**ISSUE NO: 17696** 





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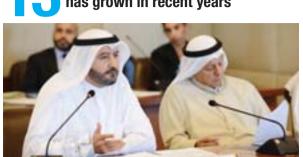
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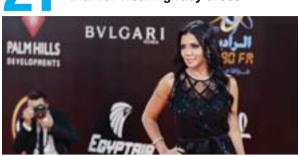




Use of KFH e-channels has grown in recent years



Egyptian film star to face trial for wearing racy dress







# Kuwait leads tributes to former US president George HW Bush

Amir, top state officials mourn death of Kuwait's liberation hero

**US Embassy statement** 

# **Condolences for George HW Bush**

KUWAIT: We regret to announce the passing of former US President George HW Bush on Nov 30, 2018, in the United States, at 94 years of age. US Ambassador to Kuwait Lawrence Silverman and the entire staff of the US Embassy express their deepest condolences to the family of former President Bush. The Embassy will open a condolence book for all those would like to visit the Embassy to express their sympathies and honor his memory. The book will be open beginning on Sunday, Dec 2, from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Monday, Dec 3 from 10 am to 2 pm and Tuesday, Dec 4, 10 am to 2 pm.

President George HW Bush dedicated his life to serving his country and the American public in the military, in domestic politics and foreign affairs. He was truly a "point of light" who inspired others to public service. He was a devoted husband and dedicated father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Sworn in as the 41st President of the United States on Jan 20, 1989, George Herbert Walker Bush helped usher in a more hopeful geopolitical era marked by the spread of freedom.

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KUWAIT/WASHINGTON: Kuwait paid tribute to former US president George HW Bush yesterday, saying his support during the first Gulf War "will not be forgotten". Bush, who helped steer America through the end of the Cold War, died Friday at age 94, his family announced. Kuwaitis have long expressed their gratitude to the late 41st president for backing the state following Iraq's 1990 invasion. In the wake of the war, many stuck bumper stickers on their cars of Bush standing in front of an American flag, and a few even named their children after him.

In a letter to US President Donald Trump, HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah praised Bush's

#### **SEE PAGES 2 & 3**

"historic and courageous stance... and his rejection of Iraq's occupation of Kuwait from the early hours", including the decisive decisions taken by the American administration under the leadership of Bush and his pivotal role in forming an international coalition mandated by the UN to liberate Kuwait. His support "will remain in Kuwait's collective memory and will not be forgotten," he added. "On behalf of the Kuwaiti government and people, I express my deepest condolences and utmost sympathy."

HH the Amir sent similar cables of condolences to President George W Bush, the 43rd President of the United States of America, and the deceased president's family. HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah sent similar cables to Trump. First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah also sent cables of

Continued on Page 24



KUWAIT: A man gestures between Kuwaiti and American flags as the Kuwait Towers are lit up with images of former Ut president George HW Bush yesterday.— Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

# Mine blast wounds motorist; 761 rain damage claims filed

KUWAIT: A landmine blew up in Jraishan in northern Kuwait yesterday, injuring the Kuwaiti driver of a vehicle and setting it ablaze, the interior ministry said in a statement. The injured citizen was taken to hospital for treatment. The ministry has received over the past days many reports about unfamiliar objects, suspected to be abandoned military ordnance, the statement said, adding that experts were

immediately dispatched to the locations and "tackled them". The ministry urged citizens and residents to call 112 if they find unfamiliar objects. The ministry, along with other Kuwaiti authorities, has repeatedly urged for caution after recent torrential rain swamped many areas and caused sand drifting, uncovering military ordnance including mines.

Most of the ordnance, located on Kuwaiti territories, were left behind by the Iraqi troops that invaded

Kuwait in August 1990, starting a seven-month occupation of the country.

Meanwhile, compensation claims filed for rain damage reached 761 cases, including real estate, vehicles and furniture loss claims, Minister of Social Affair and Labor and Minister of State for Economic Affairs Hind Al-Sabeeh announced yesterday. She added in press remarks that the process of receiving people affected by the heavy rains is well organized at the compensations committee headquarters in Shamiya.

The committee gives priority to Kuwaitis and to those with damaged houses and vehicles, Sabeeh said. She denied offering any financial compensation to the affected people yet, indicating that this stage is only for receiving inquires and checking that they meet all requirements and are in accordance with the legal procedures followed. The government is giving the matter extra care, making sure to offer victims suitable payments that cover the damage they suffered. This committee will ensure justice towards the compensation demands, assuring those who incurred losses due to the recent deluge that they would receive an appropriate recompense. — KUNA

# Qout Market slams 'arbitrary' closure by Municipality

By A Saleh

KUWAIT: The Municipality yesterday shut down the locally-developed Qout Market minutes before its opening in the parking lot of Discovery Mall in Kuwait City. Organizers of the market said the Municipality's actions were "arbitrary", adding that they didn't receive any warnings prior to the closure. "To explain, there is no license for outdoor markets in Kuwaiti law. Every year we go to see the head of Kuwait Municipality and have a conversation," said

Qout Market founders Budour Al-Qassar and Noaf Hussein in a statement published on social media.

"We have been trying to get the government to add a new license for Saturday markets, and almost succeeded last year with (Minister of Commerce and Industry) Khaled Al-Roudhan. We literally wrote the law. Then they dropped it. So for this year, we wrote our usual letter to the head of Kuwait Municipality and were told as usual they would turn a blind eye," they added.

Municipality Director Ahmad Al-Manfouhi released a statement in which he explained that the decision to close the market came because it "violated municipal bylaws and safety conditions". However, the organizers believe that the decision was personal. "They must have known Manfouhi does not answer his phone on weekends and we would not be able to get through to him," they said in their statement. "They came prepared, and they came on market day instead of the night before to make sure they caused as much damage and humiliation as possible."

Continued on Page 24

# French police clash with 'yellow vest' protesters

PARIS: Police and anti-government protesters clashed near the Champs-Elysees and in other parts of central Paris yesterday with demonstrators hurling rocks and paint at riot police who responded with tear gas. The clashes came as thousands took part in a third weekend of "yellow vest" protests

which have morphed from anger over fuel taxes into a broader anti-government movement. Crowds of protesters gathering at the Arc de Triomphe earlier found the Champs-Elysees locked down with police manning barricades and water cannon.

Continued on Page 24



PARIS: Demonstrators destroy a car during a protest by "yellow vests" against rising oil prices and living costs on the Champs-Elysees yesterday. — AFP

## Iran launches stealth warship in the Gulf

**DUBAI:** Iran's navy yesterday launched a domestically made destroyer, which state media said has radar-evading stealth properties, as tensions rise with archenemy the United States. In a ceremony carried live on state television, the Sahand destroyer - which can sustain voyages lasting five months without resupply - joined Iran's regular navy at a base in Bandar Abbas on the Gulf. The Sahand has a flight deck for helicopters, torpedo launchers, anti-aircraft and anti-ship guns, surface-to-surface and surface-to-air missiles and electronic warfare capabilities, state television reported.

US President Donald Trump pulled out of an international agreement on Iran's nuclear program in May and reimposed sanctions on Tehran. He said the deal was flawed because it did not include curbs on Iran's development of ballistic missiles or its support for proxies in Syria, Yemen, Lebanon and Iraq. The United States has said its goal is to reduce Iran's oil exports to zero. Senior Iranian officials have said that if Iran is not allowed to export then no other countries will be allowed to export oil through the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

"This vessel is the result of daring and creative design relying on the local technical knowledge of the Iranian Navy... and has been built with stealth capabilities," Rear-Admiral Alireza Sheikhi, head of the navy shipyards that built the destroyer, told the state news agency IRNA.

Continued on Page 24

# Qatari female 'pioneers' bask in filmmaking spotlight

**DOHA:** As Qatari filmmakers gathered on the red carpet at Doha's Ajyal Film Festival one thing stood out - the majority of local directors are women. "I think this is a question that everyone is mesmerized by: the idea that we have more women in filmmaking here in Doha than men," said festival director Fatma Al-Remaihi. Among those showing movies at the annual six-day festival were Aisha Al-Shammakh, Nouf Al-Sulaiti and the rising star of Qatari cinema, Amal Al-Muftah.

Their films focus on a variety of subjects, from "maligned" Qatari millennials and father-daughter relationships

Continued on Page 24



DOHA: This image grab taken from a handout video on Nov 27, 2018 shows Qatari film director Amal Al-Muftah (left) speaking with actresses on-set during the filming of a short film at an undisclosed location. — AFP

### Obituary

# Bush's single White House term shaped US history for decades

# Bush ousts Iraqi forces from Kuwait

WASHINGTON: He was president for only four years, but George HW Bush shaped US history for decades, taking on tough jobs from Beijing to the CIA, ousting Iraqi forces from Kuwait, sealing a breakthrough budget deal that cost him an election and fathering a future president. He died on Friday at the age of 94, his family said. His passing came seven months after the April 17, 2018, death of his wife, Barbara, to whom he was married for 73 years.

His presidency, which ran from 1989 to 1993, was defined by two events - his aggressive response to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in 1990, and the soon-to-be-broken "read my lips" pledge he made not to raise taxes while running for president in 1988. At a time when the Cold War was ending and the influence of Soviet-style communism was withering, Bush's military and diplomatic actions firmly cast the United States as the world's leading superpower.

After Bush emphatically said Saddam's aggression "will not stand," US-led forces routed Iraq's army in the Gulf War, driving it from Kuwait while stopping short of taking Baghdad, Iraq's capital. Bush's popularity rating among Americans soared to about 90 percent. Twenty months later, in 1992, the Republican Bush lost his bid for re-election to Democrat Bill Clinton, whose folksy manner and focus on the economy struck a chord with many Americans and made Bush seem disconnected from voters for focusing on foreign policy over domestic issues.

Despite a broad coalition that included several Arab states, US involvement in the Gulf War was seen as a violation of Arab sovereignty by some in the Middle East, and led a few militant groups namely Osama bin Laden's recently formed Al-Qaeda - to turn their focus toward fighting US influence. A decade later, the presidency of Bush's son, George W Bush, would be jolted by Al-Qaeda's deadly hijacking attacks on the United States on Sept 11, 2001.

The Bushes were only the second father and son to serve as US presidents - the first being John Adams (1797-1801) and John Quincy Adams (1825-1829). The Bush political dynasty also included Bush's father, who was a US senator, and son Jeb, a former governor of Florida who mounted his own run for the presidency in 2015 but dropped out in February 2016 after gaining little traction. Bush did not endorse Republican Donald Trump, the eventual winner in the 2016 presidential election, who attacked both Jeb and George W Bush during his campaign. The elder Bush did not publicly say whom he voted for in the election, but a source told CNN he went for the Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton.

#### 'No new taxes'

George Herbert Walker Bush was a moderate Republican known for his diplomacy and ability to compromise with Democrats. He was a symbol of a relatively collegial period in Washington that nevertheless set the stage for the divisive, partisan gridlock that now plagues the U.S. capital.

When he accepted the Republican nomination for president in 1988, Bush, then Ronald Reagan's vice president, was trying to win over conservatives who had more enthusiasm for Reagan. He answered questions about his conservatism with an emphatic

pledge. "Read my lips," he told the Republican National Convention. "No new taxes."

Later as president, Bush agreed to raise taxes to help reduce the government's deficit. The reversal angered conservatives and led in 1992 to an unusual primary challenge of the incumbent president by another Republican, conservative commentator Pat Buchanan. Bush easily defeated Buchanan for the Republican nomination, but his stance on taxes, the country's debt and the lagging economy led Texas billionaire Ross Perot to launch an independent presidential campaign.

Clinton ended up winning the race with just 43 percent of the popular vote, ousting Bush from the White House after one term. Bush's loss in the 1992 election made him a cautionary tale for a generation of Republicans, a lesson that endures in today's showdowns over the federal budget and spending. Years later, in 2014, Bush was honored with the Profile in Courage Award for his 1990 budget compromise by the John F. Kennedy Library Foundation, which praised the "decision to put country above party and political prospects.'

In issuing the award for his compromise with



**Popularity** rating hits 90 percent

Democrats, the foundation wrote: "Although he recognized the 1990 budget deal might doom his prospects for reelection, he did what he thought was best for the country and has since been credited with helping to lay the foundation of the economic growth of the 1990s that followed." A major accomplishment of Bush's presidency can be seen every day across America - from the cut-away curbs on street intersections to the ramps outside buildings that allow access to those confined to wheelchairs.

They were mandated by the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act, the law Bush signed that barred discrimination against the disabled in the workplace and ensured them equal access to public accommodations. Bush backed the law despite concerns from some conservatives in his party about the cost and potential litigation.

#### A privileged upbringing

Bush was born on June 12, 1924, in Milton, the son of financier Prescott Bush, who later would be elected to the US Senate from Connecticut, and Dorothy Bush. He grew up in the posh New York City suburb of Greenwich, Connecticut, and was educated at exclusive private schools and Yale

Bush came to know war firsthand, leaving school at 18 to become the Navy's youngest pilot in World War Two. He flew 58 missions off carriers in the Pacific, was shot down at sea and rescued by a US submarine. As the war neared an end in January 1945, Bush married his sweetheart, Barbara Pierce. They had six children. After the war, Bush rejected a Wall Street job and, aided by his father's business connections, moved to West Texas to start an oil drilling firm. He made a fortune and began a rise to national prominence by winning elections to the US House of Representatives from Texas in 1966 and

He lost two races for a US Senate seat, but Bush's star continued to rise within the Republican Party. President Richard Nixon appointed him ambassador to the United Nations in 1971, and two years later, Bush became chairman of the Republican National Committee. Another Republican president, Gerald Ford, appointed him as an envoy to China in 1974 and then director of the CIA. Bush was credited with helping to restore morale after the CIA had undergone investigations into illegal and unauthorized activities. In 1998, the agency's headquarters in Langley, Virginia, was named the George Bush Center for Intelligence.

#### 'Voodoo economics'

Bush ran for president in 1980 and squared off in the primaries against Reagan, a former actor and California governor who cast himself as a tough-talking conservative in contrast with Democratic President Jimmy Carter. Bush defeated Reagan in several primaries and ridiculed Reagan's devotion to supply-side economics, which holds that the best way to spur growth is through lower taxes on income and capital gains. Bush called Reagan's plan "voodoo economics." Reagan eventually swept aside Bush to win the Republican nomination and then asked Bush to be his vice presidential running mate, in part to help ease concerns among independent voters about Reagan's conservative views.

After Reagan's two terms, Bush was able to campaign for the presidency as the anointed heir to Reagan's conservative mantle. Even so, Bush sought to distinguish himself from the incumbent, and reach out to those who thought Reagan's policies had been too harsh on the poor and other vulnerable people. He famously called for a "kinder, gentler nation" in his 1988 speech accepting his party's nomination. He breezed into office, thrashing the Democratic nominee, Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis, in 40 of the 50 US states. Bush had been derided by political detractors as a "wimp" when he was vice president, but he did not hesitate to use force as a foreign policy tool during his presidency.

He sent paratroopers to overthrow Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega in December 1989 and provided air cover to help Philippine the same year. Then came Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2, 1990. Bush's strong response and the overwhelming allied victory in forcing out Iraqi troops led for a time to a national euphoria. The war against Saddam pushed Bush to a level of unprecedented popularity that was equaled only by his son after the 9/11 attacks on America. A decade later, the younger Bush would invade Iraq and drive Saddam from power.



KENNEBUNKPORT: In this file photo, US President George W Bush (right front) waves as he fishes with his father, former US President George HW Bush (left), and his brother, Marvin Bush (right back) in Kennebunkport, ME. —AFP



endorsement for Bush as the next president of the United States. —AFP

#### "The vision thing'

Beyond the flap over his raising taxes and the impact of Perot's candidacy, Bush's 1992 loss was tied to a stagnant economy that sent the US jobless rate to 7.5 percent and left Bush open to charges that Republican policies had failed. Critics cited Bush's lack of a clear vision of what he wanted to do on domestic issues - what he called the "vision thing" in his oft-fractured phrasing. Some political analysts said Bush's re-election effort was undermined by his decision not to take advantage of his popularity after the Gulf War to propose bold domestic initiatives. "There was a period of about two weeks when we could have done anything. But it slipped away," said a mid-level aide who had argued in favor of bold, postwar programs. His lone postwar initiative was an international one. —Reuters

# **Tributes for former US** president Bush

**WASHINGTON:** Tributes have poured for former US president George HW Bush following his death on Friday at the age of 94. Here are excerpts of messages from the worlds of politics, business and Hollywood:

#### 'Best dad'

"George HW Bush was a man of the highest character and the best dad a son or daughter could ask for." - His son, former president George W Bush

#### 'Faith, family and country'

"Through his essential authenticity, disarming wit, and unwavering commitment to faith, family, and country, President Bush inspired generations of his fellow Americans to public service."- US President Donald Trump

#### An unlikely friendship

"I am profoundly grateful for every minute I spent with President Bush and will always hold our friendship as one of my life's greatest gifts." -Former US president Bill Clinton, who defeated Bush in the 1992 election

#### 'True partner'

"We had the chance to work together during the time of enormous changes. And this was a dramatic time which called for huge responsibility from everyone. The result was the end of the Cold War and the arms race... He was a true partner." - Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev

#### 'Noble, joyous calling'

"George HW Bush's life is a testament to the notion that public service is a noble, joyous calling. (...) It's a legacy of service that may never be matched, even though he'd want all of us to try." -Former US president Barack Obama

#### 'Example to us all'

"President George HW Bush's ethos of public service was the guiding thread of his life and an example to us all. (...) Today Britain remembers a great statesman and a true friend of our country." -British Prime Minister Theresa May

#### 'Lifelong friend'

"I feel privileged to have worked with him, and even more privileged that he became a lifelong friend. He was, quite simply, one of the most deep down decent people I have ever known." -Former British prime minister John Major

# Bush - One-term president helmed political dynasty

WASHINGTON: George HW Bush-the upper-crust war hero-turned-oilman and diplomat who steered America through the end of the Cold War as president and led a political dynasty that saw his son win the White House-died at his Texas home on Friday. He was 94. The 41st American president was a foreign policy realist who navigated the turbulent end of the Cold War, from the revolutions against communist rule in eastern Europe in 1989 through the largely peaceful fall of the Soviet Union, which broke up in 1991. He assembled an unprecedented coalition to defeat Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein two years later.

But the decorated war pilot and former CIA chief suffered the ignominy of being a one-term president, denied a second term over a weak economy when he lost the 1992 election to upstart Democrat Bill Clinton. His favoring of stability and international consensus stands in sharp contrast to the provocative bluster of fellow Republican and current White House occupant Donald Trump, a man whom Bush did not vote for in 2016. Bush presided over economic malaise at home, and infuriated his fellow Republicans during a budget battle with rival Democrats by famously breaking his vow: "Read my Lips: No new taxes."

But he was the respected patriarch of a blue-blood political dynasty-son George spent eight years in the White House, and son Jeb served as governor of Florida. George W Bush called his father a "man of the highest character and the best dad a son or daughter could ask for," in a statement announcing his death. Bush's passing comes just months after the death in April of his wife and revered first lady Barbara Bush-his 'most beloved woman in the world"-to whom he was married for 73 years. At the time of his death, Bush was the American president to have lived the longest. Jimmy Carter was born a w months later, so he could quickly reset the record.

#### War, oil, politics

George Herbert Walker Bush was born on June 12, 1924 in Milton, Massachusetts into a wealthy New England political dynasty-the son of Prescott Bush, a successful banker and US senator for Connecticut. Bush had a pampered upbringing and attended the prestigious Phillips Academy in Andover, but delayed his acceptance to Yale University in order to enlist in the US Navy on his 18th birthday and head off to war. He flew 58 combat missions during World War II. Shot down over the Pacific by Japanese anti-aircraft fire, he parachuted out and was rescued by a submarine after huddling in a life raft for four hours while enemy forces circled.

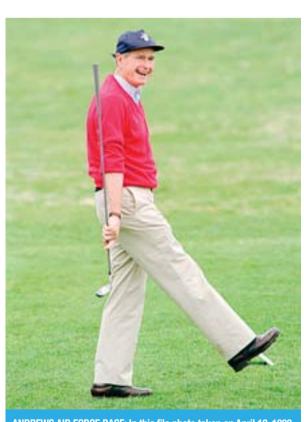
Bush married Barbara Pierce in January 1945, shortly



FLORIDA: In this file photo taken on November 14, 1988 President elect George HW Bush is smashed by a wave while fishing in back of the home of William Farish in Florida.—AFP

before the war ended, and the couple went on to have six children, including one, Robin, who died as a child. Instead of joining his father in banking upon graduation from Yale, Bush headed to bleak west Texas to break into the rough-and-tumble oil business. He surprised many with his success, and by 1958 had settled in Houston as president of an offshore drilling company. In the 1960s, Bush, now independently wealthy, turned to politics. He was a local Republican Party chairman, and in 1966 won a seat in the US House of Representatives. He served there until 1970, when he lost a

Over the next decade, he held several high-level posts that took him and Barbara around the world: head of the Republican National Committee, US ambassador to the United Nations, envoy to China and director of the Central Intelligence Agency, where he was praised for restoring morale after revelations of widespread illegal activity. He served as vice president to Ronald Reagan after losing to him in the 1980 Republican primary, an eight-year period of hands-on training for the top post he would go on to win by a solid margin in 1988, as the Cold War was coming to an end.



ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE: In this file photo taken on April 12, 1992 US President George HW Bush acknowledges the cheers of a crowd after teeing off the Andrews Air Force Base Golfe Course. —AFP

#### 'This will not stand'

In a major test of the post-Cold War order, Saddam's million-man army invaded Kuwait in 1990 and looked set to roll into Saudi Arabia, which would have given the Iraqi strongman more than 40 percent of the world's oil reserves. Bush famously vowed: "This will not stand, this aggression against Kuwait." He assembled a coalition of 32 nations to drive Iraqi forces out in a matter of weeks with a lightning air and ground assault.

Some 425,000 US troops backed by 118,000 allied soldiers took part in Operation Desert Storm, decimating Saddam's military machine without ousting him from power-a task that would be accomplished 12 years later by Bush's son. Buoyed by his victory in the Gulf, Bush and his hard-nosed and widely respected secretary of state James Baker cobbled together the 1991 Madrid Conference to launch the Arab-Israeli peace process. The conference was mainly symbolic, but it set the stage for the Oslo Accords two years later. In late 1989, Bush sent US troops to Panama to oust strongman Manuel Noriega. He also set the groundwork for the North American Free Trade Agreement. —AFP

# Kuwaitis recollect George HW Bush's great contributions in liberating their country

## Late President's message on February 26, 1991 instilled in Kuwaitis' heart



Kuwait's late Amir Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah awards the Order of Mubarak the Great to former US President George HW Bush in 1993.



Former US President George HW Bush (right) speaks in the White House in 1991 as Kuwait's late Amir Sheikh Jabel Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah (left) and Kuwait's ambassador to the US Sheikh Saud Nasser Al-Sabah look on.

**KUWAIT:** When the name of former US President George HW Bush is mentioned, Kuwaitis recollect his great contributions to liberating their homeland from the 1990-91 Iraqi invasion and his determination to expel the invading forces and restore legitimacy to their country. With the demise of this personality that has had a great impact on the march of Kuwait and the lives of Kuwaitis at the age of 94 years, the biography of a man who made firm decisions in the history of the United States has had important effects on the march of Kuwait, its history and the Arab Gulf and the Middle East. The entire world recalls the decision made by the late President on January 16, 1991, to launch an international air strike against Iraqi forces to liberate Kuwait after the United Nations and the rest of the world exhausted their efforts to persuade the invading forces to withdraw voluntarily from

Kuwait. In implementation of that resolution and in pursuance of the Security Council resolution of 29 November, 1990 by 12 votes to two, with one abstention permitting the use of force if Iraq does not withdraw from Kuwait by January 15, 1991, coalition forces have struck Iraqi forces to force them to withdraw by force. The Kuwaitis also recall when late president addressed the US Congress. American people and the world on February 26, 1991 in the presence of Kuwait's ambassador to the United States of America at the time, Sheikh Saud Nasser Al-Sabah, with a historical message which was instilled in their hearts that Kuwait had become completely free of invading forces.

On January 30, 1991, the International Coalition forces launched a ground offensive on Iraqi targets inside Kuwait for 15 continuous hours, while the late US president

announced on February 23, 1991 that Baghdad would be given a chance to withdraw its troops from Kuwait without conditions, but Iraq rejected all these conditions, thus, forcing Bush on February 24, 1991 to give the green light to coalition commander General Norman Schwarzkopf to launch a ground offensive to liberate Kuwait.

President Bush had made numerous contacts with the countries concerned to find a peaceful solution to liberate Kuwait and to persuade the invading forces to withdraw, but all the attempts of the late President and other heads of brotherly and friendly countries, as well as the efforts of the United Nations, were met with an insurmountable block of defiance and stubbornness by the invading forces and with a sense of superiority over all peaceful efforts. After exhausting most of the peaceful solutions, the late president began

his decisions to force invading troops to withdraw by sending US ground, sea and air forces on November 6, 1990, estimated at 200,000 troops.

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said in a cable of condolences to US President Donald Trump, that he recalled the deceased's honorable and courageous attitudes towards Kuwait and his rejection of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait from the early hours. He also recalled the crucial decisions made by the American administration under the leadership of the late president and his pivotal role in forming the international coalition with the mandate of the United Nations to liberate the State of Kuwait until it was liberated. His Highness said that these positions will remain in the memory of the people of Kuwait and will not be forgotten. — KÜNA



**George HW Bush** 



and First Lady Barbara Bush shake hands with members of the crowd at a 'Bush/Quayle 92' rally on the steps of the Mississippi State Capitol.











President George HW Bush (R) on the White House South Lawn.



In this file photo taken on November 19, 1992 US President George HW Bush waves to well-wishers while boarding Marine One for a weekend at the presidential retreat in Camp David, Maryland.



In this file photo taken on September 25, 2008 Former President George HW Bush waves as he arrives at the White House to participate in US President George W Bush's signing of S 3406, the ADA (Americans With Disabilities) Amendments Act of 2008, at the White House in Washington, DC.

## **George HW Bush in 10 dates**

WASHINGTON: Here are 10 key dates in the life of George HW Bush, the 41st president of the United States who died Friday at the age of 94:

• June 12, 1924: George Herbert Walker Bush is born in Milton, Massachusetts

• June 12, 1942: Bush enlists in the US Navy on his 18th birthday, and becomes its youngest pilot, flying 58 combat missions in a torpedo bomber during World War II. He is shot down over the Pacific and rescued at sea

• January 6, 1945: Following his discharge from the Navy, Bush marries Barbara Pierce. They have six children: George Walker, Robin (who died at the age of four), John (also known as Jeb), Neil, Marvin and

• 1953: Bush co-founds the Zapata Petroleum

• 1967-1971: Serves as a Republican member of the US House of Representatives from Texas for two

• 1971-1973: Serves as US ambassador to the

United Nations • 1976-1977: Serves as director of the Central

Intelligence Agency • 1981-1989: Serves as US vice president under Ronald Reagan, whom Bush had opposed for the

Republican presidential nomination in 1980 • 1989-1993: Serves as US president. In August 1990, Bush leads an international coalition to counter Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait and liberates the country in February 1991 with Operation Desert

• 1992: Bush loses his bid for a second term as president to Democrat Bill Clinton —AFP

## Local Sunday, December 2, 2018

#### Photo of the Day



# Panel discusses temporary expropriations for public interest's bill

By A Saleh

**KUWAIT:** The parliament's financial affairs committee is scheduled to meet today with Finance Minister Nayef Al-Hajraf and Minister of Public Works and Municipal Affairs Hosam Al-Roumi to discuss a bill proposed by the government on temporary expropriations for public interest. The bill deals with confiscating individuals' private properties for public interest determined by the state after compensating the owners.

#### Free trade zone

The Fatwa and Legislation Department agreed to have the Nuwaiseeb free trade zone managed by a specialized foreign company after the responsibility of supervising free trade zones was shifted from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) to Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) as per Cabinet resolution number 412/2018 issued on March 23, 2018.

#### Referral retirement

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Anas Al-Saleh stressed that according to article 76 of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) charter, the CSC is not entitled to set additional conditions or regulations for referring public servants to retirement. Responding to an inquiry by MP Mohammad Al-Dallal, Saleh stressed that limiting CSC's liabilities had been set to allow relevant ministers apply whatever is suitable for public interest in terms of not letting go of experienced Kuwaiti workers.

# Kuwait fights local product: Fishermen union

By Meshaal Al-Enezi

KUWAIT: Kuwait Fishermen Union's Chairman Thaher Al-Suwayyan announced that fishing mullet will be suspended for seven months effective Dec 1, noting that the suspension will remain till the end of June 2019. Suwayyan also noted that fishermen are facing many challenges and that many of them are considering quitting their jobs because of the losses they suffered. "Is there a country that fights its local products the same way Kuwait does?" he asked, stressing that the abundance of local products are the only means of controlling prices and providing the local market with enough fish as one of the main resources to achieve food security in the country.



# Two injured in Sixth Ring Road accident

**KUWAIT:** Two injured citizens were taken to hospital following a traffic accident on Sixth Ring Road near industrial Jahra. Firemen rushed to the scene and worked hard to free a trapped man by using special equipment. The man was handed over to paramedics who rushed him to hospital. A case was filed to investi-

gate the cause of the accident.

Smuggling foiled

Abdaly customs officers foiled an truck driver's attempt to smuggle 24,000 illicit tablets he had stashed in the radiator and fan. The Egyptian driver was visibly nervous on arrival, so he and his truck were searched, and it took officers a while to discover the tablets. He along with the drugs was sent to the Drugs Control General Department.

#### Shuhada house fire

Firemen put out a fire in a Shuhada house. Mishref and Sabhan fire stations rushed to the house, evacuated it, and put out the blaze. No injuries were reported.

#### Suspected thief caught

Jahra detectives arrested a suspected thief in Sulaibiya despite resistance. He was found wanted by Ardhiya police station for various vehicle thefts, besides a three-year jail sentence. The arrest was made when detectives learned he was in his Sulaibiya home. The suspect is a Kuwaiti with a criminal record.

#### Beat up

Three Egyptians were taken to Khaitan police station for beating a compatriot over a dispute about the price of a mobile phone. Police received a call about the three beating the man, so police and medics went to the area and arrested the three, while the victim was taken to hospital. — Translated by Kuwait Times from Al-Rai

# Ahmadi launches rationalization campaign



By Hanan Al-Saadoun

**KUWAIT:** Ahmadi governorate launched its third rationalization campaign for power and water sustainability, which it organized with the long-term development project 'My Governorate is More Beautiful' in cooperation with the Ministry of

Electricity and Water (MEW) and the Ministry of Education (MOE). The event was held at Essa Al-Houly boys school in Egaila in the presence of governorate representative and Director of Government Relations Hamid Al-Ibrahim, Assistant Undersecretary for Water Operations and Maintenance at MEW Khaleefa Al-Furaij and

Assistant Undersecretary for the Facilities Sector at the Education Ministry Yaseen Al-Yaseen, as well as the mayors of Egaila Hazmi Al-Jallal and Fahd Al-Ahmad area Khalid Al-Ajmi. Ibrahim appreciated the effective role of MEW and its campaigns to urge citizens and expats to rationalize consumption and stop the wastage of power and water in the country.

# Kuwait reiterates support to global prohibition of chemical weapons

BRUSSELS: The State of Kuwait has once again stressed its support to the global prohibition of chemical weapons and to the activities of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical weapons (OPCW). This position was stated by Kuwait's Ambassador to the Netherlands and the Permanent Representative to OPCW, Abdurrahman Al-Otaibi, at the 23rd Session of the Conference of the States Parties of OPCW which concluded at the Hague recently.

"My delegation stresses the importance of the Organization and its role in achieving the noble goal of a world free of chemical weapons and urges those countries that have not acceded to the Convention to join them as soon as possible to achieve universality," Otaibi said. "In this regard, the State of Kuwait welcomes the accession of the State of Palestine to the Convention and the exercise of its full membership

as an active party in the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons," he said.

The Kuwaiti ambassador stressed that the Organization of Islamic conference (OIC) member states should refrain from political differences, not politicize the functions of the organization and focus on efforts of its objectives, the most important of which is the elimination and destruction of chemical weapons. Kuwait, he noted, was one of the first countries to condemn the use of chemical weapons in Syria as well as the Salisbury incident in the UK and called for the prosecution of those responsible for these crimes, whether they are states or people, and to bring them to trial. The Conference of the States Parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the review conference was held at the Hague from 19-30 November. — KUNA



Local
Sunday, December 2, 2018

# Gulf Bank reaffirmed commitment to INJAZ Al-Arab

# More than 230 Gulf Bank employees volunteered at different schools across Kuwait



Omar K Alghanim's keynote address during the INJAZ Al-Arab competition.

KUWAIT: Gulf Bank reaffirmed its commitment to supporting youth through its partnership with INJAZ Al-Arab. As a platinum sponsor, Gulf Bank was honored during the 12th Annual Young Arab Entrepreneurs Competition, which was held under the patronage of His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, represented to the Year' and 'S was presented to the Year' and Year' and

Khaled Al-Roudhan, last Wednesday.

The bank participated in the event with a group of top executives, led by Chairman of Gulf Bank Omar K Alghanim and CEO Tony Daher. More than 450 representatives from different government entities, private sector and educational institutions were also present at the event. Also attending the event were the Chairman of Alghanim Industries Kutayba Y Alghanim, Chairperson of INJAZ Al-Arab Hanadi Al-Thani, and CEO of Injaz Kuwait Laila Al-Mutairi.

sented by Minister of Commerce and Industry

This year's competition saw more than 80 students from 11 countries across the MENA region compete over 12 categories, including the 'Company



KUWAIT: (From left) Laila Hilal Al-Mutairi, Kutayba Y Alghaninm, Hanadi Al-Thani, and Omar K Alghanim with the Re-Al team from Kuwait.

of the Year' and 'Social Impact' award. Each award was presented to one high school and one university team by an esteemed judging panel.

The winners of the competition's highest title, Company of the Year, consisted of Nawa Company from Oman, and Contrive Company from Bahrain. The Kuwaiti team, Re-Al, also won two awards, including Product of the Year in the high school category.

#### Stellar program

Speaking at the award ceremony, Chairman of Gulf Bank and INJAZ Kuwait, Omar K Alghanim said: "I want to thank the INJAZ-Al Arab and INJAZ Kuwait teams for delivering another stellar program. It takes enormous care and commitment to do this and their impact is undeniable. I'm passionate about INJAZ, so as Chairman of Gulf Bank, I'm proud we are a Platinum Sponsor again this year. Gulf Bank provided nearly a quarter of the volunteers helping with INJAZ-Kuwait initiatives over the last year. Regionally, over three mil-

lion students have been through INJAZ programs, since its inception. That's incredible. That's making a difference."

Addressing the competing students during the ceremony, Alghanim added: "Young entrepreneurs represent the greatest asset society has. They question, they scrutinize, they problem-solve and they don't accept the status quo. I know how hard you have worked, and regardless of the competition results, you have already started your journey to success."

The bank continues to sponsor INJAZ Kuwait as part of its commitment to encourage and develop professional business skills amongst youth. To date, Gulf Bank has participated in four INJAZ Al-Arab programs, 47 INJAZ Kuwait Job Shadow Days, 69 INJAZ Kuwait Innovation Camps and 120 INJAZ Kuwait Entrepreneurship Master Class workshops. The bank's volunteers have positively impacted over 1,800 students. INJAZ Kuwait is a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of young business talent.

# Knowledge Club presents platform for leaders

KUWAIT: Vigor Events will conclude the Knowledge Club 2018 with a 1-day Conference titled 'Productivity, Engagement and Peak Performance' (PEP) on December 11, 2018 in Al-Dorra ballroom in Hilton Resort Kuwait.

In this a captivating conference, Leaders and Managers will gain valuable insights from the best-practices of progressive companies that are revolutionizing the way organizations and teams are managed nowadays leading to a rise in productivity, profits and employee engagement.

The highly practical conference is designed to help attendees know the Missing Piece to Solve the Puzzle of Productivity, Engagementand Peak Performance, gain insights to the latest employee engagement trends that are affecting every business across the world, and why disengagement has become a global epidemic and also to learn new strategies that focus on successful outcomes while managing the stress of overwhelm and complexity at work.

The Productivity, Engagement and Peak Performance (PEP) Conference is presenting the best-selling authors, International keynote speakers, and sought-after trainers on the subjects from around the globe such as Jason W Womack, MED MA Best-selling Author of his books 'Get Momentum' and 'Your Best Just Got Better,' Valerie Cade, MA Workplace Bullying Expert and Best Selling Author, David Zinger Founder of Employee Engagement Network, Ali Derisavi Management Consultant and founder of Utopia Republic Consulting Group, and Jodi Womack, MA the CEO and Founder of Get Momentum.

The conference is part of the Knowledge Club 2018 is the leading and development platform for top organizations in Kuwait, is attended this year by Warba Bank/ Burgan Bank as Gold Member, Commercial Bank of Kuwait/ Kuwait Oil Company/ Hadi Clinic as Corporate Members and with the media support by the International Advertising Association (IIA) - Kuwait Chapter.

# Al-Yasra golden sponsor of Horeca 2019

KUWAIT: Following the success in its previous participations in Horeca exhibitions, Al-Yasra Food company announced its intention to participate in the Horeca Kuwait 2019 exhibition, which is due to be organized by Leaders Group in collaboration with Hospitality Services Company at Kuwait International Fairgrounds

in Mishref in the period of January 14-16, 2019.

Commenting on Al-Yasra's participation, Leaders Group expressed its pride that a major leading company in marketing and distributing refrigerated and frozen foodstuff such as Al-Yasra would offer a golden sponsorship to the exhibition.

Meanwhile, Al-Yasra's foodstuff section manager Ayman Mahmoud stressed that Horeca had been steadily moving forward towards scientifically developing hospitality sectors with the help of a group of experts and specialized people. Further, Mahmoud noted that, ever since its establishment in 1989, Al-Yasra had created its own outstanding status in the food business not only in Kuwait, but also in most regional countries, which enabled it to win customers' trust. Al-Yasra exclusively markets regional and inter-



Ayman Mahmoud

national brands such as Sadia, Al-Safi Danone, Kellogg's Pringles and Lamb Weston, which all cover the local market's needs in various restaurants and major hotels.

Moreover, Mahmoud added that Al-Yasra was always keen on taking part in major exhibitions to communicate with parties working in the hospitality business in order to boost awareness about the significance of healthy food.

"The company provides complete lists of delicious healthy food that suits all needs of calorie intake," he explained, noting that Al-Yasra foods are carefully selected from fresh healthy foods to match customer' tastes.

Mahmoud added that Alyasra Foods today carries a wide selection of leading international food and beverage brands to homes and businesses across Kuwait and other GCC markets. Managed by a multi-cultural team of over 2,700 employees, Alyasra leads the market in frozen foods, fresh dairy and potato chips, amongst others. Alyasra Foods continues to be the largest supplier to the Horeca sector. Notably, Al-Yasra Foods Kuwait achieved international standards, namely the ISO 22000:2005 certification for food quality and safety in receiving, storing and delivering goods to customers.

# Kuwait overtakes Qatar to become Japan's third oil provider

**TOKYO:** Kuwait's crude oil exports to Japan in October jumped 28.3 percent from a year earlier to 7.11 million barrels, or 229,000 barrels per day (bpd), overtaking Qatar to become Japan's third-biggest oil provider, Japanese government data showed. The volume of Kuwaiti oil bound for Japan rose for the first

time in two months, providing 7.4 percent of the Asian nation's total crude imports, compared with 6.1 percent in the same month of last year, the Japanese Natural Resources and Energy Agency said in a preliminary report.

Japan's overall imports of crude oil grew 5.5 percent year-on-year to 3.09 million bpd for the first expansion in two months. Shipments from the Middle East, accounted for 86.2 percent of the total, down 1.5 percentage points from the year before. Saudi Arabia remained Japan's No.1 oil supplier, with imports from the kingdom rising 8.2 percent from a year earlier to 1.26 million bpd, followed by the United Arab Emirates with 760,000 bpd, up 12.6 percent. Qatar ranked fourth with 220,000 bpd and Russia fifth with 162,000 bpd, respectively. Japan is the world's-third biggest oil consumer after the US and China. — KUN



Advertisement for Bid No.: (KAC/PP/A/2/2018)

For the provision of provide sales services on board the Kuwait Airways and its External Shops to a Foreign Entity (Outsourcing).

Document No. 1 "Advertisement for Bid"



Kuwait Airways Company (KAC) advertises its interest to offer a public bid for providing sales services on the board of Kuwait Airways and its external shops to a foreign entity (Outsourcing) to the specialized companies at the Duty Free Department to provide a distinct sales service on its fleet including goods and variety of luxuries at reduced prices for travelers as well as providing the same service to its employees through sale in the assigned stores, while Kuwait Airways Company retains responsibility for the sales operations on its fleet according to the technical requirements and specifications mentioned in the bidding documents, and the bidder must purchase the tender documents.

The bidding documents can be obtained from the Kuwait Airways Company – Tenders and Bids Committee Secretariat at the Kuwait Airways Company, in the main building next to Kuwait International Airport in consideration of a non-refundable fee amounting 200 Kuwaiti Dinars as of the date of publication of this advertisement.

During the following times: From 8:00 am till 2:00 pm and the bids application deadline is at 8:00 am till 2:00 pm from (Monday) corresponding to 24/12/2018, provided that the bids are placed in the closed envelopes in the designated box at the aforesaid committee's office.

In addition to the above:

- I- Each bidder, along with its original bid, shall submit the payment receipt with the bidding documents. These documents shall be stamped with the official stamp of the bid, and shall sign on each document page. Bids shall be placed (sealed and stamped) in the designated box at the headquarters of the Tenders and Bids Committee Secretariat.
- 2- The implementation of the works pertaining to this bid is for a period of (3) years.
- 3- The bidder shall not be an employee of Kuwait Airways Company or any of its subsidiaries, either directly or indirectly.
- 4- The bidder must have at least 5 years of experience in dealing with airlines or in managing a similar project in the duty free shops, supported by documents.
  5- Kuwait Airways Company shall not be liable for any expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the
- performance of its bid.
  6- The bidder shall comply with the conditions, criteria and quality levels determined by Kuwait Airways
  Company in the execution of the bidding.
- 7- Bids shall be accepted by the foreign bidder, provided that he has a Kuwaiti partner or agent who is a registered dealer engaged in a formal contract in accordance with the regulations in force in the State of Kuwait.

A pre-tender meeting will be held to respond to queries submitted by bidders at exactly 11 am on (Monday) corresponding to 17/12/2018, at the Supplies and Housing Department located in the Ground Floor at the Main Building, next to Kuwait International Airport. In the event the bidder fails to attend this meeting, the latter shall be bound by all the discussions and the decisions and recommendations contained in the minutes of the meeting.

If you have any further questions, please contact: Tel. 24345555 - 6666 - 7777- 8888- 9999 Ext. 2789



Sunday, December 2, 2018 Local

# KDIPA showcases investment opportunities in Silicon Valley

# Kuwait looks to diversify its economy to reach its goals: Sheikh Dr Meshaal Al-Sabah

SAN FRANCISCO: Kuwait Direct Investment Promotion Authority (KDIPA) presented Thursday in Silicon Valley, in cooperation with the Financial Times Live and the Magazine, Kuwait Investment Outreach Roadshow under the theme 'Discover the Opportunities in a Transformed Economy.' The event featured interactive discussions and keynotes from leading players in Kuwait business world who provided valuable insights into the role of the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Kuwait, developments in Kuwait Fintech market and the impact of the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector to Kuwait future.

The panel discussions focused on the new Kuwait, as the panelists shed light on the objectives of Kuwait's economic plan and why FDI is an essential part of the plan and what challenges does Kuwait still face and how they are being overcome. Another panel also discussed the ICT sector and Kuwait, focusing on the relationships between industry, technology and the economy in Kuwait, as well as how Kuwait business environment evolving from developments in the IT and ICT sector.

The panelists highlighted what makes Kuwait attractive for investment and what sets in apart, saying investors look for a stable political system, a strong legal background with the protection of rights, in addition to Kuwait enjoying one strong banking sector. They also agreed that Kuwait enjoys a strategic location and is considered a hub for many businesses to expand into the region, as well as the Kuwait youth whom are considered an added value.

#### Diversifying the economy

Sheikh Dr Meshaal Al-Sabah, Director General of KDI-PA, stressed that "we are working to diversify our economy and to fulfill and reach our goals." He noted that the current aim is to attract new technologies and innovations to create job opportunities and growth. Dr Meshaal added that the Silicon Valley Roadshow is the second in three roadshow series, where last year it was held in London and next year it is scheduled to be held in Singapore. The idea of these roadshows, he noted, is to try to showcase all the latest developments in Kuwait economies, legal infrastructures and how Kuwait is working very hard to diversify its economy through creating new sources of income.

He added that the aim of the event is for both the public and private sectors in Kuwait to shed light on their experience in the country and showcase how foreign investors in Silicon Valley can benefit from all the opportunities happening in Kuwait and help with the Kuwait Vision 2035. He stressed that his message is that Kuwait is changing, Kuwait is working towards diversifying the economies. Kuwait is letting the private sector lead the economy along with all the legal changes the government and parliament have been working on the past few years. This is a great chance for companies to participate in our 2035 vision, he remarked.

Meanwhile, Secretary General of General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development Dr Khalid Al-Mahdi praised the Silicon Valley Roadshow, saying the audience showed that they want to be engaged that actually helped to achieve the objective of the roadshow. He affirmed that there are great opportunities in transforming the economy in Kuwait, noting because we have challenges, there are opportunities and our opportunities come from the actual needs and challenges we are facing right now, such as the transfer of knowledge and technology to the country. He added that the most important issue right now is the fourth revolution that will cause the disappearance of jobs and the creation of other jobs. We need to be ready for the job creation with the skillset that be suitable for our little ones (enter) the market space. The only way is to actually live the vision by creating this hub and allowing more open interaction with our partners around the world, he affirmed. Kuwait being neutral, using preventive diplomacy will make it very easy for Kuwait to make successful relations and partnerships with others.

#### New Kuwait vision

Group CEO of the Kuwait Finance House Mazen Al-Nahed who gave a keynote speech focusing on Kuwait Fintech Market, said that he thinks the main purpose of the oadshow is to show the participants of the Silicone Valley about the vision of Kuwait 2035 or the new Kuwait. He praised the presentations that were delivered, saying they portrayed a significant amount of knowledge that has been transferred from the participants to the audience and I



think that the questions that followed have been very positive in terms of trying to understand further what are the challenges of operating in Kuwait versus operating in other jurisdictions. He stressed that Kuwait has a lot of capital, be it human, be it regulatory. I think this is one of the key strengths of Kuwait is that we have a strong judicial system and a regulatory system that protects the rights of any investor who is coming to Kuwait.

In the meantime, CEO of Zain Kuwait Eaman Al-Roudhan who gave a presentation entitled Smart nation: Empowering new Kuwait vision 2035, said that the participation of the private sector is very vital to accelerate the achievement of both the new Kuwait vision as well as the

role that Dr Meshaal has been very actively taking to attract investment, entrepreneurship and innovation into Kuwait to achieve the sustainability, the growth and the diversification of the sources of revenues for Kuwait, the creation of the jobs of the future, the engagement of the workforce from our local base into the digital transformation. She affirmed that there is huge potential in Kuwait, saying that Kuwait is a pioneer in the innovation as well as in technology. This roadshow is considered an opportunity to explore the economic outlook for Kuwait and the wider region, where the audience can discover new opportunities created for investors and Kuwait diverse future economy. — KUNA

## Burgan Bank concludes 'Awaken Festival' in collaboration with en.v

progress in society, Burgan Bank condedicated to fostering social development and civic engagement in the Middle East. The three-day festival took place on 15-17 November 2018 at Dar al-Athar al-Islamiyyah in Yarmouk Cultural Centre, and united more than 800 participants from various sectors in Kuwait, including 50 local civic initiatives, academics, artists and international speakers.

Burgan Bank remains committed to bolstering civil society's capabilities across Kuwait and continues to invest in strategic partnerships with innovative organizations. The latest collaboration with en.v, brought 'Awaken Festival' to Kuwait, an inspirational communitybuilding initiative. The festival supports civil society organizations become more effective in addressing societal challenges, unite diverse community members to untap the potential of everyone in Kuwait, ultimately contributing to a brighter future.

Loulwa Al-Ayoubi, Acting Group Head of Investor Relations and Corporate Communications at Burgan Bank said, "Partnering with an influen-

KUWAIT: A leading contributor to tial organization like en.v and sponsoring the 'Awaken Festival' delivers on cluded the first 'Awaken Festival' in Burgan Bank's commitment to social partnership with en.v, an organization development, by enhancing social structure and networks, and the standards of social responsibility. We aim to promote the spread of knowledge through innovative platforms and to engage with different sectors of society to create a community spirit and bolster local capabilities to address soci-

ety's most pressing challenges " Attendees engaged in meaningful discussions and explored communitydriven approaches through interactive workshops, activities, and events, all featuring forward-thinking collaborations, encouraging open dialogue and exploring new ways to look at our individual

Falling in line with its community program, 'ENGAGE' - Together to be the change, Burgan Bank sheds light on important aspects affecting every segment of the society by promoting social welfare through educational, cultural, social and health initiatives. Burgan Bank's approach to 'ENGAGE' begins with a vital principle that as a Kuwaiti financial institution, its conduct and policies should be aligned with the needs and interests of the Kuwaiti society.



## Al-Sayer partners to empower Kuwaiti youth

**KUWAIT:** As part of efforts towards the development of youth, Al-Sayer Holding has participated in the 7th Tmkeen Youth Empowerment Symposium 2018. The event was attended by Hamad Musaed Al-Sayer CEO Al-Sayer Franchisee and Vice Chairman of the Al-Sayer Sustainability and Corporate Excellence Committee, Bedour Faisal Al Sayer Deputy Marketing Manager and member of the Al-Sayer Sustainability and Corporate Excellence Committee, Nehad Mohammad Al-Haj Ali Deputy Group Manager Corporate Excellence, Shibu Mohamed CSR Manager, Ahmad Mostafa Alaean Sr CSR Executive along with Mithun Mohan Deputy Manager Field Operations, Mohamed Abd El-Rahman Abd El-Hady, Specialist Technical Training from Toyota Group

Service Division. The event which was held under the patronage of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, witnessed the participation of industry experts across competitive sectors. Al-Sayer participated as a Diamond Sponsor in event that concluded recently with an objective of empowering the aspiring Kuwait youth, through sharing knowledge from the industry veterans on ways to build and sustain the journey of entrepreneurship and be sustainable.

To achieve its strategic vision of New Kuwait vision by 2035 Kuwait National Development Plan (KNDP) has aligned its development theme and pillars in accordance to complement United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs). Being a leading private sector entity Al-Sayer Holding endorses such vision and has aligned sustainability and excellence as the strategic direction. The Group continues to involve in activities that motivate and encourage young entrepreneurs to aim for self-made competent role to build sustainable growth, employment, innovation and leadership  $\tilde{\text{for}}$  now and  $\tilde{\text{for}}$  future.

Youth Empowerment Organization is an Independent, Private Non-Profit Organization (NPO) and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO). Their vision is to empower the youth to drive new era of economic development, growth and productivity among them and to the nation. Started in 2012, they conduct yearly symposium, and continuing each year by bringing international and regional leaders and





motivators to spark youth engagements towards entrepreneurship.

It is significant to say, Zidnei Application one of the online educational project supported by Al-Sayer Corporate Excellence CSR initiatives received accolades at the event. Zidnei, an e-learning platform offers online and interactive self-learning contents for secondary school students to excel in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, English, Aptitude Tests and IELTs. Zidnei opens wide potential to the students and parents to be self-reliant, with online learning performance evaluation and expert teaching guidance.

According to Nehad Mohammad Al-Haj Ali, The Symposium offered Kuwaiti youth an opportunity to participate and interact with the

diversified panel of regional and international guests who shared their experience of taking proactive steps to foster steady progress in their profession as well as the immersive style of tackling business dilemmas through deep involvements and positive approach".

Panel of speakers at the 2018 event included Mitch Lowe CEO of Movie Pass who has also served as co-founding executive of Netflix and President of Redbox, Jason Wheeler former Vice-President of Finance at Google and former Chief Financial Officer of Tesla Motors, Mark Mastrov CEO and Founder of 24 Hour Fitness, Adam Sedlack President of UFC GYM, Arsen Avakian Founder of Argo Tea, who presented their time tested experience of managing business, people, operations and challenges.

# Burgan Bank supports Int'l Day of People with Disabilities

**KUWAIT:** Burgan Bank, one of the highest contributors to progress in society, sponsored 'The International Day of People with Disabilities' for the fourth consecutive year, in collaboration with the 'Ideal Education School' for students with special needs. Through the annual initiative, Burgan Bank emphasizes the need to encourage and facilitate the empowerment and inclusion of people with disabilities so they can fulfill their invaluable role in society. In addition to raising awareness about the topic and ensuring their equal rights, it is worth mentioning that Burgan Bank has been an avid supporter of the special needs segment due to their determination and resilience to challenge individual abilities and accomplish outstanding results in diverse fields.

As part of the sponsorship, the 'Ideal Education School' organized an 'Open Fun Day' on 19 November 2018, celebrating the International Day dedicated to special needs students, who enjoyed participating in different games, arts and crafts, magic shows, musical trampolines and more, providing an inclusive and memorable

Burgan Bank remains a long-standing advocate of the disadvantaged, and continuously supports cultural and social initiatives that ensure the welfare of people with disabilities and facilitate their integration in society. The bank's largest CSR initiative, 'Al-Mass Awards', that has been running for more than 13 years is dedicated exclusively to special needs groups, recognizing outstanding achievements of those who face physical, mental and sensory challenges. The bank is also the long-term sponsor of Kuwait's world champion in wheelchair fencing and titleholder across regional and international competitions, Tareq Al-Qallaf. Additionally, Burgan Bank has six

fully-equipped branches that cater to the special needs' requirements to ensure a banking experience with improved accessibility and the latest world-class techno-

logical applications. Ideal Education School is a private school that teaches students aged 5-21 with developmental disabilities such as autism, Down syndrome, mental retardation, speech and language impairments, hard of hearing, cerebral palsy, and those with multiple disabilities. The School aims to ensure students develop maximum independence through educational programs that include vocational training, community awareness and advocacy.

Burgan Bank's support of this initiative falls under its dynamic full-fledged community program entitled 'ENGAGE' - Together to be the change. This program sheds light on important aspects affecting every segment of the society by promoting social welfare through educational, cultural and health driven initiatives. Burgan Bank's approach to 'ENGAGE' begins with a vital principle that as a leading Kuwaiti financial institution, its conduct and policies should be aligned with the needs and interests of the community.



# International

In US politics, grandmas and grandpas grab power

Powerful quake hits Anchorage

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# How Iran spreads disinformation worldwide

# Reuters finds 71 websites in global influence operation

LONDON: Website Nile Net Online promises Zionism front activities." Nile Net Online did Egyptians "true news" from its offices in the heart of Cairo's Tahrir Square, "to expand the scope of freedom of expression in the Arab world." Its views on America do not chime with Reuters, could not be located. Previous owners those of Egypt's state media, which celebrate identified in historical registration records Donald Trump's warm relations with Cairo. In one recent article, Nile Net Online derided the American president as a "low-level theatre actor" who "turned America into a laughing stock" after he attacked Iran in a speech at the United Nations.

Until recently, Nile Net Online had more than 115,000 page-followers across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. But its contact telephone numbers, including one listed as 0123456789, don't work. A Facebook map showing its location dropped a pin onto the middle of the street, rather than any building. And regulars at the square, including a newspaper stallholder and a policeman, say they

have never heard of the website. The reason: Nile Net Online is part of an influence operation based in Tehran. It's one of more than 70 websites found by Reuters which push Iranian propaganda to 15 countries, in an operation that cybersecurity experts, social media firms and journalists are only starting to uncover. The sites found by Reuters are visited by more than half a million people a month, and have been promoted by social media accounts

with more than a million followers. The sites underline how political actors worldwide are increasingly circulating distorted or false information online to influence public opinion. The discoveries follow allegations that Russian disinformation campaigns have swayed voters in the United States and Europe. Advisers to Saudi Arabia's crown prince, and the army in Myanmar, are also among those using social media to distribute propaganda and attack their enemies. Moscow has denied the charges; Riyadh and Yangon have not commented.

Former CIA director John Brennan told Reuters that "countries around the globe" are now using such information warfare tactics. "The Iranians are sophisticated cyber players," he said of the Iranian campaign. "There are elements of the Iranian intelligence services that are rather capable in terms of operating (online)." Traced by building on research from cybersecurity firms FireEye and ClearSky, the sites in the campaign have been active at different times since 2012. They look like normal news and media outlets, but only a couple disclose any Iranian ties.

Reuters could not determine whether the Iranian government is behind the sites; Iranian officials in Tehran and London did not reply to questions. But all the sites are linked to Iran in one of two ways. Some carry stories, video and cartoons supplied by an online agency called the International Union of Virtual Media (IUVM), which says on its website it is headquartered in Tehran. Some have shared online registration details with IUVM, such as addresses and phone numbers. Twenty-one of the websites do both.

Emails sent to IUVM bounced back and telephone numbers the agency gave in web registration records did not work. Documents available on the main IUVM website say its objectives include "confronting with remarkable arrogance, western governments and

not respond to questions sent to the email address on its website. Its operators, as well as those of the other websites identified by could not be reached. The Egyptian government did not respond to requests for comment.

Some of the sites in the Iranian operation were first exposed in August by companies including Facebook, Twitter and Google's parent, Alphabet, after FireEye found them. The social media companies have closed hundreds of accounts that promoted the sites or pushed Iranian messaging. Facebook said last month it had taken down 82 pages, groups and accounts linked to the Iranian campaign; these had gathered more than one million followers in the United States and Britain.

But the sites uncovered by Reuters have a much wider scope. They have published in 16 different languages, from Azerbaijani to Urdu, targeting Internet users in less-developed countries. That they reached readers in tightly controlled societies such as Egypt, which has blocked hundreds of news websites since 2017, highlights the campaign's reach.

A news site called Another Western Dawn which says its focus is on "unspoken truth." It fooled the Pakistani defense minister into issuing a nuclear threat against Israel; Ten outlets targeting readers in Yemen, where Iran and US ally Saudi Arabia have been fighting a proxy conflict since civil war broke out in 2015; A media outlet offering daily news and satirical cartoons in Sudan. Reuters could not reach any of its staff; A website called Realnie Novosti, or "Real News," for Russian readers.

It offers a downloadable mobile phone app but its operator could not be traced. The news on the sites is not all fake. Authentic stories sit alongside pirated cartoons, as well as speeches from Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The sites clearly support Iran's government and amplify antagonism to countries opposed to Tehran - particularly Israel, Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Nile Net's "laughing stock" piece was copied from an Iranian state TV network article published earlier the same day. Some of the sites are slapdash. The self-styled, misspelled "Yemen Press Agecny" carries a running update of Saudi "crimes against Yemenis during the past 24 hours." Emails sent to the agency's listed contact, Arafat Shoroh, bounced back. The agency's address and phone number led to a hotel in the Yemeni capital, Sana'a, whose staff said they had never

The identity or location of the past owners of some of the websites is visible in historical Internet registration records: 17 of 71 sites have in the past listed their locations as Iran or Tehran, or given an Iranian telephone or fax number. But who owns them now is often hidden, and none of the Iranian-linked operators could be reached. More than 50 of the sites use American web service providers Cloudflare and OnlineNIC - firms that provide website owners with tools to shield themselves from

Frequently, such services also effectively conceal who owns the sites or where they are hosted. The companies declined to tell Reuters who operates the sites. Under USlaw, hosting and web services companies are not generally liable for the content of sites they serve, said Eric Goldman, co-director of the High Tech Law Institute at Santa Clara University. Still, since 2014, US sanctions on Iran have banned "the exportation or re-exportation, directly or indirectly, of web-hosting services that are for commercial endeavours or of domain name registration services."

Douglas Kramer, general counsel for Cloudflare, said the services it provides do not include web-hosting services. "We've looked at those various sanctions regimes, we are comfortable that we are not in violation," he said. A spokesman for OnlineNIC said none of the sites declared a connection to Iran in their registration details, and the company was in full compliance with US sanctions and trade embargoes. The US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) declined to comment on whether it planned an investigation.

#### Another western dawn

The Kremlin is widely seen as the superpower in modern information warfare. From what is known so far, Russia's influence operation - which Moscow denies - dwarfs Iran's. According to Twitter, nearly 4,000 accounts connected to the Russian campaign posted over 9 million tweets between 2013 and 2018, against over 1 million tweets from fewer than 1,000 accounts believed to originate in Iran. Even though the Iranian operation is smaller, it has had impact on volatile topics. AWDnews - the site with the focus on "unspoken truth" - ran a false story in 2016 which prompted Pakistan's defense minister to warn on Twitter he had the weapons to

He only found out that the hoax was part of an Iranian operation when contacted by Reuters. "It was a learning experience," said the deceived politician, 69-year-old Khawaja Asif, who left Pakistan's government earlier this year. "But one can understand that these sorts of things happen, because fake news has become something huge. It's something which anyone is capable of now, which is very dan-

Israeli officials did not respond to a request for comment. AWDnews publishes in English, French, Spanish and German and, according to data from web analytics company SimilarWeb, receives around 12,000 unique visitors a month. Among others who shared stories from AWDnews and the other websites identified by Reuters were politicians in Britain, Jordan, India, and the Netherlands; human-rights activists; an Indian music composer and a Japanese rap star.

#### Jobs for women

FireEye, a US cybersecurity firm, originally named six websites as part of the Iranian influence operation. Reuters examined those sites, and their content led to the Tehran-based International Union of Virtual Media. IUVM is an array of 11 websites with names such as iuvmpress, iuvmapp and iuvmpixel. Together, they form a library of digital material, including mobile phone apps, items from Iranian state media and pictures, video clips and stories from elsewhere on the web, which support Tehran's policies. —Reuters

## Charlottesville victims recount their life-altering injuries at trial

CHARLOTTESVILLE: Jeanne Peterson was fast on her feet till she was struck by a car last year in Charlottesville driven by a neo-Nazi accused of attacking her. Now, she finds it difficult to walk unassisted. Wednesday Bowie almost bled to death when her pelvis was crushed in six places by the same Dodge Challenger and has been left with a "permanent gait" after it healed

Both women took the witness stand Friday-Peterson with the help of a bailiffon the second day of court proceedings against James Alex Fields Jr. Fields, 21, is accused of first degree murder over the killing of 32-year-old paralegal Heather

Heyer, as well as hit-and-run charges and eight counts of causing serious injury when he plowed into a crowd of counterprotesters at a white supremacist rally. Peterson, whose right leg was crushed by the impact, recounted attending the Unite the Right rally to protest against the presence of hundreds of white supremacists in her beloved Virginia hometown.

Confrontations broke out, which led city authorities to declare the rally an "unlawful gathering," and the far-right protesters began to disperse. The previously charged atmosphere became "joyful, it was celebratory and convivial," said Peterson, with counter-protesters happy because "the alt-right hadn't been able to make any of their hateful speeches." She didn't see Fields' car coming. "I just heard three bumps," Peterson said-realizing only later that two were his vehicle running over her right leg, and one reversing back over it. 'I saw Heather Heyer up in the air and remember thinking to myself 'That's what someone's eyes look like when they are dead." —AFP

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Sunday, December 2, 2018 International

# Journalists increasingly becoming 'easy targets' for organized crime

# 30 journalists killed by organized crime

**PARIS:** Journalists are increasingly becoming easy targets for organized crime, with more than 30 killed worldwide over the last two years, a media watchdog warned. "The Mob has spread its tentacles around the globe faster than all the multinationals combined," Reporters Without Borders (RSF) said in a new report on the dangers.

"From Beijing to Moscow, from Tijuana to Bogota, from Malta to Slovakia, investigative journalists who shed light on the deals that involve organized crime unleash the wrath of gangsters, whose common feature is an aversion to any publicity unless they control it," said its author, French investigative journalist Frederic Ploquin. He said the only way to counter the threat was for reporters to work together to protect

The biggest danger was in investigating corruption, Ploquin said, now that ruthless crime groups have "established a kind of pact with the state" in many countries, "to the point that you cannot tell where one stops and the other begins." "How is it possible that Mexico's drug cartels sprout like mushrooms without

the support of part of the state's apparatus?" asked RSF after nine of the 14 journalists murdered worldwide in 2017 by organized crime groups were killed there. Eight more have already died so far in 2018. Three reporters were also killed this year in Brazil and

three more elsewhere in Latin America. An Indian journalist who was investigating his country's "sand mafia" was run over by a truck.

The toll has also become worrying in Europe, the report said, with journalists assassinated in Russia, Slovakia and Malta since 2017. Both Daphne Caruana Galizia, killed last year in by a car bomb in Malta, and Jan Kuciak, shot

with his girlfriend in Slovakia in February, had been looking into the Italian Mafia and its links with local politicians. In 2017 alone, 196 Italian journalists were said to have had some kind of protection, with a dozen including Roberto Saviano, the author of the bestselling book "Gomorroa" on the Naples crime syndicate the Camorra, living under permanent police guard.

#### Iran journalist jailed

In another development, Iranian journalist women's rights activist Hengameh Shahidi has been sentenced to more than 12 vears in prison on unspecified charges, the official IRNA news agency reported vesterday. "Given the confidentiality of the proceedings and the security nature of the case I cannot disclose details about the court's verdict," her

lawyer Mostafa Turk Hamedani told IRNA. He said Shahidi had received 12 years and nine months in prison, plus temporary bans on joining political groups, online or media activity, and leaving the country.

Shahidi was advisor on women's affairs to reformist candidate Mehdi Karroubi during the disputed 2009 presidential election, and has been a fierce critic of the judiciary for locking up journalists and activists. When the 2009 election sparked rigging allegations and mass protests, she was locked up for three years on charges of propagating against the system, taking part in illegal gatherings and acting against national security.

Shahidi was detained again in 2017 for several months and accused of working for external media groups. She later wrote open letters denouncing the charges as "baseless lies", while also criticizing reformist politicians for failing to support dissidents. In May, a copy of her latest court summons was uploaded on her Twitter account, in which she was accused of "making insults". When she was arrested the following month, Tehran's chief prosecutor Abbas Jafari Dolatabadi said: "We saw that everyday she made blatant insults against the judiciary branch and officials by posting very criminal tweets," according to the semi-official ISNA news agency. —Agencies

## Powerful quake hits Anchorage

ANCHORAGE: A powerful earthquake jolted southern Alaska on Friday morning, buckling roads, disrupting rushhour traffic and jamming telephone service in and around Anchorage, the state's largest city, but there were no reports of serious injuries. The 7.0 magnitude quake struck about 8 miles north of Anchorage, a city of 300,000 residents accounting for about 40 percent of Alaska's population, and was followed by dozens of aftershocks that continued to rattle nerves throughout the day.

Public schools and many businesses across Anchorage closed early, and an eerie quiet settled over the city's largely deserted streets by nightfall. At least two local television stations were briefly knocked off the air by the tremor, which some people said sounded like a roar of gunfire. Roads and bridges appeared to have been hardest hit, but Anchorage was otherwise mostly spared from major structural damage, authorities said. Power outages and disruption of phone service were widespread.

City Fire Chief Jodie Hettrick said two small, older buildings had collapsed, and that her department responded to several structure fires. Emergency medical personnel answered 56 calls in the hours immediately after the temblor, although none involved serious injuries, Hettrick said. "The fact that we went through something this significant with this minimal amount of damage says that we're a very well-prepared community, that our building codes and our building professionals have done a terrific job," Mayor Ethan Berkowitz told an earlier news conference.

The initial quake produced strong shaking within a 30-mile radius of its epicenter, with ground movement felt as far away as Fairbanks, 250 miles to the north, and Kodiak, roughly the same distance to the south, according to the US Geological Survey (USGS). "Thought the house was going to come apart," Anchorage-based climatologist Brian Brettschneider wrote on Twitter, posting a photo showing his kitchen floor scattered with items that had tumbled out of cupboards.

Elena Alfred, a young mother, described to Reuters how her 3-yearold son was nearly struck by a falling television at a friend's apartment as the walls shuddered through the quake. "I took him just in time before the TV fell on him," she recounted from an emergency shelter, where she took the boy and his two younger siblings afterwards. "They were scared. They kept crying," she said. A tsunami warning was issued for Cook Inlet, linking Anchorage with the Gulf of Alaska, but was later canceled.

'Scary day'

The Trans Alaska Pipeline, which carries crude oil 800 miles from the North Slope to a marine terminal at Valdez, was shut down for about seven hours as a precaution, but no damage to the system was detected, said a spokeswoman for the operator, Aleyska Pipeline Service Co. The quake apparently stemmed from an unnamed fault 27 miles deep inside a portion of the Earth's crust known as the Pacific Plate, where it bends underneath the North American Plate, USGS geophysicist Brian Kilgore told Reuters. Kilgore said only 15 or 16 quakes of magnitude 6 or greater have been recorded during the past century in the same region.

Morning rush-hour traffic in Anchorage came to a standstill as



Iran journalist

gets 12 years

for 'insulting

judiciary'

ALASKA: People walk past a crack in the road after an earthquake near Northwoods on the

authorities closed the only two highways in and out of town, and commuters struggled to make their way back home from a workday cut short by the 8:30 am quake. Governor Bill Walker issued a disaster declaration, calling it a "scary day for Alaska." Walker later recounted an unsettling elevator ride down from his 17th-floor office just as the quake began. "It did stop. That was good. Then it started. That wasn't good," he told reporters. "It made a lot of noise and slapped around cables and all that was going on, and it was a moment of wondering. .... But it was a pretty rough ride com-

ing down." President Donald Trump declared a federal emergency, ordering US government assistance in the earthquake response and authorizing the Federal Emergency Management Agency to coordinate all disaster relief efforts, the White House said. Strong earthquakes are not uncommon in seismically active

Alaska but tend to occur in remote, sparsely populated regions. Alaska has recorded earthquakes with magnitudes ranging from 7 to 8 at least once a year on average since 1900, according to the state government website. Southern Alaska was hit by a devastating 9.2 tremor in 1964, the world's second-most powerful earthquake on

Images posted on social media showed supermarket floors strewn with spilled merchandise. A photo posted by a reporter at TV station KTVA showed a deserted newsroom scattered with debris and a partially collapsed ceiling. The website for KTUU-TV featured a photo of a snow-covered highway that had buckled, with a car sitting between two deep fissures crossing the highway. Sporting events were called off for the weekend, and Anchorage public schools were to remain closed until Wednesday to allow for safety inspections. —Reuters

# **North Korean** soldier defects to South Korea across border

SEOUL: A North Korean soldier defected to South Korea yesterday across their heavily fortified land border, which the two sides have begun to demilitarize as relations between the Cold War-era foes warm, the South's military said. The rare defection came as the two Koreas push ahead with a process of reconciliation in an effort to ease tensions, despite talks between Pyongyang and Washington on the North's nuclear weapons program stalling. The incident did not trigger any gunfire, unlike last year when a North Korean soldier ran across under a hail of bullets from his own side.

"A North Korean soldier was detected crossing the military demarcation line" by South Korean troops using surveillance equipment, the military Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said in a statement. "Related agencies plan to investigate him regarding the details of how he came to the South," it said. The JCS gave no further details, such as the exact location of the defection, the soldier's name, rank or unit or whether he was carrying a weapon. "The soldier is safely in our custody", the JCS said. The last defection involving North Koreans occurred in May when two civilians aboard a small boat fled to the South across the Yellow Sea.

In November last year, a North Korean soldier drove to the heavily guarded border at speed and ran across under fire from his own comrades. He was hit multiple times in the dramatic defection at Panmunjom truce village, a major tourist attraction and the only place on the frontier where forces from the two sides come face-to-face. Three other soldiers reportedly crossed the land border last year in separate incidents. In 2012 a North Korean soldier walked unchecked through rows of electrified fencing and surveillance cameras, prompting Seoul to sack three field commanders for a security lapse.

#### 'Momentum'

More than 30,000 North Korean civilians have fled their homeland since the peninsula was divided at the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. Most flee across the porous frontier with neighboring China and it is very rare for them to cross the closely guarded inter-Korean border, which is fortified with minefields and barbed wire. In recent months, however, the two sides have begun to remove landmines and destroy military bunkers at parts of the border as part of efforts to improve long-strained relations. They have also begun work to reconnect a train line and repair another rail link across the border. Despite the warming ties, it remains unclear whether the North's leader Kim Jong Un will make his first-ever visit to the South this year, as Seoul is hoping.

Kim agreed to travel to Seoul after hosting his South Korean counterpart Moon Jae-in in Pyongyang in September for their third summit but prospects of a fourth Moon-Kim meeting have recently dimmed, with negotiations on denuclearizing the North grinding to a halt. In an apparent bid to encourage a hesitating Kim to commit to a trip, Moon elicited an expression of support for such a visit from US President Donald Trump at a summit in Buenos Aires on Friday. "The two leaders agreed Chairman Kim Jong Un's visit to Seoul would provide additional momentum to their joint efforts to establish peace on the Korean Peninsula," Moon's chief press secretary Yoon Young-chan said. —AFP

## Germany's AfD in trouble as end of Merkel era looms

BERLIN: A year after it entered Germany's parliament, the farright AfD party is facing turbulence, including a donations scandal and the looming departure of its favorite enemy Chancellor Angela Merkel. The troubles have come thick and fast since the five-yearold Alternative for Germany reached a key goal in October by entering the last of the country's 16 state assemblies, winning 13 percent in the region of Hesse. A relative newcomer feared and loathed by the bigger main-

stream parties, the AfD has however now stagnated at around 15 percent in the polls while another party, the left-leaning Greens, has booked a series of stunning successes. Billing themselves as "the alternative to the Alternative" with a clear stance against the AfD's anti-immigration message, the Greens are now polling at around 20 percent, making them the second-strongest party after

The AfD meanwhile have faced charges of accepting illegal campaign funds from a non-EU donor, in Switzerland-an especial-

Merkel's CDU-CSU bloc.

ly damaging charge for a party that accuses all the "establishment parties" of being dishonest and corrupt. Co-leader Alice Weidel has been under fire after media reports said her party chapter received 130,000 euros (\$148,000) from a Swiss entrepreneur. While she has rejected wrong-doing and said the money was returned, German prosecutors in mid-November asked parliament to lift Weidel's immunity as they stepped up their enquiries.

#### 'Object of hate'

A more fundamental, long-term problem may be that the AfD's declared nemesis, Merkel, has rung in the beginning of the end of her chancellorship after 13 years in power. Weakened by several election setbacks for her CDU, she has declined to stand again for the leadership of the party at a December congress and declared she will leave politics when her term ends in 2021.

The AfD, whose main slogan has been "Merkel must go", may hail the news as a triumph as they have long railed against Merkel over her decision to allow more than one million asylum seekers into the country since 2015. But they may yet come to miss the leader on whom they have projected their discontent, typically by portraying Merkel wearing a Muslim headscarf or with bloody vampire fangs on protest posters and in social media posts. "When



BUENOS AIRES: Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel (center) arrives for a bilateral meeting on the second day of the G20 Leadersí Summit in Buenos Aires yesterday. —AFF

Merkel goes, the AfD will need a new object of hate," wrote the Berlin daily Tagesspiegel. "With her retreat, Angela Merkel may have achieved something in which she previously failed: to truly

Much will depend on who succeeds Merkel at the helm of the party. If Merkel's preferred successor, the moderate Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer, nicknamed "mini-Merkel", wins the race, the AfD will likely be happy to train their sights on her. The other two candidates-corporate banker Friedrich Merz and right-wing Health Minister Jens Spahn-may however be tougher targets since they have signaled shifting the party back to the right, including on immigration. In this case, "the AfD will probably lose some of its voters," said Sudha David-Wilp, a researcher at think-tank the German Marshall Fund.

#### 'Lost the battle'

The AfD itself is still deeply divided between relative moderates who joined the party when it started as a mainly eurosceptic group, and its openly revisionist and far-right members. Its most extreme

major figure, Bjoern Hoecke, has demanded "a 180-degree shift" in the nation's culture of remembrance and atonement over Nazi crimes and the Holocaust-an era which another leader, Alexander Gauland, has termed a "speck of bird shit" in Germany's long history. This summer the AfD, which was long labelled "right-wing populist", for the first time publicly closed ranks on the streets with the anti-Islam PEGIDA movement at mass rallies in the eastern city of Chemnitz where neo-Nazis performed Hitler salutes.

The country's domestic intelligence services have started surveillance of some members of the AfD's youth wing, JA, for links to right-wing extremists-a fate the AfD as a whole wants to avoid at all cost. Last week the party executive declared that it had noted "with disgust" statements made by some members of the JA organization that betrayed a "contempt for humanity", and demanded they be excluded from the group. The same week a leading member, Steffen Koeniger from Brandenburg state, left the AfD, declaring that in many regions "the moderates within the AfD have lost the battle against the destructive ones once International Sunday, December 2, 2018

# Employees of IL&FS held hostage by Ethiopia staff fear for safety

## Seven IL&FS employees held hostage

NEW DELHI: Employees of Indian company Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) taken hostage by local staff in Ethiopia fear for their safety, with some being confined to a company campus north of the African nation's capital Addis Ababa. India has asked Ethiopian authorities to investigate and help the seven IL&FS employees who say they are being held by local staff due to non-payment of salaries by the debt-laden firm, an Indian government official said on Saturday. A group of four employees has not been allowed to leave an IL&FS campus in Bure town, 400 km north from Addis Ababa, since Nov 24, said store manager Nagaraju Bishnu, one of the employees held hostage.

Two other IL&FS employees were held hostage by

local staff in the town of Woliso and one in Nekemte town, both of which are west of the Ethiopian capital, Bishnu told Reuters by telephone. "The main gate is locked, they are observing our movement," said 26-year-old Bishnu, speaking of the situation at Bure. "They've told us until they get their salaries, we can't move from here ... We are facing sleepless nights." The Indian government took control of IL&FS in October after it defaulted on some of its debt, triggering wider concerns about risk to the country's financial system.

The infrastructure financing and development company had over the years developed roads, townships and water-treatment projects in India and abroad. An official at India's foreign ministry said the government was dis-

cussing the matter "on priority" with Ethiopian authorities and the management of IL&FS. "We are doing our best to ensure a settlement of this matter," said the official, who declined to be identified. An IL&FS spokesman in India, Sharad Goel, declined to comment. Ethiopian government officials in Addis Ababa could not be reached for comment.

#### Low on water supplies

With the ordeal widely reported by media, Bishnu said he feared the local staff would take away their mobile phones or cut online access to restrict them from talking to colleagues or communicating via e-mails and social media. For now, Bishnu said, he has been speaking with the IL&FS employees held hostage in different areas, and the movement of employees within the camp has not been restricted

The employees are cooking their own food, eating potatoes and rice, although drinking water supplies are running low. "After tomorrow, there will be no drinking water," he said. Some of the seven employees being held have been posting messages on social media website Twitter, asking Indian politicians including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the foreign minister to intervene. Neeraj Raghuwanshi, who said he was one of the seven, late on Friday wrote an "SOS" message on Twitter saying: "Situations are beyond our control, please #help before mishappening." — Reuters

## Countering China: US, Japan and India push for open Asia

BUENOS AIRES: The leaders of the United States, Japan and India met jointly Friday for the first time and called for open navigation in Asia, a show of unity with China clearly in mind. The three right-leaning leaders-US President Donald Trump, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abemet on the sidelines of the summit of the G20 economic powers in Buenos Aires.

With the meeting lasting around 15 minutes, the three-way summit was more about symbolism than planning strategy, but it comes as all three share concerns on China's rising clout. Japan and India both have longstanding territorial feuds with their neighbor, while Trump has been pressing China hard on trade and reiterating concerns over Beijing's assertive posture in the dispute-ridden South China Sea.

"Japan, the US and India share fundamental values and strategic interests," Abe said. "By having three of us working together, we'll bring more prosperity and more stability in the region, as well as globally," he said. Modi noted that Japan, America and India made out the acronym "Jai"-Hindi for "long live." White House spokes-



woman Sarah Sanders said in a statement that the summit "reaffirmed the importance of the free and open Indo-Pacific vision for global stability and prosperity, and pledged to deepen trilateral cooperation."

the G20 Leaders' Summit in Buenos Aires. — AFP

The Trump administration has increasingly spoken of a "free and open Indo-Pacific," a catchphrase long favored by Abe as he insists that all of Asia remain open to navigation and trade. But Modi and Abe also both met separately with Chinese President Xi Jinping. Trump is set to meet Xi on Saturday for talks focused on trade disputes. India, despite decades of territorial disputes with China, has historically shied away from joining alliances with major powers. And tensions have also been easing between Japan and China, with Abe in October paying the first official visit in seven years by a Japanese premier to Beijing. — AFP

## Pakistan MPs critical of army barred from leaving the country

PESHAWAR: Two lawmakers who are vocal critics of Pakistan's powerful military and have alleged widespread abuses by the armed forces say they have been barred from leaving the country, in the latest crackdown on dissent in the South Asian nation. Ali Wazir and Mohsin Dawar, two parliamentarians from the violence-ravaged North Waziristan region bordering Afghanistan, were due to leave for United Arab Emirates on Friday, when authorities at the airport in the northwestern city of Peshawar intercepted them and briefly detained them.

"Both of us are on the ECL," Dawar told Reuters, a reference to the Exit Control List, which names people forbidden from leaving Pakistan. Pakistan's Federal Investigation Agency (FIA), which is in charge of the ECL list and whose officials stopped the lawmakers in Peshawar, did not respond to requests for comment.

But an FIA source confirmed Wazir and Dawar were both on the list, "so they can't leave the country." Rights groups and media owners say the military, which has ruled Pakistan for nearly half its history, is increasingly restricting free speech and curtailing the work of civil society groups, something the army has denied. The FIA source said a First Information Report (FIR), which marks the formal opening of a criminal investigation, has been opened against the two lawmakers for making "anti-state" speeches. In practice, such charges are usually levied only when the criticism centres on the military.

"The police in Swabi had lodged cases against them for their anti-Pakistan speeches in a public gathering there," the FIA source said, referring to a city 100 km (60 miles) east from Peshawar in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. Wazir is the co-founder of the Pashtun ethnic rights movement, the Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement (PTM). Dawar was one of the leaders of PTM before the July elections, when they were both elected to parliament as independent candidates.

The PTM alleges that thousands of Pashtuns were targeted in state-organized killings after Pakistan joined the US-led war on terror in 2001 and launched major military operations against militant strongholds in tribal areas by the Afghanistan border between 2009 and 2014. The army denies the claims. — Reuters

## In US politics, grandmas and grandpas grab the power

WASHINGTON: In 2018, in the country that gave us young leaders like John F Kennedy and Barack Obama, political power has been grabbed by politicians in their seventies and eighties. What is the secret energy that fuels politicians like 72-year-old Donald Trump and the 78-year-old likely House speaker Nancy Pelosi? Their engagement, ambition and intellectual activity are all factors, experts on elderly health care say.

Pelosi is a good example of this aging cadre: bold and active, she marches through the endless corridors of Capitol Hill showing

no sign of her age as she marshals her Democrats in opposition to the Republican agenda. In February, the petite Pelosi grabbed headlines for standing on four-inch (10-centimeter) heels throughout an eight-hour filibuster, while far younger politicians opted for comfortable sneakers when they embarked on similar marathon speeches. The Californian was nominated by her Democratic colleagues to become speaker of the House-the third highest position in the US government-in January. She was already speaker from 2007 to 2010, and has no plans to retire or give up her leadership role, particularly after Democrats won back the House majority after the November mid-term election. Pelosi, who turns 79 in March, will replace Republic Paul Ryan, 48. Her second-in-command is 79, and her third is 78. In the Senate, the Republican majority is led by Mitch McConnell, who turns

Summit of career

Scientific studies show that "as we get

77 in February.

older, people who have purpose and passion, live longer and do well," said Maria Torroella Carney, chief of the division of geriatric and palliative medicine at Northwell Health in New York. "I'm seeing it more and more in other professions," she told AFP, especially those in leadership positions, whether in business or politics. Of course, people in positions of political and economic power often have access to better medical care than the working class, which is a major factor in living longer.

#### How do they stay in shape?

Pelosi said in a 2011 interview with the New Yorker magazine that she enjoys power walking along the banks of the Potomac River. Eric De Jonge, director of geriatrics at MedStar Washington Hospital Center, said he has "cared for senior US politicians," but declined to name which ones. Sleeping well, eating well, exercising and having "a balanced life" are the pillars of success for healthy aging, he said. But the stresses of

political life, all those meetings, all the traveling, the fiery arguments, the late-night negotiations... Aren't those things harmful to the health? On the contrary, he said. "If you love your job, and you know, you have a chance to have great influence, and you really enjoy it, that may not being as stressful as you know, someone who was really unhappy or has emotional or medical issues," De Jonge said. "It must be very compelling to have a chance to be in that leadership role, after you spend 30-40 years climbing the ladder, and all of a sudden you're there and so why would you give that up?"

#### Dementia

In the powerful Senate, an elite group of 100 members, seniority is seen as the top criteria for heading a committee-so most senators have learned to be patient. Chuck Grassley, chief of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in charge of confirming judges to the Supreme Court, is 85 - the same age as the influential Democrat, Dianne Feinstein,

who just won re-election. Sometimes, another re-election just seems too much. In April, Senator Thad Cochran finally stepped down at age 80 from his spot as chair of the powerful Appropriations Committee after health problems and appearing disoriented.

"I worry more about the well-being of someone who's 85 than I do about someone who's 75," said De Jonge, recalling that there is a 50 percent risk of dementia after age 85. But plenty of aging politicians are keeping their ambitions intact.

Trump, who reportedly loves hamburgers and sodas but golfs regularly, and says he never drinks or smokes, has vowed to seek office again in 2020. He beat Hillary Clinton-who was then 69 - in 2016, and could face off against more adversaries of his own era next time around. There is certainly a younger faction of leaders taking shape in American politics. But those sharpening their swords for the next political tussle include Elizabeth Warren (69), Joe Biden (76) and Bernie Sanders (77). — AFP



• Kuwait 1 (the New str.) • Kuwait 2 (Panasonic Tower) • Kuwait 3 (Soug Sharq) • Hawaili 1 (Tunis str.) • Hawaili 2 (Bin Khaldon str.) • Shuwaikh (4th Ring road) • Al-Rai (4th Ring road) • Salmiya (Salem Al-Mubarsk str.) • Salmiya (Boulevard Mall) • Farwanilya (Behind police Station) • Fahaheel (Opp. General Parking) • Jahra (Opp. Main Co-op.) • Airport (Departure Hall) • Soug Sharq (Mezanine)

### Analysis



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#### **Washington Watch**

## US racism is in the open, so is the fight against it

By Dr James J Zogby

COMMERCIAL

was having lunch this week with an Arab friend and before long, as expected, the conversation turned to Donald Trump, the impact he is having on our political life and the world's perception of America and the American people. He clearly understood the degree to which Trump's election, his policies, and his all too frequent acts of incitement have helped to fuel hostility toward America's basic institutions and many forms of bigotry - racism, hostility toward immigrants and refugees, Islamophobia, and xenophobia. At one point, however, he surprised me by saying "There's

also silver lining to what Trump has done."
"What silver lining?" I asked. He went on to explain that as a long-time observer of the American scene, he felt that while racism and other forms of intolerance have long defined American life, the very real threat posed by Trump's behaviors has forced a broad segment of American institutions and political leaders to directly and forcefully face down these evils. As he put it, "Your racism and the fight against it are now out in

Five decades ago, the massive American civil rights movement led the White House and Congress to pass laws ending racial segregation, guaranteeing voting rights, and expanding economic opportunities for African Americans. These laws, despite the advances they represented, did not end racism. They provided some degree of justice for its victims, but the poison of racial animosity continued to simmer under the surface and was regularly exploited by Republican politicians from Nixon to Reagan to Bush.

It wasn't until Bill Clinton that an American president attempted to tackle racism head-on. His effort to engage Americans in a national dialogue on race, was well-conceived, but poorly executed and short lived. Many good-hearted and thoughtful people were lulled into the false belief that with the election of Barack Obama, America had finally "transcended race." Unfortunately, as we were soon to learn, the Republican party was determined to take the country in the opposite direction by weaponizing Obama's "differentness" and using it to build opposition to the new president. Republican slogans like "we want our country back" sent the not so subtle message to white voters that the Obama Administration wasn't looking

Obama's "differentness" also played out in rightwing propaganda that "Obama is a Muslim" or "Obama's not American, he's Kenyan" - and therefore not a legitimate president. These notions were broadly embraced by rank and file Republicans. They had a devastating and lasting impact. In 2016 polling we found that almost two-thirds of Trump voters believed that Obama wasn't a Christian and a majority weren't sure he was born in the United States.

#### No forceful response

For his part, President Obama was in a bind. He clearly saw the way his opponents were exploiting race and Islamophobia against him, but his ability to push back was limited by the fact that he was the target of the attacks. What was needed to stem the growth of this hate was a forceful response from Republican leaders. Other than John McCain, who did speak out on a few occasions, most GOP Congressional leaders and presidential aspirants either joined in fanning the flames of intolerance or silently acquiesced to it.

When Donald Trump burst onto the scene as a 2016 presidential candidate, Republicans were slow to react. At first, they were convinced his candidacy would implode. Each time he would commit an outrage, they would say to themselves - "this will be the end of him." Instead, he grew stronger because what they failed to understand was that the beast of racism and "fear of the other" that they had nurtured was now poised to devour them. Some did publicly denounce him, but even they eventually made their peace with Trump because they feared losing the support of what they called "his base" - that is, the inflamed mass of voters who had felt ignored and betrayed and now felt they had a champion.

Unlike earlier GOP presidents, Trump didn't exploit fears with "dog whistles" or subtly coded messages. He gave full-throated voice to voter anger and called out and gave names to those whom they had come to fear or feel had denied them their rightful inheritance (Mexicans, Muslims, Blacks, and refugees) and those whom they held responsible for this perceived injustice (the media, coastal elites, the courts, and Obama

and Democrats, in general).

While we Americans love to wax poetic about "our values and our ideals," many observers around the world know our history and the problems that plague our society. They know about our original sins of slavery, genocide against indigenous people, imperial conquest of the North American continent, and the subjugation of its peoples. They also know about the persistence of racism and the way it has impacted our society and our policies - foreign and domestic. What my Arab friend was saying was that now the lid is off. Our racism is no longer hidden or expressed in coded messages.

NOTE: Dr James J Zogby is the President of the

Arab American Institute



# Guiding WTO reform process in the right direction

he rules-based multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its core, is the cornerstone of economic globalization and free trade. It has made significant contributions to promoting international trade, economic growth and sustainable development. Since its accession to the WTO, China has been a staunch supporter of the multilateral trading system, advocating for the WTO to play a greater role in global economic governance, and taken firm position against protectionism.

At a time when the world economy is undergoing profound changes and the multilateral trading system is severely undermined by rising unilateralism and protectionism, China supports necessary reform of the WTO, in order to enhance its authority and efficacy.

Recently, China's Ministry of Commerce has issued "China's Position Paper on WTO Reform", which stated

three basic principles and five suggestions on WTO form.

The three basic principles are as follows: Firstly, the WTO reform shall preserve the core values of the multilateral trading system; Secondly, the WTO reform shall safeguard the development interests of developing members; Thirdly, the WTO reform shall follow the practice of decision-making by consensus.

The five suggestions are as follows: Firstly, the WTO reform should upload the primacy of the multilateral trading system; Secondly, the priority of the reform is to address the existential problems faced by the WTO; Thirdly, the reform should address the imbalance of trade rules and respond to the latest developments of our time; Fourthly, the reform should safeguard the special and differential treatment for developing members; Last but not least, the reform should respect members' development models. China is the largest developing country in the world and is prepared to commit itself with what is commensurate with its level of development and economic capacity. However, China will never accept the denial of its right in special and differential treatment as a developing member state of the organization.

The reform of the WTO is related to the interests and development space of developing countries, including China and Kuwait. China looks forward to strengthening coordination and cooperation with Kuwait and other developing countries in this field, together guiding WTO reform process in the right direction, in order to bring the goodness of the reform to the world economy and the whole countries of the world.

NOTE: Provided by the spokesperson of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Kuwait

## New wave of Myanmar youth activists look beyond Suu Kyi

yanmar youth activist and television host Thinzar Shun Lei Yi would once have called herself one of Aung San Suu Kyi's greatest fans. Now, she is one of her most vocal critics. The 27-year-old belongs to a small but high-profile group of liberal activists, many former die-hard Suu Kyi supporters, who are growing increasingly disillusioned with the administration they voted into power with sky-high hopes three years ago. "I lost my idol, I'm confused, frustrated and lost," said Thinzar Shun Lei Yi, who hosts an 'Under 30' talk show on a popular local website.

"Most of the activists and youths are now thinking: 'What is next', 'What will happen?', 'What can we do?' At this stage, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is going her own way and nobody can intervene, and she won't listen to civil society organizations," she said, using the honorific for women in Myanmar. While Suu Kyi continues to inspire devotion among many ordinary Burmese, the emergence of a dissenting youth movement - driven by anger over her handling of ethnic minorities, including the Muslim Rohingya, as well as curbs on the media and civil society presents a new challenge for her administration.

At stake is the future of Myanmar's transition towards democracy after years of military rule. With a general election looming in 2020, the country's first civilian government in decades is confronted by growing divisions among activists who once coalesced around her National League for Democracy party. NLD spokesman Myo Nyunt said the party was trying to win over young people, increasing the budget for education and supporting vocational training programs. "The youth and the people expected a lot from our government," he said. "We couldn't live up to their expectations, we admit. But

we are doing our best. Suu Kyi took power in 2016 after a landslide election win, vowing to continue democratic reforms and end the country's long-running civil wars. Since then, the administration has come under pressure over its response to a military crackdown against the Rohingya minority that the United Nations has described as "ethnic cleansing" with "genocidal intent", as well as faltering peace talks with ethnic armed groups and a stagnating

Free speech Activists say the civilian government has also become increasingly authoritarian, failing to use its overwhelming parliamentary majority to scrap colonialera laws used to stifle dissent, while tightening restrictions on civil society. In recent months, they have staged several protests, including an anti-war march in the commercial capital of Yangon in May that ended in scuffles. A total of 17 people were charged with unlawful protest, including Thinzar Shun Lei Yi. Their trial is ongoing. "Sensitive issues are banned, and protesters arrested and beaten," she said. "The National League of Democracy, the party using the name of democracy, must respect democracy and human rights.'

According to free speech organization Athan, which means 'Voice' in Burmese, 44 journalists and 142 activists have faced trial since the Suu Kyi government took power. The group's founder, poet and activist Maung Saung Kha, is one of them. He was also among the protesters charged alongside Thinzar Shun Lei Yi in May. Four months later, in September, they both helped organize another demonstration, this time for free speech.

Facing the crowd, Maung Saung Kha - who is still an NLD member - donned the orange shirt traditionally worn by his party's lawmakers and draped a green jacket resembling military garb over it. Armed with a copy of the staterun daily newspaper The Mirror, he began beating journalists gathered nearby. "The government has failed to use its power to protect people's rights," he told Reuters. Myo Nyunt, the party spokesman, said the government was cooperating with non-governmental organizations, but their activities needed to be examined case-by-case. "If it is not related to security or not a divisive issue among ethnics, we accept them," he said. "We are going forward to democracy so we acknowledge the role of NGOs, but we have concerns that NGOs are being influenced by sponsors instead of being independent."

'Acknowledge Rohingya'

While she has no control over the military, Suu Kyi has faced international criticism for failing to defend the Rohingya, more than 730,000 of whom fled a sweeping army cracking in western Rakhine state in 2017, according to UN agencies. The crackdown was launched in response to insurgent Rohingya

attacks on security forces. Myanmar denies almost all the allegations of atrocities made by refugees, saying the army was carrying out a legitimate campaign against

While many among Myanmar's Buddhist majority revile the Rohingya, the young activists offer a rare sympathetic voice. "We acknowledge Rohingya. We totally denounce the fact that they are referred to as 'Bengali'," said Maung Saung Kha, referring to a term commonly used in Myanmar to imply the Rohingya are interlopers from Bangladesh, despite a long history in the country. "We haven't seen any acknowledgement or punishment for the things that hap-pened," he said. "The refugees will not come back as long as these people think of them as less than humans, and that it is not a crime to kill them." Khin Sandar, another young activist facing unlawful protest charges, spent months campaigning for the NLD ahead of the 2015 election but lost faith in Suu Kyi over her handling of the Rakhine crisis. — Reuters

## **Towering dreams:** Trump sought a Moscow landmark for decades

onald Trump had a dream of building a golden 100-story tower overlooking the Kremlin in Moscow, the crowning achievement of his global real estate empire. "Russia is one of the hottest places in the world for investment," he said in 2007. We will be in Moscow at some point." But his pursuit of the Trump Tower logo gleaming over the Russian capital now threatens his presidency. On Thursday, his former lawyer Michael Cohen admitted in a court filing that they pursued the project throughout the first half of 2016 via contacts with Russian President Vladimir Putin's office, even after the real estate tycoon had captured the Republican nomination for the US presidency.

Felix Sater, another Trump associate who worked with Cohen on the project, told Buzzfeed and other media that they even planned to gift the \$50 million penthouse to Putin - who is now accused by US intelligence of helping Trump win the 2016 election. "All the oligarchs would line up to live in the same building as Putin," Sater said. Cohen's admission contradicted previous claims he, Trump and Trump's family made that they had no business relations with Russia at the time.

Trump on Thursday branded his onetime top assistant an outright liar. Still, the billionaire added, pursuing a deal with Russians during the 2016 presidential race wasn't illegal. "There was a good chance that I wouldn't have won, in which case I would have gotten back into the business, and why should I lose lots of opportunities?" Trump said.

#### 30-year Moscow dream

Trump was already one of the titans of New York real estate, known for his gold-trimmed flagship Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue, when he got the Moscow bug in 1986 in a lunch with Soviet ambassador Yuri Dubinin. "Dubinin's daughter, it turned out, had read about Trump Tower and knew all about it," Trump recalled in his book "The Art of the Deal." "One thing led to another and now I'm talking about building a large luxury hotel, across the street from the Kremlin." He traveled with then-wife Ivana to view potential sites the following year. "It was an extraordinary experience," he wrote. "I was impressed with the ambition of the Soviet officials to make a deal."

The tycoon was bogged down over the next decade by multiple bankruptcies in his Atlantic City casinos. By 1997, he was back at the idea, discussing a possible casino project with rising political star General Alexander Lebed. He knew there was money and appreciation of his name: He was already selling Trump-branded condominiums in Florida to rich Russians. In the mid-2000s, Trump's son Donald Jr made a half-dozen trips to Russia. — AFP

# Business

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Zain launches 'Say It Slower' offer for eeZee customers

The asset quality of GCC banks is quite sound: Al-Marzouq



Al-Dousari: EQUATE plays key role in transforming petrochemical industry





right) and China's President Xi Jinping (right), hold a meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires, yesterday. — AFP

# BRICS slams protectionism amid trade spat

## Trump threat to escalate tariffs on China overshadows G20

**BUENOS AIRES:** Chinese President Xi Jinping and the leaders of major developing economies condemned protectionism at a G20 summit in Argentina on Friday overshadowed by US President Donald Trump's threat to escalate tariffs on China.

This year's two-day gathering is a major test for the Group of 20 industrialized nations, whose leaders first met in 2008 to help rescue the global economy from the worst financial crisis in seven decades.

With a rise in nationalist sentiment in many countries, the G20 - which accounts for two-thirds of the world population - faces questions over its ability to deal with trade tensions, which have roiled global markets. Hanging over the summit in Buenos Aires is the trade dispute between the United States and China, the world's two largest economies, which have imposed tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of each other's imports after Trump launched an effort to correct what he views as China's unfair commercial practices.

Global financial markets took their lead next week from the outcome of talks between Trump and Xi over dinner, aimed at resolving differences that are weighing on global economic growth.

Xi and other leaders from the BRICS group of leading emerging economies - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - issued a statement calling for open international trade and a strengthening of the World Trade Organization (WTO).

"The spirit and rules of the WTO run counter to unilateral and protectionist measures," they said. "We call on all members to oppose such WTO-inconsistent measures, stand by their commitments undertaken in

Beijing hopes to persuade Trump to abandon plans to increase tariffs on \$200 billion of Chinese goods to 25 percent in January, from 10 percent at present.

US stocks closed higher on Friday on hopes that a deal could be reached. Trump said there had been some positive signs. "We're working very hard. If we could make a deal that would be good. I think they want to. I think we'd like to. We'll see," he said.

A Chinese foreign ministry official in Buenos Aires said there were signs of increasing consensus ahead of the discussions, although differences remained.

Seeking common ground On the eve of the summit, G20 nations were still trying to reach consensus on wording for the summit's communique on major issues including trade, migration and climate change, which in past years have been worked out well in advance.

Officials hammering out the communique, known as "sherpas," said they expected to work into the night. "This has been an unprecedentedly long drafting," said Russia's sherpa, Svetlana Lukash. "It's very complicated," she said, adding that differences remained on all the key issues.

Earlier in November, officials from countries attending a major Asia-Pacific summit failed to issue a joint statement for the first time after the US delegation clashed with China over trade and security.

However, delegates to the Buenos Aires talks said good progress had been made on economic sections of the final communique. Argentina's presidency voiced cautious optimism that consensus would be reached, but a White House official said the United States would walk away from any statement that prejudiced US interests.

Highlighting the deep rifts within the G20. European Council President Donald Tusk said the European Union would extend its economic sanctions

on Moscow in December, after Russian ships fired on Ukrainian vessels in the Sea of Azov last week, seizing the boats and sailors.

"As this is a difficult moment for international cooperation, I would like to appeal to the leaders to use this summit ... to seriously discuss real issues such as trade wars, the tragic situation in Syria and Yemen and the Russian aggression in Ukraine," Tusk told a

Trump cited Russia's seizure of the ships as the reason he canceled a planned bilateral meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, where they had been expected to discuss the US leader's threat to withdraw from the Cold War-era Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty.

Moscow said US domestic politics may have been the real reason behind the cancellation after Trump's former personal lawyer pleaded guilty on Thursday to lying to Congress about a proposed Trump Organization skyscraper in the Russian capital. A White House spokeswoman denied this and Trump said on Friday the ships' seizure was the "sole reason" he scratched the meeting. A Kremlin spokesman said Putin was ready to continue talks with Trump. — Reuters

## India's economic growth slows as Modi prepares for re-election

NEW DELHI: India's economic growth fell to a worse-than-expected 7.1 percent in the July-September quarter, dragged down by a slower consumer spending and farm growth, in a setback for Prime Minister Narendra Modi who faces a national election by May.

India's growth is still faster than China's 6.5 percent in the same quarter, but the figures were a come-down from the more than two-year high of 8.2 percent set in the June quarter.

A Reuters poll of economists had forecasted growth of 7.4 percent for the quarter. Having swept to power in 2014 promising to galvanize the economy, Modi has been criticized for failing to create enough jobs for the more than 12 million young Indians entering

the labor force each year.

India needs growth of 8-percent-plus to generate enough jobs for those workers.

The unemployment rate rose to a twoyear high of 6.9 percent in October, with nearly 30 million young people looking for jobs, according to a report released this month by Centre for Monitoring India Economy (CMIE), a Mumbai based think tank. Some economists expect the slowdown to stretch on to the election, or beyond encouraging the government to raise spending and breach its fiscal deficit target.

"With elections coming up, you will see a ramp-up in spending," said Teresa John, an economist at Nirmal Bang Institutional Equities, a Mumbai based brokerage, who added growth could even be slower in the second half of the fiscal year. The Statistics Ministry released data showing a decline in growth of the farm sector and consumer spending, raising fears that slower rural wage growth could hit growth in the second half of the fiscal year ending in March 2019.

#### Food prices

The gross domestic product figure was

"disappointing", Subhash Chandra Garg, economic affairs secretary, said in a tweet, adding first half GDP growth of 7.6 percent nonetheless remained robust and healthy still highest in the world.

On Wednesday, a government panel announced revised growth estimates that made the Modi administration's record look better than the previous Congress-led governments. Having estimated back in August that the Congress oversaw an average annual growth rate of 8.1 percent during its decade in power, the Statistics Ministry revised that number down to 6.82 percent for 2005/06 to 2011/12 period, putting it well below the 7.35 percent average for the first four years of Modi's term.

A fall in food prices has hit rural incomes in recent months, which in turn dampened sales of consumer durables and other products. Tens of thousands of farmers and rural workers marched to the Indian parliament in the capital, New Delhi, on Friday in a protest against soaring operating costs and plunging produce prices that have brought

Farm output grew 3.8 percent year-on-



ALLAHABAD: An Indian worker works on a railway bridge built over the Ganges River in Allahabad yesterday. —AFP

year in the September quarter compared with 5.3 percent the previous quarter. The construction sector, one of the biggest employers after agriculture, grew 7.8 percent year-on-year, slower than 8.7 percent in the previous quarter. Several factors conspired to hold the economy back during the

middle of this year, including a weak rupee and a squeeze in India's shadow banking sector that hindered both investment and

consumption. The broader NSE share index is up 3.3 percent so far this year. In 2017 NSE had gained 28.6 percent. — Reuters

Business

# Zain launches 'Say It Slower' offer for eeZee customers

## Pay for first 3 minutes only and enjoy the rest of your call for free up to an hour

# Green finance blooms as investors look beyond profits

**PARIS:** Environment-friendly finance is blooming thanks to investors willing to weigh profits against ecology, but decisions about meaningful investments can be complex.

At first sight the idea of "green finance" as a vehicle to protect the environment or help businesses in their transition towards a more sustainable future seems non-controversial. But in fact, green finance lumps together a dizzying array of options and a debate is raging over which ones are truly worthy of green investor money-and which aren't.

#### Oil? Nuclear?

What about, say, oil companies? No way, respond critics, pointing to the damage that the exploration and use of fossil fuel has done to the planet. But others say it would be ecologically responsible to help petroleum majors shift towards a greener future by developing alternative energy

Nuclear energy is another hot potato. The industry was once unanimously reviled as the arch enemy by the environmental movement, but some now admit that the absence of damaging greenhouse gases from nuclear power stations has given them

#### 'Exponential growth'

A decade after the launch of the early green bonds-long-term borrowing for environmental projects-investors' options have grown dramatically, but the share of green instruments in global finance is still small. "Green bond issuance in 2018 so far have reached \$156.8 billion, which is around two percent of the global bond market," said Frederic Gabizon, head of Debt Capital Markets at HSBC France.

"This may seem marginal, but growth has been exponential since the start," he said, adding that investors needed to take the long view given the slow pace of green infrastructure growth.

Pressure from civil society, governments and private citizens has prompted money professionals to look beyond purely financial motives as they respond to green investor interest, and to polish their image along the way. It is true that green investments rarely outperform traditional placements in terms of short-term yields, but modern investors seem to be taking a broader view than just monetary returns.

#### 'You can't breathe'

"We're seeing a new young generation of savers coming through now, who want slightly different things," said Rob Hardy, head of EMEA corporate governance at JPMorgan.

"There is no point in earning a lot of money if you can't breathe the air," he said.

There is no binding global regulatory framework as yet for green finance, but most professionals apply the so-called "green bonds principles" issued by the International Capital Market Association to their own operations.

In a wind farm project, for example, the borrower must prove that the money really was used for the farm's construction, and be able to provide an exact measure of the project's environmental impact.

External auditing has now also become commonplace, according to Rahul Ghosh, senior vice president for global environmental, social and governance questions at Moody's, a ratings firm.

"Today in Europe, I believe more than 95 percent of green bonds issued in the market will carry some sort of external review," he said.

#### Fight green washing

This trend, he said, was particularly important to combat "green washing", the attempt to put an environment-friendly spin on practices that are actually harmful. "Even if the methodologies have not all been standardized, we are starting to have tools to tackle the complexity of this subject," said Sandrine Enguehard, a green finance specialist at French bank Societe Generale.

"You can't just limit yourself to measuring pollu-

tion at the end of an exhaust pipe," she said. Experts say evaluating the carbon footprint of a wind turbine is relatively easy, but what about the complexity of measuring the environmental impact of an urban rehabilitation program?

#### Homework

"As an investor, you have to do your homework, spend some time to be sure it isn't green washing," said Bram Bos, a green bond portfolio manager at NN IP, an asset management firm. Green washing is, however, still very common, according to the French Social Investment Forum, an association promoting responsible finance.

"Although outright lies are very rare thankfully, there are still bad practices and some people abuse the ecology argument," it said. But if they do, they risk losing their good name in the investment community with serious consequences, according to Stephane Marciel, head of Sustainable Bonds at Societe Generale.

"Reputation is a very powerful weapon," he said. "If funds are not used properly, the borrower's reputation is ruined and they lose access to the market." —AFP

**KUWAIT:** Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, announced the launch of its latest offering for prepaid (eeZee) customers entitled "Say It Slower". The new offer allows prepaid customers to enjoy voice calls on Zain's network while only paying for the first three minutes of the call and enjoying the rest (up to an hour) for FREE.

Zain specifically designed the new offer for its prepaid (eeZee) customers with the aim of enabling them to enjoy more voice calls on its network with a more competitive price. The company is keen on meeting its customers' needs and aspirations to offer them an amazing experience on its biggest and most advanced network in Kuwait.

The new offer, which continues for one month, allows prepaid (eeZee) customers to enjoy voice calls on Zain's network (Zain line to Zain line) while only charging them for the first three minutes of the

call. After the first three minutes, customers can enjoy the remaining minutes (57 minutes) for FREE at no cost for a total of one hour (60 minutes). Customers can subscribe to the new offer for FREE by sending "357" to 999.

The new offer was specifically designed to complement the needs and aspirations of Zain's prepaid customers. By launching this new prepaid offer, the company aims at creating a new concept for the services it offers, as well as offering convenience with flexible plans that meet the different personal and professional needs of its customers.

Zain is committed to offer the most flexible and competitive offerings in the market for both prepaid and postpaid customers, reinforcing its leadership position and its pledge in offering the best services and offers to the largest family of subscribers in



Sunday, December 2, 2018

# China allows **UBS** to control local securities business

BEIJING: UBS has been authorized by China's securities regulator to take a controlling stake in a local business, making the Swiss giant the first foreign bank allowed to do so under new rules.

Beijing in April relaxed the rules in the financial industry in a move to open up the economy. "The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) recently approved UBS AG to increase the shareholding ratio of UBS Securities Co. Ltd. to 51 percent," the regulator said in a statement late Friday.

"This is the first foreign-controlled securities company approved by the China Securities Regulatory Commission after the implementation of the Measures for the Administration of Foreign-invested Securities Companies." USB AG, which currently owns about 25 per cent of shares in the USB Securities Co. Ltd joint venture, said in a statement that it would acquire stakes from China Guodian Capital Holdings and COFCO.

Other financial firms like Wall Street titan JP Morgan Chase and Japan's Nomura Holdings are still awaiting approval. Laws limiting foreign ownership of local financial firms have long stopped global banks from independently operating in China and limited their growth. But Beijing said it would liberalize shareholding limits in the financial services industry last year, soon after US President Donald Trump visited. Officials moved to make good on the pledge in April, immediately allowing foreign investors to take 51 percent stakes in securities firms and fund managers, with pledges set out to eventually allow full control. Earlier this week, two European insurance giants Allianz and Axa received approval to expand their footprint in China-Allianz has been allowed to start a company fully funded by foreign capital while Axa would take full control of a

joint venture. Beijing has pledged to open up its economy as it looks to head off a possible trade tensions have increased with the United States, which accuses it of using unfair practices to get an advantage for its own firms and destroying American jobs.

Trump has slapped punishing tariffs on more than \$250 billion in Chinese imports so far this year and China responded with its own tariffs on \$110 billion in US goods.

But the US president has threatened to target the remaining \$267 billion worth of Chinese imports as well, hitting Apple iPhones and laptops produced in China. Trump is set to meet with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Argentina yesterday where they are attending the G20 summit. —AFP

## **Macron and Abe** seek to avert Renault-Nissan row

TOKYO/PARIS: France and Japan's leaders met for bilateral talks to avert a diplomatic row over the Renault-Nissan-Mitsubishi alliance on Friday following the surprise arrest of its Chairman Carlos Ghosn in Japan. With the carmaking alliance facing its biggest test after the ousting of Ghosn as chairman of Nissan and affiliate Mitsubishi over financial misconduct allegations, President Emmanuel Macron sat down with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the G20 summit in

Ghosn's arrest to face accusations including the under-reporting of income has triggered new attempts by Nissan to weaken Renault's control of the Franco-Japanese alliance, adding to challenges facing Macron at home. Macron, whose government has repeatedly pressed Japan to share evidence unearthed by Nissan's internal investigation into Ghosn, "restated his firm wish that the alliance should be preserved, along with the stability of the group", an Elysee official said after Friday's meeting with Abe.

Abe said it was important to "maintain a stable relationship", according to a spokesman for the Japanese leader. "However, he said the future of the alliance is up to the private-sector shareholders. The government of Japan does not prejudge the future of the alliance," the spokesman said. The French official quoted Abe as telling Macron that "the legal process must be allowed to take its course."

#### Leaderless

Tokyo authorities on Friday extended Ghosn's detention for a second time, by the maximum-allowed 10 days, local media reported. Prosecutors must file charges by Dec. 10 or arrest Ghosn for new crimes to hold him beyond that date.

Tokyo prosecutors declined to comment. Nissan did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Ghosn's detention has left the global auto alliance without its leader and main interlocutor with the French government, which owns 15 percent of



Renault and wants to maintain the ownership structure

enshrining its control of the partnership. But Nissan Chief Executive Hiroto Saikawa has made clear that Nissan wants to weaken the control of its smaller parent as it carries out a governance

Renault's 43.4 percent Nissan stake ensures an effective voting majority at shareholder meetings, while Nissan's reciprocal 15 percent Renault holding carries no voting rights.

The Macron-Abe talks came as a diplomatic spat was brewing over comments by French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire, who said that his Japanese counterpart Hiroshige Seko had agreed in earlier talks that the cross-shareholdings should be left unchanged.

Seko denied any such agreement through a rare official letter of protest sent to Le Maire, Japanese daily newspaper Mainichi Shimbun reported. Officials at both of the ministries declined to comment on the letter or the incident. Le Maire also came in for criticism from Renault staff representatives concerned for the alliance. "The government should know their place and stay there," said a union official at the French carmaker. "This kind of overreaching may be counter-

As economy minister, Macron masterminded the French government's surprise increase to its Renault stake in 2015, raising concern within Nissan that the Elysee sought to wield more influence over the Japanese company.

Renault, Nissan and Mitsubishi "emphatically reiterated" their commitment to the alliance on Thursday after executives met in Amsterdam for the first time since Ghosn's arrest.

A review of the capital structure was not discussed at the meeting, Mitsubishi CEO Osamu Masuko said. —Reuters

# 26 new winners in Al-Hassad Islamic account list this week

KUWAIT: Ahli United Bank recently conducted its Al-Hassad Islamic account weekly draw, Kuwait's leading sharia- compliant rewards program that offers a broad range of prizes to the largest number of winners, on the 28th of November 2018. The account provides 26 weekly prizes that are comprised of KD 25,000 as a grand prize and 25 other prizes valued at KD 1,000 each. AUB also offers four quarterly prizes that are valued at KD 250,000 to each winner allowing them to achieve their dreams of travelling, studying abroad, or owning their dream home or car.

On this occasion Ahli United Bank announced, "With this draw, we are adding 26 new winners and prizes to the Al-Hassad Islamic account whereby, the total number of winners annually will include more than 1300.

The weekly grand prize winner of KD 25,000

Abdullah Salem Alali.

25 other winners won prizes of KD 1,000 and are as follows: Ali Hamad Alazemi, Nouf Talal Al-Ghaniem, Aesha Mutair Ghadban, NedhAl-Mahmmoud Ahmadi, Fahad Saad Alhumaidi, Shouq Fahad Alduwailah, Mona Mostafa Humod, Jassim Abdulraheem Alholi, Wafaa Mohammad Al-Musallam, Veronica Patrick Mills, Abdullah Salem Alali, Abdulmohsen Mohammad Al-Fadhli, Ghaida Ali Alsabt, Ali Salem Habrout, Nawwaf Abdullah Alenezi, Eissa Ghanim Al-Ofisan, Suad Afar Alkhalaf, Naser Abduljalil Aljeshi, Naeema Badawi Badawi, Hussain Ali Alhaddad, Maysa Abdulmohsin Habib, Mariam Hasan Buabbood, Mahmood Alawi Shober, Khulood Juma Sabah, and Karima Abdulhussain Al-Helli.

Al-Hassad Islamic account's customers in Kuwait and Bahrain are eligible to participate in the draw in line with the program's terms and conditions. Ahli United Bank added, "There are increased opportunities that await our current customers and those who are interested in opening an Al Hassad Islamic account to benefit from the wide range of prizes and opportunities offered this year." Individual customers can open their accounts with a minimum deposit of KD 100, qualifying them to enter the draw.

# Russian CB seen raising rates in coming months

MOSCOW: The Russian central bank will likely need to raise interest rates in the next few months to tame rising inflation, given its plan to resume regular purchases of foreign currency on the local market, a Reuters monthly poll showed on Friday.

Russia raised rates for the first time since 2014 in September in response to a falling rouble and threats of more US sanctions. A planned tax increase and the resumption of daily FX buying for state reserves suggest lending rates will need to be higher to prevent a spike in inflation. The central bank is expected to hold its key interest rate at 7.50 percent at the board meeting on Dec. 14, the consensus forecast of 18 analysts and economists showed.

But seven of those polled predicted an increase to 7.75 this year compared with a previous poll in late October that showed the central bank was expected to keep the rate unchanged at 7.50 until the end of 2019. Central Bank Governor Elvira Nabiullina may have changed market expectations by saying this week that the bank would consider either holding or raising rates at the next board meeting.—Reuters

Business

# The asset quality of GCC banks is quite sound: Al-Marzouq

# The use of KFH e-channels has grown in recent years

GCC banks have

to upgrade

strategies,

payment

KUWAIT: Kuwait Finance House KFH's Chairman main reason is the lack of government expenditure Hamad Al-Marzouq said that the overall financial position of the GCC banks is positive with solid capitalization as reflected by their average capital-asset ratio of around 18.7 percent, which is well above the

minimum regulatory requirements. "The asset quality of the GCC banks is quite sound

with non performing financing NPFs ratio at around 3.2 percent. In Kuwait, for example, this ratio is lower at around 2 percent. Also, The GCC banks have healthy return on equity delivering around 12.7 percent," Al-Marzouq added in the inaugural seminar of TCB Gulf Center in the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

He said that one of the most important challenges facing the global markets lies in the increase of debt over a short period of time, indicating that the high level of debt is due to the very loose monetary environment. Posing significant risks at all levelswhether individuals, companies or lenders especially developing countries, the global debt has risen from

\$87 trillion in 2000 to \$247 trillion by the end of 2017. "I have seen companies and countries with junk quality issues being oversubscribed by about 15 times. I think this will impact the emerging markets," Al-Marzouq added.

"Coming to the key challenges facing the GCC banks, I see that the main challenge lies in the operating activities growth. Going forward, I believe that the banks will not be able to achieve similar growth rates to those they recorded over the past decades. The

which is the main engine and the key provider for economic activity in the GCC." He explained.

Al-Marzouq added that when oil prices were very volatile, GCC governments responded to those developments by tightening up the projects. This has reflected negatively on the economic growth in general. He noted that it is very difficult for the private sector to plan going forward because of the volatile oil prices which in turn impact the government spending and show a structural imbalance in the GCC economies.

With the large expected participants in the future workforce, Al-Marzouq stressed that generating jobs

> during the coming period poses a major challenge that these GCC countries can handle only through privatization. "We have seen the privatization law approved by the parliament almost 8 years ago, but the program has not been activated since then," he added.

"Another challenge the GCC banks face is that of accommodating the changes

in the consumer behavior, in terms of spending through cashless financial transactions. There are forecasts that these cashless financial transactions are going to dominate at least 80 percent of total transactions in the next 5 years. This is quite significant." Al Marzouq explained.

He recommended that the GCC banks should upgrade their strategies and update their payment methodologies in order to adapt to the new reality.

In this regard, Al-Marzouq pointed to the growing



use of KFH e-channels by customers in recent years. The Conference Board Gulf Center for Economic and Business Studies (the "TCB GulfCenter") is part of an expansion program in the GCC region. The Conference Board was founded in May 1916 by some

of the most prominent business leaders in the United States at that time. TCB has been on the forefront of a century of transformations in economic metrics, corporate governance and human capital practices that have shaped the global economy we know today.

### WTO paralyzed as leaders meet to defuse US-China trade war

**GENEVA:** As leaders of the world's top economic powers seek to defuse tension over US President Donald Trump's protectionist trade policies, they will search for common ground on reforms to end a crisis at the institution that was created to prevent economic disoutes escalating into war.

The World Trade Organization is on the verge of becoming dysfunctional, just when it is most needed to fulfil its role as umpire in trade disputes and as the watchdog of global commerce.

"If we continue along the current course, the economic risks will increase, with potential effects for growth, jobs and consumer prices around the world," WTO Director General Roberto Azevedo said last

"The WTO is doing all it can to support efforts to de-escalate the situation, but finding solutions will require political will and it will require leader-

ship from the G20." The WTO has fallen victim to Trump's trade war on economic rival China and the United States has put pressure on the WTO itself to reform. Trump is unhappy with the WTO's failure to hold Beijing to account for failing to open its economy as envisioned when China joined the WTO in 2001.

To force reform at the WTO, Trump's team has blocked new appointments to the world's top trade

court, the WTO's Appellate Body which is now rapidly running out of judges, meaning it will be unable to issue binding rulings in trade disputes.

If there are not enough judges, "disputes go into limbo," former Appellate Body member Jennifer Hillman said. Trump imposed tariffs on steel and aluminum imports into the United States earlier this year. Those, and his tariffs on Chinese imports, have drawn retaliatory tariffs, and represent the kind of dispute the WTO was created to help resolve.

Numerous countries have filed litigation at the WTO to contest the tariffs. But if the WTO is unable to rule on them, Trump's aggressive policies cannot be deemed to be illegal and could continue with impunity.

The US government has slapped tariffs on \$250 billion of Chinese goods to force concessions that would change the terms of trade between the world's two largest economies. Chinese and US officials negotiating easing the trade tensions were making progress on Friday at a Group of 20 summit in Argentina, a Chinese official said.

#### Court with no judges

The US metals tariffs have caused a storm because they are based on what Washington says are national security concerns, which makes them exempt from WTO rules. But other countries dispute the link to national security, and are challenging it at the WTO. They fear Trump could use the same reasoning to put import tariffs on cars and other goods.

Time is running out because the Appellate Body now has the minimum three members it needs to function and from December 2019 it will be down to



BUENOS AIRES: Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Roberto Azevedo, is welcomed by Argentina's President Mauricio Macri at Costa Salguero in Buenos Aires during the G20 Leaders' Summit yesterday. —AFP

one, so only appeals that get underway by that date have a prospect of being resolved. There is a big backlog of cases going through the WTO dispute settlement process, so the metals tariffs are unlikely to be ruled on and appealed within that time frame.

"The new cases of the US duties on steel and alumnium will not be decided... they will not finish before (the end of) 2019," former Appellate Body member Giorgio Sacerdoti said.

Another major dispute at the WTO concerns the refusal by the European Union and the United States to recognize China as a "marketeconomy" whose goods are fairly priced by the

They say the Chinese state's involvement in the economy has created a steel and aluminum supply glut.

China is pursuing legal action against the EU. US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer has said a ruling in China's favor "would be cataclysmic for the WTO". That case is also bogged down. Even if the appeal lands in time, there is another potential

The Appellate Body's Chinese member, Hong Zhao, may have to recuse herself because of a potential conflict of interest, which would make it impossible to decide on any appeal in the case, several trade experts told Reuters. "It's a very difficult situation for her," one diplomat said. Chinese, US, EU and WTO officials declined to comment on whether or not Zhao would need to be recused. —Reuters

# Fix Facebook, whether it wants to or not: Whistleblower

**BRUXELLES:** Eight months after revealing the links between Facebook and Cambridge Analytica (CA), whistleblower Christopher Wylie is pushing for the internet giant to be regulated — whether it wants

He is scathing about Facebook's "man-child" chief executive Mark Zuckerberg and the arrogance of the company he runs. "Facebook knew about what happened with Cambridge Analytica, well before the Trump election, well before Brexit, it did nothing about it," Wylie told AFP.

"They knew about Russian disinformation campaigns on their platform, but to preserve the integrity of their reputation, they place their company above

Last March, Wylie revealed that data analytics firm Cambridge Analytica took millions of Facebook users' data to build psychological profiles of users. He knew because he had worked as the company's research director.

Targeted political campaign messages were used both in the US presidential election and in the run-up to Britain's 2016 Brexit vote, he said. Zuckerberg, in a statement issued in March, acknowledged the data breach but said it had happened without Facebook's knowledge or consent. They had acted to ensure it never happened again, he added.

It is a bewilderingly complex story. But the important thing, said Wylie, was to stay focused on the key facts. "You've got a company like CA whose staff were working in Russia, whose contractors are indicted by Mueller and whose clients were meeting with (the) Russian embassy — so Russia's everywhere in this.'

US Special Counsel Robert Mueller is investigating alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign. But Wylie's real anger is directed at Facebook and Zuckerberg.

"One of the problems is that they have unfortunately a share structure which enables a 'man-child' to run a company like an authoritarian dictator and no one else can do anything about it," he said.

#### 'Arrogance'

Facebook acknowledged on Tuesday that its engineers had flagged suspicious Russian activity as early as 2014 — long before it became public. But Zuckerberg still refused to turn up to hearings held by the British Parliament this week attended by lawmakers from nine different countries.

Instead, vice president Richard Allan had to field questions on allegations that the company had been exploited to manipulate major election results.

For Wylie, Zuckerberg's no-show in London spoke volumes. "He has built a platform that has created substantive risk to our society and to our democracy and he doesn't even have one hour to give...," he said.

Facebook is now being investigated by several US federal agencies. In Britain, it is appealing a £500,000 (\$637,000) fine handed down by the Information Commissioner's Office for serious breaches of the data protection laws over the Cambridge Analytica revelations. And earlier this month, it has had to battle the fall-out from a New York Times report that it used a public relations firm to discredit its critics, including billionaire philanthropist George Soros. Facebook's outgoing communications chief Elliot Schrage took the blame. —AFP

# Wall St rises on trade hopes; S&P, Nasdaq edge higher

NEW YORK: Wall Street rose on Friday as investors hoped for progress on trade in a critical US-China meeting over the weekend, and the S&P 500 and the Nasdaq posted their biggest weekly percentage gains in nearly sev-

The Dow saw its largest weekly advance in two years. Investors were encouraged this week by comments by Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell and subsequent minutes from the central bank's latest meeting that suggested that the Fed will take a data-driven rather than ideological approach to future rate-hikes.

All three major US indexes recorded modest monthly percentage gains for November. A Chinese official said "consensus is steadily increasing" in trade negotiations between the US and China as the G20 meeting got underway in Buenos Aires, sparking hopes there would be a positive resolution in

the ongoing tariff dispute between the world's two largest economies.

US President Donald Trump is set to meet with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping yesterday and the outcome could swing stocks for the rest of the year. "The three key issues that people are really focusing on are how dovish is the Fed going to be going forward, how are trade relations with China going to play out, and what's going on in the oil markets," said Charlie Ripley, senior market strategist for Allianz Investment Management Minneapolis.

"But as we get better news, that's helped lift the markets," Ripley added. 'That's why we're seeing a week like this week." The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 199.62 points, or 0.79 percent, to 25,538.46, the S&P 500 gained 22.4 points, or 0.82 percent, to 2,760.16 and the Nasdaq Composite added 57.45 points, or 0.79 percent, to 7,330.54.

Of the 11 major sectors in the S&P 500, all but energy ended the session in positive territory.

Energy stocks fell 0.2 percent as crude prices extended their slide. But falling oil prices boosted airlines stocks. The Dow Jones Airlines index rose 2.8 percent. Shares of Marriott International Inc sank 5.6 percent after the hotel operator said hackers stole about 500 million records from its Starwood Hotels reservation system.

General Electric Co shares slid 5.5 percent following a Wall Street Journal report that former employees are being questioned by federal investigators about the company's failure to acknowledge its insurance business' worsening results over the years.

Advancing issues outnumbered

declining ones on the NYSE by a 1.17to-1 ratio; on Nasdaq, a 1.24-to-1 ratio favored advancers. The S&P 500 posted 28 new 52-week highs and 6 new lows; the Nasdaq Composite recorded

49 new highs and 90 new lows.

NEW YORK: The closing numbers are displayed after the closing bell of the Dow Industrial Average in New York.—AFP

Volume on US exchanges was 8.39 billion shares, compared to the 7.63 billion average for the full session over the last 20 trading days.—Reuters

Sunday, December 2, 2018 Business

# Al-Dousari: EQUATE plays key role in transforming petrochemical industry

# Group sponsors 13th annual Gulf Petrochemical & Chemical Association (GPCA) forum

**KUWAIT:** EQUATE Group, a global producer of petrochemicals, sponsored the 13th annual Gulf Petrochemicals & Chemicals Association (GPCA) Forum, in support of the pioneering role of the Arabian Gulf's industrial sector. The forum was held in Dubai and lasted for three days. A large number of industrial leaders and professionals from across the globe attended the big event.

The forum focused on various elements highlighting the transformation of the global petrochemical industry. With the industry's vital role in energy supply and increasing energy demands, the petrochemical industry is becoming one of the fastest-growing industries in the world. The industry's success has provided the GCC nations with great economic contributions.

EQUATE Group's vision surely reflects high ambitions to be achieved. EQUATE Senior Vice President Naser Al-Dousari said, "As a global enterprise, EQUATE launched its 2025 Sustainability Strategy that is linked to the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS) and the Kuwait National development plan 2035. We firmly believe that sustainability is a key component for growth through creating added value by focusing on the environment, economy

Al-Dousari assured that EQUATE plays a big role in the industry's transformation process. "EQUATE's contribution to this transformation is clear through our recent launch of Viridis 25 that represents a breakthrough technology by providing a new food-grade polyethylene terephthalate (PET) using up to 25% chemically recycled PET bottles as feedstock, which is



the highest ratio achieved so far worldwide."

He added, "As the first Middle East-headquartered enterprise to benefit from US-based shale gas sources, our ethylene glycol (EG) plant on the US Gulf Coast is scheduled to begin production during the fourth quarter of 2019 with a total capacity of 750,000 tons annually."

It's worth highlighting that EQUATE took its participation plan even further this time by sponsoring a professor along with a number of students from the College of Engineering & Petroleum at Kuwait University to have the opportunity to attend the forum and add to their experiences through interacting with other delegates. The initiative is part of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed with the university for partnership and collaboration in industrial and academic fields.

The 13th Annual GPCA Forum is held in Dubai, UAE,



during November 26 to 28, 2018. The forum gathers Europe that annually produce over 6 million tons of over 2,000 top executives from petrochemical and chemical companies as well as government bodies and other entities from around the globe to discuss various

The EQUATE Group is a global producer of petrochemicals and the world's second largest producer of ethylene glycol (EG). The Group owns and operates industrial complexes in Kuwait, North America and

ethylene, EG, polyethylene (PE), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), styrene monomer (SM), paraxylene (PX), heavy aromatics (HA) and benzene (BZ). The EQUATE Group includes EQUATE Petrochemical Company (EOUATE), The Kuwait Olefins Company (TKOC), as well as a number of subsidiaries such as MEGlobal and Equipolymers. Their products are marketed throughout Asia, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

## **Kuwait-based COFE App 'one of** the top 50 startups to watch for'



KUWAIT: COFE App, an online coffee-centric marketplace, was the only Kuwait-based startup listed as one of the "Top 50 Startups to Watch in the Arab World" by FORBES Middle East. Conceptualized in Kuwait and developed in Silicon Valley, the app connects coffee house chains and speciality coffee roasters with coffee lovers through a seamless, easy and efficient user-interface.

Created by a multinational team of technology professionals who are also coffee enthusiasts, the app has quickly penetrated the market. COFE App has carved itself a niche among coffee lovers and early adopters in a marketplace where coffee is an essential part of daily life and local culture.

COFE App Founder and CEO Ali Al Ebrahim said: "We would like to thank Forbes Middle East for believing in our app's potential. Though it's always nice to be recognized, today we are more focused than ever on growing both our range of vendors and our customer base in Kuwait, the Middle East, and beyond. COFE App brings together tradition and technology in a unified platform serving a region where coffee is more than just a beverage. We are excited about the next phase of our journey and helping coffee lovers get their daily fix of java from their favorite coffee brewers delivered right to their door with a tap on our app."

#### **COFE App features:**

- Saves time through a quick, easy, seamless and simple coffee purchasing experience.
- Extensive menu options that enable drinks customization (for example: sugar, milk type, and other add-ons).
- Multiple delivery options, including fast delivery to office or home, store pick up, and in car delivery service. • Catering services for meetings and private banquets,
- with on-site kiosk and barista service. Multiple payment options, including cash-on delivery, debit cards and credit on the account.

COFE App was Beta launched in February 2018 in Kuwait, and will soon be available in other countries.

## Wataniya Mobile becomes Ooredoo **Palestine**

**DOHA:** Wataniya Mobile has officially rebranded as Ooredoo Palestine, marking another important step forward for the global brand that launched in 2013.

The rebrand of Wataniya Mobile is part of Ooredoo Group's strategy to evolve its business and create a foundation for new opportunities for customers across its footprint in the Middle East, North Africa and Southeast Asia. For customers in Palestine, the launch fresh new brand is set to support a wave of exciting new initiatives and connect them to Ooredoo's global community.

To celebrate the launch of the brand, Ooredoo Palestine has offered free 3G access to customers in West Bank and free calling minutes in Gaza. Since launching 3G services for customers in West Bank at the start of 2018 as part of its network modernization strategy, the company has in seen record-breaking demand for the service. This week, a brand inauguration event was held in West Bank Palestine, which was attended by government ministers, ambassadors, media professionals and senior executives from Ooredoo Palestine and Ooredoo Group.

Prominent figures at the event included Dr. Mohammad Mustafa, representing the President Mahmoud Abbas; Dr Allam Mousa, Palestine's Minister of Telecoms and IT; Sheikh Abdulla Bin Mohammed Bin Saud Al-Thani, Ooredoo Group's Chairman; Sheikh Saud Bin Nasser Al-Thani, Ooredoo Group's Chief Executive Officer: Mohammad Abou Ramadan, Ooredoo Palestine's Chairman: and Dr Durgham Maraee, Ooredoo Palestine's CEO.

Speaking at the event, Sheikh Abdulla Bin Mohammed Bin Saud Al-Thani, Chairman, Ooredoo Group, said: "Ooredoo today is a brand that reaches tens of millions of people in the Middle East, North Africa and Southeast Asia. Our name means "I want", which expresses everyone's aspirations for a better and more rewarding future."

'We have always put our customers at the heart of our business and we're committed more than ever to enrich their daily digital lives so they can take advantage of the life-changing opportunities that mobile technology offers. Today, we extend the Ooredoo brand to Palestine, welcoming Ooredoo Palestine to our global family and making the first step of a remarkable journey for us all," he added.

Sheikh Saud Bin Nasser Al-Thani, Group Chief Executive Officer, Ooredoo, commented: "Today is a historic day for Ooredoo Group, as one of our most dynamic markets adopts the Ooredoo brand, marking a new milestone within the company. This rebrand is a testament to our confidence in our strategy and our understanding of the incredible opportunities in has delivered to businesses and communities around the world." "Our customers in Palestine will be empowered to leverage our global resources and transform their digital lives. With our companies unified under one brand, we are a global force working to support our customers' aspirations, helping them grow and fulfil their dreams, here in Palestine and around the world," he added.

Mohammad Abou Ramadan, Chairman, Ooredoo Palestine, said: "As the company moves towards sustainable profitability, with a customer base that has increased significantly over the same period last year and with the largest registered capital in the Palestine







Securities Exchange with a value of 293 million shares issued and paid, we're very happy to crown today these successes by unifying Wataniya Mobile with its largest investor and parent company

Dr Durgham Maraee, Chief Executive Officer, Ooredoo Palestine, said: "We have succeeded in launching our business in the Gaza Strip and we have provided the best campaigns and offers to our customers there, which reflected positively on the economy as a whole and played a role in boosting the Gazan market. Also, we've succeeded in launching the best 3G services in the West Bank, providing great services at very competitive our prices to enable our customers to experience and enjoy the internet. Of course, this wouldn't have been possible without our investors, particularly our founder investor - the Palestinian Investment Fund - and our largest investor, our parent company - Ooredoo Group.'

He concluded: "We're proud and very happy to join Ooredoo Group's global family. This will offer us many opportunities for growth and will enable us to take our customers' experience to a whole new level and introduce innovative new product offerings."



Ooredoo is committed to invest all efforts to become the leading integrated ICT provider in Palestine and provide a full range of customized services. Ooredoo Palestine will continue to implement its vision to enrich customers' digital life and allow all members of the Palestinian community to enjoy high speed internet and high-quality

Ooredoo Palestine had officially launched operations in Gaza in 2017, providing residents with an alternative option for advanced communications services directly through its shops and authorised dealers. And most recently, Ooredoo Palestine launched its 3G services in the West Bank to enable the Palestinian youth to enjoy the internet and help them achieve their dreams and aspirations through the services it's providing.

Launching the Ooredoo brand in Palestine will enhance competitiveness and contribute to the country's economic growth, enabling young people to acquire knowledge, make decisions and be connected all the time, to realise their full potential through communications. The company is working with a number of business customers to provide a range of cutting-edge online services.

### **Doha students** visit Ooredoo's HQ

KUWAIT: Ooredoo Kuwait, in collaboration with Qatar Foundation and Doroub Agency organized a visit for students that came to Kuwait from Doha last Tuesday in the company's head office, in which they had a chance to meet Ooredoo's Chief Executive Officer, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al-Thani, where they had the opportunity to ask questions and share their thoughts on the Telecom Industry.

Al-Thani shared his industry knowledge and career experiences with the students, sharing his life lessons and taking them through Ooredoo's CSR strategy in which supporting the youth and empowering them is one of its main pillars. Furthermore, taking them through the strategy of reflecting Ooredoo's vision of the company's core values of caring, connecting and challenging.

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private,

non-profit organization that serves the people of Qatar by supporting and operating programs in three core mission areas: education, science, research, and community development.

Doroub Marketing Representative Omar Al-Houti stated that the agency creates tailor made travel plans that are carefully studied by a team of experts that ensures that travelers experience a holistic culturally engaged tour of the designated country. This gives everyone a chance to have a one of a kind opportunity to engage and connect with different civilizations with rooted traditions, which in the end created an unforgettable

Empowering youth is among Ooredoo's top priorities through its CSR strategy. The company has recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs to support youth projects and initiatives. Ooredoo is continuously working with the Ministry to enrich youth experience in a variety of fields, with a focus

Supporting youth and empowering



women is among Ooredoo's top priorities through its CSR strategy. The company signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of State for Youth Affairs in 2017 to support youth projects and initiatives. Ooredoo is continuously working with the different entities in both private and public sectors to enrich youth experience in a variety of fields.



# World AIDS Day marked with vigils, rallies

# Death from AIDS fallen to lowest level this century

Some 37 million

people are

living with HIV

LONDON: From lighting candles to holding rallies, people around the world marked World AIDS Day yesterday to raise awareness about the fight against HIV/AIDS and remember all those who have died from it. The international event marks its 30th anniversary this year, with people across continents expected to hold campaigns and vigils and wear the symbolic red ribbons for the occasion.

Some 37 million people live with HIV around the world, according to the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), which in July warned against complacency slowing the fight against the global epidemic. In a report, the UN body said the global response to HIV/AIDS was at a "precarious point", adding that while treatment rates were rising and the number of

deaths falling, "the success in saving lives has not been matched with equal success in reducing new HIV infections".

Death from AIDS have fallen to the lowest level this century, with fewer than 1 million people dying from AIDS-related illnesses last year, it said. But a funding crisis, prevention services not reaching vulnerable populations and discrimination remain worrying issues. More than 77 million people around the world have become infected with HIV since the epidemic emerged in the 1980s, according to UNAIDS. Just under half, or 35.4 million people, have died from AIDSrelated illnesses.

30th World AIDS Day

The global campaign to end AIDS has made significant strides but the epidemic remains one of the world's leading public health challenges, affecting almost 37 million people. Campaigners say one of the biggest challenges in the fight to end AIDS is encouraging people to get tested and making them aware of treatment and prevention services. The theme of the 30th anniversary of

World AIDS Day, which shows support for people living with HIV and commemorates those who have died, is "Know your Status". Here are 10 facts about HIV/AIDS:

About 35 million people have died from AIDS- or HIV-related illnesses since 1981, including 940,000 in 2017. Increased awareness and access to antiretroviral drugs have more than halved the number of AIDS-related deaths since 2004. An

estimated 77 million people have become infected with HIV since the start of the epidemic in 1981, including 1.8 million in 2017. Every week, almost 7,000 young women aged between 15 and 24 are

In sub-Saharan Africa young women are twice as likely to be living with HIV than men. South Africa has the world's highest HIV prevalence, with almost one in five people infected. One in four people, about 9 million, are unaware that they are HIV-positive. UNAIDS wants nine in 10 people to know their status by 2020. Almost 22 million people were accessing antiretroviral drugs in 2017, compared with 8 million in 2010. Eight out of 10 pregnant women living with HIV received treatment in 2017, compared with less than half in 2010. — Reuters



#### AMRITSAR: Indian school students pose for a photograph as they sit in the shape of a ribbon as part of an awareness event on the eve of World AIDS Day in Amritsar. — AFP

## **DDI** concludes **Diabetes** Awareness Campaign

By Abdellatif Sharaa

**KUWAIT:** Dasman Diabetes Institute (DDI) concluded its month long diabetes awareness campaign which ran under the slogan 'Diabetes, I will fix you' with

an awareness march that started at the Kuwait Towers and ended at DDI. The march was in cooperation with Kuwait Mini Team and Classical Car Club.

The cars were fitted with illuminated blue circles/halos which symbolizes the blue circle campaign all around the world. The campaign aimed at drawing attention towards prevention measures that can be used against diabetes by change in lifestyle and will help avoid the disease. One can also follow doctor's instructions to lead a healthy dia-

The month long campaign included several activities including the reception of various educational bodies such as

schools and institutes. DDI also hosted prominent dignitaries who gave lectures on various scientific and medical fields. DDI also reached out to the public through setting up booths in various places such as the Avenues, Al-Hamra Tower, 360 mall and the Gate mall in an attempt to educate people while also running free tests.

Among other things, DDI carried out an ad campaign that showed a creative video with an important message. In cooperation with Kuwait Airways, booklets with information regarding diabetes were placed at the airport to educate passengers on how to deal with the disease while traveling.



## What are the ethics of baby gene-editing?

PARIS: A Chinese scientist's stunning claim he has pioneered the world's first genetically modified baby has suddenly made the eternal debate over ethics and emerging scientific capabilities pressing and real. Should everything that becomes technically possible be carried out? For most ethicists the answer is no-but the tricky part is whether it can be prevented. "It's obvious that everything that is technically feasible is not ethically desirable," said Cynthia Fleury, a member of the French Ethics

"But to resist that, in a context of deregulated scientific competition, is structurally destined for failure." It's a question as old as science: Are ethics condemned to constantly nip at the heels of advances that burst forth and take a head start? Certainly the case in China has brought the debate to the fore. That country's National Health Commission has ordered a probe into the baby gene-editing announced by scientist He Jiankui, in which he claimed to have tinkered with the DNA of twin girls born a few weeks ago to prevent them contracting HIV.

China's government said it was opposed to the experiment, while the scientific world erupted in uproar. The alleged breakthrough has not been verified. And, after a backlash, He said his trial has been suspended and he has disappeared from public view. "Good science is not just about generating knowledge in a vacuum. Context and consequences are vitally important, and the consequences of this irresponsible action may be dire indeed," said Dr Sarah Chan, of the University of Edinburgh.

For all the condemnation, however, it is important to note that many objections were not over the principle of human genetic modification as such, but rather over the way the experiment was carried out. For instance: it was conducted outside of typical institutional structures, by a lone scientist acting in a way seen by many as premature given the technology used. He said he employed CRISPR, a technique which allows scientists to remove and replace a strand with pinpoint precision.

But the consequences of the technique are not yet fully known-particularly whether genetic slicing and splicing like that carried over from one generation to the next, with unpredictable effects. The fear is that reckless application of CRISPR might create "monsters". Another ethical violation raised is that the aim of He's experiment was to protect the babies against AIDS and not to try to cure them of a life-threatening disease.

Trying to rush the technology
The concern of the scientific community is that by stepping across established ethical red lines, ensuing public suspicion could crush a field of very promising research. While CRISPR might spark unease of a future for humanity straight out of an Aldous Huxley novel, it also bears enormous hopes of being able to treat genetic infirmities. "Trying to rush the technology forwards, skipping vital scientific and ethical steps, could end up setting us all back," warned Dr Kathy Niakan, a biologist at the Francis Crick Institute in London. Yet that view in itself shows just how far ethics have evolved to the pace of scientific change.

For many decades, the idea of modifying human genomes was simply unthinkable. Now, several international scientific organizations conceive of it being possible, within a rigorous framework. "You can't just say that something is taboo and that's that, you can't ever think about it again," Anne Cambon-Thomsen, a specialist in immunogenetics and health ethics, and emeritus head of research at France's CNRS national scientific research centre, told AFP.

"An essential point of our humanity is to be able to react by thinking about what is made possible by our technical abilities," said Cambon-Thomsen, who is part of a European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies that advises the EU. Such a shift in acceptance has already been seen, for example, in the field of organ transplants. Yet human cloning, at present, still remains an intolerable premise. According to Cambon-Thomsen, that's because "we have difficulty in showing some sort of (medical) advantage in cloning".

Following the storm sparked by He Jiankui's announcement, scientists are calling for an international treaty on gene-editing. But agreeing global regulation "isn't easy because cultures are different-we don't think of human beings in the same way in China as in the West." observed Thierry Magnin, rector at the Catholic University of Lyon. Magnin, a theologist and physicist, said: "Ethics must be integrated right from the start when technologies are developed, and not come in the end." — AFP



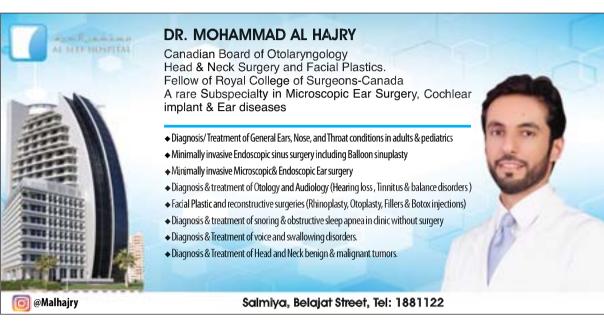
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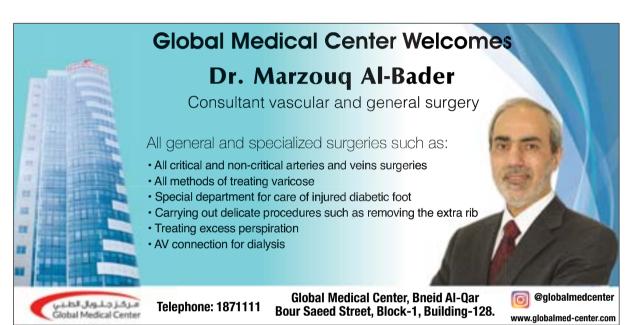


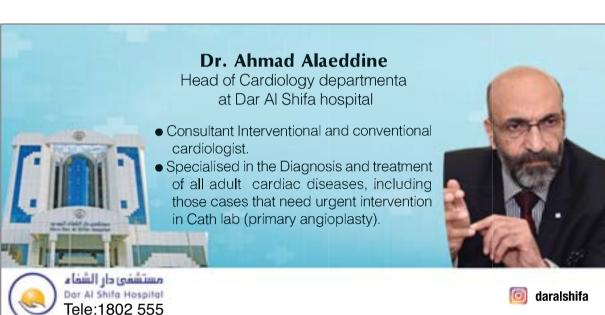


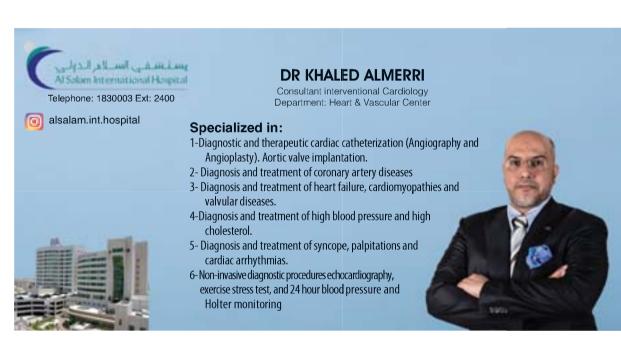
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What's On

Sunday, December 2, 2018















With the attendance of HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, HH Sheikh Nasser Al-Mohammad Al-Sabah and Farwaniya Governor Sheikh Faisal Al-Humoud Al-Malek Al-Sabah, Sheikh Sabah Mohammad to the daughter of Sheikh Humoud Yousif Al-Sabah. The wedding reception was held in Qurtoba.

# ACK students intern at Al-Babtain Group

Australian College of Kuwait (ACK) had a great experience as they completed an internship program with Al-Babtain Group. Headquartered in Kuwait, Al-Babtain Group is one of the flagship companies being the main distributor for several renowned brands in the automotive industry as well as known for its investment and real estate projects locally and regionally.

The internship program consisted of work opportunities at Al-Babtain's Nissan in their Customer Call Center. Students spent 80 hours on-site assisting customers and were given training on how to manage both inbound and outbound calls. Commenting on their experience, Interns said: "It was an invaluable

No business students from the Australian College of Kuwait (ACK) had a great experience (ACK) had a great experience as it enhanced our interpersonal skills and helped us to learn how to deal with customers".

On her end, Sonar Al Hajj, Group Recruitment Manager at Al-Babtain's commented: "I am very happy with the level of maturity that ACK students displayed and gladly we will be offering more internships in the future." ACK delivers a unique mix of vocational and theoretical curriculum, therefore the College strongly believes in providing internship opportunities, to its students, such as this, to experience things taught in the classroom and how they are applied in a professional setting, while also providing them with invaluable skills and knowledge to further their development and prepare them for their professional careers.



# SPY organizes 'Domestic Helpers Day'



almiya Parish Youth (SPY) Kuwait organized their annual Domestic Helpers Day on November 30, 2018. Youth members organized a fun-filled picnic for 100 maids and drivers at a chalet in Kabd. Joyallukas Jewelry were the main sponsors for the event. This has been the 7th consecutive year that SPY has undertaken this initiative. Joyallukas has always believed that the people and community within which it operates are the cornerstones for its success. It has consistently undertaken various programs to help and encourage causes that benefit the society.

Kiran Clement, member of the youth group said, "Our main goal is to spread joy and happiness amongst these hard working individuals who work 24x7 with almost no appreciation. It was a day well spent with the domestic workers who don't see their own family very often. I am very thankful to all those who helped make this event a success and would urge more people to be a part or contribute towards such causes."

SPY members organized many games and activities and served all the guests with food



and snacks throughout the day. The event ended with prizes distributed to the winning team who played all the games with great enthusiasm. Gift hampers were then handed out to all the maids and drivers. The catering was undertaken by White Rose Restaurant and snacks were sponsored by Family Bakers. Many well wishers from Salmiya Church and the Open Gate Community also contributed towards making this a successful event.



argis Al-Shatti councilor of DWC Diplomatic Women Committee held a meeting with the ITL World Travel Management Company. They discussed about 'Tourism Week' in cooperation with the Ministry of Information to be the official sponsor for the week. Sudanese delegation from Al Suhub office for Tourism and Oman Airlines were among the attendees.





#### Stars

#### CROSSWORD 2073

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1. American prizefighter who won the world heavyweight championship three times (born in 1942).
- 4. An obsolete kind of container used for
- 11. An interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open.
- 15. (Irish) The sea personified.  $16. \ Highly \ aromatic \ inner \ bark \ of \ the$
- Canella winterana used as a condiment and a tonic.
- 17. Norwegian mathematician (1802-
- 18. A plant hormone promoting elongation of stems and roots.
- 19. A small stream.
- 21. Come into the possession of something concrete or abstract.
- 24. A state in northwestern United States on the Pacific.
- 25. North American evergreen with small pinkish bell-shaped flowers and oblong leaves used formerly for shin-
- 28. (Norse mythology) God of light and peace and noted for his beauty and sweet nature.
- 29. A Chadic language spoken south of Lake Chad.
- 32. Metal shackles.
- 35. Jordan's port.
- 38. Set down according to a plan.
- 40. South African plant widely cultivated for its showy pure white spathe and yellow spadix.
- 42. A resource.
- 44. A region of Malaysia in northeastern Borneo.
- 46. A small ball with a hole through the middle.
- 47. A military trainee (as at a military acad-
- 49. (Hindu) A manner of sitting (as in the practice of Yoga).
- 50. Any competition.
- 51. Port city in the United Arab Emirates on the Persian Gulf.
- 53. Filled with a great quantity. 55. A radioactive element of the actinide
- series. 57. A soft silvery metallic element of the
- alkali earth group. 59. Sluggish tailless Australian arboreal
- marsupial with gray furry ears and coat. 62. An indication of radiant light drawn
- around the head of a saint. 65. A shade of brown with a tinge of red.
- 69. Usually elongate cluster of flowers along the main stem in which the flowers at the base open first.
- 71. A deep ravine (usually with a river running through it).
- 73. A human limb.
- 74. The month following September and preceding November.
- 75. Mildly laxative n.
- 77. The Tibeto-Burman language spoken in the Dali region of Yunnan.
- 78. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series.
- 79. A loud bombastic declamation expressed with strong emotion.
- 80. (Irish) Mother of the ancient Irish

#### **DOWN**

- 1. A name that has been assumed temporarily.
- 2. The process of leaching.
- 3. Of or relating to Iraq or its people or culture.
- 4. Acrylic resin used to make a strong soft crease-resistant fabric (trade name
- 5. A tangible symbol signifying approval or distinction.
- 6. The cardinal number that is the sum of
- eight and one. 7. The force of workers available.
- 8. Cheese containing a blue mold. 9. Not in good physical or mental health.
- 10. A white metallic element that burns with a brilliant light.
- 11. Ground snakes.
- 12. A dark-skinned member of a race of people living in Australia when Europeans arrived.
- 13. Wife or mistress of Zeus and mother of Apollo and Artemis in ancient mythol-
- 14. (Welsh) Corresponds to Iris Ler. 20. A histamine blocker and antacid (trade name Zantac) used to treat peptic ulcers and gastritis and esophageal reflux.
- 22. Not invited or requested. 23. Someone who works (or provides
- workers) during a strike.
- 26. Noisy quarrel. 27. A port city in southwestern Iran.
- 30. A large and stately mansion. 31. Bearing or characterized by a blade or
- sword 33. Precipitation of ice pellets when there are strong rising air currents.
- 34. Having help. 36. Cubes of meat marinated and cooked
- on a skewer usually with vegetables.
- Appeal or request earnestly. 39. (Old Testament) The first of the major
- Hebrew prophets (8th century BC). 41. Wear away.
- 43. The month following January and pre-
- ceding March. 45. Exhibiting or restored to vigorous
- good health. 48. A brass instrument without valves.
- 52. The blood group whose red cells carry
- both the A and B antigens. 54. A northeastern Iranian language spo-
- ken in Russia.
- 56. Act together, as of organisms.
- 58. A constitutional monarchy in northern Europe on the western side of the Scandinavian Peninsula. 60. A hormone produced by the anterior
- pituitary gland that stimulates the adrenal cortex. 61. A woman hired to suckle a child of
- someone else.
- 63. A city in northern India.
- 64. A cut of meat taken from the side and back of an animal between the ribs and the rump.
- 66. A metabolic acid found in yeast and liver cells.
- 67. A theocratic republic in the Middle East in western Asia.
- 68. Type genus of the Amiidae. 70. A federal agency established to coordinate programs aimed at reducing pollution and protecting the environ-
- 72. Large African antelope having a head with horns like an ox and a

#### **STAR TRACK**



#### Aries (March 21-April 19)

Today may find you more impulsive than you usually are. You seem to be direct and outspoken when dealing with others today. You desire a fresh start. Your mind is on new beginnings and developing new habit patterns. Out with the old and in with the new. The consequences of the choices and decisions you make today will be long lasting. Take your time and put much thought into the changes you are making. Remember, acting on impulse is not always the best way to handle decisions and problems. Change can be good as long as you take the time to think things through and realize every action has a consequence.



#### Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Today may find solutions to old problems seem to fall in your lap. Ideas and dreams may easily turn into realities. You have a strong sense of independence today. You are a one of a kind. Others may see you as quite eccentric. You are special and full of life. Communication with others comes natural. Clear thoughts of the past may be flowing today and you are able to really get in touch with your inner self. You know what you want and you are determined to achieve your goals.



#### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

You may be entering a phase of directness and impulsiveness. You could find vourself experiencing powerful and forceful feelings. Your emotions are at an all time high. You seem to be craving a new start, some sort of new beginning is what you feel you need. New habits will start to be developed. These are habits that will have lasting effects on your life. Make sure these are positive things for you because they will have a long-term effect on your life. You may find that your mind is in overdrive. Slow down and think things through before making any big decisions. Do not act in haste.



#### Cancer (June 21-July 22)

Will find you entering a phase of directness. You may be very impulsive. You may want to bite your tongue to prevent putting your foot in your mouth. Others could find this quite offensive. Try and remember to take a moment to think before you speak. You should have no problem getting your point across to others, whether it be positive or negative. Try and remember to keep things positive today and put on a happy face to avoid conflict. This is a great day for new beginnings. Out with the old and in with the new



#### Leo (July 23-August 22)

You are not lacking charm today. It seems as if everyone is drawn to you. Today is the date to make the date or apply for the job you have been thinking about. Others will be drawn to you today. You crave a fresh start. Out with the old and in with the new. Reach out to mend fences and ask for new beginnings. This is a time in your life where new habit patterns will be developed. Make sure they are good ones. Actions have consequences and these new habits will have lasting effects on your life. Make yourself known, Leo. This is a time for you to shine.



#### Virgo (August 23-September 22)

Today finds you direct and impulsive. What a combination! Powerful emotions are the driving force behind your mood. You may want to count to ten before you speak today. You are driven to make a fresh start. New beginnings are what you desire. This is a great time to make decisions and changes you will stick to. Make sure they are good ones. New habits will set the tone for quite some time in your life. A good day to keep to yourself to avoid conflict with others. That mouth could get you in trouble.

## **Wordsearch Puzzle**

#### More 80's Songs

Find and circle all of the 1980's song titles that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the title of an Elton John song.

A	1	R	0	L	G	N	1	L	1	A	s	т	В	M	M	Y	т	L	1	U	G
F	A	1	Т	н	F	U	L	L	Y	A	1	E	R	P	0	0	н	U	1	G	U
N	E	P	0	M	0	ĸ	0	K	т	P	R	C	0	U	S	N	D	5	0	S	т
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A	U	Y	L	0	E	A	R	D	s	A	N	L	G	1	A	1	E	R	L	T	R
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A	т	A	\$	1	U	E	0	н	A	R	s	L	м	L	В	N	T	н	C	E	C
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A	E	0	W	N	0	N	0	1	T	Α,	U	T	A	F	N	1	A	G	1	L	1
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T	R	U	L	Y	N	S	G	N	0	L	E	В	E	W	C	0	N	T	R	0	L

**AFRICA AMERICA** BEAT IT BROKEN WINGS CALL ME CONTROL DOWN UNDER ENDLESS LOVE FAITHFULLY

FAST CAR

GUELTY HEARTBREAKER NOTORIOUS **HEAVEN** HOLD ME HUMAN HUNGRY HEART INFATUATION кокомо LA BAMBA LET'S DANCE MAGIC MANIC MONDAY

GLORIA

**OUR HOUSE** PASSION PINK HOUSES PURPLE RAIN SAILING SARA SATISFIED SHOUT SONGBIRD

NEVER.

THE LOOK THE ROSE TOO SHY TWO HEARTS VACATION VOICES CARRY WE BELONG

SUSSUDIO

#### **Libra (September 23-October 22)**

Today is a day of high energy and quick thinking. Your mind is sharp but your tongue is sharper. Be sure and wash your feet this morning as you may find yourself with one in your mouth. Stop and take a breath before responding to any negativity you encounter. Ask yourself if you had rather be right or if you had rather be happy. You may find biting your tongue is worth keeping the peace. Don't get carried away under pressure and make any hasty decisions. Take some time to think things through today before making any major decisions.



#### Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

Powerful and forceful feelings seem to be your driving force today. A mixture of being outspoken and impulsive could be a dangerous recipe. You may want to practice biting your tongue. You could end up with your foot in your mouth if you aren't careful. A fresh start is what you crave. This is a great time to start new habit patterns. Make sure these are good ones, because your actions have consequences and these will be long lasting.



#### Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Your artistic temperament is in conflict with your practical self today. What you are doing may be fun and aesthetically satisfying, but is it producing the income you need? Look for a project that is creative and financially profitable. You have many talents. You don't have to settle for either/or. You can have it all.



#### Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

You may find yourself having emotional differences with someone. This could cause you to become frustrated. There may be someone or something that just doesn't feel right to you and your are unable to put your finger on it. Trust your gut on this one. You are usually a great judge of character and able to know who and who not to keep in your circle. This is one of those people that you do not need to allow to become a part of your life. You can save yourself some heartache by walking away.



#### **Aquarius (January 20- February 18)**

Communicating with others comes naturally to you today. You seem to have a gift when it comes to getting your point across with ease. It seems as if clear thoughts about the past flow freely through your mind today. You seem to have great understanding of the feelings of those around you. This is a great time to have a really special moment with someone you love. You may find that bonds are strengthened, and you will feel closer than usual to this person. A great foundation for the future may be built this evening with the one you love.

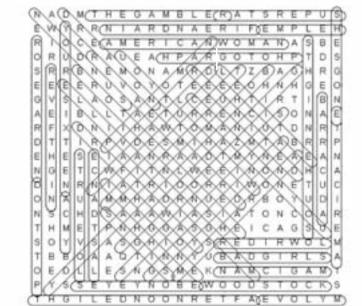


#### Pisces (February 19-March 20)

This is a great day for your career wise. You may be just the one for the job that is coming available. It is an awesome day of harmony with not only your friends but with your co- workers. Your ideas and input are greatly appreciated today. Stick to your routine and stay true to yourself and you will experience a great since of admiration from others. Even though today may find you in a very impulsive mood, resist temptation and think long and hard about decisions you make today. You may be facing some life changing decisions. This is not only a great day to organize your thoughts but also work on organizing your affairs and surroundings.

## **Friday's Solution**

#### More 70's Songs



AFTERNOON DELIGHT AMERICAN PIE AMERICAN WOMAN ANNIE'S SONG BAD GIRLS BARRACUDA BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY BROTHER LOUIE CRAZY ON YOU DELTA DAWN

DREAM WEAVER DRIFT AWAY EBONY EYES FIRE AND RAIN HELP ME LET IT BE LOVE HURTS LOW RIDER

MAIN STREET MARGARITAVILLE MY LOVE SIGNS SOUTHERN NIGHTS SUMMER NIGHTS SUNDOWN NEGHT FEVER SUPERSTAR THE GAMBLER WITHOUT YOU WOODSTOCK REUNITED ROSE GARDEN SHADOW DANCING YOU'RE SIXTEEN

Hidden words: AMERICA BREAD NAZARETH HEART BLONDIE BOSTON CHICAGO ABBA QUEEN KISS

#### **Friday's Solution**

S	S	W		E	N	G	R	Α	V	E	D		Α	R	A
С	I	A		Α	D	R	0	I	Т	L	Y		L	A	D
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M	0	0	R	L	A	N	D		Α	N	Α	Н	Е	I	M
			С	Α	M	Α	S		Α	D	М	A	N		
D	Α	M	A	G	Е	D			S		0	N		С	0
I	R	0	N		N	Α	G	Α		I		Е	M	I	R
R	Е	S	Е	D	A		Н	A	Y	S		S	A	L	Т
A	R	E		0		В	Α	R		Α	D	E	L	I	E
С	E	S	Α	R	Е	Α	N			Α	I		Т	A	G
			S	A	M	В	A	R		С	A	В	A	L	A
F	R	A	U	D		U		Α	В		N	A			
L	Α	С	R	0	S	S	E			R	Α	G	В	Α	G
Α	N	N	Α		С	Н	Α	R	G	Е		D	Α	В	A
I	G	E		P	Α	K	С	Н	0	I		Α	В	E	L
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#### **Daily SuDoku**

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	8			2				
	7	1	5			4		
8		3		4		7		6
		2			8	5	1	
				6			9	
	3			9		1		
7	9	5						
/	9	5				1		

#### **Friday's Solution**

9 3 8 5 6 8 3 5 7 6 9 4 8 6 5 9 3 5 4 8 6 9 8 6 9 2 3 4 5 5 3 8 9 6 3 5 9 8 6 4 9 3 2 5 8 6 4

# Lifestyle

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018** 

# **Icelandic** language fighting tsunami of English

wo centuries ago experts predicted that Icelandic would be a dead language by now. But the doomsayers can eat their words: Icelandic is alive and kicking despite an onslaught of English brought on by modern technology. Currently spoken by the 355,000 inhabitants of this North Atlantic island, Icelandic has repeatedly come under threat through the ages-following migrations, invasions by Norway and Denmark from the 16th to the early 20th centuries, and the Industrial Revolution. But it has always survived, with the written language little changed since the 11th century.

With just a little guesswork, an Icelander today can read the Icelandic Sagas, medieval literary masterpieces written in Old Norse in the 13th and 14th centuries. Yet English usage has in recent decades skyrocketed in Iceland-as around the world-thanks to the dominance of American pop culture as well as the adoption of modern technology such as the internet, YouTube and smartphones with lightning speed.

Visitors to the capital Reykjavik need only ask locals for directions to quickly discover that Iceland is in fact bilingual. For youths here, speaking English is simply a matter of necessity. "I have to be able to read English because it's everywhere and it's universal," 11-year-old Sigthor Elias Smith says-in Icelandic. Here, people watch videos and play games on their laptops, tablets and smartphones in English for the most part. Like in other Nordic countries, dubbing is almost non-existent. And Icelandic is glaringly absent in the online world. "I watch YouTube a lot, I learn a lot of English that way, and also on Netflix," says Sigthor's friend Eva Bjork Angarita, 12.

#### Icelandic in the digital age

Amid some concern that English is too prevalent, Iceland has adopted several measures to promote its own language. In 1996, the government designated November 16 as Icelandic Language Day, aimed at drawing attention to its contribution to national identity and culture. In 2011, a new law recognized Icelandic as the country's official language.

And Education, Culture and Science Minister Lilja Alfredsdottir announced in September that authors or editors publishing books in Icelandic would have 25 percent of their expenses reimbursed, in a bid to increase the diversity of books available in Icelandic. To counteract the dominance of English in technology, Alfredsdottir has also earmarked 2.4 billion kronur (around 17.5 million euros, \$19.3 million) to develop Icelandic versions of voice recognition services for virtual personal assistants such as Apple's Siri and Amazon's Alexa. Sigthor and Eva's Icelandic teacher, Solveig Reynisdottir, is among those concerned about the rise of the Bard's tongue. She worries that the tsunami of English that children are exposed to online is affecting their Icelandic vocabulary.

"The children sometimes lack words because there are many they've never heard," she laments as she hands out a language comprehension assignment to her 23 students. "The technological changes are a real challenge," Alfredsdottir admits. Eirikur Rognvaldsson, an Icelandic professor and linguist at the University of Iceland, agrees.

He acknowledges that the ubiquity of English is not unique to Iceland, but notes that in contrast to other countries, many young Icelanders choose to live abroad. "Young people in Iceland ... don't necessarily see Iceland as their home in the future. They want to go abroad, study and live abroad. It seems their connections to their country and language are not as strong as they used to be." A 2016 Forbes study showed that 11.4 percent of Icelanders lived abroad, in sixth place of OECD countries with populations living overseas.

#### No worries

Others say the fears are unwarranted. Icelanders are prolific writers. Some 1,600 books are published in print each year, according to Iceland's National and University Library. That's three times more per capita than in France. "We shouldn't be worried by a few red flags," says Ari Pall Kristinsson, a researcher at the Arni Magnusson Institute for Icelandic Studies. "Cultural life in Icelandic is very dynamic today." And it is worth noting that English may be gaining ground orally, but it is not making its way into Icelandic dictionaries.

While English loanwords and slang regularly creep into other languages, Icelandic remains one of the world's purest languages. The government's Icelandic Language Committee sees to that. It guards the language closely, working meticulously to devise new words with Icelandic roots when necessary. For computer, it came up with "tolva": a mix of "tala" (number) and "volva" (prophetess), to create the poetic "prophetess of numbers". "I don't think Icelandic will disappear," says Gudrun Kvaran, head of the committee. "Two centuries ago, our famous Danish language experts predicted that Icelandic would be dead within 200 years. And yet we're still speaking Icelandic today." — AFP



# Rare Van Gogh photo is of Vincent's brother, say experts

or decades the bright-eyed boy in the photograph was believed to be the legendary artist Vincent Van Gogh at the age of 13. But experts revealed Thursday that the picture is most likely not the Dutch "Sunflowers" painter but his brother Theo, who was 15 at the time. The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam announced the shock discovery about what was previously thought to be one of only two photos of Vincent, and which has appeared in dozens of books. "With this discovery we are an illusion poorer and a portrait of Theo richer," said Axel Rutger, director of the Van Gogh Museum.

'Of course there was a slight twinge of disappointment also because we have so few photographs of Vincent van Gogh and now we have even one less," he told AFP. "But on the other hand of course I am always happy if you can discover more of the truth." The discovery leaves just one known picture of the artist, taken when he was 19 years old. While Vincent Van Gogh is famed for his vividlycoloured, emotionally turbulent self-portraits in oils, he showed a surprising reluctance to be captured on camera.

He committed suicide at the age of 37 in 1890 after an emotionally turbulent life, detailed in years of correspondence with Theo, an art dealer who supported the artist emotionally and financially. "When I heard that this is most

likely a picture of my great-grandfather Theo-and not of taken, and that Vincent Van Gogh would have been much Vincent-I was surprised, but I am glad that the mystery has been solved," Willem van Gogh, Theo's great-grandson and an advisor to the board of the Van Gogh Museum, said in a statement.

#### 'Image that everybody knows'

Uncovering the case of mistaken identity took years of artistic detective work. The picture was taken by taken by Brussels photographer Balduin Schwarz in the late 19th century, but did not emerge publicly until 1957, in an exhibition by Mark Edo Tralbaut, a Belgian researcher who identified it in a catalogue as "Portrait of Vincent Van Gogh (circa 1866)". "It is the image that everybody knows as the portrait of the artist as a young boy," Teio Meedendorp, chief researcher at the Van Gogh Museum, told AFP. But after a Dutch TV program raised questions about it in 2014, the Van Gogh Museum launched an investigation.

Coincidentally, another Van Gogh expert from Belgium, Yves Vasseur, had also started his own enquiries and got in touch with the museum. Vasseur said he discovered by chance that the photographer had only moved to his Brussels studio in 1870, four years after the photo was older at the time. "I decided to share my doubts about the identification with the Van Gogh Museum, and we subsequently decided to collaborate to solve this 'identity crisis' once and for all," he said.

Confusing the issue was the fact that the brothers looked alike, with reddish-blond hair-but Theo had more delicate features and a "very light eye color" which looked like it could be seen in the photo, "The light color of Theo's eyes is especially striking in the known photographs of him, and this can also be seen in the Schwarz portrait-this was another indication that the person in the portrait is probably Theo," added Meedendorp.

The museum then commissioned a forensic study by a professor at Amsterdam University which showed with a 'high degree of probability" that the photo was of Theo. "In the end we have lost a portrait, a photograph portrait of Vincent but we have found a new photography portrait of Theo," Vasseur told AFP. — AFP



A handout picture released by the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam shows a black and white image of Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh, aged 19. — AFP photos



A handout picture released by the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam shows a black and white image of Theo Van Gogh, **Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh's brother.** 



A handout picture released by the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam shows a black and white image of Theo Van Gogh, aged 15, Dutch painter Vincent Van Gogh's brother.

# Lifestyle | Gossip



# Clyro plan double release

iffy Clyro plan to release two albums next year. The 'Mountains' hitmakers have been working hard on a musical and movie project but before the visual aspect has been released, they're looking to get back into the recording studio and are looking forward to a "full-on" year. Frontman Simon Neil said: "We should have two albums out next year. "A director approached me to make a record and he's making a movie in response to it. "So we've been collaborat-

ing most of the year and he finished the film last week. "The album should hopefully be out in January and the film in March or April. "Then we'll be in the studio making the eighth album with Rich Costey in January or February and the sooner we can get it done the better. "This is what we do! If you're in a band you should be making music. It's going to be a full-on year." Simon has played guitar since he was young and admitted the instrument helped give him confidence because he was always very

shy and struggled to express himself. He told Q magazine: "When I grew up, my guitar was such an important part of my life. "I was a bit shy, not great at communication, but as soon as I learned guitar I felt I had a way to express myself. "It gave me a level of confidence I needed. "I wasn't great with words. Hopefully I'm better now because I'm meant to be a lyricist.'



# The Prodigy never expect their albums to do well

be successful. The dance music legends -Reality - released their seventh album 'No Tourists' earlier this month which became the sixth of the group's records to reach No.1 in the UK Album Chart, however, they are still always surprised when their music proves to be popular. In an interview with The Sun newspaper, Liam said: "We don't ever expect it because we are not in the public eye and we don't get radio play. We know what we are and we don't ever expect a record to do well. We don't take it for granted, especially now, so it's a good result for the fans who went out and supported us." Prior to their latest release, the trio didn't think they would ever make another album as it was too timeconsuming, however, Liam revealed that a collaboration

he Prodigy "don't ever expect" their albums to with hip-hop group Ho99o9 got the ball rolling for this record. The 'Firestarter' hitmaker said: "Once I made the made up Liam Howlett, Keith Flint and Maxim track with my rapper friends from New Jersey within six months I had six really good ideas. I told the guys I was halfway to making an album. "It usually takes five years as we do a lot of work on the road which founds crazy. But from that point, I came in here [studio] every day. Sometimes on just three hours sleep, as night is the best time to write." Liam is married to All Saints singer Natalie Appleton and he has praised his pop star wife for her support while they were creating 'No Tourists' as she "understands" the hard work that went into the tracks. He said: "I am lucky I have a great wife who supported me through this. Because Nat is in the industry, she understands it, she gets it."

# Swill's record breaking Reputation tour

aylor Swift's 'Reputation' stadium tour has broken the US record for the highest-grossing US tour. Taylor played 38 dates in the US between May 8 and October 6 and during that time she sold 2,068,399 tickets to make a total of \$266.1 million. According to Billboard, this beats the record previously held by The Rolling Stones, who grossed \$245 from their 'A Bigger Bang' tour between 2005 and 2007. This comes after it was revealed by a social media monitoring company that Taylor is the most influential person on Twitter. Brandwatch has released its annual list of the most influential women and men on the micro-blogging platform, and Taylor took the top spot among all Twitter users. The 28-year-old singer - who is one of the world's best-selling musicians - achieved an "influencer score" of 98, just ahead of Liam Payne's score of 97. The achievement is made even more impressive by the fact that Taylor - who has 83.1 million followers on the microblogging platform - is a more frequent poster on rival social media platforms like Instagram and Tumblr. Of the research, Brandwatch explained: "The accounts were ranked according to a selection of criteria that added together to create their influence score. "This is a measure of how influential an account is over time, based on the level of genuine engagement they are creating. While lots of followers, retweets and replies will help, the more influential the people they engage with, the better the



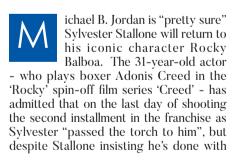


# McConaughey won't speak before seeing work

atthew McConaughey won't publicise his movie that was closest to the script that I've ever been a 'Gold' actor admits he's learned the hard way not to talk about his work until it's complete as sometimes the final movie is very different to how he hoped it would be. He admitted: "I've given this advice: don't do press junkets or talk about the film until you've see it. I've done that before and I went and saw the movie and I was like: 'Every interviewer I've talked to must have been thinking, what fricking movie is he talking about?" And the Oscar-winning star claimed he's never reached his own high standards in his work. He told The Guardian newspaper: "I mean, I've have never been in a film or given a performance that was as good as I'd hoped it would be. "I've come close. I've seen some that are close. The

movies until he's seen the finished film. The part of is 'Mud'. There was like one scene different and the dialogue is almost exactly what Jeff Nichols wrote. However, Matthew is still proud of some of his work and thinks he's made some "great" movies in the past. He added: "I've never done [a film] that's lived up to what I imagined it could be. "I've been a part of a bunch of films that I highly respect and really have a love for and think are great. And I've done performances that I'm very happy with and I'm like, 'Good job, McConaughey!' But nothing that I've ever thought ... And I don't think I'll do one that does.'

# Michael B Jordan is 'pretty sure' **Stallone** will return to Rocky





Speaking on 'The Graham Norton Show', Jordan said: "On the last day of filming everyone gave their wrap speech and he segued into passing the torch to me and I got really emotional really fast because I wasn't expecting it from him whatsoever. "It's a character that he has played for 40 plus years - longer than I have been alive. It was pretty special. We'll see what happens with 'Creed III'. I'm pretty sure he'll be back." Stallone, 72, took to Instagram on Wednesday to announce that his appearance as pugilist Rocky in 'Creed II' would be his last outing following eight movies which began with Best Picture Oscar-winning film 'Rocky' in 1976. Alongside an Instagram video, Stallone said: "I just want to thank everyone around the whole wide World for taking the Rocky family into their hearts for over 40 years. "It's been my Ultimate privilege to have been able to create and play this meaningful character. Though it breaks my heart, Sadly all things must pass... and end. "I love you Kind and generous people, and The most wonderful thing of all, is that ROCKY will never die because he lives on in you. (sic)" Jordan isn't the only cast member who doubts the Hollywood legend is done with the role, as Dolph Lundgren - who features as Russian fighter Ivan Drago from 1985's 'Rocky IV' in 'Creed II' - thinks that Stallone might still return to his most famous character one more time. Speaking at the 'Creed II' European premiere in London this week, he said: "I don't know, I'll believe it when I see.-Bang Showbiz



# Emily Blunt conquered fears during Nary Poppins

conquered her fears of singing and flying while filming 'Mary Poppins Returns'. Emily Blunt conquered her fears while filming 'Mary Poppins Returns'. The 35-year-old actress used to have a huge fear of singing and flying but revealed she managed to overcome both of those for her performance in the upcoming movie. She told The Hollywood Reporter: "I was particularly challenged by two aspects of the movie, which were the singing and the flying. I'm terrified of both singing and heights. I had to sing while suspended from a great height in this movie. Those days were quite traumatic but I survived and in the end, I felt quite proud. It was a cathartic experience." Emily has previously revealed that acting helped her overcome her childhood stutter. The star who has Hazel, four, and Violet, two, with her husband John Krasinski - had a speech impediment when she was growing up and she used to focus on "watching and listening" to people because she "couldn't speak fluently". She said:

mily Blunt has revealed that she "Because I couldn't speak fluently, I watched and listened. I'd be on the Tube, and I'd wonder about people and invent back stories for everyone. There's always been a natural desire to walk in the shoes of others. It started quite young, because it was the only tool I had to speak properly. I was that kid, upstairs in my room, trying out stuff in the mirror. But I'd never tell anyone about it. It was always very private." Meanwhile, filmmaker Rob Marshall revealed he took offering the role to Emily as seriously as a marriage proposal. He said: I guess it was. I didn't mean it to be. I did think it was a big deal to ask her to play this role so I wanted to set it up in a sort of ceremonious way. "When I said, you know, it's Mary Poppins, the character and the film, there was definitely silence. But then I heard her inhale with excitement. I knew that, of course, we all had trepidations and fear about how you follow that brilliant first film, but I know how fearless she is and I knew she would say yes. "By the end of the phone call it was a big yes."

# **Serkis** defends Johansson



ndy Serkis has defended Scarlett Johansson over the 'Rub & Tug' controversy. There was an outcry earlier this year when the star was cast as a transgender man in drama movie 'Rub & Tug', leading to Scarlett pulling out of the movie but Serkis believes actors should be able to play any role they wish. He told Variety: "I absolutely disagree. I really, vehemently disagree. "Actors should be able to play anything, and that's why I love performance capture technology. What should be the point is that whatever colour your skin is, whatever shape you are, whatever height you are, whatever your makeup is as an actor, you should have the ability to play anything." Andy - who admitted he had planned to go back to being a "conventional actor" after portraying Gollum through motion capture in The Lord of the Rings' franchise - said he wants equal opportunities in the movie industry but he believes in artistic freedom. Speaking about when Peter Jackson asked him to play King Kong, he explained: "I had thought 'Ok, I'll be going back into my career as a conventional actor.' But then Peter Jackson asked me to play King Kong, and that was a real epiphany moment-sort of going, 'That, for me, is the end of typecasting.' Of course, equal representation and opportunity is what [the conversation] should be about, but we're in the art of the imagination." Meanwhile, Andy has directed 'Mowgli: Legend of the Jungle', a retelling of Rudyard Kipling's 'The Jungle Book' and he believes it is "darker and emotionally more grounded" than the original text. He said: "This version of the story hadn't been told. People say it's darker, but it's emotionally more grounded. It's complex. I grew up loving the animated original, it's a beautiful piece of work, but it didn't have that complex central journey. I always felt that Mowgli was left out of the story, and you enjoyed the antics and buffoonery and the songs and the star turns of the animals."

# Lifestyle Music & Movies

# Egyptian film star charged with 'inciting immorality' for wearing see-through dress

n Egyptian film star faces trial next month promoting immorality after attending the Cairo Film Festival in a see-through dress, state-owned online newspaper Al-Ahram Gate reported yesterday. Rania Youssef will face a trial in January in Cairo after receiving a number of complaints about her attire, accusing her of inciting immorality and promoting vice. The actress turned heads at the closing ceremony of the festival on Thursday when she appeared in a black dress that exposed what some commentators described as a swimsuit beneath it.

The pictures of the 44-year-old star left social media criticism. "Rania Youssef is looking gorgeous," he wrote users divided, with some calling her names and other defending her right to wear what she wants. "This dress and design is called 'I forgot my trousers while going to be honored," wrote one Twitter user. Another user said Rania's appearance will help her get more work. "This entry has at least 15 films, two television series and 13 television and radio show appearances," wrote Karim Ahmed on Twitter. "Congratulations. Another Twitter user writing under the name Zakaria MJ frowned at the

in a message in English. "I don't get why everybody is mad at her." — Reuters

Egyptian actress Rania Youssef poses on the red carpet at the closing ceremony of the 40th edition of the Cairo International Film Festival (CIFF) at the Cairo Opera House in the Egyptian capital. — AFP





In this file photo taken on September 11, 2017 (from left) Maddox Chivan Jolie-Pitt, Pax Thien Jolie-Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Vivienne Marcheline Jolie-Pitt, Knox Leon Jolie-Pitt and Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt attend the premiere of 'First they Killed my Father' at the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto, Ontario.



In this file photo taken on July 28, 2013 US film stars Brad Pitt (right) and Angelina Jolie (center), accompanied by their children, arrive at Haneda International Airport in Tokyo. — AFP photos

## Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie reach child custody agreement

Tollywood superstars Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have reached an amicable agreement on the custody of their six children, avoiding a potentially messy public trial, US media reported on Friday. Pitt and Jolie announced their separation in September 2016 after two years of marriage and 11 years together. Three of their children are their biological children, and the other three are adopted. "A custody arrangement was agreed two weeks ago, and has been signed by both parties and the judge," Jolie's lawyer, Samantha Bley DeJean, said in a statement carried by several US celebrity news outlets including TMZ.

"The agreement, which is based on the recommendations of the child custody evaluator, eliminates the need for a trial," she said. The couple had been set for a trial on December 4 — the deal means they will not battle in court. Jolie originally wanted to have sole custody of the children, while Pitt asked for shared custody. The terms of the agreement are confidential, DeJean said. The couple is still working out the details of their divorce, with the distribution of assets reportedly proving especially thorny. Jolie and Pitt did not have a prenuptial agreement. — AFP



Indian actress Priyanka Chopra (left) and US musician Nick Jonas are pictured after a dinner in Mumbai. — AFF

# **Chopra, Jonas marry** in Indian royal palace: **People magazine**

uantico" actor and Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra married U.S singer Nick Jonas yesterday in a Christian ceremony attended by close family and friends at one of India's most opulent royal palaces, People magazine reported. The couple are due to have a traditional Hindu wedding ceremony on Sunday and host a reception in New Delhi next week.

The bride, groom and other members of the wedding party wore outfits designed by Ralph Lauren, the design house said on its Twitter account. The wedding was officiated by the groom's father, Paul Kevin Jonas, People said. Chopra, 36, who headlined three seasons of the ABC crime drama "Quantico", is one of Bollywood's biggest female leads with acting credits in several big-ticket films. Nick Jonas, 26, and his brothers Kevin and Joe formed a band, The Jonas Brothers, in 2005 and soared to fame as members of Disney's stable of teenage stars. The band split up in 2013.

Representatives for the couple were not reachable for comment. The venue of the wedding, the Umaid Bhavan Palace in the Indian city of Jodhpur, has been cordoned off to outsiders and no media were allowed near. Local police yesterday had to intervene after the couple's security men had an altercation with photographers who were trying to take pictures of the venue, a Reuters witness said. The palace is the home of the Jodhpur royal family, but part of it has been converted into a hotel with peacocks roaming 26 acres of landscaped gardens. — Reuters

# The Marrakech International Film festival



(Jury members from left) Ileana D'Cruz, Laurent cantet, Dakota Johnson, Talal Hadid, James Gray, Joana Hadjithomas, Daniel Bruhl, and Lynne Ramsay arrive at the Marrakech International Film festival, on November 30, 2018 in the city of Marrakesh. — AFP photos



French actor Tahar Rahim



Moroccan model Leila Hadiou



Moroccan painter Mehdi Qotbia

Mexican film director, Guillermo Del Toro



Michel Franco, Mexican film director and member of the jury, arrives at the Marrakech International Film festival.



Moroccan film director Jillali Ferhati



**US actor Robert Pattinson** 

# Lifestyle Features

# Nepal stalls on LGBT rights despite early strides

epal was hailed a leader in LGBT rights when it became the first country in conservative South Asia to recognize a third gender and assure equality for its sexual minorities. But more than a decade later, that trailblazing reputation has lost its lustre, with gay and transgender Nepalis still confronting obstacles to jobs and schools, and marriage equality a distant prospect. More than 900,000 of Nepal's roughly 26 million population identify as a sexual minority, according to LGBT rights group Blue Diamond Society. On paper, they enjoy some of the most progressive protections and rights guaranteed by law in the immediate region.

Landmark reforms in 2007 prohibited discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and recognized gay Nepalis at a time when homosexuality was still illegal in neighboring India. Transgender Nepalis identifying as neither male nor female were also granted the right to tick "other" when voting or applying for a passport or other official documents. But gay and transgender Nepalis and rights activists say action has not matched rhetoric, and more than a decade on, the community still faces discrimination. "The government recognized our identity but has not been able to put forward a concrete policy or plan to give us rights that all citizens enjoy," said Blue Diamond Society president Pinky Gurung. "It is heartbreaking that to enjoy one right (citizenship), we have to be deprived of other opportunities." Rukshana Kapali, a transgender woman, has been

allowed to study at university but not formally register as a student because her high school transcript identifies her as male under a former name.

The bureaucratic glitch means she may not be able to graduate. "I feel like I am in limbo," the 19-year-old told AFP. "I want to be a linguist, but right now I am worried I won't be able to study here at all." Tribhuvan University, Nepal's oldest, says it hopes to find a solution but until then, Kapali is off the books. "We are optimistic, but it is not possible to register her under the current regulations," said Pushpa Raj Joshi, the university's exam controller.

#### Hopes dashed

Every year, Nepal's LGBT community take to the dusty streets of the capital Kathmandu for a vibrant gay pride parade to demand an end to all forms of discrimination. Despite much-celebrated gains, there is still plenty to shout about. Nepal in August adopted a new civil code defining marriage as between a man and a woman, dashing hopes for same-sex unions to be legally recognized any time soon. Other laws in the new statute have also been criticized for narrowly defining core rights in terms of male and female-leaving no room for people of the "other" gender.

"We were hoping for change so we could marry and maybe even start a family. But we've been disappointed so far," said Armand Rana, 23, a gay man who lives with his partner of six years. Rana's family has accepted his partner



Nepali transgender Rukshana Kapali works on her computer at her home in Patan near Kathmandu. — AFP photos

but many in conservative and patriarchal Nepal still hide their sexuality and gender identity.

"The amount of progress Nepal has experienced... is enormous, and yet implementation of the various pledges from government entities over the years continues to lag," said Kyle Knight of Human Rights Watch. The government says it is working to make laws more inclusive. "If any law discriminates, people can point it out so we can seek ways to improve," said Bharat Raj Sharma, who oversees LGBT



Nepali transgender Rukshana Kapali looks on during an interview with AFP at her home in Patan near Kathmandu.

issues at the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens. But for transgender citizens like Kapali, the wheels of Nepal's bureaucracy are turning too slowly. "Being recognized as a third gender is important and I am proud of my identity," she said. "But I don't want it to limit what I can do in my life." — AFP



Photos show speakers and guests during the event. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat



# Silhouette Clinic presents the benefits of Hydrafacial machine in Kuwait

By Nawara Fattahova

Silhouette Clinic, in cooperation with Leader Healthcare FZCO, the distributer of the Hydrafacial machine in Kuwait and the GCC region, held a press conference on Wednesday at Radisson Blu Hotel as part of the Hydrafacial world tour. Hydrafacial is a machine with a handheld device that uses four different HydroPeel tips and various skincare solutions (chemical exfoliants, antioxidants and hydrating serums like hylaronic acid) to achieve results.





Sabu Thomas, Chief Operating Officer of Leader Healthcare, said Hydrafacial is holding the world tour for the first time, which commenced in Los Angeles, then headed to New York, Denver, Colorado, Tokyo, Shanghai, Singapore, Dubai and Saudi Arabia, and now in Kuwait. "The treatment is very popular and more people need to know about it. The reason for its popularity and success is because it removes dead skin and all the impurities in it. So the aesthetician or doctor has the platform where they can deliver anti-ageing products as they have already removed the stratum corneum

(the outermost layer of the skin) and other impurities," Thomas said.

"The machine is driven by standard materials which have to be used from the parent company, as we need patented products for exfoliating the skin and removing impurities. When this is achieved, then you can use any product including the anti-ageing hyaluronic acid," he noted.

Leader Healthcare Co has many branches in the Middle East, Australia and India. "We are specialized in the supply of aesthetic, dermatology and anti-ageing solutions. We have been supplying equipment and providing services for over 10 years in the industry," Thomas pointed out. "We have all kinds of laser machines, anti-ageing devices, fat loss treatments, wrinkle treatments and facial rejuvenation lasers. But one of the most popular treatments is the Hydrafacial treatment, which is very popular worldwide and in the GCC region," he added. "We also train people on how to do the treatment and make it successful. It's not just about selling a piece of equipment. We held some training courses in the past, but we will now hold more of these courses," he concluded.

Thikrayat Al-Shammeri, Medicine and Poison Specialist at the Ministry of Health, spoke about the Hydrafacial machine, saying that the patient can practice their normal activities or use makeup after two hours of this treatment. "The machine doesn't cause irritation or pain, and anesthesia is not needed before the treatment. It contains many useful materials for the skin including vitamins C, A and E and hyaluronic acid, which fills the fine lines of the skin," she explained.

She advised patients to check the materials used in their treatment and not only the machine in order to achieve best results. "The Hydrafacial treatment is suitable for all skin types and all ages. The Hydrafacial machine has been available in the Kuwaiti market for more than four years in various clinics, and it is FDA approved," added

# Jose Silva: My goal is to take Jumeirah to the international level

By Nawara Fattahova

**KUWAIT:** Jose Silva, Chief Executive Officer, Jumeirah Group participated in the Jumeirah roadshow held recently in Kuwait, where he met local media representatives and answered their questions. Some excerpts:

#### **About Jumeirah**

Jumeirah is one of the most prominent luxury hotel brands with a strong heritage in the Middle East. Dubai is a business and service hub in this part of the world. We want to compete on the global scale. My goal is to take Jumeirah to the international level, to not only be the best in the Middle East, but also have a strong presence globally. We have a lot of Kuwaitis visiting Dubai hotels or local properties in our portfolio.

#### About Jumeirah Kuwait

The Kuwaiti market is very good and the hotel is doing extremely well despite the latest openings in the market. The hotel does well for many reasons including its unique location, as it combines both business and leisure and strategically offers resort facilities as well as business proximity. Some competitors came to this market and more are coming next year, which is a good sign that people are investing. They wouldn't invest this much if they didn't believe in it. And our current owner keeps looking for additional opportunities.

#### Who are your competitors?

Everyone in the market is a competitor for us. It's a good thing and it indicates the strength of the market. Competition is a good thing when you have a good positioning, and we believe that competition will bring more business. But our hotel is quite unique due to its location and social activities. The more competition there is, the better it is in the long term. In the short term, every competitor affects the business as you have to share, but it's just a normal cycle.

#### Where do you rank Jumeirah and who are your clients?

and who are your clients? We rank the first among hotels in the Middle East, and globally we are among the top five in the hotel space. The Kuwaiti market is important to us here and also globally. Our signature is Middle Eastern as we were born in Dubai. We are opening four more properties this year in the region. Today, the largest customers of Jumeirah in Dubai are Russians, Chinese and Arabs, who represent 85 percent of ultra-luxury consumers. Jumeirah is a leader in the luxury space - we are a luxury brand not only in the hotels field. In Dubai we have six solid hotels with more than 3,000 rooms with occupation of over 70 percent all year long despite low seasons.

#### Why this region?

Twenty years ago, the Western world couldn't imagine spending their holidays in summer in the Middle East, but today they do. This shows that our consumers are becoming global, not only from outside the Middle East, but from the Middle East as well. The most secure sunny destination is the Middle East - in Dubai it usually rains only about six days a year, which is pleasant for European and Western tourists. The

airport in Dubai is one of the biggest hubs in the world, as it connects the world together.

This region is perfectly located - seven hours from Hong Kong and seven hours from London. It's the middle of the world, which is great for business. Dubai is the hub for services including banking, consulting and others because of that difference of seven hours in all directions. Any corporation in the world has to have a hub in the Middle East and Dubai is easier for them to set foot in. The Middle East's infrastructure of services is in Dubai.

#### Some of your future projects

We are growing the brand where there is a future. We continue to launch more hotels in the Middle East - from now and during next year, we will open 8 to 10 hotels, and half of them will be in the region. Recently we opened in Sadiyat in Abu Dhabi and in Bahrain eight months ago. We will soon open in Oman and by the end of next year, in Makkah. We are designing a one-of-a-kind resort in the desert in Dubai for foreigners to experience the desert in a different way.

## Challenges facing hotels in the Middle East

It's expected that hotels in the Middle East are going to compete with the best of Paris, London or Hong Kong. So the Middle East will have to acquire that level of expertise and deliver those expectations. In the world of social media, everything is shared. The level of expectation is the biggest challenge, so it has to be on the global scale of quality, excellence and style. Jumeirah has its own identity in a similar way as global fashion brands have, and it's dangerous to lose this identity.

#### What about your employees?

Employees are the assets of any organization. It's important to spend time with the staff and to listen to them, so I concentrate on people's development, which is not only in training them. Developing them is engaging with them for their careers and promotions. At our university, we support a program for students with full tuition, salary and housing to come to study. It's a big commitment for us as it's the base of any success, and we bring experts in the industry to achieve this.

#### Elements of success

I try to simplify things for both the employees, owners and guests. We provide extraordinary service at Jumeirah, which comes from people engagement and motivation. To be luxurious, we have to be excellent in services. Then come a great physical product, great design, comfortable rooms and the restaurant, which makes the hotel extraordinary. The food and beverage experience is an essential part of excellence. Food is now the latest trend in travel, and I want to bring this to the hotel. I also want to bring new expertise to the brand - a global presence. I want it to be an iconic brand and not just very good. Success is the confirmation from outside that we have become the leader in the industry.

#### The Kuwaiti market

The occupancy rate in Kuwait is in the higher 60s, which is very good - in Paris it's in the mid-

60s. I think when occupancy reaches the 70s, then there is space for more hotels. I'm happy to hear that new hotels are coming to the Kuwaiti market, even if it affects us in the short term, it will help us in the long term.

#### How to improve the Kuwaiti market?

To attract more tourists to Kuwait, we need more products, experience and awareness. International brands already have followers, who will come. Also, we need to facilitate the process more by bringing new hotels to Kuwait. To make the international community aware that most international food brands are available in Kuwait is very important. I didn't know that Kuwait is a food destination, and people should know this. Social media is also very important - Kuwait has great freedom of press in the region.

#### Purpose of the roadshow

Companies exist through their presence on social media and through their ambassadors. More people want to speak to the leader and here I'm to meet them, I like to reach them and be the ambassador of the brand. They need to succeed in the future, so they need a voice - like all the other brands - to be present. Companies and organizations need their CEOs to be present and talk about the brand so the community will consume their brand. Our motto at Jumeirah is 'Stay Different', and difference and innovation is taking us ahead to the future. The goal of the roadshow is to talk and communicate.

### **Jumeirah's growth**Jumeirah currently has 21 hotels - six in

Europe, two in Asia, and the rest in the Middle East. We hope that in five years we will reach 35 hotels. Only next year we will open five hotels, which is a 25 percent growth, and we grow with quality. We lead the market now in Kuwait and in Dubai, we lead with over 3,000 rooms. The Kuwait market also needs four-star hotels - we have three of these in the UAE and we will continue increasing these in the future, as we also like to expand to middle class customers.

Silva joined Jumeirah as Chief Executive Officer in March 2018. He brings a wealth of experience with more than 35 years' experience in international luxury hospitality, including 27 years with Four Seasons. Silva is renowned for the repositioning of some of the best hotels in the world including the iconic Four Seasons George V Paris. As Regional Vice President, he successfully led the most prestigious portfolio of the Four Seasons Collection, elevating both product and guests' experiences to the highest level. Silva was awarded 'Hotelier of the Year' by Virtuoso, the leading luxury travel agencies network, and during his tenure, the Four Seasons George V was awarded 5 Michelin stars, still the most Michelin starred place in Europe and

As CEO, Silva is responsible for growing the group's luxury portfolio through international expansion, overseeing the next phase of dynamic growth whilst building on Jumeirah's extraordinary success over the past two decades, driving the company to a new era in luxury. Born in Portugal and raised in Montreal till he was 35 years old, Silva thinks global with always a tactical and local approach.





Photos show Jose Silva, Chief Executive Officer, Jumeirah Group reacting during the interview. — Photos by Yasser Al-Zayyat

# Classifieds



### STATE OF KUWAIT

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT



Tel: (+965) 161 Ext: 6819 - 6817 Fax: (+965) 24348714 www.met.gov.kw



#### Expected Weather for the Next 24 Hours

BY DAY: Partly cloudy with light to moderate southerly wind to south easterly wind, with speed of 10 - 35 km/h with a slight chance for scattered light rain.

BY NIGHT: Cool with light to moderate south easterly wind to light variable wind, with speed of 06 - 28 km/h with a chance for light fog forming over some areas and some scattered clouds will appear.

No Current Warnings

W	Ë	A	n	Œ	R	w	Al	RN	IN	G	

STATION	MAX. EXP.	MIN. REC.
KUWAIT CITY	23 °C	18 °C
KUWAIT AIRPORT	25 °C	15 °C
ABDALY	23 °C	17 °C
BUBYAN	** °C	** °C
JAHRA	24 °C	15 °C
FAILAKA ISLAND	23 °C	18 °C
SALMIYAH	22 °C	19 °C
AHMADI	23 °C	20 °C
NUWAISIB	24 °C	15 °C
WAFRA	25 °C	15 °C
SALMY	24 °C	15 °C

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4 DAYS FORECAST										
Market 1	100000	80000000000000000000000000000000000000	Tempe	ratures		* 884234E4 - 8				
DAY	DATE	WEATHER	MAX.	MIN.	Wind Direction	Wind Speed				
Sunday	12/02	Mostly Sunny	25 °C	15 °C	VRB-NW	06 + 26 km/h				
Monday	12/03	Partly cloudy	24 °C	14 °C	NW	10 - 28 km/h				
Tuesday	12/04	Clouds will increase gradually	24 °C	13 °C	VRB-SE	06 - 24 km/b				
Wednesday	12/05	Cloudy to partly cloudy with a chance for scattered rain later on	26 °C	16 °C	SE	12 + 38 km/h				

PRATER	
Fajr	05:01
Sunrise	06:24
Zuhr	11:37
Asr	14:30
Sunset	16:49
Isha	18:11

RECORDED VESTERDAY AT 1	CUWAIT AIRPORT
MAX. Temp.	24 °C
MIN. Temp.	13 °C
MAX. RH	100%
MIN. RH	53 %
MAX, Wind	SE 18 km/h
TOTAL RAINFALL IN 24 HR.	0 mm

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

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# Flight Schedule

#### Directorate General of Civil Aviation Home Page (www.kuwait-airport.com.kw)

#### **DIAL161 FOR AIRPORT INFORMATION**

	Arrival Fli	ghts on Sunday 2/12/2018		AXB	393	Kozhikode	13:15		Departure Fl	lights on Sunday 2/12/2018		KAC	515	Tehran	12:00
Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	QTR	1078	Doha	13:35	Airlines	Flt	Route	Time	JZR	221	Riyadh	12:00
JZR	254	Amman	00:05	KAC	774	Riyadh	14:00	AIC	988	Hyderabad/Chennai	00:05	JZR	213	Jeddah	12:00
JAI	572	Mumbai	00:05	KAC	792	Madinah	14:05	JZR	407	Ahmedabad	00:05	JZR	405	Kochi	12:45
KAC	504		00:45	FDB	059	Dubai	14:20	MSR	2615	Cairo	00:30	MEA	405	Beirut	12:55
		Beirut								KRT		QTR	1075	Doha	13:00
JZR	734	Cairo	00:50	KAC	672	Dubai	14:25	TRQ	231		00:30	SAW	702	Damascus	13:30
KAC	102	London	00:50	KAC	364	Colombo	14:30	FDB	072	Dubai	00:40	JZR	113	Doha	13:30
THY	772	Istanbul	00:50	KAC	618	Doha	14:40	BBC	044	Dhaka	00:45	JZR	123	Dubai	13:40
PGT	858	Istanbul	00:55	GFA	221	Bahrain	14:40	JZR	707	Luxor	01:00	MSR	611	Cairo	14:10
DLH	625	Dammam	01:25	SVA	500	Jeddah	14:45	JAI	571	Mumbai	01:15	UAE	872	Dubai	14:15
UAE	853	Dubai	01:45	KAC	692	Muscat	14:55	JZR	111	Doha	01:45	AXB	394	Kozhikode	14:15
THY	764	Istanbul	01:50	KNE	529	Jeddah	15:05	KAC	363	Colombo	01:50	QTR	1079	Doha	15:00
IGO	1757	Kochi	01:55	KAC	788	Jeddah	15:10	KAC	677	Dubai	01:50	FDB	060	Dubai	15:10
JZR	722	Alexandria	02:15	ETD	303	Abu Dhabi	15:15	KAC	417	Manila	02:00	GFA	222	Bahrain	15:25
ETH	620	Addis Ababa	02:15	JZR	222	Riyadh	15:30	DLH	625	Frankfurt	02:25	KAC	673	Dubai	15:40
KLM	446	Bahrain	02:30	OMA	645	Muscat	15:35	THY	773	Istanbul	02:30	SVA	501	Jeddah	15:45
GFA	211	Bahrain	02:30	KAC	562	Amman	15:35	PGT	859	Istanbul	02:30	KAC	775	Riyadh	15:50
QTR	1086	Doha	02:40	KAC	304	Mumbai	15:40	IGO	1758	Kochi	02:55	KNE	530	Jeddah	15:55
KKK	1268	Istanbul	02:55	UAE	857	Dubai	15:45	ETH	621	Addis Ababa	03:05	KAC	615	Bahrain	16:05
OMA	643	Muscat	02:55	JZR	732	Cairo	15:50	UAE	854	Dubai	03:40	KAC	619	Doha	16:10
RJA	648	Amman	02:55	SAW	705	Damascus	16:00	KLM	446	Amsterdam	03:55	KAC	563	Amman	16:10
ETD	305	Abu Dhabi	03:05	KAC	118	New York	16:05	OMA	644	Muscat	03:55	ETD	304	Abu Dhabi	16:20
MSR	612	Cairo	03:15	ABY	127	Sharjah	16:05	KKK	1269	Istanbul	03:55	OMA	646	Muscat	16:35
KAC	414	Bangkok	04:00	KAC	516	Tehran	16:20	THY	765	Istanbul	04:00	KAC	785	Jeddah	16:40
QTR	1076	Doha	04:00	JZR	212	Jeddah	16:25	QTR	1087	Doha	04:00	JZR	261	Beirut	16:40
LMU	510	Cairo	04:00	KAC	542	Cairo	16:30	ETD	306	Abu Dhabi	04:05	ABY	128	Sharjah	16:45
IGO				KAC	542 502	Beirut		MSR	613		04:05	SAW	706	Damascus	17:00
KAC	1751 418	Chennai Manila	04:10 04:25	QTR	502 1072		16:30	JZR	701	Cairo	04:15	KAC	675	Dubai	17:05
						Doha	16:35			Asyut		KAC	504	Beirut	17:15
KAC	784	Jeddah	04:30	FDB	051	Dubai	16:40	LMU	511	Cairo	05:00	FDB	052	Dubai	17:40
DHX	170	Bahrain	04:35	JZR	114	Doha	17:10	IGO	1752	Chennai	05:10	UAE	858	Dubai	17:45
FDB	069	Dubai	05:00	SVA	510	Riyadh	17:15	KAC	103	London	05:10	KAC	283	Dhaka	17:45
KAC	382	Delhi	05:05	GFA	215	Bahrain	17:30	QTR	1077	Doha	05:30	QTR	1073	Doha Trivora dan ma	17:50
JZR	404	Hyderabad	05:10	JZR	214	Jeddah	17:45	FDB	070	Dubai	05:50	KAC	331	Trivandrum	18:00
KAC	1544	Cairo	05:10	UAE	875	Dubai	18:00	JZR	215	Jeddah	06:00	KAC	343	Chennai	18:00
THY	770	Istanbul	05:10	JZR	302	Istanbul	18:15	JZR	713	Sohag	06:15	JZR JZR	721 733	Alexandria	18:00
JZR	112	Doha	05:25	FDB	063	Dubai	18:15	JZR	121	Dubai	06:35	SVA	733 511	Cairo	18:10 18:15
KAC	332	Trivandrum	05:40	JZR	124	Dubai	18:20	THY	771	Istanbul	06:40	GFA	216	Riyadh Bahrain	18:20
KAC	344	Chennai	05:50	MSR	620	Cairo	18:30	GFA	212	Bahrain	07:15	KAC	621	Doha	18:25
JZR	402	Mumbai	06:05	QTR	1080	Doha	18:30	RJA	649	Amman	07:15	JZR	403	Hyderabad	18:40
KAC	284	Dhaka	06:10	SYR	341	Damascus	19:00	JZR	115	Doha	07:30	JZR	501	Lahore	18:40
KAC	302	Mumbai	06:10	RJA	640	Amman	19:00	QTR	8512	Doha	07:55	KAC	381	Delhi	18:55
QTR	8511	Doha	06:25	ABY	123	Sharjah	19:25	KAC	171	Frankfurt	08:10	JZR	253	Amman	19:15
KAC	678	Dubai	06:55	RBG	555	Alexandria	19:25	KAC	165	Rome	08:20	FDB	064	Dubai	19:20
BAW	157	London	07:05	GFA	217	Bahrain	19:30	BAW	156	London	08:50	UAE	876	Dubai	19:30
KAC	204	Lahore	07:10	KAC	616	Bahrain	19:30	FDB	054	Dubai	08:50	MSR	621	Cairo	19:30
JZR	708	Luxor	07:15	KAC	156	Istanbul	19:30	KAC	501	Beirut	09:00	QTR	1081	Doha	19:55
KAC	358	Kochi	07:35	KAC	776	Riyadh	19:50	KAC	787	Jeddah	09:05	RJA	641	Amman	20:00
FDB	053	Dubai	07:50	FDB	057	Dubai	19:50	KAC	613	Bahrain	09:05	SYR	342	Damascus	20:00
KAC	384	Delhi	08:00	KAC	104	London	19:55	KAC	791	Madinah	09:03	RBG	556	Alexandria	20:05
UAE	855	Dubai	08:35	KAC	166	Rome	20:10	JZR	731	Cairo	09:10	ABY	124	Sharjah	20:05
JZR	408	Ahmedabad	08:45	KAC	620	Doha	20:10	KAC	117	Shannon/New York	09:10	GFA	218	Bahrain	20:15
ETD	301	Abu Dhabi	09:05	OMA	647	Muscat	20:13	KAC	691	Muscat	09:13	FDB	058	Dubai	20:35
ABY	125	Sharjah	09:05	DHX	172	Bahrain	20:20	KAC	541	Cairo	09:20	KAC	345	Ahmedabad	20:40
QTR	125	Doha		QTR	1088		20:20	KAC		Amman		KAC	353	Bengaluru	20:55
IRA	665		09:30	KAC		Doha Dubai	20:35	ABY	561 126		09:40	KAC	301	Mumbai	20:55
		Shiraz	09:40		674				126 671	Sharjah	09:45	JZR	401	Mumbai	20:55
IGO EDB	1753	Ahmedabad	09:40	DLH	624	Frankfurt	20:45	KAC	671	Dubai	09:45	KAC	357	Kochi	21:00
FDB	055	Dubai	09:40	KAC	172	Frankfurt	21:15	KAC	101	London	09:45	OMA	648	Muscat	21:20
IRC	528	Ahwaz	10:00	ETD	307	Abu Dhabi	21:20	KAC	741	Dammam	09:45	DLH	624	Dammam	21:30
SVA	512	Riyadh	10:00	ALK	229	Colombo	21:20	UAE	856	Dubai	10:00	DHX	171	Bahrain	21:50
GFA	213	Bahrain	10:40	MEA	402	Beirut	21:20	JZR	301	Istanbul	10:05	QTR	1089	Doha	22:00
JZR	702	Asyut	11:05	UAE	859	Dubai	21:35	ETD	302	Abu Dhabi	10:10	ETD	308	Abu Dhabi	22:10
JZR	116	Doha	11:10	KAC	676	Dubai	21:45	KAC	773	Riyadh	10:10	KAC	203	Lahore	22:15
JZR	122	Dubai	11:20	GFA	219	Bahrain	21:45	FDB	056	Dubai	10:35	KAC	1543	Cairo	22:15
QTR	1074	Doha	11:35	KAC	564	Amman	21:55	KAC	617	Doha	10:35	MEA	403	Beirut	22:20
JZR	216	Jeddah	11:45	JAI	574	Mumbai	22:00	IGO	1754	Ahmedabad	10:40	ALK	230	Colombo	22:25
MEA	404	Beirut	11:55	QTR	1082	Doha	22:05	IRA	664	Shiraz	10:40	GFA	220	Bahrain Dolhi	22:30
KAC	614	Bahrain	12:25	ETD	309	Abu Dhabi	22:15	JZR	211	Jeddah	10:40	KAC KAC	383 783	Delhi Jeddah	22:30 22:55
SAW	701	Damascus	12:30	AIC	981	Chennai/Ahmedabad	22:25	QTR	1071	Doha	10:45	UAE	783 860	Dubai	23:00
JZR	714	Sohag	12:35	KAC	622	Doha	22:30	KAC	155	Istanbul	10:45	JAI	573	Mumbai	23:00
KAC	742	Dammam	12:50	KAC	786	Jeddah	22:45	IRC	529	Ahwaz	10:55	KAC	411	Bangkok	23:00
UAE	871	Dubai	12:50	FDB	071	Dubai	23:45	SVA	513	Riyadh	11:00	ETD	310	Abu Dhabi	23:05
MSR	610	Cairo	13:10	JZR	262	Beirut	23:55	GFA	214	Bahrain	11:25	QTR	1083	Doha	23:20
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News

# G20 leaders agree on Bush tributes, but little else

BUENOS AIRES: A Sino-US showdown on trade loomed yesterday as G20 leaders wrapped up tense summit talks with a rare show of unity over the death of former president George HW Bush. There was an implicit contrast in some of the tributes offered at the Buenos Aires summit between Bush and the current White House occupant, Donald Trump, whose disruptive brand of diplomacy has stoked the deepest divisions in the G20's 10-year history.

"He was a world leader, who strongly supported the alliance with Europe," said French President Emmanuel Macron, who has been lobbying other G20 leaders to carve out a 19 v 1 statement on climate change excluding Trump. British Prime Minister Theresa May lauded the late Bush as "a great statesman and a true friend of our country," words that few observers in Britain would apply to Trump. Trump himself said Bush had "inspired generations of his fellow Americans to public service." There was no immediate comment in Buenos Aires from Russian President Vladimir Putin, who regards the breakup of the Soviet Union under Bush's presidency as a historical "tragedy".

Bush also served as US envoy to China in the 1970s as the countries were establishing relations. Chinese President Xi Jinping was also yet to comment, as he prepared to dine with

French police clash

with 'yellow vest'...

While several dozen were allowed through after an

ID check and search, many others - some wearing gas

masks or ski goggles - remained behind and fought with

police who fired rounds of tear gas. Spreading from the

Champs-Elysees, protesters led police on cat-and-

mouse chases through other parts of the capital, setting

light to cars and construction equipment. Authorities

said 160 people had been arrested by the afternoon and

65 people injured, including eleven of the 5,000 police

Paris and 36,000 in total across the country, where

violence marred only a handful of protests which for

the most part remained calm. That was down sharply

from the first day of protests on Nov 17, which attract-

ed around 282,000 people, while 106,000 turned out

ever, were testament to the escalation in violence, to the

consternation of many of the "vellow vests", so-called

for the high-visibility jackets they wear. "We're a peace-

ful movement, but we're disorganized - it's a mess

because we don't have a leader," said Dan Lodi, a 68-

vear-old pensioner on the Champs-Elysees. "You

always have some idiots who come to fight, but they

well as surrounding streets had boarded up windows,

anticipating a repeat of the clashes last Saturday which

President Emmanuel Macron compared to "war scenes".

Chantal, a 61-year-old pensioner who came from an

eastern Paris suburb, said she was avoiding the "hooli-

gans" but was determined to send Macron a message

on the rising costs of living. "He has to come down off

his pedestal," she said under cold rain on the Champs-

Others voiced indignation at graffiti sprayed on the

Arc de Triomphe, a monument to French war dead,

including phrases like "Macron resign" and "the yellow

vests triumph". Although police managed to clear the

square around the Arc de Triomphe toward midday,

sporadic clashes spilled into nearby neighbourhoods,

Elysees. "Every month I have to dip into my savings."

Stores and restaurants along the Champs-Elysees as

Dark plumes of smoke in several parts of Paris, how-

An estimated 5,500 demonstrators were counted in

Continued from Page 1

officers mobilized for the protests.

don't represent us at all," he said.

last Saturday.

Trump later yesterday for a large helping of debate on trade tariffs. With markets watching nervously, Trump has described the Xi encounter as a deadline for China to meet his demands or risk even further pressure. The summit itself has been struggling to carve out any accord on climate change or countering trade protectionism, while hot-button disputes surrounding Ukraine and Saudi Arabia loom large.

Trump, who has already slapped \$250 billion in tariffs on China and threatened more to come next month, sounded upbeat about making progress with Xi. "We're working very hard. If we could make a deal, that would be good," Trump told reporters Friday as he met Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at the G20. "I think they want to, and I think we'd like to. And we'll see," the president said.

Trump has thrown out the traditional US playbook on free trade since his shock 2016 election, vowing to protect forgotten workers and put "America First". Xi has in turn cast himself as a defender of stable global capitalism, a startling transformation for the leader of a communist state whose entry into the World Trade Organization less than two decades ago was controversial. In a speech to fellow G20 leaders, Xi said that the major economies "should firmly uphold free trade and the rules-based multilateral trading system".

and hundreds of protesters later returned to the square. But further down on the Champs-Elysees, several hundred people marched calmly behind a huge yellow-and-red banner reading "Macron, stop taking us for idiots!" "With all these tax hikes, there's not much left for eating at the end of the month," said Philippe, a high school

cook in the Essonne region outside Paris.

The "yellow vest" movement erupted on social media in October and has since become a wider protest against Macron, who is accused of failing to recognize the rising cost of living that has left many struggling. The countrywide protests have included many pensioners and have been most active in small urban and rural areas where demonstrators blocked roads, closed motorway toll booths, and even walled up the entrance to tax offices.

Two people have died and dozens have been injured in the protests, which opinion polls suggest still attract the support of two out of three French people. Attempts by the government to negotiate with the grassroots movement have failed, in large part because representatives have insisted on public talks broadcast on TV. "We want our dignity back and we want to be able to live from our work, which is absolutely not the case today," Jason Herbert said after walking out of talks with Prime Minister Edouard Philippe on Friday.

Macron has sought to douse the anger by promising three months of nationwide talks on how best to transform France into a low-carbon economy without penalizing the poor. He also vowed to slow the rate of increase in fuel taxes if international oil prices rise too rapidly but only after a tax hike due in January. But many protesters were unconvinced by Macron's speech on Tuesday. "For two weeks we've been trying to make ourselves heard but nothing has changed," said Gaetan Kerr, a 52-year-old farmer from the Yonne region, said near the Champs-Elysees on Saturday. "At some point Macron is going to have to listen, otherwise this is going to get worse and worse."

Some of the protesters expressed concern over the clashes. "What message do the yellow vests want to pass today? That we set France on fire, or find solutions? I find this (violence) absurd," Jacline Mouraud, a prominent activist within the yellow vests movement, told BFM television. But assistant teacher Sandrine Lemoussu, 45, who came from Burgundy to protest, told Reuters that people had had enough. "The people are in revolt," she said. — Agencies

to send two or three vessels with special helicopters to

Venezuela in South America on a mission that could last

five months," Iran's deputy navy commander, Rear-

Admiral Touraj Hassani Moqaddam, told the semi-offi-

Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said last

week Iran should increase its military capability and

readiness to ward off enemies, in a meeting with

Iranian navy commanders. Iran's navy has extended its

reach in recent years, launching vessels in the Indian

Ocean and the Gulf of Aden to protect Iranian ships

from Somali pirates operating in the area. The chief of

staff of the Iranian armed forces said in 2016 that Iran

may seek to set up naval bases in Yemen or Syria in the

future, raising the prospect of distant footholds per-

haps being more valuable militarily to Tehran than

cial news agency Mehr.

nuclear technology. — Reuters

# Iran launches stealth warship...

Continued from Page 1

Iran launched its first locally made destroyer in 2010 as part of a program to revamp its navy equipment which dates from before the 1979 Islamic revolution and is mostly US-made. Iran has developed a large domestic arms industry in the face of international sanctions and embargoes that have barred it from importing many weapons.

Separately, a naval commander said Sahand may be among warships that Iran plans to send on a mission to Venezuela soon. "Among our plans in the near future is

# **Condolences for George HW Bush...**

Continued from Page 1

Throughout his presidency, George Bush worked closely with his international counterparts in ways that advanced America's interests in peace and economic opportunity. Kuwait figured prominently in Mr Bush's presidency. When President Bush learned of the invasion of Kuwait on Aug 2, 1990, he quickly responded, "This will not stand, this aggression against Kuwait. The legitimate government of Kuwait will be restored to its

# Qout Market slams 'arbitrary...

Continued from Page 1

The organizers plan to meet Municipality officials today in an attempt to sort the issue out, and if they do, they plan to set up the market again this weekend, they explained. "We fought for six years to make Kuwait a

rightful place, and Kuwait will once again be free."

After the Coalition that he had helped build achieved that goal, President Bush proudly told the US Congress, "We declared that the aggression against Kuwait would not stand. America and the world have kept their word. It is a victory for the rule of law and for what is right. Kuwait is liberated. Kuwait is once again in the hands of Kuwaitis in control of their destiny. The Kuwaiti flag flies above the capital of a free and sovereign nation."

He and Mrs Barbara Bush visited Kuwait on several occasions, and a piece of Kuwaiti history marking the bonds between our two countries sits proudly in the George HW Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Texas. Today, visitors to the Library can see a letter sent from 104 Kuwaiti children to President Bush in 1991 to thank him for the liberation of their country and to wish him Happy Birthday.

more beautiful place to live and we are not giving up anytime soon," they stressed. "We want this for our country, and we all need it. This is our dream, and we will not give up easily."

Qout Market is one of Kuwait's most popular, well-known, locally created urban markets and has been running for five years, taking place at locations around Kuwait including Murouj, Pearl Marzouk and Al-Shaheed Park. Its sponsors include Zain and Ooredoo. It specifically focuses on encouraging support for local businesses, farmers, entrepreneurs and artisans.

But in a rhetorical olive branch to Trump, Xi pledged to do more to open up China's economy. "China will continue to deepen market-oriented reform, protect property rights and intellectual property rights, encourage fair competition and do more to expand imports," he said. Trump has accused China of rampant theft of US technology and demanded that the emerging power end its requirements that foreign companies team up with local partners.

The state-run China Daily said that the Pacific powers could strike a deal in Buenos Aires but warned the United States against pushing too hard on technology. "Should there be any other aspirations, such as taking advantage of the trade spat to throttle Chinese growth, then an agreement is unlikely to be reached," the newspaper said in an editorial Friday. "But a good deal means both sides walking away happy. The US should give its habitual winner-take-all approach to international relations the weekend off," it said.

Trump counted a victory Friday for his brash strategy as the United States, Canada and Mexico signed a new trade deal, a successor to the North American Free Trade Agreement. While short of the complete rewrite of NAFTA once promised by Trump, he hailed the new United States-Mexico-Canada-Agreement as an "incredible milestone."

# Qatari female 'pioneers' bask...

Continued from Page 1

through to stories from the gas-rich country's recent and much less-wealthy past. The women are redressing "many misconceptions about them around the world", said Remaihi, who also heads the Doha Film Institute. The number of female entrants at this year's festival, which runs until tomorrow, is consistent with data from recent research.

A 2016 study by Northwestern University in Doha found that around 60 percent of all emerging filmmakers in Qatar's nascent cinema industry were women. Across the rest of the Middle East and North Africa region, the figure was around 25 per cent, the same study said. The influx of women directors in Qatar comes at a time when the bright lights of Hollywood have been dimmed by the #MeToo movement's revelations.

And the fresh blood has helped diversify the nature of films produced. Previously, one filmmaker jokes, it was "all pearl diving" - a reference to Qatar's main economic activity, before the exploitation of vast natural gas reserves. But now the film topics are diverse. One example of that is Sulaiti's short film, "Gubgub" (Crab). Seemingly a movie about a day's crab hunting, it really focuses on a young girl's determination to prove she can rival her older brother at a "male" pursuit. She succeeds by catching 10 crabs.

"I feel like it gives us a platform where we can express ourselves," said Sulaiti. "I don't think we had that platform or opportunity before. I want that little girl to believe that she can achieve whatever (she wants). I want little girls to see that," the 25-year-old added. And Sulaiti said younger Qataris would understand that message. "In the past, we got an education, we got married and we stayed at home with

A substantive deal between the United States and China could mark a major feat for the G2O summit, where expectations for collective action have been low. With Trump feuding with close US allies, not least on climate change, two major summits this year ended without once-routine statements those of the Group of Seven democracies and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. Trump has decided to pull the United States from the Paris accord on curbing carbon emissions, despite mounting warnings from scientists leading up to a UN climate summit starting next week in Poland.

Trump called off talks with Putin at the G20 summit, officially due to outrage over Moscow's naval skirmishes with Ukraine. But Trump is also under mounting pressure at home in an investigation over whether his presidential campaign colluded with Russia - a topic sure to dominate his press conference shortly before he sits down with Xi. The presence of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the summit also raised an awkward dilemma for leaders, and the leader cut a lonely figure standing at the edge of the G20 family photo on Friday. Prince Mohammed arrived under swirling controversy over the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on Oct 2. — Agencies

our husband. "I think slowly [Qatari] girls are seeing we can do whatever our brothers can do."

The emergence of female filmmakers comes at a time when conservative Qatar is seeking to portray itself as the progressive power in the Gulf. This is especially true as Doha remains politically isolated by neighboring powers in a bitter regional dispute. Since June 2017, Qatar has been cut off by former allies including neighboring powers Saudi Arabia and the UAE, which accuse Doha of being too close to Iran and sponsoring terrorism.

Qatar denies the charges, and has sought to present itself as the most tolerant of the Gulf states. One of the most prominent Qatari figures during the Gulf crisis has been Lolwah Al-Khater, the foreign ministry spokeswoman. Beyond films, Qatar has the highest proportion of women - 51 per cent - in the workplace among Gulf nations, according to the United Nations. In 1999, Qatar became the first Arab country in the Gulf to allow women to vote.

Muftah received a rapturous ovation as she was introduced at Ajyal and said filmmakers in Qatar were "like pioneers". "I know from the outside it seems like there is segregation... but here really I feel like it's a level field... whether you're a man or a woman, you are treated the same," she added. She directed "Sh'hab" (Shooting Star) showing at the festival, a story passed on from her grandmother about a girl who wants to go to sea with her father and brother, rather than stay at home.

Muftah rose to national prominence with a 2014 film Al-Himali, about market porters. She admits she had trouble convincing her family that she should seek a career in the arts rather than the sciences. But she believes she can give a voice to generations of Qatari women through her chosen career, since she feels "really strongly about my position as a woman". "The community of women in Doha - especially in this society - are very private," she said. "And I just feel like as women filmmakers we have access to that community and to so many different stories." — AFP

# Kuwait leads tributes to former...

Continued from Page 1

condolences to Trump as well as to the family of the deceased president.

"Bush was an icon," said Farida Al-Habib, a cardiologist who says she smuggled medicine to Kuwaiti forces during the invasion. "I cried when I heard the news about his death," she added. After dictator Saddam Hussein ordered the invasion of Kuwait in Aug 1990, Bush deployed hundreds of thousands of US troops to the neighboring kingdom of Saudi Arabia – urging other countries to do the same. A US-led coalition expelled Iraqi forces from Kuwait in a lightning campaign at the beginning of 1991.

Abu Fahd, a Kuwaiti army officer during the invasion who declined to give his full name, said he was "very saddened" by Bush's death. "He stood by us even though he was not a Muslim," he said. Bush visited oil-rich Kuwait in 1993 and was hailed as a "guest of honor". Tributes have poured in online for Bush following news of his death. "We will never forget you," Twitter user Manal wrote. Lights at the landmark Kuwait Towers were shut off yesterday evening and replaced with an image of Bush with Kuwaiti and American flags.

Tributes poured in for the former US leader, a decorated war pilot and onetime CIA chief who also saw his son George follow in his footsteps to the Oval Office. Bush's passing comes just months after the death in April of his wife and revered first lady Barbara Bush his "most beloved woman in the world" - to whom he was married for 73 years. "Jeb, Neil, Marvin, Doro and I are saddened to announce that after 94 remarkable years, our dear Dad has died," former president George W Bush said in a statement released on Twitter by a family spokesman.

"George HW Bush was a man of the highest character and the best dad a son or daughter could ask for," he said. "The entire Bush family is deeply grateful for 41's life and love, for the compassion of those who have cared and prayed for Dad, and for the condolences of our friends and fellow citizens." Bush is survived by his five children and 17 grandchildren. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course, a family spokesman said. Bush is expected to lie in state in the US Capitol.

Trump, who was in Argentina attending a G20 summit of world leaders, hailed Bush's "sound judgment, common sense, and unflappable leadership". "Through his essential authenticity, disarming wit, and unwaver-

ing commitment to faith, family, and country, President Bush inspired generations of his fellow Americans to public service," Trump said in a statement. "As president, he set the stage for the decades of prosperity that have followed."

Trump will attend the state funeral of Bush, the White House said yesterday. Trump's spokeswoman said: "A state funeral is being arranged with all of the accompanying support and honors. The president will designate Wednesday, December 5th as a National Day Of Mourning. He and the first lady will attend the funeral at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC." Trump later canceled a press conference planned for yesterday at the G20 summit, saying he wanted to show respect to the Bush family. "Out of respect for the Bush Family and former President George H W Bush we will wait until after the funeral to have a press conference," Trump tweeted.

Bush - who was born on June 12, 1924 in Milton, Massachusetts into a wealthy New England political dynasty - put his inevitable political career on hold to join the US Navy during World War II. He flew 58 combat missions and was shot down over the Pacific by Japanese anti-aircraft fire. After a brief career in the oil industry, he entered politics, serving in the US House of Representatives and as chief of the Central Intelligence Agency before being elected Ronald Reagan's vice president. As he accepted the Republican Party's nomination for president in 1988, Bush pleaded for a "kinder, gentler nation". He went on to easily defeat Democrat Michael Dukakis that November.

Bush was a foreign policy stalwart who declared a "new world order" in 1990 and drove Iraq from Kuwait in a matter of weeks with a lightning air and ground assault - and the backing of a coalition of 32 nations. But he suffered the ignominy of being a one-term president, denied a second term over a weak economy when he lost the 1992 election to upstart Democrat Bill Clinton. In his post-presidency, Bush turned to philanthropy - he joined forces with Bill Clinton to raise funds for victims of the 2004 Asian tsunami and the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

He worked with Clinton, Jimmy Carter, Barack Obama and son George to raise money for hurricane victims in Texas in 2017. In 2011, Obama awarded Bush the highest US civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. "America has lost a patriot and humble servant in George Herbert Walker Bush. While our hearts are heavy today, they are also filled with gratitude," Obama and his wife Michelle said in a statement. "After seventy-three years of marriage, George and Barbara Bush are together again now, two points of light that never dimmed, two points of light that ignited countless others with their example." — Agencies

# Boxing still on the ropes after IOC freezes planning for Tokyo 2020

## Launches investigation into the International Boxing Association

**TOKYO:** The International Olympic Committee (IOC) put planning for the Tokyo 2020 boxing tournament on hold on Friday in a move that could see the governing body AIBA frozen out of the Games over a governance dispute.

The IOC said in a statement it had also launched an investigation into the International Boxing Association after AIBA submitted a progress report focusing on governance, financial management and sporting integrity.

It referred to that enquiry as "the initiation of a procedure which can lead to the withdrawal of recognition for AIBA" but said it still hoped boxing would be part of the programme. "The IOC Executive Board makes all efforts to protect the athletes and ensure that a boxing tournament can take place at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 regardless of these measures," the statement read.

The IOC's Executive Board said planning for the Olympic boxing tournament had been frozen, with immediate effect, and contact suspended between AIBA and the Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee.

"This will also include the freezing of any ticket sales for the boxing competitions or any approval or implementation of the qualification system," the IOC's Sports Director Kit McConnell said in Tokyo on Friday.

No deadline was set for further action but any decision to withdraw recognition from an international federation would have to be made at an IOC session. The

next one is scheduled for June 2019.

McConnell said AIBA had been given adequate time to address the IOC's concerns.

"The timeline from the time we raised these questions is not short in that regard," he said.

"These questions have been on the table throughout

the whole of 2018 and tomorrow is December."

AIBA has been in turmoil for years and the IOC has warned the Swiss-based body to sort out its finances and governance, as well as anti-doping issues, or risk

missing out on Tokyo.

In a statement issued later on Friday, AIBA said it had made "great strides in a short period of time". The body's president, Gafur Rahimov, said he too had been concerned about its finances earlier in the year.

"However, I can assure our Olympic friends that after making significant cuts to our spending, securing new sponsors, securing trusted host cities for our major events and negotiating with our past partners, I am very proud to say that AIBA has achieved financial stability but that it had now attainted financial stability," he said.

#### 'SIGNIFICANT CONCERN'

The IOC executive board said AIBA had made progress but points of "significant concern" remained.

They included doubts about AIBA's ability to continue as a going concern.

"This means basically (being able) to operate under normal financial circumstances with revenues to match the expenditure," said McConnell.

"Equally, there are elements of the audited and financial reports which are still omitted and are not included in the information that has been provided to us and not available on the AIBA website."

The IOC on Friday noted uncertainty about the role of Rahimov, an Uzbek, resulting from his "designation as a key member and associate of a transnational organised criminal network by the US Treasury Department".

Rahimov was one of two Olympic officials barred by the Australian government from attending the 2000 Sydney Games for security reasons.

In the AIBA statement, Rahimov downplayed concerns about his personal situation.

"I can assure the IOC that the situation with U.S. authorities based on false allegations by the previous regime of my country is being addressed and that my legal team is working hard to correct this," he said.

Despite its concerns, the IOC said it remained determined to feature boxing at Tokyo 2020.

"The goal again is that, by the time of the session in 2019, (the IOC will) be able to confirm, while protecting the integrity of the sport and while protecting the athletes... an Olympic boxing competition here in Tokyo," said McConnell.



IOC's Sports Director Kit McConnell

Tokyo 2020 spokesman Masa Takaya said Games organisers were very keen to work closely with the IOC to address any impact on planning.

Boxing has featured in all but one of the Summer Olympics since 1904 with Muhammad Ali, Joe Frazier, George Foreman, Sugar Ray Leonard, Anthony Joshua and Katie Taylor among those to have won gold medals and gone on to claim professional world titles. — Reuters

# GAZOO racing wins Australia Rally at FIA World Rally Championship

SYDNEY: GAZOO Racing World Rally Team recently claimed the 2018 FIA World Rally Championship (WRC) manufacturers' title in style, with a rally victory for Jari-Matti Latvala in the No. 7 Toyota Yaris WRC at Kennards Hire Rally Australia. Esapekka Lappi finished fourth in the No. 9 Toyota Yaris WRC to enable GAZOO Racingto clinch the manufacturers' crown in just the second season since its return to the WRC. GAZOO Racing World Rally Team's Toyota Yaris WRC machines demonstrated their strong performance during the final round of the season, with Ott Tanak and Latvala moving to the top of the leader board on the fourth and final day of the race. The victory sealed GAZOO Racing's fourth manufacturers' title in the WRC and its first since 1999.

Latvala, along with co-driver Miikka Anttilain the No. 7 Toyota Yaris WRC avoided mistakes and took three stage wins on the final day to clinch the team's fifth win of 2018by 32.5 seconds. Lappi also won a stage to complete a strong drive in his final event before departing the team. Latvala and Lappi finished the season fourth and fifth respectively in the driver's standings, with both contributing significantly towards the manufacturers' title.

Akio Toyoda, President, Toyota Motor Corporation, and Team Chairman, said:"Congratulations to Jari-Matti and Miikka for the Rally Australia win! I was very glad to see them on the top of the podium at the end of the year after what has sometimes been a tricky season. And with this victory, we could win the manufacturers' title. I feel so proud, as Team Chairman, that we could achieve such a great result in the second vear of our challenge after returning to the WRC after being away for 18 years. I am so grateful to Tommi, who has kept strengthening the Yaris WRC to win this title, all the team members who supported Tommi, and the six drivers and co-drivers who kept driving the Yaris towards our goal. Thank you very much and congratulations! I also feel glad that we could share this victory with the fans who kept cheering for us, and also our partners who have fought with us as one team. I would like to extend our deepest gratitude to them for sup-

Tommi Makinen, Team Principal, said: "It's an absolutely amazing feeling today. This was the toughest final round of a season that I can remember, and it was absolutely brilliant that Jari-Matti could win again. Esapekka also helped us score the points we needed. We started this project three-and-a-half years ago and we have developed much faster than we imagined. Last year we were here to learn and to gather data. In the second half of this season we were able to find a lot of improvements with the car. This is the result of



the huge effort from everybody in the team, and I am sure this success will just further motivate us all to continue improving in 2019."

Jari-Matti Latvala, Driver of No. 7 Toyota Yaris WRC, said: "I am so happy to win again. It was quite a relief after such a long time! The conditions today were incredibly demanding, and it would have been very easy to go off the road. I was very excited and nervous at the start of the final stage, but we managed to do it. To win the manufacturers' title is fantastic. I am so proud of the team and what they have created. Everybody has worked so hard and they deserve this reward!"

Over the years, Toyota has been participating in many different forms of motorsports, including Formula One, the World Endurance Championship (WEC), and the Nurburgring 24 Hours endurance race. Toyota's participation in these events was overseen by separate entities within the company until April 2015, when Toyota established GAZOO Racing (GR), to consolidate all of its motorsports activities under one in-house brand. Representing Toyota's belief that 'the roads build the people, and the people build the cars,' GR highlights the role of motorsports as a fundamental pillar of Toyota's commitment to making 'ever-better' cars. Harnessing years of experience gained under the extreme conditions of various motorsports events, GR aims to forge new technologies and solutions that bring the freedom, adventure, and joy of driving to everyone.



## Olympic rights body to weigh issues including transgender athletes

**TOKYO:** The International Olympic Committee said yesterday it was setting up a rights committee chaired by a prominent former UN commissioner to advise it on issues including transgender athletes.

But the committee will not be looking at human rights situations in host countries, an issue that has gained increasing attention in recent years.

Speaking in Tokyo after a meeting of the IOC's executive board, president Thomas Bach said the committee would be a "key instrument to help the IOC to meet our human rights responsibilities with a more strategic approach than we could do so in the past".

The panel will be chaired by former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein and will include six to nine additional members to be named next year. "One of the issues where we will ask already this advisory committee to help us... concerns the transgender policy of the IOC and the Olympic movement, where very complicated issues have to be addressed, where human rights play a central role," Bach said.

There have been heated discussions in recent years about the inclusion of transgender athletes in the Olympics, and criticism of sporting authorities for basing eligibility on testosterone levels.

And while the committee will offer advice on a range of rights issues, Bach said it would be limited to "our spheres of work," adding: "We will not pretend that the IOC or the Olympic games can solve human rights issues beyond our sphere of work."

Asked whether the body could, for instance, discuss reports of mass internment in parts of China in the context of Beijing hosting the 2022 Winter Games, Bach stressed that those issues were "political"

"The IOC has neither the mandate nor the authority to solve the human rights problems that are going beyond our mandate, which are clearly political issues," he said. Human rights issues have drawn attention and criticism in recent years, including outspoken opposition to Russia's anti-gay laws when it hosted the Winter Games in Sochi in 2014. — AFP

# China's Yu Delu and Cao Yupeng banned for match-fixing

**BEIJING:** Chinese snooker players Yu Delu and Cao Yupeng have been handed lengthy bans after being found guilty of match-fixing, the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) said on its website https://www.wpbsa.com/wpbsa-disciplinary-hearing-result yesterday.

Yu was banned for 10 years and nine months for manipulating the outcome of five matches over a 2-1/2 year period in what the WPBSA described as

"deliberate and premeditated corruption to secure substantial financial gain".

Yu, who was ranked world number 43 when the charges were made in May, will serve the longest suspension in snooker since England's Stephen Lee was banned for 12 years in 2013.

Cao, the world number 38 when the pair were charged, also pleaded guilty to fixing three matches and was banned for six years, with 3-1/2 years of the sentence suspended.

"It is very sad when talented players are attracted to the opportunity to make money from fixing matches," WPBSA Chairman Jason Ferguson said in a statement. "The WPBSA has very effective prevention and monitoring processes that protect the sport. Where players ignore this, they risk their careers and they will be caught.

"Cao Yupeng has shown true remorse and he will assist the WPBSA in player education and in its fight against corruption, which is reflected in his reduced sanction."—Reuters

# Force India name disappears from Formula One

**LONDON:** The Force India name will disappear from Formula One next season, after 11 years of competition, with the British-based team entered as Racing Point F1 on a list published by the governing FIA on Friday.

The chassis name was listed as Racing Point, with the company name Racing Point UK Limited. The team, who became Force India in 2008 after Indian beer baron Vijay Mallya bought Spyker F1, were taken over in August by Canadian billionaire Lawrence Stroll after going into administration.

They then competed in the second part of the 2018 season as a new Racing Point Force India team to distinguish them from the defunct Sahara Force India cowned by Mallya and India's Sahara Group.

The team's 2019 drivers will be Mexican Sergio Perez and Stroll's son Lance. Ferrari's official team name also changes to Scuderia Ferrari Mission Winnow and Haas becomes Rich Energy Haas F1 team to reflect sponsorship arrangements.

The 2019 entry list also revealed that Formula Two champion George Russell will race for Williams with the number 63 while McLaren rookie Lando Norris will have a four on his car. Polish driver Robert Kubica, returning from an eight year absence after a near-fatal rally accident in 2011, will race with the number 88 on his Williams. Thailand's Alexander Albon, debuting at Toro Rosso, had yet to have a number assigned.—Reuters

Sunday, December 2, 2018 Sports

# Barkov overtime goal carries Florida Panthers over Sabres

## Parayko's gem lifts Blues over Avalanche in OT

to lead the host Florida Panthers to a 3-2 win over the Buffalo Sabres in Sunrise, Fla., on Friday. Buffalo's NHLbest 10-game winning streak ended in a 5-4 loss in Tampa on Thursday, and Barkov eluded Jack Eichel, positioned himself in front of the Buffalo goal in overtime, and buried his ninth goal off a pass from Jonathan Huberdeau to hand the Sabres consecutive losses for the only time in November. Florida also had goals from Jared McCann and Evgenii Dadonov, and Huberdeau had two assists. The Panthers won their sixth straight against Buffalo. Huberdeau has 18 points in his last 14 games. Jeff Skinner and Sam Reinhart scored goals for Buffalo, which finished November with an 11-3-1 record.

#### **DUCKS 2, HURRICANES 1 (OT)**

Ryan Getzlaf scored just 1:15 into overtime and Anaheim, which trailed for most of the game, defeated host Carolina in Raleigh, N.C., as the Ducks won for the fifth time in their last six games. Getzlaf produced his seventh goal of the season after Anaheim's Pontus Aberg scored with 3:50 remaining in regulation. His shot bounced off Carolina goalie Curtis McElhinney's shoulder and into the net. Goalie John Gibson stopped 33 shots for Anaheim. Andrei Svechnikov scored in the first period for Carolina, which had won four of its previous five games.

#### FLAMES 4, KINGS 1

Mikael Backlund scored twice in a three-point outing, and Johnny Gaudreau potted the game-winning goal in the third period as host Calgary beat Los Angeles with Flames goalie Mike Smith needing only 13 saves in winning his second consecutive start. With the score tied 1-1 despite Calgary dominating all game, Gaudreau netted a power-play goal at 7:44 of the final frame to take the lead.

FLORIDA: Aleksander Barkov scored 2:26 into overtime Gaudreau, who rang three shots off the post on the night, sent a backhander into the cage for his 10th goal of the season and fourth in six games. Smith's biggest save came early in the third period when it was a 1-1 game-a clutch diving blocker stop on Dustin Brown. The Flames, who are on a 5-1-1 run, gave up a season-low 14 shots on goal. By comparison, they fired 18 on the Kings net in the third period alone.

#### BLUES 3, AVALANCHE 2 (OT)

Colton Parayko scored a gorgeous goal with 3:26 left in overtime, and St. Louis overcame the loss of Alexander Steen to beat Colorado in Denver. Parayko got the gamewinner when he beat Avalanche defenseman Samuel Girard and managed to knock the puck with a one-handed backhander past Semyon Varlamov. Steen scored before leaving with an injury, Vladimir Tarasenko also had a goal and Joel Edmundson had two assists. Jake Allen had 27 saves for St. Louis. Mikko Rantanen and Nikita Zadorov scored for Colorado, which had its six-game winning streak snapped. Varlamov stopped 34 shots.

#### **CAPITALS 6, DEVILS 3**

Nicklas Backstrom finished with three goals and an assist as host Washington extended its winning streak to seven games with a victory over New Jersey. Alex Ovechkin had a goal and two assists while Tom Wilson and Andre Burakovsky each scored. Wilson now has seven goals in the nine games he has played this season. This also was his 400th career game. But he did not get to stick around for the finish of it. Wilson was ejected when he received a match penalty late in the second period after clipping Brett Seney in what appeared to be the shoulder/neck area on the blindside while skating past him, leaving the Devil on the ice and dazed. — Reuters



SUNRISE: Mark Pysyk #13 of the Florida Panthers defends against Kyle Okposo #21 of the Buffalo Sabres as he gets into position in front of goaltender James Reimer #34 at the BB&T Center on Friday in Sunrise, Florida. —AFP

# Windies stumble in spin trial after Mahmudullah ton

DHAKA: Bangladesh spinners took a firm grip on the second Test against West Indies after Mahmudullah Riyad struck a career best 136 to guide the hosts to 508 in the first innings in Dhaka yesterday.

Mehidy Hasan and Shakib Al Hasan shared five wickets between them as West Indies were reduced to 75-5 at stumps on the second day, trailing the hosts by 433 runs in the first innings. All five West Indies batsmen were clean bowled-only the third time in cricket history and the first time by spinners as Mehidy

#### **SCOREBOARD**

Scoreboard at stumps on the second day of the second Test between Bangladesh and West Indies at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Dhaka vesterday

Bangladesh first innings (overnight 259-5) Shadman Islam lbw b Bishoo Soumya Sarkar c Hope b Chase Mominul Haque c Chase b Roach

Mohammad Mithun b Bishoo Shakib Al Hasan c Hope b Roach Mushfiqur Rahim b Lewis Mahmudullah Riyad b Warrican Liton Das b Brathwaite Mehidy Hasan c Dowrich b Warrican Taijul Islam c Dowrich b Brathwaite

Naveem Hasan not out

1-0-10-0, Mahmudullah 1-1-0-0.

Extras: (b2, lb8, w1, nb 4) Total: (all out; 154 overs) 508 Fall of wickets: 1-42 (Soumya), 2-87 (Mominul), 3-151 (Mohammad), 4-161 (Shadman), 5-190 (Mushfiqur), 6-301 (Shakib), 7-393 (Liton), 8-416 (Mehidy), 9-472 (Taijul), 10-508 (Mahmudullah) Bowling: Roach 25-4-61-2 (nb1), Lewis 20-2-69-1 (w1), Chase 28-0-111-

1 Warrican 38-5-91-2, Bishoo 28-1-109-2 (nb3), Brathwaite 15-0-57-2. West Indies first innings K. Powell b Mehidy S. Hope b Mehidy S. Ambris b Shakib R. Chase b Mehidy S. Hetmyer not out

Extras: (b4, lb1)
Total: (five wickets; 24 overs) To bat: D. Bishoo, K. Roach, J. Warrican, S. Lewis Fall of wickets: 1-0 (Brathwaite), 2-6 (Powell), 3-17 (Ambris), 4-20 (Chase), 5-29 (Hope) Bowling: Shakib 9-3-15-2, Mehidy 10-1-36-3, Nayeem 3-0-9-0, Taijul



DHAKA: West Indies' Kieran Powell (L) is bowled out during the second day of the second Test cricket match between Bangladesh and West Indies in Dhaka yesterday. — AFP

finished with 3-36 and Shakib claimed 2-15.

Shakib struck in the very first over when he flummoxed West Indies skipper Kraigg Brathwaite with inward delivery and Kieran Powell (four), Sunil Ambris (seven), Roston Chase (zero) and Shai Hope (10) followed him in quick succession. Shimron Hetmyer (32 not out) and Shane Dowrich (17 not out) stemmed the rot to survive the day. Hetmyer was given out off rookie spinner Nayeem Hasan on 10, but the decision was overturned by television replay.

The West Indies innings were in complete contrast to those of Bangladesh, which saw Shakib (80), Shadman Islam (76) and Liton Das (54) making useful contribution along with Mahmudullah. Resuming on 259-5, Bangladesh's innings revolved around Mahmudullah, who faced 242 balls and struck 10 fours in his third Test century, on the second day. Mahmudullah helped Bangladesh build on their overnight score putting on a 111-run with Shakib Al Hasan for the sixth wicket, 92-run with Liton Das for the seventh wicket, and a 56-run with Taijul Islam (36) for the ninth wicket.

Shakib, who resumed on 55 overnight, added 25 to his overnight score before he gave a catch to Hope at gully off Kemar Roach. Mahmudullah and Liton maintained the pressure, helping the home side add 128 runs in 25 overs of the morning session.

Liton-who was making a comeback to the side after being dropped in the first Test-hit Chase a six and a four in one over to bring a quickfire fifty off just 50 balls. Liton, who struck eight fours and a six in his fourth Test fifty, fell after the lunch break when he attempted a reverse sweep off Brathwaite and missed the line to get bowled.

Jomel Warrican dismissed next batsman Mehidy Hasan, but Taijul and Mahmudullah frustrated West Indies to take their score close to 500-run mark. Mahmudullah faced 29 balls in nervous nineties before he cut Chase for four to bring his hundred. Warrican bowled Mahmudullah to wrap-up the Bangladesh innings and finish with 2-91, while Roach, Devendra Bishoo and Brathwaite also claimed two wickets each. Bangladesh are leading the two-Test series 1-0 thanks to their 64-run win in the first Test in Chittagong. — AFP

# Vijay hits ton but India's bowlers struggle

SYDNEY: Murali Vijay hit a stylish century yesterday to strengthen his bid to open the batting in the first Test against Australia, after India's rusty bowlers struggled against a young CA XI. The veteran was dropped after the second Test against England this year, but has fought his way back into contention through a spell with Essex.

And with a nasty ligament injury on Friday ruling young opener Prithvi Shaw out of the Adelaide Test next week, he grabbed his chance with both hands, smashing 16 fours and five sixes in compiling 129.

KL Rahul, who is expected to face the new ball in Adelaide alongside either Vijay, Shikhar Dhawan, or even uncapped Mayank Agarwal, made 62 in their 212-2 total. The four-day match at the Sydney Cricket Ground was India's last hit out before the Test and it ended in a draw after the CA XI made a mammoth 544 in reply to the visitor's first innings 358.

The big total from the home batsmen was a reality check for India's bowlers, who failed to impress. Pacemen Umesh Yadav (1-113) and Ishant Sharma (1-73), and chief spinner Ravichandran Ashwin (2-122) were all expensive, but they at least got plenty of valuable practice.

Little-known Harry Nielsen was a thorn in their side, coming in at number six to hit exactly 100. It took skipper and very occasional bowler Virat Kohli to dismiss him. Three other batsmen-D'Arcy Short, Aaron Hardie and Max Bryantmade half centuries. The first of India's four-Test series gets underway on Thursday. — AFP

# Teenage quick Shaheen Afridi set for Test baptism

ABU DHABI: Teenage pace sensation Shaheen Afridi is all set to cap his meteoric rise with a Test debut for Pakistan in the third match against New Zealand in Abu Dhabi starting tomorrow. A shoulder injury to medium pacer Mohammad Abbas in the second Test in Dubai has paved way for Shaheen to make his mark in the last act of a gripping series which stands at 1-1.

'If I get a chance I will do my best," Shaheen told AFP yesterday. "I always had belief in my ability and in my hard work although I didn't expect my chance will come in Tests so early." The 18-year-old left-arm quick made his mark in a domestic match in September last year, claiming eight wickets for just 39 runs in a Quaide-Azam Trophy game, the best figures by a Pakistan bowler on first-class debut.

The cricket world took notice of the 1.98 metre tall bowler who could hit the 90 miles per hour mark with the ball. Within 15 months he is already being compared to Australian pace spearhead Mitchell Starc and legendary Pakistan paceman Wasim Akram.

His rise to the Pakistan team began at home in Landi

Kotal, a town in the Khyber District, close to the border with Afghanistan, where his elder brother Riaz who played one Test for Pakistan in 200, gave him his first bowling lessons.

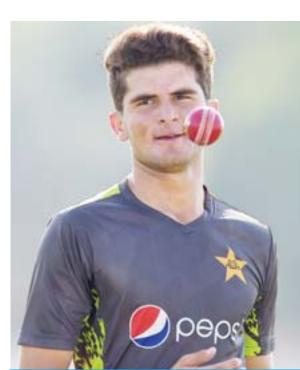
"My brother was my role model who taught me how to bowl and how to approach cricket with a positive frame of mind," said Shaheen. "I owe my success to him." Riaz also taught his brother a few shots to the extent that he is considered a handy hard-hitting all-rounder.

Since his impressive first-class debut, Shaheen has continued to attract attention, finishing with 12 wickets at the ICC Under-19 World Cup in New Zealand this year and then grabbing a five wicket haul in a Pakistan Super League match.

Shaheen graduated to Pakistan colours in the home Twenty20 series against the West Indies in March, but real success came against New Zealand in last month's one-day series in which he claimed back-to-back four wicket hauls and finished as man-of-the-series.

Just like Wasim Akram, Shaheen has also played just three first class matches before his first Test. "Test cricket is the ultimate so matching the great Wasim's feat will motivate me a lot and just like I do in limited over matches, I will try to take wickets for my team to win the series," said Shaheen.

After his early form last month Pakistan's selection committee, headed by Inzamam-ul-Haq, named Shaheen in the Test squad for the New Zealand series with a view to developing him rather than playing him. — AFP



ABU DHABI: Pakistani cricketer Shaheen Shah Afridi pre pares to bowl during a practice session at the Sheikh Zayed . International Cricket Stadium in Abu Dhabi yesterday. — ÁFI

# Tamim in line for **Bangladesh ODI** return

**DHAKA:** Opening batsman Tamim Iqbal is set to make a comeback to the Bangladesh squad for the upcoming one-day international series against the West Indies, an official said yesterday. Tamim has not played since injuring his wrist during the Asia Cup opener against Sri Lanka in the UAE in September.

He was expected to return to the side during the ongoing two-Test series against the West Indies but a rib injury in a recent training session delayed his comeback. "He has been cleared by the physio to play the ODIs. We are expecting him to play from the start of the series," said chief selector Minhajul Abedin.

The three-match ODI series will be held from December 9-14 in Dhaka and Sylhet. Bangladeshi selectors yesterday included Tamim in a Bangladesh Cricket Board XI squad for a warm-up match against the visitors in Dhaka on Thursday.

Bangladesh ODI skipper Mashrafe Mortaza will lead the BCB team in the game. "We included Mashrafe and Tamim in the practice match squad as we felt they need some match practice before the series," Minhajul said. West Indies are currently trailing Bangladesh by 0-1 in the Test series. — AFP

# Euro 2020 draw offers unique incentive for 12 host nations

# Draw in Dublin will see UEFA's 55 nations split into 10 groups

today's qualifying draw for Euro 2020 with the extra incentive of playing on home soil should they make it to the 24-team tournament in two years time.

Amsterdam, Baku, Bilbao, Bucharest, Budapest, Copenhagen, Dublin, Glasgow, London, Munich, Rome and Saint Petersburg are the 12 cities that will host matches across the continent to celebrate the 60th anniversary since the first European Championships.

The draw in Dublin will see UEFA's 55 nations split into 10 groups with the top two in each section making up the first 20 teams to qualify.

However, a maximum of two of the hosts nations can be paired together in each group to give all 12 the chance of experiencing a home tournament with a guarantee of at least two home games in the group stages. England stand to gain most from home advantage with both semi-finals and the final, as well as three group games and a last 16 tie set to be played at Wembley.

The Three Lions have enjoyed argubly their best year since winning the World Cup on home soil in 1966 as Gareth Southgate's side reached the semi-finals of the World Cup in Russia and then beat Spain and Croatia to reach the inaugural finals of the Nations League next summer.

Southgate is well aware of the extra inspiration of playing in a major tournament at home as he was part of the England side that reached the semi-finals at Euro '96. "What the players are going to experience is close to what we experienced in 1996 and in '66. That's incredible for everybody," said the England manager.

The Wembley factor could be key to ending England's half century without winning a major tourna-

**DUBLIN:** For the first time 12 nations will head into ment with Southgate's exciting young squad having renergised a nation's support.

"I think the most pleasing thing of the year has been the connection with the fans and being able to share brilliant experiences with them," added Southgate after exacting some measure of revenge for defeat to Croatia in the World Cup semi-finals in a thrilling Nations League group finale earlier this month.

'I can't remember the new Wembley like that. We have exciting players that give them excitement."

England, Switzerland, Portugal and the Netherlands are guaranteed to end up in a five-team group to free them up from qualifiers for the Nations League finals in June. World champions France, Belgium, Croatia, Italy, Poland and Spain make up the rest of the top seeds, as Germany's relegation from their Nations League group with the French and Dutch means they slip into pot two.

After also crashing out at the first hurdle at the World Cup for the first time in 80 years, Germany coach Joachim Loew needs to bounce back in qualifying with Munich playing host to five matches, including a quarter-final.

But Loew has no doubt the four-time world champions will qualify. "Of course we would have wished for a different set-up for the draw, but we face the situation and accept it," said Loew. "I'm looking forward to next year. We have a team with good prospects and we'll qualify for the European Championships." For those who fail to qualify in the top two of their group, there may still be the safety net of a playoff via the Nations League. The final four places will be decided in a semifinal and final between the top four sides from the four tiers of the Nations League that do not qualify automatically in March 2020. —AFP



OfficiasI standing next to Euro 2020 billboard.

# Henderson howler hands Leeds top spot

**LONDON:** A dreadful blunder by Sheffield United goalkeeper Dean Henderson helped Leeds to a 1-0 win yesterday, their first at Bramall Lane since they won the old First Division title 26 years ago.

Spanish veteran Pablo Hernandez slotted the ball into an empty net after Henderson had passed the ball to Leeds youngster Jack Clarke, to send Leeds to the top of the table. The visitorsówho could be overhauled by Norwich if the Canaries beat Rotherham lateroheld er Billy Sharp gave him the slip but the 32-year-old

on for their third successive win despite some nervy moments especially when Conor Washingtonis acrobatic overhead kick rattled the crossbar.

Sheffield United started the brighter and David McGoldrick went close after 10 minutes bringing a fabulous save from Leeds Northern Ireland international Bailey Peacock-Farrell. The visitors suffered a major injury blow 10 minutes later when captain Liam Cooper hobbled off to be replaced by Finnish Under-21 international Aapo Halme.

McGoldrick was avery fortunate to escape without even a yellow card for a studs up foul on Polish international Mateusz Klich. Halme then showed up at the other end but Dean Henderson got down to turn away his deflected shot for a corner.

The young Finn, though, should have done better as half-time approached. Sheffield Unitedis veteran strikfailed to make proper contact with McGoldrickís sublime cross heading the ball into the ground and it subsequently bounced over the bar.

Leeds turned on the pressure in the second-half, Klich forcing Henderson into a smart save as the hour mark approached. Peacock-Farrell came to the visitorsí rescue soon afterwards saving with his feet from McGoldrick.

Kemar Roofe was inches away from giving Leeds the lead as the game entered the final 20 minutes his header beating Henderson but shaving the outside of the post. The previously impeccable Henderson gifted Leeds a goal with eight minutes remaining. Desperately trying to save a poor back pass by John Egan from going for a corner, he passed it straight to Clarke. The 18-year-old forward kept his head and laid it across the area to Hernandez who made no mistake. — AFP

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AC Chievo Verona v SS Lazio

AS Roma v Internazionale Milano

#### **Matches on TV**

(Local Timings)

20:00

22:30

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE	
Chelsea FC v Fulham FC	15:00
beIN SPORTS HD 2	
Arsenal FC v Tottenham Hotspur	17:05
beIN SPORTS HD 2	
Liverpool v Everton FC	19:15
beIN SPORTS HD 2	
SPANISH LEAGUE	
Real Betis v Real Sociedad	14:00
beIN SPORTS HD 3	
Girona v Atletico de Madrid	18:15
beIN SPORTS HD 3	
FC Barcelona v Villarreal CF	20:30
beIN SPORTS HD 3	
Deportivo Alaves v Sevilla FC	22:45
beIN SPORTS HD 3	
ITALIAN CALCIO LEAGUE	
AC Milan v Parma Calcio 1913	14:30
beIN SPORTS	
Torino FC v Genoa CFC	17:00
beIN SPORTS	
Frosinone Calcio v Cagliari Calcio	17:00
beIN SPORTS	
US Sassuolo Calcio v Udinese Calcio	17:00

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA	
RB Leipzig v Borussia Monchengladbach	17:30
beIN SPORTS HD 5	
Eintracht Frankfurt v VfL Wolfsburg	0:00
beIN SPORTS HD 5	
FRENCH LEAGUE	
Toulouse FC v Dijon	17:00
beIN SPORTS	
Olympique Marseille v Stade Reims	19:00
beIN SPORTS	
Stade Rennais v RC Strasbourg	19:00
beIN SPORTS	
FC Girondins de Bordeaux v Paris Saint-Germa	ain 23:0

# Infantino deplores 'idiots' who ruined Copa Libertadores

BUENOS AIRES: FIFA President Gianni Infantino lamented that "idiots ruined the party" for everyone after the second leg of the Copa Libertadores final was moved to Madrid following fan violence.

The match between Buenos Aires arch-rivals Boca Juniors and River Plate was originally scheduled for November 24 at River's Monumental stadium but was postponed after Boca players were injured when their team bus was attacked by home fans throwing projectiles. "I was here last Saturday," Infantino said at a press conference at the G20 summit in Buenos Aires. "It was a sad moment for everyone. It is a football match. It is not a war,

"We have to work to find out who are the people to blame. You have to identify them and get them out (of football)," said Infantino.

"I hope this does not happen any longer," he said. "This story must mark the end of one chapter and the start of a new one." South American football's governing body Conmebol on Thursday confirmed that the match would be played on December 9 at Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

"All the leaders of G20 are interested in football and they see the potential of football," Infantino said. "Football is the only truly global sport."

# Mourinho expects difficult January transfer window

MANCHESTER: Jose Mourinho fears Manchester United will be unable to make major signings in January because their rivals no longer need to sell to them. United have spent almost \$400 million (\$510 million) on players since Mourinho arrived at the club in 2016, but the manager claims buying top-level players is becoming increasingly

Mourinho claims the balance of power has shifted in the Premier League - using the example of Tottenham, who spent no money on players during the last transfer window, but also managed to keep their key names, in Harry Kane, Dele Alli, Christian Eriksen and Son Heung-Min.

There was no attempt by United to sign any of those four players, but Mourinho is adamant Tottenham would have refused to sell even if there had been. He argued it did not used to be the case, with United prising England midfielder Michael Carrick from Tottenham in 2006, then luring Bulgaria striker Dimitar Berbatov from White Hart

"Is Manchester United by its history, by its dimension, bigger than Tottenham? With all respect, Tottenham is an



Meanwhile, River Plate said yesterday they have refused to play the Copa Libertadores final against Boca Juniors in Madrid. The match between the Argentine archrivals has been moved to Real Madrid's Santiago Bernabeu stadium after it was twice postponed last weekend after River Plate fans attacked the Boca Juniors team bus.

The match is due to be played in the Spanish capital on December 9, but River Plate said they "confirmed their rejection of the change of location". In a statement on the club's website, River said it was "incomprehensible" that the match had been moved to Spain. "It is incomprehensible that the superclasico cannot take place as normal in the same country where a G20 summit is currently taking place," the club added. World leaders including US President Donald Trump and Russian leader Vladimir Putin are attending the G20 summit in the Argentine capital this weekend. — AFP

amazing club, but I think everybody would say yes," Mourinho said. "Can you buy Tottenham's best players? No, because they don't sell. Of course, they are so powerful that they can say no.

"A few years ago, who was Tottenham's best player? Michael Carrick. And a few years later, who was the best player? Berbatov. "Can we go there now and bring Harry Kane? Dele Alli, Eriksen, Son? Can we go there and bring those players here? No. So who is more powerful now? Them or us?"

In what appeared to be a covert criticism of Manchester City, Mourinho suggested financial restrictions sometimes did not apply in the Premier League. Mourinho said some clubs could buy multiple full-backs at the same time, a comment he has made before when referencing City's transfer policy.

City manager Pep Guardiola bought three-full backs in 2017 while allowing another four to leave as he reshaped his squad. "It's more difficult to make the team better and stronger with buying-unless you do what some clubs do, and for some reason they can do this and others cannot, which is say: I need a right-back and a left-back, send away the ones you have and buy four at the same time," Mourinho said.

After making this comment, Mourinho was asked why United did not have the financial muscle required to buy the best players. "I cannot say the answer because one of the answers you had a few weeks ago. I don't want to speak about that. But one of the answers you had a few weeks ago," he said.—AFP

## **Buoyant Spurs aim** to end Arsenal's unbeaten run

LONDON: Tottenham midfielder Harry Winks has warned Arsenal that his side are in the perfect form to end their bitter rivals' 18-match unbeaten run today. Mauricio Pochettino's team head to the Emirates Stadium on a six-match winning streak which has carried them to third in the Premier League table.

Tottenham are also on a high after salvaging their hopes of qualifying for the Champions League last 16 with a 1-0 win over Inter Milan on Wednesday. Revitalised by new boss Unai Emery, Arsenal's own form has been just as impressive over the last three months and they sit only three points behind

But England international Winks says the north London derby has come at the right time for Tottenham as they chase a first win at their hated neighbours' stadium since 2010. "It is a game the fans want to win and one that we want to win. Three games in a week is going to be tough, but confidence is high," Winks said. "Of course they are beatable. The form we are in

right now, it is probably the perfect time to go there. It is going to be a good game." The 196th clash between these feuding city-rivals promises to be a fascinating study of two teams who started the season with differing ambitions.

While Tottenham hope to mount a genuine title challenge, Arsenal would be happy with a top four finish after emerging from the dark final days of Arsene Wenger's reign. Arsenal are unbeaten in their last 11 league games, but have yet to defeat one of their top four rivals this season after losing to Manchester City and Chelsea and drawing with Liverpool.

A victory would give Tottenham their highest points total after 14 games of a Premier League season, while a draw would mean they equal their best haul of 31 points in the 2011-12 campaign. The Gunners have lost just one of their last 25 top-flight home matches against Tottenham, but they have won only one of the last eight league derbies.

Emery's side endured a long trip to Kiev in midweek for their Europa League win against Vorskla, but the Gunners rested 10 players to keep them fresh for the derby.

Rob Holding was the only player to retain his place from the previous Premier League match at Bournemouth and the defender is hoping Emery gives him the chance to subdue Harry Kane today.

Tottenham striker Kane has scored seven times against Arsenal and is one shy of equalling Emmanuel Adebayor's record for most Premier League goals in north London derbies. "I'm looking forward to going up against Harry Kane. If he doesn't score a goal, I'll be happy," Holding said.

It is the first time in 23 years that Tottenham will make the short trip down the Seven Sisters Road to face an Arsenal side not managed by Wenger. Only two of the last nine Arsenal managers (including caretakers) have won their first league game against Tottenham-Don Howe in 1983 and Wenger in 1996.

Emery has impressed with his ability to reunite a squad fractured by the toxic atmosphere that marred Wenger's last seasons and Holding admits the team and fans have bonded again. "Yes, everyone is together. We knew with the new manager it was going to be a process. He's come in and had a good first half of the season," Holding said.

With the fans behind us and the manager, the players are all buying into it. We're in a positive momentum at the moment." Emery is a good friend of Pochettino and the Tottenham manager is looking forward to pitting his wits against the Spaniard.—AFP

# Sport Times

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018

Boxing still on the ropes after IOC freezes planning for Tokyo 2020



Windies stumble in spin trial after Mahmudullah century



Infantino deplores 'idiots'who ruined Copa Libertadores



# Capela's 27 leads Rockets' rout of Spurs

James scores 28 as Lakers down Mavs for second straight win



SAN ANTONIO: Clint Capela scored 27 points on 12of-16 shooting and pulled down 12 rebounds in just three quarters as the visiting Houston Rockets rolled to a 136-105 win over the reeling San Antonio Spurs on Friday. The Rockets, with point guard Chris Paul back in the lineup after sitting out three games with a hamstring injury, emphatically snapped a four-game losing streak, taking a 70-47 lead into halftime and never looking back. It was the second straight blowout loss suffered by the Spurs, who were defeated 128-89 in Minnesota on Wednesday. San Antonio has dropped five of its past seven games and eight of the 11 games it has played since beating the Rockets, also on the Spurs' home court, on Nov. 10. It marks the first time since 1987 that the Spurs have lost consecutive games by 30 or more points.

#### LAKERS 114, MAVERICKS 103

LeBron James scored 28 points and Brandon Ingram added 19 as Los Angeles Lakers rallied from a double-digit deficit in the first half and pulled away for a victory over visiting Dallas. Kyle Kuzma scored 15 points with 12 rebounds as the Lakers answered consecutive defeats earlier in the week with victories on back-to-back days after they built a big lead and held on against the Indiana Pacers on Thursday. Harrison Barnes scored 29 points and Dwight Powell added 17 off the bench for the Mavericks, who saw their three-game winning streak

come to an end. Dallas entered with seven victories in their previous eight games.

#### GRIZZLIES 131, NETS 125 (20T)

Mike Conley scored 13 of his season-high 37 points in the second overtime, and Memphis recorded a wild victory over Brooklyn, which saw its home losing streak reach six games. Rookie Jaren Jackson scored a careerhigh 36 points, and his 3-pointer with 15.9 seconds left in regulation forged a 111-111 deadlock and forced overtime. He had cut the deficit to three just 12 seconds earlier by converting a four-point play. Conley hit the gametying basket with nine seconds left in the first overtime to forge a 117-117 tie. Then he scored all but one of Memphis' points in the second overtime. Conley finished one point shy of his career high as he shot 13 of 25 and also handed out 10 assists.

#### HEAT 106, PELICANS 101

Josh Richardson scored a team-high 20 points-including a key drive with 26 seconds left-as Miami snapped a six-game home losing streak by defeating New Orleans. Pelicans star Anthony Davis scored 41 points, 19 of them in the third quarter. It was his third game of at least 40 points this season. New Orleans guard Jrue Holiday added 21 points and eight assists. Miami led by as many as 31 points in the second quarter and then held on to snap its longest home losing streak

since 2008. New Orleans got as close as three points late in the fourth quarter. Dwyane Wade provided 18 points off the Heat bench.

#### NUGGETS 113, TRAIL BLAZERS 112

Gary Harris scored 27 points as visiting Denver defeated Portland while Paul Millsap contributed 22 points and 10 rebounds and Nikola Jokic added 15 points, eight assists and six rebounds as the Nuggets won their fifth straight game. CJ McCollum bombed in 33 points but missed a jump shot that would have been the game-winner at the final horn as the Trail Blazers fell for the sixth time in nine games. Al-Farouq Aminu chipped in a season-high 20 points for Portland, which trailed by as many as 17 points in the second quarter.

#### 76ERS 123, WIZARDS 98

Joel Embiid scored 16 points and grabbed 15 rebounds, recording his league-best 22nd double-double, as host Philadelphia dismantled Washington. Ben Simmons had 13 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds for his 15th double-double this season. Eight Sixers reached double figures in the win, half of them reserves, as they improved to 12-1 at home and won their third in a row. Bradley Beal scored 19 points for the Wizards, who fell to 2-9 on the road and dropped their second straight. They played without center Dwight Howard, who could be lost for several months

after undergoing back surgery.

#### JAZZ 119, HORNETS 111

Kyle Korver scored 14 points off the bench, 12 of those on 3-pointers, in his first game back with Utah in helping overpower host Charlotte to win a second straight to start its three-game trip. Donovan Mitchell led all scorers with 30, Jae Crowder came off the bench for 24 points and a team-high seven assists, and Rudy Gobert contributed 20 points and 17 rebounds for the Jazz, who had not won at Charlotte since December 2013, when the opponents were known as the Bobcats. Jeremy Lamb had 24 points, Kemba Walker 21 and Tony Parker 20 points and a game-high nine assists to pace the Hornets.

#### **CELTICS 128, CAVALIERS 95**

Kyrie Irving scored 29 points, and six other Celtics scored in double figures as Boston defeated visiting Cleveland. Irving, the former Cavaliers guard who demanded a trade out of Cleveland before last season, haunted his old team to the tune of 11-of-15 shooting from the field, including 5 for 7 from beyond the arc. Irving also grabbed four rebounds and dished out four assists. The Celtics were deadly from 3-point range, connecting on 17 of 31 attempts. They recorded season highs in points, margin of victory and field-goal percentage (53.3 percent).— Reuters

# City go five clear with win over Bournemouth

MANCHESTER: Relentless Manchester City made it six Premier League wins in a row with a 3-1 victory over Bournemouth yesterday, moving them five points clear of second-placed Liverpool at the top of the table. With Liverpool not in action until their Merseyside derby with Everton today, City were made to work unusually hard for their victory by a dogged and determined Bournemouth side. Bernardo Silva broke the deadlock to get City up and running in the 16th minute but the reigning Premier League champions took their foot off the gas after that early opener, with Callum Wilson levelling things up one minute

oefore halftime.

That equaliser jolted City into life. They came out for the second half with added impetus and were soon back in front through Raheem Sterling-his seventh goal in seven games against Bournemouth.

City then turned on the style to complete the victory, with David Silva and Leroy Sane combining to create an easy chance for Ilkay Gundogan to finish-the 22nd goal City have scored during this winning league run of six.

With their unbeaten league run now at 20 games, stretching back to April, City are looking in imperious form, while a fourth consecutive league defeat for Bournemouth sees them drop to ninth.

In another match, striker Javier Hernandez made the most of a rare start for West Ham United by scoring two clinical goals which helped the east London side to a 3-0 Premier League win at Newcastle United yesterday. The result, wrapped up with a late goal from Felipe Anderson, lifted West Ham to 13th place on 15 points from 14 games and ended

Newcastle's three-match winning streak as the Magpies, who have 12 points, slipped to 14th.

West Ham's fast breaks had toothless Newcastle reeling all afternoon and livewire Mexico international Hernandez fired them ahead in the 11th minute with a sweeping closerange finish after a fine cross by Robert Snodgrass.

Hernandez and strike partner Marko Arnautovic continued to torment their markers after the break and the Mexican missed a pair of gilt-edged chances before they combined to devastating effect for the second goal in the 63rd. Arnautovic superbly headed down a lofted West Ham clearance from their own half into Hernandez's stride and the 30-year old made no mistake as he drove the ball past Newcastle goalkeeper Martin Dubravka inside the near post. Newcastle threw men forward in the closing stages but failed to create any chances and were caught cold again in stoppage time when Brazilian Felipe Anderson found time and space in the penalty area to bury his shot through Dubravka's legs. — Reuters

