EUROPE'S LEAD IN LAVER CUP

**PRAGUE:** Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal took care of business in their singles matches before teaming up in an eagerly anticipated doubles pairing to extend Europe's lead over players from the rest of the world in the inaugural Laver Cup on Saturday.

The new team tennis event, kicking off in Prague and moving to the United States next year, was a first chance for the world's top two players to play competitively side by side. Putting aside a rivalry rekindled this season after Spaniard Nadal and Swiss Federer swept all four grand slams, the pair outlasted and outclassed Americans Sam Querrey and Jack Sock to win 6-4 1-6 1-0(10-5) in the weekend's headline match.

The doubles victory put Team Europe up 9-3 going into the final day when the four matches are each worth three points. "We will always forever be rivals as long as we are active. And after this we will be rivals again," said Federer, ranked number two in the world and holder of 19 career grand slam titles to top-ranked Nadal's 16.

"But this was something very special. Knowing you can trust him in the big moments, seeing his decision-making, seeing his thought process, it was very interesting." "It was definitely a different day to other days in my life," he added. The Laver Cup, named after Australian tennis hero Rod Laver, is attempting to add new excitement to the sport in an already crowded calendar and was the brainchild of Federer and his sports management company Team8.

The Europeans are the clear favourites with five of the world's top seven players and have won five of the six singles matches in the first two days. In Saturday's first match, Federer cruised through 6-4 6-2 against world number 16 Querrey. Nadal then glided through his first set before the hard-hitting Sock fought back to force a third set, which under the event's rules is a rapid-fire, 10-point tiebreak.

Sock, who had teamed up with Australian Nick Kyrgios on Friday to take down Nadal and Czech Tomas Berdych to get Team World's only point on the opening day, again had to claw his way out of a hole.

But Nadal kept his nerve and ended the match with a winner at the net on the sleek, black hardcourt at O2 Arena to win 6-3 3-6 1-0(11-9). In the evening session, Kyrgios defeated Berdych, taking late control to win 4-6 7-6(4) 1-0(10-6). Nadal and Federer capped the evening with a thrilling win over Querrey and Sock, even after an early miscue almost caused Nadal to hit his partner as they both went for an overhead smash. "We played with too much energy, so went for everything," Nadal said of the near-miss. After Federer served to take the first set, the American pair flew through the second 6-1 with some big serves.

Two crushing winners at the net by Nadal gave him and Federer the momentum to take them easily through the tiebreak. Despite questions over competitiveness most matches have been tight and players have shown their approval. The Team World bench has stood out with players joking around, choreographing their celebrations after points and leading the crowd in the Mexican Wave. — Reuters



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monetary strategy

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Explore amazing  
experiences with  
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## EMERGING MARKET INVESTORS BUY INTO EDUCATION

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SHENYANG: In this picture taken on July 4, 2017 people visit a shopping mall complex in Shenyang. While foreign firms complain about being locked out of large swathes of China's vast market, the door has cracked open a bit wider in Liaoning province as the authorities seek to revive the recession-hit industrial region. — AFP

## DEBATE SWIRLS AS POWER OF US TECH GIANTS GROWS

### TECH FIRMS EXERCISE CONTROL OVER WHAT PEOPLE SEE AND HOW THEY LIVE

**SAN FRANCISCO:** With a handful of US technology giants growing more powerful and dominant, debate is intensifying on whether big tech's growth is healthy or not. Over the past few years, Apple, Google parent Alphabet, Facebook and Amazon have become among the world's most valuable companies.

Along with stalwarts like Microsoft and rising stars like Netflix, the tech firms exercise enormous control over what people see and how they live. Increasingly, policymakers and others have begun to consider breaking up or regulating the biggest technology companies, although imminent action appears unlikely.

While many consumers welcome innovation from the tech sector, critics have complained about the power of "gatekeepers" of information and other content. Google holds around 90 percent of the internet search market in the United States and Europe. Facebook and Google scoop up some 60 percent of digital ad revenues and are eating up 90 percent of new ad growth in the United States.

Google's Android and Apple's iOS power the overwhelming majority of mobile devices. Amazon accounts for nearly half of US online sales and is expanding into new sectors.

#### Concentration of power

Barry Lynn, executive director of the Open Markets Institute, said three firms—Google, Facebook and Amazon—"have more power than

any previous monopolies we've dealt with in the past century." "We have to be incredibly concerned about the power of Facebook, Google and Amazon," said Lynn, who launched his research center last month after his team was ousted from the Google-funded New America Foundation.

"They have their hands on the flow of news, the flow of books and they are manipulating that flow in a conscious way to promote their interests." Even though the idea of taking on the tech giants appears extreme, the upheaval in US politics over the past year has brought together allies from across the spectrum worried about their concentration of economic power.

The recently formed "New Center" political alliance that includes leaders from the traditional right and left has placed "challenging big tech" on its agenda. Bill Galston, a former White House advisor under Bill Clinton and co-founder of New Center, argued that tech monopolies are hurting wages, entrepreneurship and could be distorting the political landscape.

"The big tech firms have almost unlimited funds they can throw into lobbying, and they have been ramping this up steeply," Galston said. "Is that a good thing for democracy?" Lou Kerner, partner at the investment firm Flight Ventures, said this monopoly power is more concentrated than any in recent history, and

expressed concern it will "strangle innovation" and increase income inequality.

But Kerner said he opposes heavy-handed regulation or breakup of the tech giants. "By their nature regulators move slowly and by the time they address the problems they are no longer problems," Kerner said. "Historically the market has been much better at addressing monopoly powers in technology."

#### Rewriting the book

Ed Black, president of the Computer & Communications Industry Association, which represents firms including Google, Facebook and Microsoft, said breaking up the tech giants could have a "chilling effect on innovation." "If our goal is really to maintain innovation, spur the entire economy, and grow higher paying jobs, asking the government to penalize a successful foundational economic sector, absent bad behavior or consumer harm, seems illogical," Black said.

European regulators have taken a more aggressive approach, imposing a hefty fine on Google after concluding the search giant illegally favored its own shopping services, one of three antitrust investigations into the company. In Washington, the rise of Donald Trump suggests a possible shift in US policy after years in which Silicon Valley was seen as close to the White House.

Former White House strategist Steve



Bannon said recently he was leading an effort within the administration to turn Facebook and Google into "public utilities."

But Federal Trade Commission chief Maureen Ohlhausen, who would lead any US antitrust action, signaled any effort to break up tech firms is remote. "Given the clear consumer benefits of technology-driven innovation, I am

concerned about the push to adopt an approach that will disregard consumer benefits in the pursuit of other perhaps even conflicting goals," Ohlhausen said in a speech at Georgetown University. She said some tech critics want "to rewrite the modern rules" of antitrust enforcement to "pursue a wide variety of goals other than consumer welfare." — AFP

## CHINA RUST BELT OPENS DOOR WIDER TO FOREIGN INVESTORS

**SHENYANG:** Trucks carrying hi-tech car components rumble in and out the gates of an American industrial zone in the heart of China's rust belt—using roads that the city especially renovated for the complex. While foreign firms complain about being locked out of large swathes of China's vast market, the door has cracked open a bit wider in northeastern Liaoning province as the authorities seek to revive the recession-hit industrial region.

The bustling activity at the Shenyang American Industrial Park, which hosts international suppliers for global car brands, stands in contrast with the darkened windows and empty parking lots of the moribund Chinese factories nearby. Foreign firms feel more welcome in the provincial capital, Shenyang, and in parts of the southwest, than anywhere else in the country, according to a survey by the European Union Chamber of Commerce in China.

"The local government offers many benefits, such as easing company registration, providing discounts for factory and office space and giving family members three-year visas," said Harald

Kumpfert, chairman of the EU chamber's Shenyang chapter. Elsewhere, companies are increasingly voicing frustration about investment barriers in sectors from automotive to finance, while China subsidizes its own domestic businesses. The EU business chamber issued an annual report on Tuesday saying companies were "suffering from accumulated 'promise fatigue'" as the government has yet to follow through on pledges to open the market.

And while Liaoning is more welcoming, Kumpfert said that after setting up shop, businesses in Shenyang face similar obstacles, including lengthy waits for permits and "unclear" regulations. Settling in China can also come at a price: at least one-fifth of EU companies said they have had to share their technology in exchange for market access in the aerospace, machinery, environment, auto, utilities and primary energy industries.

#### 'Work as a team'

Still, the chamber has observed an uptick in foreign entrepreneurs arriving in Shenyang in

recent years. Businesses that specialize in renewable energy, tourism, agriculture or advanced technology are well positioned to succeed in Shenyang as the city addresses pollution and undergoes a "painful restructuring process," Kumpfert said. The Liaoning Pilot Free Trade Zone was launched earlier this year, and construction continues in the 48-square-kilometer Sino-German Intelligent Equipment Manufacturing Park in Shenyang, which hosts BMW, Siemens and BASF.

The city's Bureau of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation said data on foreign investment was not immediately available. China's northeast has long relied on state-owned enterprises plagued with severe overcapacity in heavy industries that have crippled the economy, costing thousands of jobs.

Liaoning was the only province in the country that was officially in recession in 2016, with its economy contracting by 2.5 percent. The province also admitted to faking economic growth figures from 2011 to 2014. — AFP

## UK NEGOTIATOR DISMISSES NEWS OF £40BN BREXIT BILL

**LONDON:** Brexit negotiator David Davis yesterday dismissed a report that Britain was prepared to pay a £40 billion (\$54 billion, 45 billion euros) divorce bill on leaving the European Union.

The Times quoted a "Brussels source" in their story on Saturday, but Davis told BBC television that "they sort of made that up." "I'm not going to do an actual number on air, it would be ridiculous to do that, but we have a fairly clear idea where we're going on this," he said. He called EU claims for Britain to contribute to the bloc's future pension pot as "debatable to say the least." "The last time we went through line by line and challenged quite a lot of the legal basis of these things and we'll continue to do that."

British Prime Minister Theresa May on Friday revealed plans for a transition period of around two years after it officially leaves in 2019, during which time Britain would still largely be under current EU rules. Davis stressed that Britain "would not under any circumstances" accept the

supremacy of the European Court of Justice after the transition period, a key issue for Brexit hardliners.

He added that it was "quite likely" that a joint system of EU-UK courts will be agreed in order to resolve disputes. May's cabinet is divided over certain key issues of Brexit, particularly on what terms Britain wishes to access the EU's single market after it has left. The pro-EU faction of her government, led by finance minister Philip Hammond, want close ties with the bloc, while Brexit campaigner and foreign minister Boris Johnson is pushing for a cleaner break. Johnson heightened tensions last week with a newspaper article spelling out his vision, and the latest edition of the Sunday Telegraph reported he had set down further demands.

He said Britain should not adopt any new EU rules made during the transition period and wants London to be able to sign trade deals with countries outside the EU during the two-year period, according to the paper. — AFP



# THE FED REAFFIRMS ITS MONETARY STRATEGY

**KUWAIT:** Monetary policy trajectory and global politics were the main theme and market movers last week. On the monetary front, the Federal Reserve backed its previous testimony that one more rate hike was on the table for the current fiscal year with the Bank's surprisingly optimistic tone regarding the US economy. Furthermore, the Fed concluded that the balance sheet reduction will commence in October as markets expected. After the Federal Reserve's announcement, the two year US Treasury yield soared to the highest level since the global financial crisis at 1.4151 percent, while interest rate prospects for December moved in the same direction to around 60 percent. The FED's tone symbolizes that the US economy is on its way back to a normal state of economic activity without the support of monetary assistance.

Looking at the Treasury yield curve, short term interest rates are rising faster than longer term rates, which flattened the curve, while world stock markets fell on Thursday as investors adjusted towards indications from the Federal Reserve that it may raise interest rates for a third time this year.

North Korea's threats at the end of the week have managed to temporarily divert markets attention from last week's monetary policy decisions that have dominated the markets focus and changed the path of financial assets. North Korean officials mentioned it may initiate trials on a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific Ocean after President Donald Trump swore to destroy the isolated country. Tensions have been increasing for the past weeks between the two nations, causing higher volatility in markets.

On the currency front, the US dollar was trading mixed at the start of the week against its G-10 peers in anticipation of FOMC's monetary trajectory. The mixed momentum from the greenback disappeared on Wednesday after the Fed made formal announcement that it would begin tapering its balance sheet in October and the Fed was more optimistic than markets predicted. The DXY gained strong ground against a basket of currencies, soaring 1.25 percent. The gains in the index were short lived as it fell back to the levels at the start of the week. The DXY began the week at 91.868 and closed on Friday at 92.259.

The common currency had a strong footing at the start of the week, supported by positive euro area economic figures. However, that all changed after the Fed's monetary statement, the single currency depreciated from the 1.20 level to 1.1860. The Fed's optimism was not enough to keep the euro subdued as the US dollar weakened with additional encouraging data from euro-zone. The EURUSD opened on Monday at 1.1942 and ended its weekly session at 1.1952.

The pound sterling was in consolidation mode the entire week, trying to find its direction. The GBPUSD opened on Monday at 1.3581, rose to a high of 1.3656 and fell to a low of 1.3448 after Moody's downgraded the UK's sovereign rating. The reasons for the demotion were pressures on the country's economic strength and the higher debt levels since the vote to leave the EU. The pair was down by 0.66 percent at the end of the week.

The Japanese yen was under pressure on Monday as investor's risk appetite resumed and the safe haven currency continued to weaken ahead of the FOMC's meeting. On Thursday, the yen was floored to the lowest level since July 17 at 112.71 after the FED's meeting was concluded. The USDJPY is the most US interest rate sensitive currency pair right now, with US yields creeping up, the pair is likely to

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follow the US yields north.

In the commodities space, the yellow metal was at three weeks low on Monday as investor's risk appetites resumed. On Wednesday, the price of gold declined to the lowest level since August 25, pressured by higher US yields, which cause the opportunity cost of carrying gold to increase. The precious metal lost 1.55 percent of its value last week.

### The Fed proceeds

After its two-day policy meeting, the Federal Open Market Committee unanimously voted to maintain the federal funds rate between 1.00-1.25 percent and initiate the process of unwinding its balance sheet by October as anticipated by markets. The biggest surprise was the amendments to the economic forecasts, which now expect stronger growth this year, unemployment rate to descend further in the next two years and a longer timeline to attain the inflation objective.

In comparison to the Fed's previous projections, US GDP is expected to come at 2.4 percent for 2017 versus an earlier estimate of 2.2 percent and 2018 growth prospects remained unchanged at 2.1 percent. The latest inflation readings have continued to run below the Fed's 2 percent target. The Fed's preferred measure of price growth, the core PCE index, fell to 1.4 percent year to year in July, marking the smallest increase since December 2015. Moreover, the bank cut its inflation forecast from 1.7 percent to 1.5 percent for this year, while no changes were made for the unemployment rate for 2017. The Unemployment rate is expected to drop further to 4.1 percent in 2018 and 2019.

The Fed has left its median projection for the Fed funds rate unchanged for 2017 and 2018. This indicates there is still support for one more hike this year and three more to come in 2018 despite the frequency of downside inflation figures the past six months. Markets currently expect a 60 percent chance of an increase in the Fed's overnight rate for December and around 70 percent of Fed officials support a rate hike in December. Although, there is plenty of figures on the way before the Fed meets in December, which could cause members in the committee to revise their opinions, and the decision to retain a December hike may be a close call for some members. Second, the dot plots for 2019 and beyond were lowered, reflective of a dovish shift in sentiment in the long run. In conclusion, the committee's tone was optimistic, blamed low inflation on transitory factors and should pick up as the labor market strengthens. The pace of monetary tightening foreseen by the Fed continues to be more rapid than priced into the market. However, the Fed has been a lot more hawkish than the market for a long time. This theme therefore remains unchanged.

### Positive fundamental data

The monthly survey produced by the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia on manufacturing conditions improved to a three months high in September. The index was elevated by 5 points to 23.8, while economists forecasted a level of 17.2. The unexpected rise in the index is largely reflected by accelerations in the pace of growth in new orders and shipments. The new orders index jumped 9.1 points and the shipments index surged up 8.4 points. The survey reinforces that continuous growth persists in the region's manufacturing sector and firms expect an accelera-

tion of production growth for the next six months.

On the inflation spectrum, America's import prices registered the largest increase in seven months, a rise of 0.6 percent for August, largely reflecting a spike in fuel prices, which soared 4.2 percent last month. This brings the annual rate from 1.2 percent seen in July to 2.1 percent in August. The annual increase in import prices has slowed sharply since posting 4.7 percent in February, which was the biggest advance in five years. Import prices excluding petroleum are also on the rise due to the dollar's weakness against the currencies of the United States main trading partners since the beginning of the year.

### Europe & UK The inflation momentum persists

Eurozone inflation figures came in as markets expected with annual headline inflation rising to a 4 months high at 1.5 percent in August from 1.3 percent recorded in July. The rise was mostly attributed to services, food and energy base effects, with the energy component rising from 2.2 percent to 4.0 percent year on year. In August last year, the rate was 0.2 percent, the Eurostat said. The core annual rate remained steady at 1.2 percent. The lowest inflation rates were seen in Ireland, Cyprus, Greece and Romania for the month, while the highest were in Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

Future inflation expectations have fallen in recent months due to a stronger currency causing imported goods to cheapen, which is counter to what the ECB has been trying to achieve. In September, the ECB elevated its growth forecasts for the Eurozone economy over the coming years but cut back its inflation forecasts, stating the strength of the common currency as a factor in the decision. Overall, inflationary pressures have been gaining strong momentum in comparison to last year and demand in the 19 countries sharing the single currency remains firm as the PMI figures suggest.

### Confidence in the German economy

The German economic sentiment was fortified for the first time in four months in September reinforced by growth figures in Q2 2017, a sharp rise in bank lending and growing investment activities by both the government and private firms. The ZEW research institute showed its economic confidence index rose to 17.0 for September from 10.0 in August. However, the index remains below the long term average of 23.8. In the second quarter of 2017 the German economy expanded at an annual rate of 2.1 percent from 1.9 percent in Q1. Looking at the current situation, the index was lifted to 87.9 from 86.7, this was the highest level in 88 months. On the elections front, Chancellor Angela Merkel is expected to win her fourth term this Sunday, defeating Social Democratic Party leader Martin Schulz.

### A hike on the way

Mark Carney Governor of the Bank of England claimed on Monday that Brexit is likely to depress the UK's supply capacity, making it tougher to grow without generating inflationary pressures. Hence, some departure of stimulus may be needed but any rate hikes will be limited and gradual in the coming months if the economy evolves as expected. Looking at trade agreements, the diminishing

trade ties with EU partners would not necessarily be counterbalanced by new agreements with other countries as Carney stated. Moreover, with less access to foreign markets and less laborers coming to the British economy could put upward pressure on inflation and reduce productivity, raising the prospect of higher interest rates. Prices have soared nearly 3 percent, exceeding the BoE's 2 percent target, which is constricting the spending power of households and decelerating growth in the overall economy. The case for the BoE to tighten its monetary stance is also reinforced by other major central banks as they are likely to move in the same direction. The BoE's next announcement on monetary policy is scheduled for November 2, 2017.

UK's retail sector continues to defy Brexit uncertainties and high inflation as the annual pace of quantities sold standing at 2.4 percent in August from the previous reading of 1.4 percent. On a month to month basis, growth was 1 percent compared to an expected 0.2 percent. On a three months basis, the volume bought increased 1.2 percent. The continuous rise in the retail sector for the past three months has not been seen since the spring of 2015. The sector accounts for around 30 percent of UK household consumption, which in turn accounts for around 60 percent GDP.

The retail sector's price growth showed inflation rose to an annual rate of 3.2 percent in August, up from 2.7 percent. Looking just at goods sold in non-food stores, inflation was its highest since March 1992. Retail figures suggest that consumers are showing an impressive resilience in the face of the ongoing real pay squeeze. Earlier, the BoE stated that interest rates are likely to rise in the coming months if the economy grows as expected. Hence, the latest figures on retail sales further support the likely hood of an increase in the cost of borrowing.

### The RBA remains neutral

The Reserve Bank of Australia's meeting minutes were released last week, and the RBA's tone indicated that the bank was in no rush to join global policy makers in reining in stimulus even as the nation's economy does seem to be improving. The central bank's discussion hovered around the employment situation, Aussie's strength, household debt and low inflation.

On the employment front, policy makers acknowledged the enhancement in the labor market and noted that full-time employment had risen strongly over the preceding year, although the slow increase in wages persists and inflation will remain in a sluggish mode for a while. The RBA seemed less worried about the currency's strength, attributing the appreciation of the Australian dollar to USD's weakness, giving the impression it is less likely that the bank would take actions to curb the currency's strength. Governor Philip Lowe mentioned that the RBA does not have to follow a general move globally to raise interest rates as policymakers keep a vigilant eye on the dangerously high levels of household debt. If interest rates increase it could hurt consumers spending due to the fact that households are highly indebted. So for the time being it seems the RBA prefers to remain neutral on its monetary policy in a period where major central banks are signaling a tighter monetary stance. Overall, the minutes suggested policy-makers are more optimistic about the economy but preferred to remain in a passive state.

Kuwait

Kuwaiti dinar at 0.30145

The USDKWD opened at 0.30145 yesterday morning.



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A Wonderful World

SHORTING VOLATILITY: RISING RISKS MEAN ITCHIER TRIGGER FINGERS

NEW YORK: A long stretch of low volatility for US stocks has made betting on continued calm a popular and lucrative trade...

mute stock market gyrations and spell success for those betting on calm.

The VelocityShares Daily Inverse VIX Short-Term ETN, which makes money as long as the volatility drops or holds in place...

bet on lower stock gyrations - investors' hunger for this trade is particularly apparent in the growth in volatility-linked exchange traded products (ETPs).

But the very popularity of the trade has cranked up the risk. These products hold first and second month volatility futures...

Strategists fear that this rebalancing - which needs to be even more pronounced if a shock follows a period of unusually muted volatility...

"There could be a feedback effect and maybe selling begets more selling," said Salil Aggarwal, equity derivatives strategist at Deutsche Bank in New York.

Risks vs reward

Meanwhile, investors are not reaping as much for taking on risk as they did in the past, said Anand Omprakash, director of equity and derivative strategy at BNP Paribas...

"You were being paid much better for much of 2016 than for much of 2017," he said. "I don't know if I would necessarily say the trade has run out of steam...

ed return that it offered last year." And the stakes are high. Strategists warn that one or two big shocks could wipe away months of profits.

"The risk/reward of the trade as a buy and hold proposition is not the same as it was before the US election or in the middle of the oil crisis in 2015 and early 2016," said Stephen Aniston...

"I don't think the risk is necessarily as big on the institutional side as it is on the retail side," said Omprakash. To be sure, not everyone is rushing to bet on a spike in volatility...

Volatility-linked ETPs

While there are many ways to short volatility -

Managers of these leveraged and inverse products are required to buy volatility futures as they go up and sell when they decline.

Daily Kuwait Stock Exchange Report. Sunday 24 September 2017. Table with columns: Index, Change, Closing, Last Closing. Includes sections for Trades, Oil & Gas, Basic Materials, Industrials, Consumer Goods, Health Care, Telecommunications, Banks, Insurance, Investment Instruments, Technology, and Parallel Market.



TEHRAN: A general view shows equipment during the Iran-Plast international exhibition in Tehran yesterday.—AFP

National Bank of Kuwait Financial Markets Daily Report. At 02:00 PM Previous Day. Includes sections for Global Stock Indices, MENA Stock Indices, Global Currencies Exchange Rate, MENA Currencies Exchange Rate, Global Interest Rates, and Global Bond Yields.





CHIBA: This general view shows the Tokyo Game Show.



CHIBA: The eSports logo is displayed at the Tokyo Game Show.

## ESPORTS BATTLE FOR A KNOCKOUT AT TOKYO GAME SHOW

**CHIBA, Japan:** Top eSports players traded digital blows at a show in Tokyo Thursday as laggard Japan moves to up its game in the booming spectator draw now worth billions of dollars annually. Scantly clad women hawk games and virtual reality operators will also compete for the attention of some 250,000 mostly male visitors expected to turn up at the four-day Tokyo Game Show, which kicked off Thursday.

But eSports-multiplayer computer games played in front of spectators—took centre stage for the first time at the annual event, as the best of the best faced off in games like Street Fighter V and on virtual battlegrounds. They may not have household names like Ronaldo or Beckham quite yet, but eSport champions are winning superstar status these days

with hundreds of millions of people around the world jumping into the action.

Top players can make millions in prize money alone from tournaments played at packed stadiums in front of up to 50,000 spectators. They'll be a full medal sport at the 2022 Asian Games in China, while the newly minted Asian eSports Federation president Kenneth Fok is shooting for a spot at the Olympics. Despite their soaring popularity in North America and parts of Asia, eSports are only now taking off in Japan, home to videogame heavyweights Sony and Nintendo.

Operating restrictions on public gaming and prize money limits have held back growth in the videogame-crazy nation, but top billing at the Tokyo show could punt eSports to the next level, industry insiders said. "I hope Japanese



CHIBA: A visitor wearing a virtual reality (VR) headset tries out one of the exhibitions at the Tokyo Game Show in Chiba City, in suburban Tokyo.—AFP photos

people will eventually see that winning prize money and making a living out of this as a pro is just as great as being a tennis player like (Kei) Nishikori or other professionals," said Taichi Shibuki, chairman of game company JPPVR.

"Not many people here even know the word eSports. But this (show) could drastically change things." Unlike traditional separations for gender and physical disabilities, eSports can be played under "equal conditions", he added. "It doesn't matter if you are a man, a woman, young or old, or if you're physically disabled," Shibuki said. "It's a field where everyone can compete with an equal shot." The Tokyo show will host more than 600 exhibitors with everything from virtual romance and digital puzzles to shoot-em-up games and role-playing adventures on offer.—AFP

## 600,000 SIGN PETITION TO OVERTURN LONDON UBER BAN

**LONDON:** More than 600,000 people had by yesterday signed a petition asking London transport authorities to reverse their decision not to renew Uber's license when it expires.

Friday's decision to ban the ride-sharing service was "affecting the real lives of a huge number of honest and hard-working drivers" and would "show the world that London is far from being

open and is closed to innovative companies," the petition said.

Transport for London said the conduct of Uber, which has around 40,000 drivers and 3.5 million customers in the British capital, had raised safety concerns. "TfL has concluded that Uber London Limited is not fit and proper to hold a private hire operator license," it said in a statement. It said Uber's "approach and conduct demonstrate a lack of corporate responsibility in relation to a number of issues which have potential public safety and security implications", citing concerns over background checks of drivers.

The petition, on change.org, said that Uber provided a "safe, reliable and affordable ride", and that its users would be "astounded" by the ban. "By wanting to ban our app from the capital, Transport for London and their chairman the Mayor have given in to a small number of people who want to restrict consumer choice," it added. The license expires on September 30 but Uber has 21 days to appeal the decision, and has said it plans a challenge.

Labor Party leader Jeremy Corbyn on Saturday backed his London mayor Sadiq Khan, telling Sky News that authorities had done the "right thing". "Obviously people need to be able to travel, obviously they want to be able to access cabs," he said. "Those cabs must be safe, must be regulated and must be available for all."—AFP



PARIS: This file photo shows Thibaud Simpal, then General Director of Uber France, posing for pictures at Uber's French headquarters in Paris.—AFP

## STARTUP PI OUT TO SLICE THE CHARGING CORD

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Silicon Valley youngster Pi on Monday claimed it had developed the world's first wireless charger that does away with cords or mats to charge devices. Pi chargers, about the size of a small table vase, operate on standard charging technology used in Apple or Android smartphones designed to be powered up wirelessly. But instead of cords or mats, the conical creation charges smartphones with magnetic waves.

Magnetic fields are an ideal way to safely send energy to portable electronics, said Pi chief technology officer Lixin Shi, who co-created the charger with John MacDonald. The trick was bending magnetic waves to find smartphones, the co-founders said during a presentation for an AFP journalist at the TechCrunch Disrupt startup scrum in San Francisco. "The hard part was figuring out how to make magnetic charging more flexible, multi-device and extend its useful range," Shi said.

"It took us over a year to complete the mathematical proof that makes it all possible." The pair figured out how to shape the magnetic field so energy could be beamed to smartphones placed or in use within a foot of a Pi. Shi and MacDonald were graduate students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology when they met and began to collaborate on the project about 3.5 years ago. Both have since graduated from university.

Pi's magnetic fields are relatively weak, far less than the levels used for medical imaging, but allow devices to be charged at "full speed," according to MacDonald. A combination of smartphones and tablets could wirelessly charge on a desk if a Pi were placed near people working together. Pi set up shop in the Silicon Valley city of San Bruno, and the co-founders said they raised \$3.5 million in a seed funding round led by SoftTech VC managing partner Jean-Francois Clavier.

MacDonald promised that Pi devices would begin shipping next year and be priced "well below \$200." Apple this month unveiled three new iPhone models, including a 10th-anniversary edition iPhone X, all of which featured wireless charging. The company said it will come to market with AirPower charging mats sized to accommodate an iPhone, Apple Watch and an AirPods earpiece case.—AFP



SAN FRANCISCO: Pi co-founders Lixin Shi, left, and John MacDonald pose for a picture at a TechCrunch Disrupt technology conference in San Francisco with the world's first wireless charger that does away with the need to lay devices on charging mats.—AFP

## LONDON PARROT DOES ONLINE SHOPPING BY MIMICKING OWNER

**LONDON:** A pet parrot managed to place an online shopping order by mimicking its owner on a voice-controlled smart speaker, a British newspaper reported Wednesday. Buddy the parrot ordered a £10 set of gift boxes via Amazon's Alexa voice-controlled system, The Sun reported. The mystery order triggered an inquest in Corienne Pretorius's house in south-east London, but after ruling out her husband and son, she figured out Buddy was to blame after hearing him interact with the speaker.

"I couldn't believe it when I realised that Buddy had made an Amazon order," the South African said. Users can shout commands to the Amazon Echo speaker to access a host of services. It responds to the name Alexa. Footage

on the Sun's website shows the parrot squawking "Alexa!" and the device next to his cage lighting up blue, indicating that it is listening for commands.

"Buddy said 'Alexa' and some gibberish, and the machine replied, 'What is it you want to order?'" Pretorius said. She thought nothing more of it until she got a notification that an order had been placed for some golden gift boxes. "I laughed out loud because I knew then that it was Buddy."

Amazon said customers were asked to confirm a purchase by saying "yes", and the settings can be adjusted to turn off voice purchasing. "Buddy is hilarious. We have a cat and he mimics that, too."—AFP



DUBAI: Customers stand in line to purchase the new Apple iPhone 8 at Dubai Apple Store in Dubai.—AFP

## NEST LOOKS TO SHAKE UP HOME SECURITY

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Nest on Wednesday set out to shake up the home security market, unveiling an internet-age alarm system. A unit of Google-parent Alphabet, Nest was founded about seven years ago by a pair of former Apple engineers and its first product was a smart thermostat that adapted to lifestyles and even suggested ways to conserve energy. The Silicon Valley-based company has maintained a focus on homes while expanding its product line to include security cameras as well as smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

"Security is an industry desperate for innovation," Nest chief executive Marwan Fawaz said at a media event in San Francisco. Nest on Wednesday unveiled a 'Hello' video-camera doorbell, stylish outdoor security cameras, and a home-monitoring system that keeps people tuned in by means of smartphones. "We build technology that is designed to fit into your life, not the other way around," Nest co-founder Matt Rogers said during the event. "It felt right to re-imagine security; we start with products that are unloved and we make them very loved."

### Adding intelligence

Through collaboration with Google, Nest continues to "add layers of intelligence" to its services and cameras, according to Fawaz. Google has made a priority of investing in artificial intelligence and infusing such machine smarts into its array of offerings. A base unit for the new Nest Secure alarm looked a bit similar to a Google Home personal assistant device, but had yet to be infused with its capabilities.

The Hello doorbell, which will be

released early next year, could detect when people were in sight and recognize faces. Nest designed its own components for the home security system, down to lipstick-case shaped motion detectors and a key fob for turning it on or off. "Can you think of a better industry for us to disrupt?" said Nest director of product marketing Maxime Veron. "What if home security was so simple you actually use it?"

### Premium price

A Nest Secure starter pack with a suggested price of \$499 will begin shipping in November. The home security systems sound piercing alarms when triggered, and send alerts to residents' smartphones. Nest is working with a home security monitoring service to add that to the mix. A new Nest Cam IQ for use outside homes will also begin shipping in November, at a price of \$349. Nest will be facing strongly established competitors in the home security market, which is rich in lower-cost options, according to Gartner analyst Brian Blau.

"Nest is focusing on smart features, and leveraging its relationship with Google," Blau said. "That may make them stand out." Nest security offerings had an Apple-style spin—devices pleasing to the eye, fun to use, and tied into an ecosystem of gadgets capable of working together, Blau said. A door appeared open to weaving Google services or smarts into that Nest ecosystem via internet connections. "Maybe the biggest value they have is the integrated nature of it and the Google smarts," Blau said. "It is hard to put a value on having that smart system that evolves over time without a need to upgrade."—AFP



SAN FRANCISCO: Nest co-founder Matt Rogers discusses an array of new home-security devices at a media event in San Francisco.—AFP

## HUGE SEA TURTLES SLOWLY COMING BACK FROM BRINK OF EXTINCTION



**FLORIDA:** In this file photo a loggerhead sea turtle, is released back into the Gulf after being treated for pneumonia at Gulf World Marine Institute, in Inlet Beach, Florida. —AP

**WASHINGTON:** Sea turtles are lumbering back from the brink of extinction, a new study says. Scientists found more populations of the large turtles improving than declining when they looked at nearly 60 regions across the globe. That's a big change from a decade or two ago, experts said. Long-living sea turtles have been pushed to endangered levels by hunting, accidentally being caught in fishing nets, habitat loss, plastics pollution and climate change, experts say.

But massive efforts to save the egg-laying turtles by changing fishing nets and creating protected and darkened beaches are working, said study lead author Antonios Mazaris, an ecology professor at Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece. "There's a positive sign at the end of the story," Mazaris said. "We should be more optimistic about our efforts in society." The research was published Wednesday in the journal *Science Advances*.

There are seven different species of sea turtles, all but one endangered. The slow creatures live for several decades with some species weighing about 100 pounds and others well over 1,000 pounds. Mazaris pointed to Hawaiian green sea turtles, once in trouble 40 years ago, as story of success. Maybe too much success. "They have more turtles than they know what to do with," said Roderic Mast, a sea turtle advisory group co-chairman at the International Union for Conservation of Nature, which determines the global list of endangered species.

Tourists seeking sea turtles create traffic problems and fishermen complain the creatures get in the way, said Mast, who wasn't part of the study and is president of the Oceanic Society advocacy group. He added: "It's a good problem to have." Mazaris and colleagues looked at 299 sets of turtle populations over different lengths of time around the globe, finding 95 of them increased, while 35 went down. The rest didn't change or there wasn't enough data.

There were increases in North and South America on the Atlantic coast but setbacks in the Asia Pacific region. "The evidence is widespread and convincing," said Selina Heppell, head of Oregon State University's department of fisheries and wildlife, who wasn't part of the study. Mast pointed to Kemp's ridley sea turtles as a good example of what's happening, especially in the United States. In the 1940s, there about 40,000 of them, mostly in the southern US and Mexico. By the 70s, there were only 1,200 left.

The US and Mexican governments changed laws, fishing practices and set aside dark, quiet areas for turtles to nest. That population is increasing by about 10 to 15 percent annually, Mast said. That's good, but he said they remain critically endangered. "Sea turtles are bellwethers. They're flagships that we use to tell the story of what's going on in the oceans," Mast said. "And that's why people should care about turtles." —AP

## FRIDA, FOUR-LEGGED HEROINE OF MEXICO'S QUAKE RESCUES

### CANINE DETECTS PEOPLE ALIVE UNDER RUBBLE

**MEXICO CITY:** With protective goggles fitted under her furry ears and boots on all four paws, Frida wags her tail as she scales the mountains of rubble left by this week's devastating earthquake in Mexico. The golden retriever is using her sense of smell to try to detect any survivors left in the wreckage of buildings brought down on Tuesday by the 7.1-magnitude earthquake. The courageous canine has become iconic in Mexico, a four-legged symbol of the solidarity behind the rescue operations whose fame has been spread on television and social media.

One man in Mexico's northeast has even had her image tattooed on his arm. And a t-shirt maker is selling a line with her face above the slogan "We can be heroes." The dog is part of the Canine Unit of Mexico's Navy, which has been active at the sites of 39 buildings brought down in the quake. Frida was notably deployed at a collapsed school in the capital's south where 19 children and six adults died. Officials say there is still the possibility that an adult is trapped alive in the debris. "Frida is a specialist in detecting people alive under rubble," her handler, Petty Officer Israel Arauz said.

In her career, which included being sent to Ecuador for a major earthquake last year, she has saved 12 lives, he said. When she turns up, many Marines drop their stern military demeanor to rush to pet her and have a photo taken alongside her. "She brings joy, tenderness and hope. Civilians salute her and applaud her in the street," said one soldier as he rubbed her belly. The dog's personality is "very gentle, but also very strong temperamentally," Arauz said, adding that she would likely be retired next year when she turns eight. "For me, it's an honor to handle her on these missions," he said.

**Dogs lost and found**  
The spontaneous display of solidarity in Mexico against natural disasters has been a source of surprise and inspiration internationally. Media around the world covering this week's quake have highlighted the generosity of Mexicans who have donated food, medicine and basic supplies, as well as the volunteers who have leaped forward to help professional emergency crews to remove rubble. That same rush to help can be seen with dog-owners.

"We have come to support the UNAM brigade to detect people and rescue them," said Jean Louis Zuniga, an amateur dog trainer who turned up at a collapsed building with several of his charges, including a labrador, a border collie, a boxer and a pitbull. But dogs weren't only part of the rescue teams—they were also among the quake's victims. Several died, others became trapped in the rubble after losing their owners or becoming injured.

Many have been rescued, with some being hauled out of windows on ropes. There are also free veterinarian clinics dotted around the city to look after injured animals, and centers dispensing dog food and medicine. "I'm so desperate, I am looking for my Candy," said Cecilia Vega, a university student ceaselessly going to each center, with a photograph in hand of her chihuahua missing since the earthquake. Like Candy, many dogs have been found without owners. Images of them have started to circulate on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, on forums created especially.

"She's called Precious and she got lost during the earthquake. She has problems breathing and is skittish," read one posting on the Twitter feed of @MascotasSismo (translated as QuakePets), under the image of a white dog with the tongue hanging out. "Back with his owners!" read another, showing Brook, a grey pitbull. —AFP



**IVORY COAST:** Germain Djenemaya Koidja, a care taker paid for by the association Les Amis de Ponso (Friends of Ponso), interacts with Ponso, the only surviving chimpanzee of a colony of 20 apes, on Chimpanzee Island near the town of Grand Lahou, Ivory Coast. — AFP

## HELPING PONSO, SOLE SURVIVOR OF CHIMPANZEE ISLAND IN IVORY COAST

**GRAND-LAHOUE, Ivory Coast:** "Ooah! Ooah!" Screaming to see visitors on the forested "Chimpanzee Island" in Ivory Coast, Ponso is the last, lonely survivor of a colony of 20 apes who mysteriously died or vanished. An effort is under way to keep Ponso alive and well in a west African country where the ape population has plummeted by 90 percent in just two decades.

Chimpanzee Island adjoins the village of Grand-Lahou in the Bandaman estuary, an outlying reach of tropical forest about 100 kilometers from the commercial capital, Abidjan. Only Ponso remains of the group of chimpanzees relocated to the tiny island from Liberia in 1983 by a research laboratory for medical tests. Since August 2015, the association Les Amis de Ponso (Friends of Ponso) has paid for the animal's food and for a dedicated carer, Germain Djenemaya Koidja, according to a wooden signpost near the landing stage and the website sosponso.org. Two years ago, Ponso suffered a traumatic loss when his female companion and two children all died of unknown causes, says Koidja, a retired farmer in his 60s. Since then, the animal has been "the world's loneliest chimp", as SOS Ponso puts it.

### Part of the family

Every morning, barefoot, Koidja pushes through the water lilies on a makeshift boat to carry food and medication to the island, which lies just a few meters offshore. He is

welcomed with cries and acrobatics by Ponso, an ape about a meter tall leaping from one branch to the next. "Ponso is like my child. I don't want to see him go... I'm making a call to have someone send me another female," says Koidja, whose family specializes in primates, from his father down to Junior, his 21-year-old son.

The small village community shares his determination to save Ponso, whom residents now consider to be part of the family. The chimpanzee's isolation has also moved Francoise Stephenson, the Franco-American owner of a hotel in Lahou who has become the leader of a rescue committee.

### An Ivorian citizen

"I have accepted the role of intermediary between well-wishers and Germain," says Stephenson, who is in her 60s and has come to know Ponso well. "During my last visit, we exchanged kisses and praise, he put his nails in my ears and then my nose," Stephenson says. "I left the island with the impression that I was coming down from another planet."

Ponso's fate has been taken up by the new African Primatological Society (APS), which held its first congress this year to respond to a catastrophe that may see more than half of Africa's primate species doomed to disappear. In the large island nation of Madagascar alone, off the southeast African mainland coast, about 85 percent of the famous wide-eyed lemur population is threatened. —AFP



**MEXICO CITY:** Frida, a rescue dog belonging to the Mexican Navy, with her handler Israel Arauz Salinas, takes a break while participating in the effort to look for people trapped at the Rebsamen school in Mexico City, three days after the devastating earthquake that hit central Mexico. — AFP

CLINIC

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Dr. Fahad Al-Mukhaizeem  
ر. فهد علي المخيزيم

Consultant Pediatrician استشاري أطفال  
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# LULU HYPERMARKET LAUNCHES FOOD FEST

**L**ulu Hypermarket, the leading regional retailer, once again launched its highly popular annual 'Food Fest' on September 20, 2017 at all its outlets. The ten-day event was inaugurated at the Jahra branch of LuLu Hypermarket by the manager of Jahra Municipality, Thareef Shakir Al-Muthairy, in the presence of top LuLu management and a large gathering of customers, well-wishers and media personnel.

The annual 'Food Fest' provides an opportunity for shoppers to see and taste a wide variety of food items and diverse flavors from countries around the world. The highlight of the Food Fest 2017 is a diverse range of food products that caters to various tastes of consumers, which are displayed uniquely and are on offer at very special prices. Taste sampling and different competitions offering attractive prizes make shopping at any LuLu Outlet during the Food Fest, an excitingly wonderful shopping experience.

During the 10 days promotion period, all outlets of LuLu Hypermarket will feature large cut-outs of traditional cultural and social scenes of many countries from where the foods originate, further attracting shoppers to the diversity and distinction of the lands. Food Fest 2017 is part of LuLu Hypermarket's ongoing initiative to regularly interact with their customers through highly popular promotions and festivals. This synergistic relationship with customers is just one of the reasons why the LuLu Hypermarket brand retains such a large and loyal following among shoppers in the region.



## GUST ATHLETIC TEAMS TO COMPETE AS GUST FALCONS

**G**ulf University for Science and Technology (GUST) announced yesterday that all of its athletics teams will be competing as the GUST Falcons starting this year. Having been given that nickname for some time, GUST decided to make it official, solidifying their nickname into a mascot representing the university spirit. The moniker was chosen for a number of reasons.

Primarily, the falcon was used as a hunting partner in the Gulf region for many generations, and so it has deep roots to local heritage and folklore. Falcons are also known for their speed - known to have reached speeds of 242 mph - making it the fastest animal on record ever. They are also famous for being indefatigable - capable of flapping their wings four times a second. These attributes of strength, partnership, and speed make it the perfect symbol for the GUST sports team which have seen much success in recent years.

GUST President, Professor Donald Bates, said "Choosing the mascot was not an easy task, but the symbolism behind this majestic creature, and what it represents in the region, seemed like a perfect fit to represent our view of GUST, what it values, and how our athletes view themselves." The Athletics Department at GUST coaches six different teams for both male and female athletes, including: basketball, volleyball, football, squash, tennis, and table tennis. All teams are designated experienced coaches to ensure that



Dr. Raghad Al-Kazemi

the athletes' talents are honed and developed. Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Raghad Al-Kazemi, said "The university made this decision to solidify our teams' stance in competitions, shining a light on their spirit, hard work, perseverance, and strengthens our sense of identity and fraternity on and off the field. We are very proud of them all." The teams have had quite a year competing, and winning, local and international competitions. GUST's women's football team triumphed and won first place at the annual University Athletics Association of Kuwait (UAAK) championship in the last spring semester.

This comes as the second UAAK football title



Professor Donald Bates

win for GUST's women in three years. While the GUST men's football team attended and won 1st place at the 2017 Belgrade International University Sports Tournament (BeST) in Belgrade, Serbia. The tournament brought together 17 different universities from across Europe, Russia, Asia, and the Middle East to compete at an international level, experience different cultures, and forge international friendships.

GUST is known locally and regionally for its superlative sports facilities, which include a fully equipped gym with modern equipment, a swimming pool, squash courts, a basketball court, and a FIFA-accredited outdoor soccer field.

## KNOWLEDGE CLUB TO HOLD 2ND WORKSHOP AT HILTON HOTEL

**K**nowledge Club's 2017 second workshop of season two is a two-day session titled Making Strategy Happen on October 10 and 11, 2017, in Hilton Hotel Mangaf in Burgan Meeting Room. It will be conducted by experienced practitioner and trainer in the field of Management- Roberto Wyszowski. The two-day innovative program will provide leaders with an intensive immersion into the world of strategy. Attendees will gain a good understanding of the foundations of strategy execution and enhance their achievements in developing a Strategy Management Framework.

Composed of five different modules across two days, the program will take participants through the principles of strategy definition and formulation; they will learn how to identify current challenges and how to translate them into an actionable strategy. Leaders learn how to translate their strategy using strategy maps methodology as a key tool submerging them

into the world of performance management looking beyond the Balanced Scorecard as a tool, and helping to use it as a comprehensive management framework.

Roberto Wyszowski served as a consultant and a trainer at many large organizations including public administration, engineering, telecommunications, utilities, financial services, manufacturing and conglomerates throughout a wide range of management cultures. He has trained and coached hundreds of managers in both profit and nonprofit organizations.

The Knowledge Club 2017 series is organized by Vigor Events and Co-Organized by ALGAS Events Company. Members of the Knowledge Club this year include Hadi Clinic as Gold Member, Warba Bank and Kout Food Group as Silver Member, Kuwait Oil company, Aramex and Platinum Gym as corporate members and media support from the International Advertising Association Kuwait.



# SHANGHAI ELEGANT CHINESE MUSIC ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM AT CHINESE FOLK MUSIC NIGHT

**S**hanghai Elegant Chinese Music Orchestra is going to perform in Kuwait at the Yarmouk Cultural Center on October 1, 2017 at 7 pm. The orchestra was established in Shanghai by Ms. Wang Long, at the Shanghai Oriental Art Center (SHOAC) in 2008. The orchestra was chosen to perform Chinese traditional music at Luxor Temple in Egypt for the president.

The objective of the orchestra is to provide a high-end art product that panoramically and innovatively represents the beauty and charm of a combination of the traditional Chinese Music, costume and culture for the appreciation of modern society. Since founded in 2008, the orchestra has held some 200 concerts, and has been highly recognized by music lovers, professionals and greatly commended by the media.

### Wang Long

Wang Long is a guqin and yangqin (dulcimer) soloist, founder and music director of Shanghai Elegant Chinese Music Orchestra. Wang Long graduated from China Central Conservatory of Music in Beijing in 1997, and served as a soloist in Shanghai Chinese Orchestra from 1997 to 2006. In 1998, she visited US and held a successful concert in New York Lincoln Center with her music partner Erhu Mater Min Huiwen.

In 2000 she participated in Korean International Musical Festival. In the same year, she visited America and won the "Outstanding Performing Art Award" given by Dalas Chinese National Music Organization and SMU East Asia Department, as well as the "Award of Music Art Communication to Foreign Culture" given by American Zhang Gonglive Culture and Education Welfare Organization.

In 2005, she paid performance tour organized by the Chinese Ministry of Culture to India and Bhutan with Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao. In 2014, she held a Guqin Concert in Athens and Santorini, Greece. In 2015, she won the award of "Classic Art Pioneer of Asian Influence Awards Oriental Ceremony".

### Wu Shuang

Wu Shuang is a bamboo flute soloist who entered the Shanghai Music Conservatory in 2013. As excellent music student, Wu has visited and performed in many regions and countries including Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan and Germany. She has also participated in many international art festivals including ASEAN Music Festival, Shanghai Spring International Music Festival. She won the second prize at the Taipei National Music Competition in 2017.













# Norway:

## A ballad of beauty played by the sea, sung by the mountains, enjoyed by the visitor

‘Where to go and how to spend time in the world’s most beautiful country?’

By Mohammad Bassam Al-Hussaini

The trip to Norway is as exceptional as the unique and special nature of this country. In a matter of few days you can live a dream-like experience combining entertainment, culture and adventure. By using your time well and knowing what places to see you would leave the country with indelible memories.

God has blessed Norway with enchanting nature and made the sea extend as natural arms inland in what are known as “fjords” which are available for transport and enjoyment all the year round. Some of these “fjords” are 200 km long and over 1000 meters deep running through very high rocky mountains providing a perfect object of meditative exercise.

Added to this scene, which can be experi-

enced from boats and trains or on foot towards the peaks offering a view from above, is a sun shining differently, casting its rays on the features and transforming them into a natural museum where every photograph you take is like a painting by the creative hand of an artist.

According to world indicators, the Norwegian people top the list of the happiest and the most developed people in the world. They wonderfully preserve their environment as can be attested by the number of electric or hybrid cars in the streets as a result of motivational policies which persuaded thousands of drivers to adopt them. That’s why you can breathe clean air even at the heart of the capital Oslo. In order to shed light on the beauty of Norway, a trip was organized for a choice of tourist companies and agencies in Kuwait to the land of the Vikings which included the capital Oslo, Stavanger, Bergen, Gudvangen and Flam.



Mohammad Bassam Al-Hussaini on one of Bergen’s mountains.



The city of Bergen harbor.

### Oslo .. an elegant capital

Oslo is a beautiful capital, quiet with low population density. Touring its landmarks is a must and it should include important places such as the Opera and Ballet House, an elegant structure designed as an iceberg which visitors like to walk around or ascend to take pictures. There also the Fortress which dates back to 1290 in the heart of the city along with the markets, Karl Johans Gate street, the Royal Palace, the Royal Gardens, a number of important and historical buildings such as the Parliament, the National Theater and Grand Hotel. On the sea front lies the Nobel Peace Center where in December of every year the winner of the prestigious award is honored, as well as the Aker Brygge district famous for its sea-front buildings and luxurious restaurants.

One of the most important landmarks of the capital is Frogner Park with its exquisite sculptors of the cycle of life by the artist Gustav Vigeland.

Going up north one can visit the winter sports facilities where the visitors are able to enjoy real jumping experiences and taking pictures of the wonderful city scenes from above especially “Holmenkollen” which is nicknamed “Beverly Hills” - Oslo.

Those interested in culture and literature can visit the street and museum of the famous playwright Henrik Ibsen.

### The astonishing Stavanger

The second stop on the tour was the city of Stavanger which the visiting team reached by air from Gardermoen Airport in Oslo, a flight lasting about 45 minutes.

Stavanger is famous for a “fjord” which is a marvel of natural beauty with its steep mountains, islands, caves and naturally carved cliffs and rocks, particularly the “pulpit” rock which people seek to take stunning pictures of, the “Kjerag” rock stuck between two mountains and the “troll tongue” rock. The fjord can be enjoyed through a sea trip in a yacht, a luxurious ferry or a rubber speed boat used by those who love adventures. This includes getting close to the caves, standing under the mountain falls the most famous of which is the “whisky falls”. The captain of the boat told us that it was named after a fugitive wine merchant hunted by the police and living in a remote and hard to access cave. When the sheriff got to him he poured all his wine in the falls which later acquired its current name.

Many enjoy hours long walking trips to the top of the cliffs to see the fjord from above where they compete to take the most stunning pictures and sit down to contemplate and take in the fresh and clean air.



The famous Karl Johans Gate street in Oslo which leads to the royal palace.



The exquisite Norwegian nature.



The Nobel Peace Center in Oslo.



The Pulpit rock where visitors contemplate the beauty of the "fjord" from above.



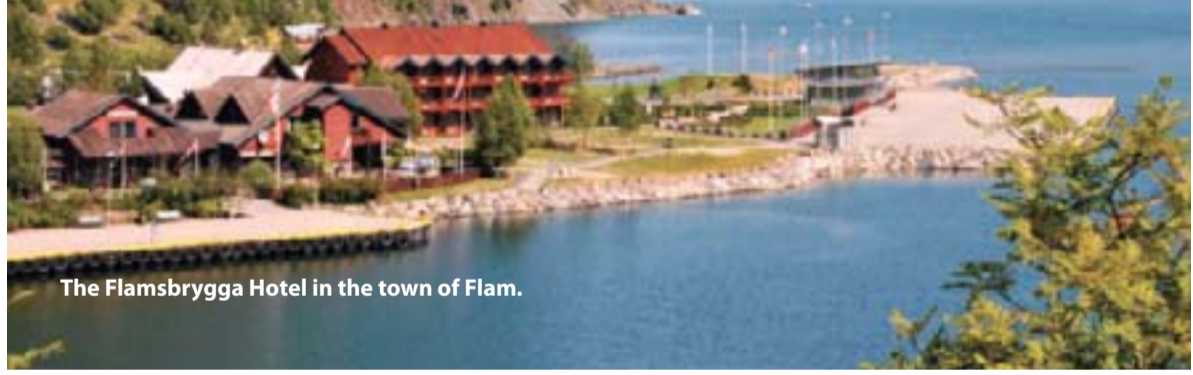
The Troll Tongue rock.



The Kjerag rock.



The Flamsbrygga Hotel in the town of Flam.



Stavanger is also famous for its old quarter adjoining the harbor where large ships bring tourists to wander through it and visit its houses and the "canning museum". On the margins of our Stavanger visit we went to two special hotels, the first was the "Sola Strand Hotel" located on a sandy beach on the north sea where the most beautiful surfing competitions in Europe are held, and the "Hummeren" located at a yachts berth and is famous for its sea food. The location of the two hotels with their surrounding countryside made them famous as two main stops for the visitors of Stavanger.

**Bergen ... the Seven Mountains City**  
A cruise trip lasting about 5 hours in sunny weather took us from Stavanger to Bergen, the second largest city in Norway which is called the "Seven Mountains City", during which we enjoyed along the length of the fjord the rich nature surround-

ing the towns along its banks. The beauty of the arrival by sea to the old Bergen is hard to describe. The city, which is over a thousand years old looks like a painted picture especially its harbor and the "Bryggen Bergen" buildings built with hard wood and included on the UNESCO world heritage list. It was built in 1702 and its

wood foundations undergo maintenance work every 50-60 years to preserve them.

The nicest activity in Bergen is ascending to the top of the city by train to see it from above, walk and take stunning pictures, before coming back to wander through the old city and its markets before taking some rest in one of the cafes overlooking the harbor.

Bergen has a buzzing night life and Arab restaurants. A tourist guide can be helpful in visiting and enjoying its landmarks.

**To 'Flam' in the most popular tourist tour in Norway**

"Norway in Nutshell" is the most famous tourist tour in Norway, moving by train from Bergen to Voss and from there by bus through deep valleys to Gudvangen with its berth and the boats of the Vikings who inhabited the country in the past, and from there, with the wonderful scene of the embrace of the sky and the fjord, a ferry trip in the "Naer fjord", which is also included in the UNESCO world heritage list, to the town of Flam.

Flam is a small town with a marina for ships and large yachts, two hotels one of them is the Flamsbrygga with its traditional design which offers the guest the original Norwegian experience.

Flam is an ideal place for recreation and calm. A railway station at the bank of the marina would take the visitor back in a 5-hour trip to Oslo via Myrdal, with the train making stops along the way to provide the passengers with the chance to take pictures of beautiful natural sights the most famous of which is

**Team of the trip**



The trip team hosted by the Turkish Airlines staff members: Cem Ongen, Sinan Dilek and Melike Gundogdu in the Lofoten restaurant in Oslo.

the "Kjosfossen" sweet water falls.

In brief, Norway is a hymn for beauty played by the sea, sung by the mountains and enjoyed by the visitor as one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

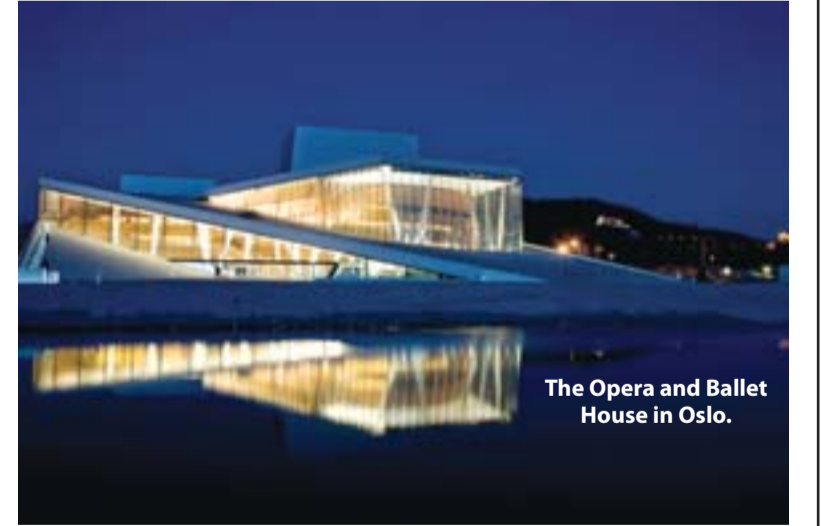
go back to the period between 1880 and 1930. As indicated by its name, the museum shows the history of the canning, fish balls, salted and smoked sardines industry which fed the populations of the country and Europe and which Norway was famous for. The museum also features a lounge that screens historical films about this industry and a shop selling souvenirs.

**The Canning Museum**

One of the useful stops in the city of Stavanger is the visit to the "Canning Museum" whose displays



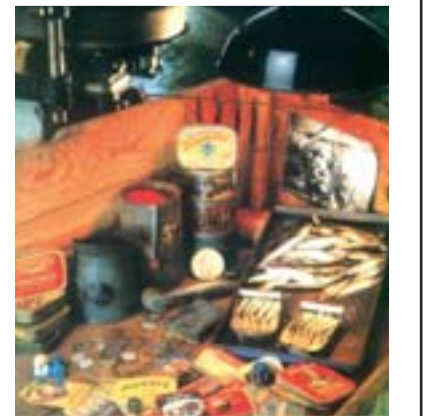
The Hummeren hotel and restaurant overlooking the beautiful Yachts marina near Stavanger.



The Opera and Ballet House in Oslo.



The museum director Piers Crocker.



The canning industry is a traditional profession in Norway.



Models present creations for fashion house Jil Sander during the Men and Women's Spring/Summer 2018 fashion shows in Milan. — AP/AFP photos



# Fly away with Trussardi in Milan

Trussardi, one of Italy's oldest fashion houses, wants to fly you away with a collection unveiled yesterday that had plenty of abstract aeroplane motifs, clothes that billowed like parachutes and even a few reimagined pilot jumpsuits. In her notes on the Spring/Summer 2018 designs shown in Milan, creative lead Gaia Trussardi, said the suits "are inspired by the free and enterprising spirit of great female travellers like Amelia Earhart". Never mind that things didn't work out so well for the American aviator. She and her co-pilot vanished eight decades ago over the Pacific while trying to fly around the world.

Trussardi's clothes had lots of silk, straps and belts. Abstract aeroplane silhouettes showed up on suits for men, who are increasingly common on what was once a fashion week reserved for women. Some half-a-dozen houses will show co-ed collections over the six-day marathon on Milan. There were also flat platform sandals with straps and gold buckles as well as plenty of high heels with straps that wrap around the ankles. The journey was a big inspiration for Trussardi, but so

was the destination. Flower prints, like the flora of a tropical locale, made their way on to the clothes as did the perhaps less welcome fauna of what appeared to be snakeskin.

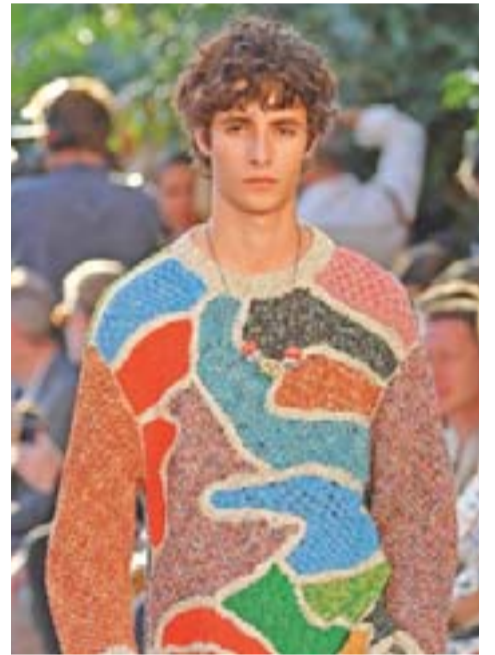
True to its roots—the house started in 1911 as a glove manufacturer—Trussardi showed off new accessories. The Gita bag has leather trim, a compact shape and details that bring to mind the labels and tags that accumulate on a well-travelled bag.

### Jil Sander offers 'purity' antidote to Milan runway flash

The models sent down a spare outdoor runway on Saturday by the new creative leads at minimalist label Jil Sander were wearing white and flowing garb like that of a mystic, offering an antidote to the Milan fashion week flash. Husband and wife duo Luke and Lucie Meier's first show at the creative helm of the German-founded house also featured oversized suits and coats with none of the season's obsession with sequins and exotic prints. The designs were an embrace of "purity... we're not interested in excess at all," Canadian Luke Meier told reporters backstage after the show.

"I don't think we do it from the perspective of what is going on (in fashion). We do it from the perspective of what we like and what we feel is right at the moment." There was also a suggestion of innocence in the designs, with a handbag made to look like a school boy's books wrapped in a leather strap, and suits big enough to look like adult clothes on children playing dress up.

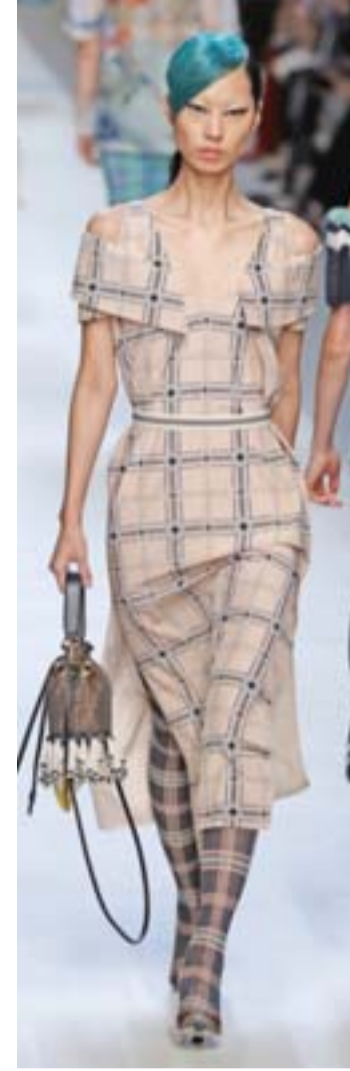
The Meiers, a rare married duo of co-directors, come from Dior for her and Paris-based menswear brand OAMC via iconic streetwear label Supreme for him. "Lucie and I work together very naturally," Meier told Vogue in June of his Swiss-born wife. "We have had an open dialogue about the approach to design for over 15 years and have often spoken of working together one day."



Models present creations for fashion house Missoni during the Men and Women's Spring/Summer 2018 fashion shows in Milan.



Models present creations for fashion house Fendi during the Women's Spring/Summer 2018 fashion shows in Milan.



**Angela Missoni shows feather-light sheer knits in Milan**  
It's a season of celebration and commemoration at Milan Fashion Week, in its fourth day Saturday. Angela Missoni marks 20 years as creative director at the family-owned and -run brand founded by her parents. Donatella Versace made an emotional tribute to her brother, fashion house creator Gianni Versace, to honor his contributions to the fashion world and his vision of female empowerment 20 years after he was slain. And Vogue Italia feted its new editor, Emanuele Farneti, with the party of the week inside a former customs station.



**Bottega Veneta 'in da club' at Milan fashion week**  
Italian fashion house Bottega Veneta had Hollywood star Lauren Hutton bobbing her head to hip-hop on Saturday as it showed off a playful, nightclub-ready collection heavy on jewels, mirrors and fringe. The venerable Venetian outfit transformed a warren of rooms and halls at the 19th century Palazzo Archinto-now a school-into a sprawling runway at Milan fashion week. The co-ed Spring/Summer 2018 collection featured airy shirt-dresses, fringe strung with tiny glass beads and several slinky floor-length dresses covered in rhinestones. Kardashian mum Kris Jenner was front and centre, watching her daughter Kendall pass in a geometric-pattern swimsuit and shiny trench coat. Superstar Bella Hadid was on the runway too, after shows for Fendi and Moschino.



**The Missoni superwoman**  
Angela Missoni's collection marking her 20th anniversary as creative director at her family's fashion house featured feather-light, often sheer, knits for a sleek silhouette. Nothing projected power more than the matching knit bodysuits and superhero-style capes. While Missoni may be most popularly associated with the zig-zag knit, the runway collection made amply clear the variety of patterns: vertical stripes, pretty

eyelets, color-blocking, brand historic jacquards and even a Marilyn Monroe knit based on the Andy Warhol painting. Colors started off in pale shades and got gradually stronger until they darkened to black. The spring-summer womenswear collection also featured hot pants, leggings and gauchos along with pretty summer dresses with 1950-style skirts or halter tops. Big sun hats with arching brims added drama to the



looks, especially when paired with long, clinging sheer knits. "These are the lightest knits I have ever made," the designer said backstage. For the first time, Missoni also included menswear alongside the women's looks, pairing sleeveless sunrise pattern knitwear with trousers, or a sunset pattern jacket with shorts. Scarves finished many of the men's looks. This has been a big week for Missoni. She was honored earlier by

amfAR for her contributions to raising money for AIDS research. And Sunday night, she hosts party for 900 to mark two decades since she took the creative reins from her mother, Rosita. Formula 1 driver Lewis Hamilton was among those attending the runway show, held in a former factory yard under a tent of colorful foulards designed by American artist Rachel Hayes. — Agencies



Models present creations for fashion house Trussardi during the Women's Spring/Summer 2018 fashion shows in Milan.



# Lifestyle

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2017

Fly away with Trussardi in Milan

30



A woman takes a photo of the Forbidden City model made of Lego bricks on display at the Royal Modern Household Exhibition after it was opened by Danish Crown Prince Frederik at the Danish Cultural Center in 798 art district in Beijing, Saturday. — AP

## Chinese vase sells for 10,000 times estimated price in Geneva



A vendor organizes rice paper for sale at a market in Can Tho, in the Mekong Delta. — AFP photos



Ha Thi Sau (top) pours a rice and sesame mixture onto a hot fire stove as her 16-year-old daughter Dang Thi Bich Thien (bottom) rolls rice paper onto a mat for drying at their home in Thuan Hung Village in the Mekong Delta.

### Vietnam rice paper artisans roll with tradition



A dish holds rice paper rolls filled with sugar at a home in Thuan Hung Village in the Mekong Delta.

Stuffed, rolled, baked or fried: rice paper rules in food-obsessed Vietnam, where diners have spurned factory-made versions for homespun ones, propping up a thriving cottage industry in the Mekong Delta. They're a staple on dinner tables from north to south, eaten fresh with fish, fried with meat, or baked on an open flame and eaten like crackers—a popular bar snack. But regardless of how they're prepared, one thing most people in Vietnam agree on: homemade is always better.

"It's better than the factory version, try it, it's tastier," Nguyen Thi Hue told AFP, offering a baked coconut version at her roadside snack stop in southern Can Tho province. She sources her 'banh trang' in nearby Thuan Hung village, known for producing some of

the finest in the Mekong Delta, long renowned as the "rice bowl of Vietnam". Some families earn a living making rice paper, even as factories have popped up producing creative flavors like salted shrimp, coconut or versions made with the notoriously potent durian fruit.

"Customers prefer those produced hand-made in the village. We don't use chemicals, they're just natural," said 26-year-old Bui Minh Phi, a third-generation rice paper maker in Thuan Hung. He can earn \$65 per day spinning the trade, or double that during the busy lunar new year period. It's a common sentiment in Vietnam, where many diners eschew fast food joints for home-style restaurants serving pho noodle soup or banh mi sandwiches like their grandmothers might

have made it. Rice paper making is a matter of family heritage for many like Ha Thi Sau. On a recent morning in Thuan Hung, she tutored her daughter on the age-old technique she learned from her aunt: pour the sweetened batter—a secret family recipe—onto a pan, before transferring to a bamboo mat.

The operation remains a family affair: Sau's son-in-law feeds the fire with rice husks, while her 83-year-old mother washes dishes on the river bank. Though other jobs are available in her village—once a rural backwater now dotted with modern cafes and mobile phone shops—she doesn't dream of abandoning her trade. "I've been making rice paper for so long, I don't want to leave it for another job," she said, as the scent of coconut wafted in the air. — AFP



Ha Thi Sau pours a rice and sesame mixture onto a hot fire stove as she makes rice paper at their home in Thuan Hung Village in the Mekong Delta.



Ha Thi Sau collects damaged rice paper from a palm tray at their home in Thuan Hung Village in the Mekong Delta.

A Chinese vase valued between 500 and 800 Swiss francs has sold for a record five million Swiss francs, a Geneva auction house said. According to the catalogue, the vase, which is 60 centimeters (23 inches) tall and depicts three blue dragons on a yellow background, is from the 20th century but it bears an unverified mark from the 18th century Qianlong era. There was a bidding battle at the auction on Thursday by two people who believed the vase was in fact from the 18th century. The auctioneer at the Geneva-Encheres auction house said the age of the vase was difficult to evaluate accurately and that they tended to be conservative in their estimates.

"This is the hammer price so with the commission added it is a total of 6.08 million Swiss francs (\$6.1 million, 5.1 million euros)," auctioneer Olivier Fichot told AFP. The final price was 10,000 times more than the catalogue estimate. The buyer, an amateur from Asia, was in the room for the auction, while his competitor bid by telephone. Fichot said that it was the highest bid ever made in Geneva outside of jewellery and watches. The auction house's previous record was a bronze Buddha statue that sold for 550,000 Swiss francs. — AFP



This picture show a Chinese vase valued between 500 and 800 Swiss francs that was sold for a record five million Swiss francs, the auction house said. — AFP