

DT NEWS

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News of Bahrain

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Tweet of the Day



Anger may seem to be a source of energy, but it's blind. It causes us to lose our restraint. It may stir courage, but that too is blind.

@DalaiLama



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The Press for 'free and honest word'



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Bahrain band wins first prize at Arab Heritage Music Festival

HM King: fairness key to progress

DT News Network Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday lauded Malaysia for its balanced approach, tolerance, fairness, moderation, adherence to peaceful coexistence and cultural and religious pluralism.

"This is an approach that our country has always adopted to preserve its

achievements and to thwart the threats to progress and stability," HM the King said while speaking at a state banquet hosted in honour of him by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V at the national palace - Istana Negara - yesterday. HM, the King was received by Sultan Muhammad V and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on arrival at the palace.

Appreciating Malaysia's

active participation in the Islamic coalition forces and joint defence to confront extremism and terrorism, HM, the King reaffirmed the Kingdom's readiness to cooperate in the fields of trade and investment and to make every possible effort to stand with Malaysia to open new horizons to grow and prosper.

Faster implementation

The King also promised faster

implementation of agreements and memorandums of understanding being signed in the field of defence, air services, oil and gas, in addition to cooperation between the chambers of commerce and industry.

"We are deeply honoured and delighted at visiting Malaysia and meeting HM Sultan Muhammad V who contributed greatly to his country's development, security and stability. We

would like to express our admiration for the landmark achievements, progress strides and conciliation between religious authenticity and modernization for the sake of all Malaysian people," HM wrote in the VIP Guest Book.

The two monarchs held a meeting during which they reviewed bilateral relations binding the two countries and peoples, before exchanging commemorative gifts.



HM King with Sultan Muhammed V at Istana Negara in Malaysia yesterday

Iran, Israel rejoicing in pain: Abul Gheit

Dubai

Arab League chief Ahmed Abul Gheit warned yesterday that Iran and Israel were the main beneficiaries of turmoil across the Arab world, which he described as the worst he has ever seen.

"I have never seen anything worse than what we are now seeing," Abul Gheit said at the Arab Media Forum in Dubai.

"Iran is enjoying what the Arab world is going through. There are those in Iran who are watching and waiting for us to destroy ourselves."

Ties between Iran and Arab states have grown increasingly tense in recent years, with Tehran backing Syrian President Bashar al-Assad,

Yemen's Shiite Huthi rebels and armed Shiite groups in Iraq.

Arab Gulf Cooperation Council governments largely back Syrian opposition groups.

Israel also stood to benefit from conflicts across the region, Abul Gheit said.

"Israel was under enormous pressure to find a solution with the Palestinians," he said.

"If I were the prime minister ... I would have thought these were the happiest days for Israel."

Long-stalled peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians have been overshadowed by global concerns over the Syrian war and Islamic State group jihadists.

-AFP



Just another day

A Palestinian man bakes bread at a bakery in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip on May Day yesterday (see page 8)

The Press for 'free and honest word'

DT News Network
Manama

Prim Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday saluted the Press, highlighting the importance of "free and honest word" in developing the present and building the future.

Emphasising the importance of the Press in shaping public opinion, he said, "The fourth estate has a crucial role in building nations and supporting sustainable development."

In a keynote message on the World Press Freedom Day, which falls on May 3, HRH the Premier paid tribute to the fourth estate and the media which, according to him, elevates society, supports development, enlightens minds, elicits creativity and innovation promote social cohesion and consolidates national security and stability.

The 2017 World Press Freedom Day is being held this year under the theme 'Critical Minds for Critical Times: Media's Role in Advancing Peaceful, Just and Inclusive



Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa

commented the role of The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in consolidating press and media liberties in the world and advocating cultural and human rapprochement for the good of human beings.

media freedom and believes firmly in the importance of the "influential word" in protecting the country's security and stability.

"Freedom of opinion and expression is enshrined in the constitution which allows journalists to express their views without affecting national unity or social cohesion," the Premier said.

Speaking about social media, the Prime Minister stressed the importance of benefiting from it, to spread information that serves societies and enhances their development, instead of utilising them to destabilise nations.

Prince Khalifa urged the young generation to arm itself with a wealth of knowledge and benefit fully from technological strides.

HRH the Premier commended the role of The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation in consolidating press and media liberties in the world and advocating cultural and human rapprochement for the good of human beings.



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Hamas accepts Palestine with 1967 borders



Exiled Chief of Hamas' Political Bureau Khaled Meshaal speaks during conference in Doha

Doha
The Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas unveiled yesterday a new policy document easing its stance on Israel after having long called for its destruction, as it seeks to improve its international standing.

The document notably accepts the idea of a Palestinian state in territories occupied by Israel in the Six-Day War of 1967.

It also says its struggle is not against Jews because of their religion but against Israel as an occupier.

However, Hamas officials said the document in no way amounts to recognition of Israel as demanded by the

international community.

"...Hamas considers the establishment of a fully sovereign and independent Palestinian state, with Jerusalem as its capital along the lines of the 4th of June 1967, with the return of the refugees and the displaced to their homes from which they were expelled, to be a formula of national consensus," it says.

The movement's leaders have long spoken of the more limited aim of a Palestinian state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip without explicitly setting it out in its charter.

But after years of internal debate, the new document formally accepts the idea of a state in the territories occupied

by Israel in the Six-Day War of 1967.

Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, remains deeply divided from Fatah, the more moderate party of Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas based in the occupied West Bank.

Hamas's announcement comes ahead of Abbas's first face-to-face meeting with US President Donald Trump in Washington on Wednesday.

The new document was posted online as exiled Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal was due to hold a press conference on it in Doha.

The press conference was also being broadcast live in the Gaza Strip. (AFP)

Despite ban, Bahrain shrimp being sold in GCC markets



Videograbs of Bahrain shrimp being sold in GCC markets



Muhannad Mansour/DTNN
news@dt.bh

Manama

While the authorities here have imposed a ban on all shrimping activities in the country for six months, Bahraini shrimp is being caught, smuggled and sold in markets across the neighbouring countries,

according to local fishermen who paid visits to central fish markets in GCC countries, especially Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

Large quantities of fresh shrimps are seen displayed in those markets as shown in a recent footage that *DT News* obtained a copy of.

As reported last Sunday, Bahraini shrimps are openly

sold in public markets in Dammam, Saudi Arabia. They are sold as cheap as BD7.

Bahrain Fishermen's Society (BFS) President Waheed Al Dossary censured the authorities here for their "leniency" with violators of the shrimp ban.

He demanded enforcing more deterrent punishments against anyone caught

breaching the ban by catching shrimp, selling it or smuggling abroad.

Al Dossary and other members of the society met senior State officials during the past month to convey fishermen's irritation of the continuous breach of the ban and endangering the marine environment of Bahrain.

As reported earlier, the

sale and catch of shrimps are banned in Bahrain as per a decision taken by Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Minister Essam Khalaf issued on March 7.

The minister's decision bans shrimping for six months, between March 15 and September 15. According to the resolution, violators are

subjected to fines and penalties that include imprisonment and confiscation of boats and fishing equipment.

However, BFS members repeatedly told that the ban is frequently breached by organised networks that secretly sell fresh shrimps to local shops and restaurants, as well as smuggling it to fish traders in regional markets.

Foreign firm downs shutters sans paying BD2.6m to Bapco

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Manama

A foreign company downed its shutters last November and moved to the UAE without paying its BD2.6 million debt to Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco). Bapco has lodged a complaint with the Urgent Matter Court, demanding provisional seizure of the company's equipment and belongings.

According to court files, Bapco has claimed that it had provided the company with

petroleum products worth BD2.6 million and that the company did not pay for it.

Bapco told the court that the money was due last June and legal procedures were taken against the company, which informed that the reason for its delay in payment was due to it experiencing difficult financial conditions and requested a phased payment of the money.

Bapco also stated that the company closed its factories in Bahrain and transported all its movables, employees and raw materials to the UAE by the

end of November 2016. The court has requested Bapco to assign an expert to inspect whether the company is still functioning or not. The court

has also asked the expert to find out whether the company has closed its factory in Bahrain or not. The expert should submit the report before May 17.

Bapco has lodged a complaint with the Urgent Matter Court, demanding provisional seizure of the foreign company's equipment and belongings. The court has requested Bapco to assign an expert to inspect whether the erring company is still functioning or not

80pc progress in storm water drainage project

DT News Network
Manama

Eighty per cent progress has been achieved in the work on A3 storm water drainage network project, which is expected to serve 8 blocks in Muharraq and 2 blocks in Manama, Nazha Abo Hindi, Sanitary Engineering Planning and Projects Director of the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, said yesterday.

According to Abo Hindi, the project comprises of extending 3.805km long main connections, constructing 35 inspection chambers, 239 storm water collection points and 28 storm water collection

chambers to serve Block 236 in Samaheej, Block 226 in Busaiteen, Block 233 in Dair, Blocks 202, 210 and 2016 in Muharraq, Block 244 in Arad, Block 341 in Juffair and Block 359 in Zinj. Chairman of Muharraq Municipal Council Mohammed Al Sinan expressed HRH the Prime Minister's concern and close follow-up of the development work of old areas and infrastructure specifically in Muharraq.

He thanked the Ministry of Works and Minister Eng. Essam bin Abdulla Khalaf for his keenness to see to the implementation of development projects in the area.

Bahrain band wins first prize at Arab Heritage Music Festival



Bahraini musicians performing at the Youth Festival for Arab and Traditional music in Cairo

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Manama

A local band has won the first prize in the Youth Festival for Arab and Traditional Music held at the Egyptian city of Cairo.

The band comprising young

musicians Mohammed Asiri, Youssef Al Jabri, Zakaria Ali, Rashid Abdullah and Jihad Ahmed won the prestigious prize.

They rendered a collection of songs and musical compositions on the stage of the Egyptian Youth and Sports Theatre.

The band belted out traditional Bahraini numbers before a jury of renowned Arab musicians such as Hani Mohni, Hani Shnouda and Dr. Ezz-Eldeen Taha.

The second and third places went to the Algerian and Egyptian bands, respectively. The festival was organised by

the Egyptian Youth and Sports in cooperation with the League of Arab States. The festival concluded yesterday.

Organised for the first time, the music festival was aimed at raising awareness against extremism and terrorism, and to spread human values and peace among the youth.



Fans celebrating after the Kingdom's delegation was announced winners

Two more abattoirs opened for Ramadhan

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Manama

As part of the preparations for the approaching Holy Month of Ramadhan, two more abattoirs have been opened for public to meet the increasing demand for fresh meat.

This was announced by the Agriculture and Marine Resources Affairs in Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry.

"The two temporary public abattoirs are provided by the ministry under full supervision of approved veterinarians. The location of the abattoirs is next to Hamala Public Slaughterhouse in the Northern Governorate," Shaikh Khalifa bin Isa Al Khalifa Agriculture and Marine Resources Undersecretary said in a statement yesterday.

"This comes within the ministry's preparations for the month of Ramadhan and in accordance with the best health standards. The demand for slaughtered cattle and fresh meat increases in Ramadan. The ministry seeks



Shaikh Khalifa bin Isa Al Khalifa meeting public demands and preserve public health in the Kingdom," the undersecretary said.

Shaikh Khalifa also confirmed that the new abattoirs were opened in cooperation with establishments of the private sector.

He explained that the abattoirs are mobile and meet international safety and health standards.

"Specialised veterinary teams were provided to carry out the accurate tests and ensure the safety of the slaughtered animals. Animal Health and Control Department has suspended all veterinarians' vacations and formed an emergency team to cover all

working hours," the official stated, calling upon the public not to resort to unlicensed random abattoirs, considering the health hazards they have on the public health.

"The public must be aware of the dangers of slaughtering outside the approved abattoirs in order to maintain public health and safety", Shaikh Khalifa noted pointing out that "there are inspection committees working in cooperation with Health

The two temporary public abattoirs are provided by the ministry under full supervision of approved veterinarians. The location of the abattoirs is next to Hamala Public Slaughterhouse in the Northern Governorate

Ministry to inspect local meat markets to ensure that the official slaughter seals are on

the displayed meat".

He added that legal action will be taken against violators.



Hamala slaughterhouse (file photo)

Dr Al-Fadhel is NIHR acting Sec-General

DT News Network
Manama

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) appointed Dr. Khalifa bin Ali Al-Fadhel as its Acting Secretary-General.

Dr. Al-Fadhel will be tasked with developing the work of the NIHR's Secretariat-General in accordance with the NIHR's strategy and work plan.

President of NIHR Saeed bin Mohammed Al-Faihan said that Dr. Al-Fadhel will enrich the NIHR's work, given his distinguished human rights and legal record and experience, wishing him every success.

Dr Al-Fadhel holds both a PhD and a master's degree in International Law from the University of Leeds, the United Kingdom, and has a law degree from the University of Bahrain.

He is a former student activist and was elected head of Faculty of Law Association and member of the UoB Student Council. He has represented the Bahrain civil society in numerous human rights conferences in Geneva.



DT News Network
reporter@dt.bh

Manama

The General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions honoured workers on the occasion of the International Labour Day at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, yesterday.

Jameel Humaidan, Minister of Labour and Social Development, and Khalid Rashid Al Zayani, First Vice Chairman of BCCI, presented awards to the most deserving employees in different sectors. "The award ceremony

is an amazing platform to celebrate the workers as well as appreciate their role," said Humaidan

"We are looking back at a year of achievements in different fields of work in Bahrain. This also enables us to implement many initiatives in the fields of training and employment to support the community and develop programmes aimed at empowering individuals and families to become productive and active members of society," said Humaidan, adding that the trade union

forum is an opportunity to be renewed every year, through which we move forward towards the progress of the country.

"We are celebrating the hard work and the achievement of the people and it is a pleasure to see people being recognized and honoured on International Labour Day and I can see the relation between the government, the union and the private sector strengthening," said Khalid Rashid Al Zayani, First Vice Chairman of BCCI on the occasion.

GPIC President applauds workers

DT News Network
Manama

Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery has praised the achievements of Bahrain's workers and applauded their dedication.



Dr Abdulrahman Jawahery

In a statement on the occasion of May Day, which celebrated the achievements of workers and their innovations, he stressed on the importance of working towards the development of society and the prosperity of the homeland.

He said the more the production in a country, as a result of workers' efforts, the more prosperous the country would become.

He said the day is marked in appreciation of workers' contributions in developing and promoting their homeland for sustainable development.

Dr. Jawahery said Bahrain is proud of its leadership that recognises the importance of the efforts of all workers and their contributions towards production, creativity and innovation.

He said the day is an official holiday for the government and civil sectors in recognition of these efforts and their role in the development of Bahrain.

He congratulated His Majesty King Hamad bin

Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, for their interest and follow-up on workers' issues and their requirements.

Dr. Jawahery also applauded all Bahrain labour unions in companies, plants and institutions that work hard to promote a joint relationship between workers and employers.

He extended his best wishes to all the workers, who have shown great responsibility for the good of the country and have earned national and international respect.

He said these workers are the true wealth of Bahrain and it is through them that institutions, factories and companies had achieved recognition, for a bright and promising future.

Gulf Air Company invites vendors for the forthcoming tender:

| Seq. | Tender Title | Tender No. | Initial Bond (Refundable) | Tender Document fee | Last date of accepting bids | | |
|------|--|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------|
| | | | | | Day | Date | Time |
| 1 | Purchase of Condiment packs for inflight: Salt, Pepper, Sugar and Creamer | 17-03-1658-BTB | BD 1000 | BD 25 | Wednesday | 7 June 2017 | 13:30 |
| 2 | Appointing a Consultant for Development of the Architectural Design & MEP Design of the New Gulf Air Lounge at BAHRAIN | 17-04-1662-BTB | BD 1000 | BD 25 | Wednesday | 31 May 2017 | 13:30 |
| 3 | Provisioning of Internal Audit Seconded Staff | 17-04-1664-BTB | BD 1000 | BD 25 | Wednesday | 14 June 2017 | 13:30 |

NOTE: Tender documents can be purchased online using e-Tendering system starting on 2nd May 2017

- Tenderers who are eligible to supply/provide the goods/ services/ works specified above are kindly requested to purchase the tender document online through the e-Tendering portal <http://www.tenderboard.gov.bh> (for assistance please contact the Tender Board help desk on Tel: +973 17566617).
- An Initial Bond should be enclosed for the amount specified above or at a rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is lower, provided that no initial bond's value shall be less than BD 100/- . Ensure that the Initial bond is in a form of Certified Cheque, Cash, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy, valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- Quotation should be deposited in the tender box provided at the Tender Submission Office, 7th Floor, Tender Board Office at Al Moayyed Tower, before 13:30 on the tender closing date.
- All tenders/auctions are in compliance with the government tendering & purchasing regulations issued in Decrees Nos. 36 & 37 of 2002 and its executive regulations.
- The following conditions should be complied with:
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate valid for the current year, and related to the subject tender.
 - Submit the quotations on Form No. TB O2 - tender submission.
 - Enclose a copy of Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by Ministry of Labour.
 - Ensure to stamp with the official seal on all the original documents and copies there-of, which form part of the offer.
- This announcement is to be read as part of the Tender Documents.
- All public tenders related to Gulf Air Company are published on the Tender Board website: <http://www.tenderboard.gov.bh>
- For any enquiry on the Tender Documents, please contact Procurement and Logistics department on Telephone: +97317338283/ +97317338790/+97317338545, Fax: +97317327999
- Important Note: All participants are invited to attend the opening of the tender at the Tender Submission Office, 7th Floor, Tender Board Office at Al Moayyed Tower on the next day of the closing date.**

Palestinian hunger strike ends: Israel

Jerusalem
An Israeli minister said Sunday that 300 Palestinians have agreed to end an almost two-week-old hunger strike launched in protest at the conditions of their detention.

However, the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian NGO the Palestinian Prisoners' Club said 1,500 inmates were keeping up their fast in jails.

Three hundred hunger strikers have "agreed to take

food without having obtained" any of their demands, Israel's internal security minister, Gilad Erdan, told army radio.

"Negotiations are out of the question," he said, adding that 920 Palestinian prisoners remained on hunger strike.

But the head of the Palestinian NGO, Qadura Fares, said the prison service is trying to negotiate with some of the prisoners and had moved a number of hunger strikers to

a jail in northern Israel for that purpose.

"The Israeli prison service is trying to launch negotiations with groups of prisoners who are on hunger strike about their demands, except for (Palestinian leader) Marwan Barghouti," said Fares.

The hunger strike began on April 17, with those taking part ingesting only water and salt. They have issued demands ranging from better medical care to phone access.

US-supported forces trap IS group in Tabqa

Tabqa
US-backed fighters cornered the Islamic State group in a last part of Tabqa yesterday, after tearing down a huge jihadist flag that had fluttered over the northern Syrian city.

The Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), an alliance of Kurdish and Arab fighters, were in control of all but a fifth of Tabqa as of early yesterday, a monitor said.

The city sits on a strategic supply route about 55 kilometres (35 miles) west of IS's main Syrian stronghold Raqa and served as a key IS command base.

The SDF broke into Tabqa from the south a week ago and steadily advanced north, squeezing IS in three contiguous neighbourhoods on the bank of the Euphrates River.

At dawn yesterday, IS fighters withdrew from the western-most district towards the other two neighbourhoods, said Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights monitoring group.

"The SDF now controls more than 80 percent of Tabqa," Abdel Rahman said, with IS only holding the two northern neighbourhoods of Hurriyah and Wahdah.

A total of 35 IS fighters were



A member of the US-backed Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), made up of an alliance of Arab and Kurdish fighters, removes an Islamic State group flag in the town of Tabqa

killed in 24 hours of clashes and air strikes in Tabqa, the Observatory said yesterday. It had no immediate information on casualties among SDF fighters. (AFP)

Residents forced to leave historic Turkish district hit by violence

Diyarbakir
Residents of Turkey's historic Sur district in the Kurdish-majority province of Diyarbakir were forced to evacuate their homes yesterday as the violence-racked region undergoes restoration.

The district in southeastern province has been hit by clashes between the Turkish

army and outlawed Kurdish militants for over two years.

Turkish authorities say they will restore the district, a UNESCO world heritage site with its ancient fortified walls, historic mosques, churches and synagogues.

Clashes between the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) fighters and the Turkish armed forces

erupted after the collapse of a two and-a-half-year ceasefire in 2015.

The Kurdish separatists have fought against the Turkish state since 1984 in a bloody conflict which has left over 40,000 people dead.

Two more neighbourhoods in were being emptied but families do not want to leave the homes they lived for years.

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Tunisia says 2 jihadists killed in security sweep

Sidi Bouzid
A jihadist linked to Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb blew himself up and another was shot dead on Sunday during an operation by Tunisian security forces, the national guard said.

Both were "dangerous terrorist elements", and one, probably a foreigner, was a leader in a group linked to AQIM, national guard spokesman Khalifa Chibani said.

The operation took place in the central town of Sidi Bouzid when a house was raided in a security sweep

after weeks of surveillance, he said.

"A terrorist group was attacked in a national guard operation," Chibani said, using Tunisia's designation for jihadists.

"Units had discovered contacts between the Okba Ibn Nafaa Battalion (a group connected to Al-Qaeda) and people inside Sidi Bouzid."

During the assault, one jihadist "was hit and blew himself up", Chibani said.

The other man killed had also been wearing an explosives belt but was shot dead before he could

detonate it.

Chibani said the group had been planning "terrorist operations during Ramadan", the holy Muslim fasting month that begins at the end of May.

Another three people suspected of links with the group were detained and security forces were hunting for other suspects.

Prime Minister Youssef Chahed later told reporters the two men killed had been wanted, and "praised the courage" of the security forces.



Syria used deadly nerve gas

United Nations

Syrian government forces used deadly nerve gas in Khan Sheikhun and in three other recent attacks, Human Rights Watch said yesterday, describing a "clear pattern" of chemical weapons use that could amount to crimes against humanity.

President Bashar al-Assad's forces are also stepping up chlorine gas attacks and have begun using surface-fired rockets filled with chlorine in fighting near Damascus, the US-based rights group said in a new report.

"The government's use of nerve agents is a deadly escalation -- and a part of a clear pattern," said Kenneth Roth, the executive director of Human Rights Watch.

"In the last six months, the government has used warplanes, helicopters, and ground forces to deliver chlorine and sarin in Damascus, Hama, Idlib and Aleppo."

"That's widespread and systematic use of chemical weapons," he said.

Human Rights Watch interviewed 60 witnesses and collected photos and videos providing information on the suspected chemical attack in Khan Sheikhun on April 4 and on three other alleged uses of nerve gases in December 2016 and March 2017.

At least 92 people including 30 children died in the

suspected sarin gas attack in Khan Sheikhun on April 4, according to local residents and activists. Hundreds more were injured.

Residents said a first bomb believed to be carrying the deadly agent sarin was dropped near the town's central bakery and was followed by three or four high-explosive bombs a few minutes later.

Dozens of photos and videos provided by residents of a crater from the first bomb showed a green-colored metal fragment that Human Rights Watch said was likely the Soviet-produced KhAB-250 bomb.

Three suspected attacks in Hama

Human Rights Watch said 64 people died from exposure to nerve agents after warplanes attacked territory controlled by the Islamic State group in eastern Hama on December 11 and December 12.

Activists and local residents provided names of the victims, while Human Rights Watch interviewed four witnesses and two medical personnel about the alleged attacks.

A third suspected nerve agent attack in northern Hama on March 30 caused no deaths but injured dozens of civilians and combatants, according to residents and medical personnel, the report said.

All four suspected nerve

agent attacks were in areas where anti-government fighters were threatening Assad's military air bases, according to Human Rights Watch.

The alleged attacks were systematic and in some cases directed against civilians, which would meet the legal criteria to be characterized as crimes against humanity, the rights group said.

HRW's Roth told a news conference that the string of suspected attacks cast doubt over Syrian and Russian claims that toxic agents were released in Khan Sheikhun after a bomb struck a chemical weapons depot on the ground.

It would be "utterly impossible" for warplanes to hit chemical caches repeatedly across the country, Roth said.

The Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) has said its experts were investigating 45 cases of alleged use of toxic gases in Syria since late last year.

Citing mounting evidence of repeated chemical weapons use, Human Rights Watch said the UN Security Council should once again ask the International Criminal Court to open a war crimes investigation.

Such a move by the council in 2014 was blocked by Russia, Assad's top ally, and China. (AFP)

German chancellor in UAE



Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan (R) Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, walking alongside German Chancellor Angela Merkel (L) in Abu Dhabi. Merkel met Abu Dhabi Crown Prince for talks on economic and security issues.



BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY (S.P.C.) wishes to invite proposals for the following Public Tender:

| Tender Title | Tender No. | Tender Doc. Fees | Initial Bond | Tender Closing | |
|--|--------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------|
| | | | | Day/ Date | Time |
| Airport Hospitality System for Bahrain International Airport | BAC/199/2017 | BD 25/- non-refundable | BD 1,000/- | Wednesday 07 June 2017 | 1:30 pm |

- Tenderers are requested to purchase tender documents online through the Bahrain Tender Board's portal <https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.bh> from Tuesday 2nd May, 2017.
- For any enquires or assistance related to the e-tendering, please contact the help desk on Tel: 17566617 email: helpdesk@tenderboard.gov.bh
- For more information please contact the Purchasing Department of Bahrain Airport Company, Tel: 17353286 or 17353296
- Deposit each Tender Submission in the tender box provided at the TENDER BOARD'S OFFICES AT AL MOAYYED TOWER, SEEF AREA (7th FLOOR) on the above date before 13:30 L.T. along with an initial bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial Bond's value shall be less than BD 100/-, in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- The Tender will be submitted along with an initial bond for the amount specified above, in the form of a Certified Cheque or Bank Guarantee valid for the duration specified in the tender documents. Failure to submit Initial Bond shall disqualify the tender. The initial bond should be part of the financial bid.
- Articles of the Decree by Law No. 36 for 2002, regarding the regulation of Government Tenders and Purchases, together with its executive regulations issued in Decree No. 37 for 2002, must be observed www.tenderboard.gov.bh
- The following conditions must also be observed:
 - Submit the Grand Prices and Unit Prices (according to conditions) on Form No. TB 02.
 - The submitted application shall be in the arrangement of one original hard copy and two electronic copies (pdf format).
 - All documents submitted as part of the tender (original or copies) must bear the stamp of your Company/Establishment.
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate for the current year, which must include the Tender Subject as one of its activities.
- This advertisement is considered as complementary to the Tender Documents.

THOUSANDS HIT THE STREETS FOR MAY DAY AROUND THE WORLD

As thousands of people took the street around the world for May Day rallies and marches, some countries observed the day with a public holiday, while in others the day was marked with strikes and protests.

However, for Cuba, the day was special, as it was the last to be overseen by President Raul Castro -- and the first without his late brother and revolutionary predecessor Fidel.

The May 1 rally filled Havana's Revolution Square and other spots across the country in a sea of red, white and blue national flags and giant portraits of Fidel Castro.

Traditionally a day of protest and defense of workers' rights worldwide, the May Day rally in communist Cuba is unusual in being a march in support of the authorities.

The government still employs 70 percent of the five million workers on the island of 11 million people.

Fidel Castro died in November and Raul, 85, has said that he will step aside in February 2018 after 12 years in power.

In Moscow, Almost a million and a half people turned out in central Moscow for the annual May Day parade, many more than in past years.

"Nearly 1.5 million people marched on May 1," police said in a statement quoted by *Interfax news* agency.

Some of the marchers waved communist flags and pictures of Soviet founding father Lenin in memory of the old days.

Things were a little different **in France** where marches erupted into violence, highlighting the the divisions six days before a crunch presidential election.

Four police officers were hurt in clashes in Paris between masked youths throwing molotov cocktails and riot police who responded with teargas.

One officer was engulfed in flames and unconfirmed reports said he had suffered serious burns.

Reacting to the scenes on Twitter, far-

right presidential candidate Marine Le Pen said: "This is the sort of mess ... that I no longer want to see on our streets."

In Madrid, Thousands of people at the traditional May Day rally in Madrid vented their anger at rampant corruption, as Spain's ruling Popular Party (PP) finds itself embroiled in a new scandal.

The number of graft accusations to have hit the PP, other parties, unions and companies over the years have made corruption a main concern of Spaniards after sky-high unemployment, opinion polls show.

In Istanbul, police on Monday fired tear gas and plastic bullets at protesters seeking to march to Istanbul's Taksim Square to celebrate May Day, in defiance of an official ban.

Authorities said more than 200 people were detained for "illegal" protests in the city and using May Day celebrations as a "pretext".

Police tried to stop around 200 protesters in the Gayrettepe district on the European side of Istanbul who wanted to walk to the famous Taksim square in spite of the ban by city authorities, a journalist said.

The protesters -- made up of left-wing groups -- unfurled anti-government banners against the result of the April 16 referendum, which handed President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expanded powers.

"Long Live May Day, No to dictator!" the banners read.

Marches turned into protests **in Greece** as trade unions marked the day with a 24-hour nationwide strike against looming new cuts demanded by the country's creditors in return for bailout cash.

The strike, on a public holiday in Greece, saw businesses shuttered, ferries and trains suspended, and a state services shutdown.

A general strike will be held against the cuts on May 17. (agencies)

Sri Lankan attendees gather as they attend former President Mahinda Rajapakse's May Day rally in Colombo

A man looks through the hole picturing German philosopher and communist thinker Friedrich Engels (L) and Soviet leader Vladimir Ilich Lenin while he takes part in gather in Bakirkoy district as part of the the May Day rally, in Istanbul,

A man holds a child in his arms while he walks by people holding flags of the Turkish communist party as they gather in Bakirkoy district

Indian workers and members of various trade unions dressed in red take part in a rally in Bangalore

Refugee children ride on a mini van, while participating with the solidarity to refugees movements in a May Day rally in central Athen

Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon (L), accompanied by Banff and Buchan candidate Eilidh Whiteford, visits the May Day event at Turriff in northwest Scotland

Anonymous app Yik Yak shuts down

Washington

Yik Yak, a mobile application which gained popularity for allowing users to make anonymous comments and which sparked debate on cyber bullying, has shut down. The app launched in 2013 and gained a following among high school and college students, pushing its valuation by investors to an estimated \$400 million at one point, according to some reports.



Indian TV anchor's 'nationalistic' new channel

Mumbai

India's most brash and controversial TV news anchor Arnab Goswami, renowned for his hectoring style, is about to launch a new channel and he's unapologetic about what viewers should expect. "I'm patriotic and nationalistic and so will the channel be," the 43-year-old tells in a mellow tone drastically different from his manner on-screen where he regularly shouts at guests.



I'm not trying to be anyone's saviour. I am just trying to think about the future and not be sad. You'll tell me if it ever starts getting genuinely insane, right? When I was driving the test prototype for the first truck, it was really weird. I thought, 'This is crazy!' driving this large truck and it's doing these amazing manoeuvres,"

Elon Musk

Launch **Twitter, Bloomberg team up for streaming news channel**

Twitter is launching a 24-hour streaming news channel in partnership with the Bloomberg news agency, in a major expansion of its video operations

Game changer

Bloomberg Media chief executive Justin Smith confirmed the partnership late Sunday, retweeting a *Wall Street Journal* article referring to the tie-up.

"We'll have a lot more to say about this exciting new partnership at Bloomberg Media's NewFronts on Monday," Smith tweeted, referring to a conference being held this week.

Exclusively Bloomberg

Bloomberg will produce news exclusively for the online channel, separate from content produced for Bloomberg's own television channel.

Ties with Cheddar

Twitter already offers some live video news through a partnership with the streaming application Cheddar. It had rights last year to stream some National Football League games, but lost that for the upcoming season to Amazon.



Always @ loss

Twitter reported a drop in revenue, despite boosting its monthly user base to 328 million, up 14 percent from a year ago. Twitter, which has never reported a profit, said its net loss narrowed to \$62 million from \$80 million a year earlier.

Launch next year

The service, set to launch later this year, could help Twitter expand its user base, which has been growing at a slower pace than its social media rivals. Twitter has been seeking to broaden its appeal beyond its core user base of celebrities, politicians and journalists, ramping up efforts in video and live sports, notably.



Zain Bahrain Q1 revenues increase 14pc

Manama

Zain Bahrain, a telecommunications provider in Bahrain, posted a net profit of BD503,000 (US\$1.3 million) for the three-month period ending 31 March 2017, down 45 per cent on the BD917,000 (US\$2.4m) reported a year earlier.

Total revenues for the quarter stand at BD18.3m (US\$48.5m), up 14pc year-on-year from BD16.1m (US\$42.7m) in Q1, 2016. Zain Bahrain's customer base stood at 845,000 at the end of Q1 2017, up 5pc from 807,000 a year earlier.

Zain Bahrain Chairman, Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa said: "2016 was an exceptional year, with heavy investment in innovative new technologies and services that will enable Zain Bahrain to deliver an unsurpassed digital lifestyle to our customers. This has meant a decrease



Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa in net profits even as overall revenues have risen during this quarter."

The first quarter of 2017 saw the launch of the 21st Zain Experience Shop in the Kingdom, at Wadi Al Sail Mall in Riffa. The group also signed a number of

key agreements to provide enhanced digital lifestyle products to customers. Zain Group and iflix, the world's leading Internet TV service for emerging markets, established a joint venture, 'iflix Arabia', to bring iflix's world class service to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The commercial launch of iflix Arabia across the MENA region is planned for Q2, 2017.

Zain Group has also inked an agreement with YOYO, one of Turkey's most innovative digital startups, to bring an exciting new car sharing concept to Bahrain. The app allows users to book vehicles of their choice, unlock them via their smartphones or membership cards, and return them to designated locations after use. The service will be piloted in Bahrain in Q2 2017 before being rolled out across the MENA region.

Trump reveals plan to breakup large banks

New York

President Donald Trump is reviewing a possible breakup of large US banks, according to a published interview yesterday.

Trump told *Bloomberg News* that he was considering a "21st century" version of the 1933 Glass-Steagall law that separated consumer lending and investment banking and was repealed in 1999 by President Bill Clinton.

"I'm looking at that right now," Trump said in an

Oval Office interview with Bloomberg. "There's some people that want to go back to the old system, right? So we're going to look at that."

Trump's comments are his first on the subject and follow other statements from administration officials such as National Economic Council Director Gary Cohn and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin expressing broad support for the idea.

Several liberal Democrats, including Senator Bernie


Sanders, have also supported a breakup of the biggest banks.

However, the Trump administration has not released details about what an eventual breakup plan might look like.

Shares of large banks gave up some of their gains following the Bloomberg report, but stayed in positive territory.

Near 1730 GMT, JPMorgan Chase was up 0.6 per cent at \$87.46, Citigroup was up 0.8 percent at \$59.61 and Bank of America was up 1.2 percent at \$23.61.

Did You Know?



Elon Musk has lofty ambitions for Tesla during the next few years. By 2017, the company aims to begin production of its more affordable Model 3. And by 2020 it plans to ramp up production to build as many as 500,000 vehicles per year, an ambitious goal considering the company currently only produces about 50,000 vehicles a year.



BFC
CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

| COUNTRY/CURRENCIES | BUY | SELL |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| AUSTRALIA | 0.2901 | 0.2877 |
| BANGLADESH | 0.00494 | 0.00461 |
| CANADA | 0.2826 | 0.2794 |
| DENMARK | 0.0585 | |
| EGYPT | 0.0241 | 0.0219 |
| EURO | 0.4185 | 0.4164 |
| HONGKONG | 0.04983 | 0.04943 |
| INDIA | 0.00599 | 0.00599 |
| INDONESIA | 0.00003016 | 0.00002895 |
| IRAN TUMAN | 0.00010959 | |
| IRAQI DINAR | 0.000294 | |
| JAPAN | 0.003550 | 0.003480 |
| JORDAN | 0.5346 | 0.5350 |
| KOREA | 0.00038225 | |
| KUWAIT | 1.2580 | 1.242 |
| MALAYSIA | 0.089100 | 0.0890 |
| NEW ZEALAND | 0.2639 | 0.2598 |
| NORWAY | 0.0459 | |
| NEPAL | 0.00391 | 0.00368 |
| OMAN | 0.97962 | 0.98262 |
| PAKISTAN | 0.00369 | 0.00360 |
| PHILIPPINES | 0.00779 | 0.00757 |
| QATAR | 0.10381 | 0.10376 |
| SAUDI ARABIA | 0.10061 | 0.26810 |
| SINGAPORE | 0.2740 | 0.2720 |
| SOUTH AFRICA | 0.02980 | 0.02970 |
| SRI LANKA | 0.00273 | 0.00248 |
| SWEDISH | 0.0458 | |
| SWITZERLAND | 0.3871 | 0.3846 |
| SYRIA | 0.001740 | 0.0123 |
| TAIWAN | 0.012700 | |
| THAILAND | 0.011110 | 0.011110 |
| TURKEY | 0.1120 | |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 0.4974 | 0.4945 |
| UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | 0.102810 | 0.102810 |
| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA | 0.37800 | 0.37805 |
| YUAN | 0.058500 | 0.0585 |

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

GULF INTERBANK RATES

| COUNTRY | 1 US DLR | 1 UK STG | 1 SFR | 100 YEN |
|---------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| BAHRAIN | 0.3770 | 0.4863 | 3.7943 | 0.3397 |
| KUWAIT | 0.2855 | 31.6876 | 2.8734 | 0.2572 |
| OMAN | 0.3849 | 0.0382 | 3.8738 | 0.3468 |
| QATAR | 3.6420 | 0.3619 | 36.6546 | 3.2814 |
| UAE | 3.6730 | 0.3649 | 36.9666 | 3.3093 |
| SAUDI | 3.7500 | 0.3726 | 37.7415 | 3.3787 |



Gulf stock markets rise

Representative picture

Dubai

Most Gulf stock markets rose yesterday, with shares in healthcare and education investment company Amanat Holdings accounting for more than 40 per cent of Dubai's market volume with a 4.5pc rise.

The Dubai index rose 0.8pc with Amanat, the most active stock, seeing its heaviest trade since November. The low-priced stock, which is sometimes the target of short-term speculation, will go ex-dividend on May 4.

Shares in Aramex lost 1.5pc after the courier reported a 5pc fall in quarterly profit due to a rise in provisions related to its incentive scheme. Profit was 91.8 million dirhams; EFG Hermes and SICO Bahrain had forecast 109.1 million dirhams and 105.6 million dirhams.

But Union Properties closed 3.9pc higher, with a tussle over membership of the company's board resulting in volatile trading.

The company said on Sunday that chairman Khalid Jassim bin Kalban and other directors had been replaced

Closing Bell

- SAUDI ARABIA edged down 0.1pc to 7,004 points
- DUBAI rose 0.8pc to 3,441 points
- ABU DHABI gained 0.8pc to 4,558 points
- QATAR climbed 0.5pc to 10,110 points
- KUWAIT fell 0.7pc to 6,793 points
- OMAN rose 0.3pc to 5,529 points

after stepping down, in the wake of a shareholder vote to ban board members from holding positions at competitors; bin Kalban is managing director at Dubai Investments.

But Union Properties then released a statement quoting the securities regulator as saying bin Kalban and the other directors denied they had resigned. The company did not explain the contradiction with its earlier statements.

Dubai Investments, which has a joint venture with Union Properties, closed flat.

In Abu Dhabi, the index gained 0.8pc as Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank added 1.5pc. It posted an 8pc rise in first-quarter profit to 1.11 billion dirhams; analysts polled by Reuters had on average forecast 995.4 million dirhams.

Arkan Building Materials surged 3.0pc after the al-Bayan newspaper quoted chairman Jamal Salem al-Dhaheri as saying it was studying a merger with other companies, which he did not name.

The Saudi Arabian index edged down 0.1pc as Saudi Kayan Petrochemical, which had soared to its 10pc daily limit on Sunday after reporting better-than-expected quarterly earnings, fell back 4.1pc.

Top petrochemical producer Saudi Basic Industries gained 1.0pc, however; it was expected to release earnings after the close. Saudi Industrial Development, another producer, rose 0.4pc after saying it had swung to a small net profit from a year-earlier loss.

Retailer Fawaz Abulaziz

Alhokair climbed 3.1pc to 36.70 riyals after it appointed a new chief executive, veteran Coca-Cola executive Atul Singh. Also, EFG Hermes raised its rating of the stock to "buy" from "neutral", lifting its price target to 44 riyals from 27.

Qatar's index rose 0.5pc as real estate firm Ezdan Holding jumped 6.0pc after reporting a 62pc surge in first-quarter net profit.

Petrochemical and metals producer Industries Qatar dropped 1.3pc, however.

Markets in Egypt and Bahrain were closed for public holidays. (Reuters)



Libyan oil production more than 760,000 bpd

Tripoli

Libya's oil production, the country's main source of revenue, rose yesterday to more than 760,000 barrels per day for the first time since 2014, the National Oil Corporation said.

Oil is Libya's main natural resource, with reserves estimated at 48 billion barrels, the largest in Africa.

NOC chief Mustafa Sanalla indicated in a statement that "oil production today, for the first time since 2014, passed the 760,000 barrels a day mark".

"The NOC is determined to continue its plan to increase production as this is the only way to ensure growth in government revenues and thus save the national economy," Sanalla said.

The statement said the Court of Auditors in 2016 recorded the worst deficit "in the modern history of Libya".

"Revenues did not exceed 8.6 billion dinars (\$6.1 billion, 5.6 billion euros) while expenses were of the order of 30 billion dinars... drawn from Central Bank reserves since 2013," Sanalla said.



Corvette Carbon 65 Limited Edition

The first collectible car of the 2018 model year is a Chevrolet. It's the Corvette Carbon 65, a limited-production model that celebrates the sports car's 65th anniversary. Most U.S. and Canadian Chevrolet dealers will never see the car.

General Motors is building 650 Carbon 65s -- 500 for U.S. sale and 150 for export. That's far less than one car per dealer. Chevrolet has 3,000 U.S. dealers and 414 in Canada.

The car will be available in July or early August. *(autonews)*



Nismo may include pickup trucks

Following confirmation that Nissan has plans to rapidly expand its Nismo high-performance division, word has surfaced that the brand could venture into minivans and pickup trucks.

Sources says that Nissan intends on doubling the number of Nismo-branded models and wants sales to soar sixfold in the next five years. That will mean up to 100,000 Nismos will be sold annually compared to the 15,000 delivered in 2016.

Chief executive of Nissan Motorsports Takao Katagiri said the demand for performance models is high and that Nismo is open to exploring new body types. *(carscoop)*

Dodge Challenger SRT Demon



The drag-strip-focused hellhound from the house of Dodge SRT is the weapon that every drag racing enthusiast ever wished for. The 840 hp muscle car was one of the biggest hits of the show, raking in rave reviews and generating loads of positive response. Thanks to a heap of records that it broke, including the quickest production car in the 0-60 mph dash, the Dodge SRT Demon has even upset hypercar manufacturers with its performance numbers.

Audi RS3 Sedan

Audi will be offering the 2018 RS3 sedan with a price tag of \$54,900 and for some unfathomable reason, they are also offering the 2017 RS3 sedan at \$54,500. The latter will be in limited numbers though. Both models will be powered by the same 2.5-liter TFSI petrol heart which belts out 400 hp of power and 354 lb-ft of torque.

Capable of clocking a top speed of 155 mph with the speed limiter and a staggering 174 mph without that leash, the Audi RS3 will do 0-60 mph in 3.9 seconds.



From the Dodge Challenger SRT Demon to the Audi RS3, the 2017 New York Auto Show fired on all cylinders and turned the latest instalment of the event into a massive success like its predecessors. We pick 5 of our favourite show stars.

HONDA CIVIC TYPE R



Tested and pushed to the edge at the Nürburgring, the Type-R is one of the nightmares that will hurl the Ford Focus RS out of the bed. Looking devilishly-evil and aggressive enough to intimidate and own its rivals, the Honda Civic Type-R is the first R-badged Honda to be ever sold in the US. 306 hp of power and 295 lb-ft of torque produced by the 2.0-liter i-VTEC are deployed to the wheels by a short throw 6-speed manual gearbox.

CHEVROLET CAMARO ZL1 1LE

Put simply, it's a Camaro ZL1 that's had even more anger injected into it, making the quick version of the humble American muscle car quicker still around a track. Compared to the standard ZL1, the 1LE is three seconds faster around General Motors' 2.9-mile, 18-turn Milford Road Course test track. So expect a reasonable chunk to be taken out the ZL1's 7min 29.60sec Nürburgring time, too.



Audi TT RS

Audi is bringing out high-performance Sport models suitable for daily driving as well as to the track for club or enthusiast lapping days. There will be eight models over the next 24 months, including the Audi TT RS. So as not to be mistaken for cheaper (never cheap) Audis, the Sport versions will have different badging and available colour schemes, and there will be a line of accessories. *(artofgears)*



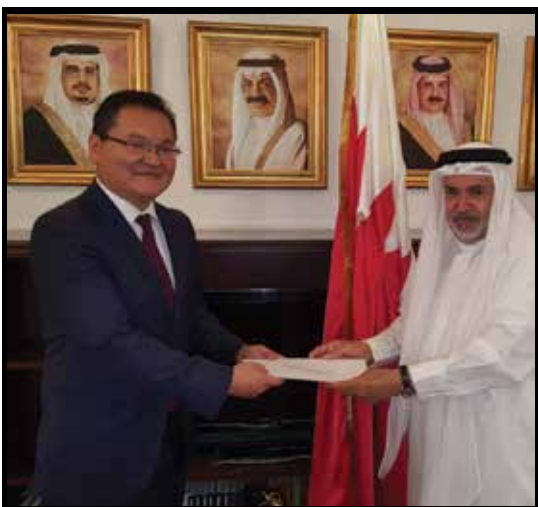
Best cars of
2017 New York Auto Show



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa received Malaysian Defence Minister and Head of Mission of Honour, Hishammuddin Hussein at his residence in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. HM the King reiterated Bahrain's keenness on strengthening military cooperation and exchanging expertise. A number of Malaysian Army commanders were also attended



Bahrain hosted the graduation ceremony of the 12th batch of the Arabian Gulf University (AGU) students, numbered 466 graduates from GCC countries, at the Isa Cultural Hall on Sunday. The event took place under the patronage of Minister of Education Dr. Majid Al Nuaimi, in the presence of a number of GCC ambassadors to the Kingdom, several officials from across the Arabian Gulf region, senior university officials, and parents of graduate students



Mongolian and Malawian Ambassadors to Kuwait Zorigt Chintushig and Wilfred Ali conveyed greetings from their countries' leaders to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa on Sunday. The two ambassador presented copies of their credentials to Bahraini Ambassador Shaikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al-Khalifa





His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday held discussions with The Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Muhammad V of Malaysia and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak. Sultan Muhammad V hosted yesterday evening a State Banquet at the national palace - Istana Negara - in honour of HM the King. The two monarchs then held a meeting during which they reviewed good relations binding the two countries and peoples



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa was given a state welcome at the Parliament House at the start of his official visit to Malaysia. HM the King was welcomed by Sultan Muhammad V and Malaysian Prime Minister Mohammad Najib Abdul Razak. HM the King greeted the Malaysian cabinet ministers and Arab ambassadors to Malaysia



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday paid a visit to the headquarters of the command of the Malaysian Armed Forces. Upon arrival, along with Malaysian Defence Minister and Head of Mission of Honour, Hishammuddin Hussein, HM the King was welcomed by Chief of the Malaysian Army, General Raja Mohammad Affandi Raja Mohammad Noor, the commander of the Malaysian Army's 10th Brigade (Para), the commander of the land forces and a number of senior commanders



Minister of Health Faega bint Saeed Al Saleh inaugurated the World Immunization Week on Sunday, which is held under the theme "Vaccines Work", in the presence of senior officials, specialists from the Health Ministry and many ministries and non-government organisations. At the end of the celebration, the Health Minister honoured the participating parties, organisers and sponsors of the event



On the occasion of the International Labour day, the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions held a ceremony at the Crowne Plaza Hotel yesterday. Minister of Labour & Social Development Jameel Humaidan and the ministry's Undersecretary Sabah Al Dossary honoured some of the hardworking Bahraini employees during the event, as an appreciation of their devotion and dedication



Dragon City launched its own magazine in a ceremony held on Thursday. The event took place at the shopping mall's centre court. Officials from Diyar Al Muharraq and Chinamex, media personnel and other guests attended the ceremony. It was finally revealed to be entitled "Dragoner" -which is an affectionate name given to Dragon City's tenants



Old Manama Market Committee and "Al Bahrain Testahel" initiative organised a celebration at the old market in Manama on the occasion of the International Labourer's Day. Bahraini and foreign workers were honoured in the ceremony and meals were distributed among low-income workers

CELEBS

Kim Kardashian West @KimKardashian
Blaming it on the aquarium pics to find the girl
and then them telling me it's messy down there!!!
Bahahahahaha



Blanchett's husband likes her studious look

Los Angeles

Actress Cate Blanchett says her husband and playwright Andrew Upton likes her to dress like a high school librarian.

"My husband likes it best when I wear a cardigan, a tweed skirt and a pair of spectacles," the Oscar-winning actress told *people.com*.

"I would dress like a high school librarian if he had his way. He's old-fashioned in that way," the 47-year-old added. But she wears what she likes. "I don't dress for anyone's approval. I'm sure there have been some doozies of choices that people have or haven't liked. Though, you should really see me at 6 a.m. It's not pretty," she said. (IANS)



Orlando Bloom's family focus

Los Angeles

Actor Orlando Bloom says he made a "conscious decision" to take a step back from his work when he got divorced from supermodel Miranda Kerr.

Bloom has made a few appearances on the big screen in the past few years.

He says he took time out to provide his six-year-old son Flynn with stability when he and Kerr separated in 2013, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*. "I'm no less driven. I have a six-year-old son and I made a conscious choice to be present for my child at a period," Bloom said. (IANS)



STARRY
Birthday
Dwayne Johnson

May 2, 1972

Initially gained fame as the wrestler The Rock, competing in the WWF and WWE from 1996 to 2004. He then became a widely popular actor.



Eminem sues New Zealand ruling party

Wellington

US rap artist Eminem is suing New Zealand's ruling National Party over a track it used for a campaign ad in 2014, the media reported yesterday.

The rapper said the song, used in the party advert, was an unlicensed version of "Lose Yourself", one of his biggest hits and also the winner of an Academy Award for Best Original Song in a Movie category, along with two Grammys, the BBC reported. (IANS)



Everything Kunis says is right: Kutcher

Los Angeles

Actor Ashton Kutcher, who is married to actress Mila Kunis, has no qualms in admitting that his wife has the upper hand in their marriage. Everything she says is right for him.

Kutcher appeared on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and shared that it was Kunis who named their five months old son, Dimitri, reports *dailymail.co.uk*.

Kutcher recounted how Kunis told him on a date night: "So I think Donald Trump is going to win the presidency and I think our baby's name is Dimitri."

"She called it... so that's it. She's my wife -- everything she says is right," he added.

The couple first met when they were both cast in hit sitcom "That 70s Show." (IANS)

Jolie has Google alert on Brad Pitt's name

Los Angeles

Actress-filmmaker Angelina Jolie has reportedly made a Google alert on actor and estranged husband Brad Pitt's name to keep tabs on him.

"Angelina wants to know exactly what Brad is up to at all times. To say she isn't able to move on would be an understatement," a source told *hollywoodlife.com*. "She likes to always be in control and she knows that once the divorce is finalised she will have no hold over him any more. It's pretty sad really, seeing as she was the one who wanted the divorce in the first place," added the source." (IANS)



Red Carpet



American actress Darby Stanchfield attends Oscar awards 2017 (harpersbazaar)

MOVIES... COMING SOON... next week



The Wall

Director: Doug Liman
Stars: Aaron Taylor-Johnson, John Cena, Spencer Thomas, Laith Nakli



Paris Can Wait

Director: Eleanor Coppola
Stars: Diane Lane, Alec Baldwin, Arnaud Viard, Cédric Monnet



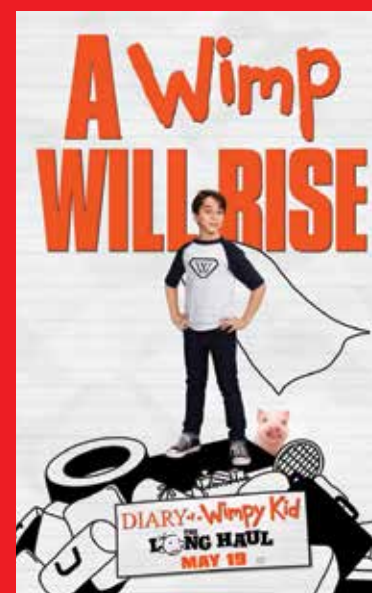
The Wedding Plan

Director: Rama Burshtein
Stars: Dafni Alferon, Noa Koler, Oded Leopold, Ronny Merhavi



Alien Covenant

Director: Ridley Scott
Stars: Michael Fassbender, Katherine Waterston, Billy Crudup, Danny McBride



Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul

Director: David Bowers
Stars: Alicia Silverstone, Tom Everett Scott, Charlie Wright, Jason Drucker

OUT & ABOUT

HOW TO REACH US

"Out & About", a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island, is published from Friday to Tuesday. To be included, please send the matter to the following email ID : news@dt.bh

MARK YOUR Calendar

KIDNEY CARE EXHIBITION

Date: May 4-6
Venue: The Indian School Bahrain

Thanal Bahrain Chapter is gearing up for a Kidney Care Exhibition from May 4 to 6 at the Indian School Bahrain with the support of the Ministry of Health (MoH) in order to spread awareness about kidney care and arrange free kidney screening. The organisers said MoH has agreed to loan all the specimens required for the exhibition like human body, kidney and other human organs to exhibit for the educational and demonstration purpose. MoH and Thanal has established a mutual partnership for disseminating awareness initiative among the public in the Kingdom focusing mainly the expatriates.

Thanal is a charitable organization rendering various humanitarian services like dialysis and palliative care centres, medical clinics, ambulance services etc and running the biggest stand alone dialysis facility in India equipped with 80 dialysis machines functioning in four units by doing more than 5,000 dialysis every month, thus benefitting almost 500 under-privileged patients.

The public can register online to attend the event by visiting www.thanalbahrain.com. For further details contact 38384504, 33433530, 39798122, 39605806, 39857759.



CANNES FESTIVAL IN BAHRAIN

Date: May 3
Venue: Alliance Française

The Café des Images (Alliance Française Cinema Club) invites you to celebrate the Cannes Festival with the screening of Laurent Cantet's masterpiece *Entre les murs* / *The Class* (Gold Palm at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival) on Wednesday, 3rd May, 2017 at 7:30pm at Alliance Française (Isa Town, Educational area). The talented Bahraini film director Salman Yousif (*Steps, There Will Be Light, The Rooster*) attended Laurent Cantet's masterclass at 2015 Femis summer university (French National Film school). He will share with the public his experience with this remarkable film director and his understanding of the film thanks to his unique experience in France.

In the first part of the evening, as usual, a Bahraini short movie will be shown. For this special Cannes celebration, the film *Nostalgia* will be shown in the presence of the film director, Ahmed Fardan.

At the end of the screening, a debate will be held by Mr. Dominique Chastres, Counsellor for Cooperation and Culture of the French Embassy, and Mr. Salman Yousif.

The public will be given the chance to enjoy a French buffet dinner before the screening of the films and during the intermission.

FILM: LION

Date: May 10, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

Lion is a 2016 biographical film directed by Garth Davis (in his feature debut) and written by Luke Davies, based on the non-fiction book *A Long Way Home* by Saroo Brierley with Larry Buttrose. The film stars Dev Patel, Rooney Mara, David Wenham and Nicole Kidman.

The film, which had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival on September 10, 2016, was given a limited release on November 25, 2016, by the Weinstein Company before opening generally on January 6, 2017. It was released in Australia on January 19, 2017 and in the United Kingdom on January 20, 2017.

WORLD LAUGHTER DAY CELEBRATIONS

Date: May 7
Venue: St Christopher's School, Saar.

The Saar Laughter Club is celebrating World Laughter Day on Sunday 7 May 6pm to 7.30pm at Infants Hall of St Christopher's School, Saar. World Laughter Day is observed on the first Sunday of May. The World Laughter Day came into existence in

HIGHLIGHT

ISB MEGA FAIR & FOOD FESTIVAL 2017

Date: October 12&13
Venue: The Indian School Bahrain

The Indian School Bahrain (ISB) is gearing up for Mega Fair and Food Festival which will be held on October 12 and 13 in the Isa Town campus. The ISB Fair is organized to generate funds to sponsor needy students and for staff welfare. ISB Chairman Prince S Natarajan thanked the community and media for the overwhelming support to the previous fair, which was one of the best in terms of revenue generation and receivables. Last year around 800 students received benefit in the form of fee concession, he said. The School Fair is a carnival that witnesses a display of colours which include a variety of cultural programmes, orchestra and musical bonanza. It also contains a food festival which is a tasty hit among the crowd that comes in the campus during the carnival. Almost 100 stalls from leading business houses showcase their products and services this year.

ISB Secretary Dr. Shemily P John said that the Fair is a way to reach out to the needy children whose educational future otherwise will be hampered because of non-availability of funds. Being a community school it is the responsibility of the school to support such needy children. Proceeds of the Fair will also go towards staff welfare and creation of a staff contingency reserve. The school has one of the lowest fee structures and it caters to the educational needs of all sections of the society. Majority of the students belong to the economically lower and middle class families.

ISB Fair General Convenor Mohammed Hussain Malim requested the support of the media and the community to make this venture successful. The entire programme will be announced in due course of time. It is a great opportunity to every business and service provider to reach out to a large section of the Bahrain population during the carnival days.

1998; the day was introduced by Dr Madan Kataria, the founder of the worldwide Laughter Yoga Movement. Laughter yoga showed an exponential growth and became popular worldwide. It resulted into 8000 Laughter Clubs worldwide on all the 5 continents. World Laughter Day is celebrated across the world with an aim of promoting world peace, brotherhood and friendship among all. This day reminds the society that laughter is the best medicine to ward off dangers of modern day monotonous and mechanized lifestyles. People from different walks of life celebrate World Laughter Day with great enthusiasm crossing all social, professional and personal barriers. The celebration includes Laughter March, Video presentation, Laughter Yoga, Grounding Dance followed by prayer for World Peace. Admission is free, Participants need to register the names. For registration and more details 39867041

FILM: LA LA LAND

Date: May 17, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

La La Land is a 2016 American romantic musical drama film written and directed by Damien Chazelle, and starring Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone as a musician and an aspiring actress who meet and fall in love in Los Angeles. The film's title refers both to the city of Los Angeles and to the idiom for being out of touch with reality.

Chazelle wrote the screenplay in 2010 but did not find a studio willing to finance the production without changes to his design. Following the success of his 2014 film *Whiplash*, the project was picked up by Summit Entertainment. *La La Land* was premiered at the Venice Film Festival on August 31, 2016, and was released in the United States on December 9, 2016. It has grossed \$440

million worldwide on a production budget of \$30 million.

La La Land received critical acclaim and was regarded as one of the best films of 2016. Critics praised Chazelle's screenplay and direction, Gosling and Stone's performances, Justin Hurwitz's score and the film's musical numbers. It won in every category it was nominated for at the 74th Golden Globe Awards, with a record-breaking seven wins, and received 11 nominations at the 70th British Academy Film Awards, winning five. It received 14 nominations at the 89th Academy Awards, tying the record for most nominations with *Titanic* (1997) and *All About Eve* (1950), and won 6 Academy awards for Best Director, Best Actress (Stone), Best Cinematography, Best Original Score, Best Original Song ("City of Stars") and Best Production Design.

FILM: PATERSON

Date: May 3, 7pm
Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club Juffair

Paterson is a 2016 drama film written and directed by Jim Jarmusch. The film stars Adam Driver as a bus driver and aspiring poet named Paterson and Golshifteh Farahani as his wife who dreams of being a country music star and opening a cupcake business. It was selected to compete for the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival, where it won the Palm Dog Award. The film was released in Germany on November 17, 2016, by K5 International. It was then released in France on December 21, 2016, by Le Pacte, and released in the United States on December 28, 2016, by Amazon Studios and Blecker Street.

INDIAN CLUB SET TO HOST CARNATIC MUSICAL TRIBUTE EVENING

Date: May 13
Venue: The Indian Club

Indian classical music fans are in for a real treat as The Indian Club plans to host to a rich and spectacular musical tribute concert to the Great Composers of Carnatic Kritis which is titled as – "Samarpanam", by Ms. Ananya Ashok, a renowned and famous award winning vocalist and disciple of Madurai Sri. T.N. Seshagopalan.

The tribute concert, organized by Nellai Entertainers in association with The Indian Club, will be held at the Club's Sanskar Hall on Saturday 13th May, starting at 6.30pm; Ms. Ananya Ashok will be accompanied on Mr. Shajith Shankar on the Mridangam, Mr. Jayakumar on the violin and Mr. Sajeewan on the Ghatam.

Hailing from a very musically family, Ms. Ananya received her formal training from renowned violinist, Smt. Anuradha Sridhar; Ms Ananya has performed at venues and sabhas right across India – namely Chennai, Kerala, Bangalore, Mumbai, Delhi, Mysore and Coimbatore, as well as international venues across USA and Singapore; Ms Ananya is "A" Grade artist of all India Radio and doordarshan and performed in other private TV channels. She is a the recipient of The ACTA Music Fellowship award in 2011 from the State of California for her she is also perusing her Masters in carnatic music at the madras University.

This will undoubtedly be a popular event for all music enthusiasts and with free entry for all, there is sure to be a big crowd – get there early and grab your seat for what promises to be a great evening's entertainment.

For further details admission to "Samarpanam" concert will be free to all music lovers, For more details about this Program pls call Mr. Nanda Kumar (Entertainment Secretary) on 3643 3552 and Mr. Ilango (The program coordinator) on 3913 2131.

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|-----------------------------|------------|-----------|
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| Electrician – without EDD License | 5 years | 40 |

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|----------------------------------|------------|-----------|
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| Plumber | 5 years | 40 |

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|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|
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| Engineer | 5 years | 5 |
| A/C Technician | 5 years | 15 |
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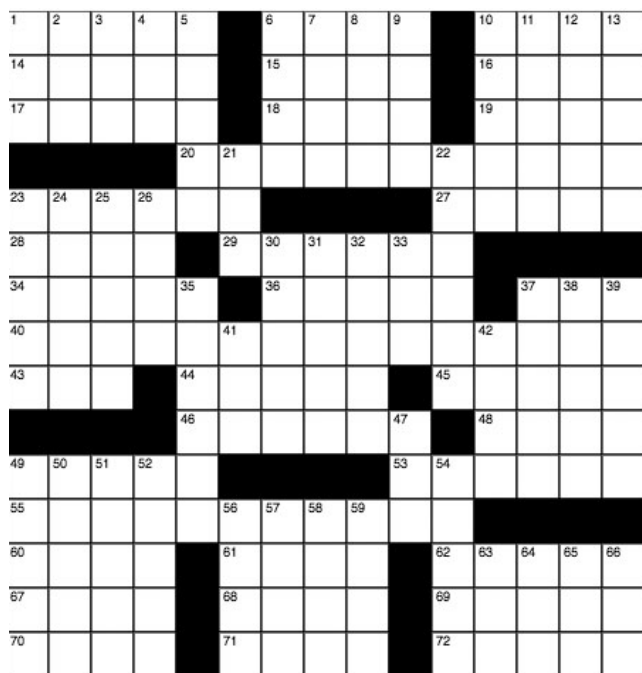
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CROSSWORD



Across

1- Chocolate tree;; 6- Places to sleep;; 10- Actress Thompson;; 14- Fish illegally;; 15- Opposite of sans;; 16- Like ___ of bricks;; 17- Kind of cat;; 18- Actor Lugosi;; 19- Periodic movement of the sea;; 20- Indulge to excess;; 23- Blunder;; 27- Made a choice;; 28- Cabinet dept.;; 29- Knobbed;; 34- Bothered;; 36- Small nails;; 37- Chou En-___;; 40- In spite of;; 43- Tango need;; 44- Minotaur's home;; 45- Sum;; 46- Self-defense method;; 48- Captain of the Nautilus;; 49- Meaning;; 53- Sound system;; 55- Cipher;; 60- Kansas city;; 61- Earth's satellite;; 62- Elevate;; 67- Scent;; 68- Movie dog;; 69- Academy award;; 70- Hawaii's state bird;; 71- Pi followers;; 72- In what place;;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 15 | I | 16 | N | 17 | E | 18 | R | 19 | T | 20 | I | 21 | A | 22 | A | 23 | N | 24 | C | 25 | I | 26 | L | 27 | L | 28 | A | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 29 | L | 30 | E | 31 | N | 32 | I | 33 | E | 34 | N | 35 | T | 36 | R | 37 | A | 38 | T | 39 | T | 40 | E | 41 | E | 42 | N | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 43 | S | 44 | T | 45 | A | 46 | T | 47 | S | 48 | A | 49 | O | 50 | R | 51 | T | 52 | A | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 | 70 | 71 | 72 |

Down

1- No. cruncher;; 2- Earthlink competitor;; 3- "Silent" prez;; 4- Bandage brand;; 5- ___ Beautiful Doll;; 6- Small child;; 7- At any time;; 8- Where heroes are made;; 9- Read a bar code;; 10- Showed interest;; 11- Leaning;; 12- Sidestep;; 13- On ___-to-know basis;; 21- Fido's appointment;; 22- "That ___ help";; 23- Intended;; 24- Following;; 25- Take care of;; 26- Stick in one's ___;; 30- Alternate;; 31- Dreadlocks wearer;; 32- Eight singers;; 33- Reggae relative;; 35- Coupon;; 37- Unit of volume;; 38- Make ___ for oneself;; 39- Inuit dwelling;; 41- Lilt syllable;; 42- Completed;; 47- Uncommon sense;; 49- Descendant;; 50- Eat into;; 51- Parachute material;; 52- Extra;; 54- Hurl;; 56- Actor Epps;; 57- Gee whizz;; 58- ___-Router;; 59- Collections of anecdotes;; 63- Powdery residue;; 64- Hard water;; 65- Mediterranean isl.;; 66- Before;;

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



Today could be filled with delays and mix-ups at the office. You'd be well advised to remain as patient as possible. Take deep breaths and maintain your sense of humour. Most of what occurs today is outside your control. You may as well go with the flow and see where the day leads you. Make a point to relax with loved ones tonight.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



You have big plans, and your dreams may be keeping you from paying attention to your work. Don't get too stressed. You've never missed a deadline, so you know that one way or another you will get everything done. In the meantime, begin to make plans for your next getaway.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



It's frustrating when work gets in the way of romance and social activities. This is what you feel today. Your thoughts are on your evening and weekend activities, but your obligations are on your desk. Don't despair. Simply make a commitment to do what's expected of you. Enjoy yourself this evening, secure in the knowledge that you've fulfilled your obligations.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



This is a good day to make your list and check it twice. There is room for improvement in the way you organize your life. Your system at home, such as it is, isn't particularly efficient. Your bill paying is haphazard, and you may be surprised by how much you pay in late fees. Your in-box threatens to bury you. You need a system!

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



You're at risk of feeling emotionally overwhelmed today. Don't worry, it will all work out. Take some deep breaths and apply your intellect to the situation. Prioritise and organize. You will find that steadily and systematically you can conquer your obligations. Take time off to pay attention to your family. You deserve some quality time.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



You can expect to receive some good financial news today. Your mind races a mile a minute as you strategize ways to spend the money. If you aren't careful, you will have the money spent before the check has even cleared! Why not divide the funds in half? You can invest half in a low-risk, long-term investment and the other half can be your fun money to do with as you please.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



You might be surprised by how clever and creative you are today. Just for fun, you may decide to pick up a paintbrush and try watercolour painting or perhaps writing some poetry. Whatever you attempt, you can be fairly sure that it will work out favourably. Your creative muse is there on your shoulder and waiting for you to make use of her!

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Today you feel a tug of war between desires and obligations. If you're smart about managing time, maybe you can satisfy both. You could be discouraged by how hard you've been working for minimal results. Take heart. You're accomplishing more than you realize. Your strong work ethic is what keeps you from having fun. Everyone needs some downtime.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



You need to give yourself more credit. When you set your mind to something, no matter how ambitious, you usually accomplish it. Remind yourself of this today, as you may feel bogged down and overwhelmed by obligations at work and home. Pay attention to your finances. All signs indicate that you may have inadvertently let a bill or other obligation slip through the cracks.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



Today you're bursting at the seams with energy and enthusiasm. Your personal and professional lives are going well, so it's no wonder you feel joyful. The only downside is that you may be overwhelmed by work responsibilities. Certainly there's a lot to do, but you're up to the task. Buckle down and put in a last burst of effort so you can enjoy your evening free of guilt.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Take care not to get on a soapbox today. You have strong opinions on everything from religion to politics. You risk offending people if you expound on them. You'd be better off keeping your views to yourself. In fact, rather than try to change people's minds with words, why not try and do it with actions? Set the right example.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Friends and money rarely mix. Today a close friend may ask for a loan. Think carefully. Rather than take the easy route and say yes, you and your friend would be better served if you helped him or her figure out a way to earn the money. Perhaps you could offer a job or introduce your friend to someone else who can help. Be creative and you will find a solution that works for everyone.

BEETLE BAILEY



SUDOKU

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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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How to play:

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Duterte hesitant on US visit



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte (C) posing for photos with Chinese sailors while visiting the guided missile frigate Changchun berthed at the Davao international port

Davao
Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said yesterday he may turn down an invitation by Donald Trump to visit the United States, as he welcomed three Chinese warships to his home town.

Duterte, who has loosened the Philippines' long alliance with the United States while strengthening ties with China and Russia, said he could not commit to the American president because of a busy schedule that included a trip to Moscow.

"I am tied up. I cannot

make any definite promise. I am supposed to go to Russia, I am supposed to go to Israel," he told reporters when asked about Trump's invitation made in a telephone call on Saturday.

Duterte expressed concerns about not being able to fit in a visit to Trump even though no firm date has yet been proposed for it.

Nevertheless, Duterte said relations with the United States were improving now that Trump had taken over from Barack Obama, who criticised the Philippine

president for his anti-drug war that has claimed thousands of lives.

Rights groups have warned Duterte may be orchestrating a crime against humanity, with police and vigilantes committing mass murder. But Duterte insists his security forces are not breaking any laws.

Duterte last year branded Obama a "son of a whore" in response to the criticism. He also declared while in Beijing last year that the Philippines had "separated" from the United States. (AFP)

SpaceX completes first US top-secret mission

Miami
SpaceX yesterday blasted off a secretive US government satellite, known only as NROL-76, marking the first military launch for the California-based aerospace company headed by billionaire tycoon Elon Musk.

The payload for the National Reconnaissance Office, which makes and operates spy satellites for the United States, soared into the sky atop a Falcon 9 rocket at 7:15 am.

About 10 minutes after launch, the scorched first stage of the rocket came back to Earth and landed upright at Cape Canaveral, marking the fourth successful solid ground landing for SpaceX.

"And we have touchdown," a



SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launches from pad 39A

SpaceX commentator said on a live webcast as cheers broke out at mission control.

"The first stage has landed back at Landing Zone 1. Another good day at SpaceX. A

beautiful sight to see."

Live video of the launch showed the first and second stages of the rocket separating about two and a half minutes into the flight.

#PollToday



Hamas accepts the idea of a Palestinian state in territories occupied by Israel in the Six-Day War of 1967. Do you think this would bring positive changes in the region?

Yes No Cant Say



This Brexit thing has given me a direct motivation to get more involved in the politics. You need to get your hands dirty and I will,"

Tony Blair
Former British Prime Minister

Rest in sight

Tech billionaire buys mansion for record price



Tech billionaire Scott Farquhar has bought a 1863 Sydney waterfront mansion for an Australian record of Aus\$75 million.

US-led strikes against IS killed 352 civilians

US-led strikes aimed against the Islamic State group have "unintentionally" killed 352 civilians since the offensive began in 2014, US military said.

India accuses Pakistan of killing soldiers

Pakistani troops killed two Indian soldiers in disputed Kashmir yesterday and mutilated their bodies, India's army said, calling it a "despicable act".

Mob kill two over suspected cow theft

Two men were beaten to death by stick-wielding Indian villagers who suspected them of stealing cows, the latest such attack over the animal.

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North Korea warns of nuclear test 'at any time'

Seoul

North Korea warned yesterday that it will carry out a nuclear test "at any time and at any location" set by its leadership, in the latest rhetoric to fuel jitters in the region.

Tensions on the Korean peninsula have been running high for weeks, with signs that the North might be preparing a long-range missile launch or a sixth nuclear test -- and with Washington refusing to rule out a military strike in response.

A spokesman for the

North's foreign ministry said Pyongyang was "fully ready to respond to any option taken by the US".

The regime will continue bolstering its "pre-emptive nuclear attack" capabilities unless Washington scrapped its hostile policies, he said.

"The DPRK's measures for bolstering the nuclear force to the maximum will be taken in a consecutive and successive way at any moment and any place decided by its supreme leadership," the spokesman added, apparently referring to a sixth nuclear test.

Nepal moves to impeach first female chief justice



Supporters of Nepal's chief justice Sushila Karki chant slogans and hold flags during a protest rally in Kathmandu

Kathmandu

Nepal's first female chief justice has been suspended after the government filed a motion to impeach her, triggering protests within the fragile ruling coalition.

The two main parties in the coalition accused Sushila Karki of interference after the Supreme Court last month overturned the government's choice for chief of police.

"We have decided to impeach Chief Justice Sushila

Karki... after she visibly started taking sides in cases," Min Biswakarma, a member of the ruling coalition who proposed the motion, said.

Hours later, Deputy Prime Minister Bimalendra Nidhi resigned in protest. One of the smaller coalition parties has also threatened to quit the government.

Karki's supporters say she has taken a strong stance against corruption during her year-long tenure as head of the supreme court.

Turbulence injures 27 on Aeroflot flight to Bangkok

Bangkok

Passengers on an Aeroflot flight from Moscow to Thailand were slammed into the ceiling after their aircraft hit a patch of severe turbulence injuring 27 people, some of them suffering fractured bones, witnesses and officials said yesterday.

The terrifying ordeal occurred when the plane flew through a pocket of "clean

air" turbulence -- so-called because there is no cloud warning of its presence -- shortly before landing in Bangkok after midnight, the airline said.

Denis Antonyuk, an official at Russia's embassy in Bangkok said 24 Russian nationals and three Thais were injured.

"Fifteen Russians and two Thais are still in hospital," he said, adding the rest had been discharged.

Vienna

TIL I DIE!



Gerhard Kirsch, First Vienna Football Club 1894 Managing Director

Vienna

“Vienna til I die!” chanted the fans, in accented English, at a recent rainy match, testament to the British roots of Austria’s oldest football club: the once-mighty First Vienna FC 1894.

But while the few hundred diehard supporters give it their all week in week out, the now dilapidated terraces of what was once continental Europe’s biggest stadium may soon fall silent for ever.

In March the 123-year-old club, which even under the Nazis was allowed to keep its English name “Vienna”, declared itself insolvent and is trying to hammer out a survival plan.

The players haven’t been paid since December and automatic relegation looms from Austria’s already lowly third division, the Austrian Regional League East, making finding new sponsors even harder. “If it all ends, it will be the end of an era,” sighed Robert Haidinger, head of the supporters club, as he charged five euros (\$5.50) for the trickle of cars arriving for the evening match.

“A piece of Viennese history would disappear,” he said.

British import

Like elsewhere in Europe and beyond in the late 19th century, British immigrants were a



Josef Keglevic, a supporter of the First Vienna Football Club 1894 is pictured in the Stadium at Hohe Warte in Vienna

major driving force in the birth of Austrian football.

The “Vienna” was founded, in a pub, in 1894 by British gardeners together with locals smitten with this exotic new combination of exercise and gentlemanly “fair play”.

The club quickly became an all-Austrian affair but its three-legged logo, the triskelion, still survives in tribute to the homeland of one of the founders, William Beale from the Isle of Man.

To this day many of the chants on the terraces are in English. “Hey ho let’s go,” says a sign, in English, on the way out of the ground.

“To hear lots of voices singing all together something like ‘Come on Vienna’ is, well, it gives you goosebumps,” said Josef Keglevic, a lifelong fan.

‘Wunderteam’

“Vienna” used to be a force to be reckoned with not only in domestic football but internationally too. Visiting Spain in 1925, they thrashed Barcelona 4-1.

Its Hohe Warte stadium, the biggest in Europe outside Britain when it opened in 1921, was also the home ground for Austria’s legendary national “Wunderteam”.

As many as 85,000 supporters

watched trainer Hugo Meisl’s men -- slayers of allcomers and unlucky favourites for the 1934 World Cup -- play Italy here in 1923.

When Hitler, no fan of football, annexed his native Austria into the Third Reich in 1938, the club’s many Jewish players and functionaries were quickly expelled.

Rudolf Spitzer, who took part in the club’s first official match in 1894, was one of several people associated with the club murdered in the Holocaust. But from a sporting point of view the Nazi era went well for the Viennese.

In 1943 they won the

Tschammerpokal cup at the since-renamed “Adolf-Hitler-Kampfbahn” stadium in Stuttgart. “It was one of most successful teams in World War II,” historian Alexander Juraske, author of a book on the club’s history, said.

After 1945, once Austria was re-established and life returned to normal, the club remained highly successful and in 1955 won the Austrian championship for the sixth and, so far, final time.

Plagued by poor performances, a slow decline set in over the following decades and in 1992 it slipped out of the Bundesliga top league for the

final time.

“The club also made a lot of mistakes,” Juraske said. “Financially it bit off more than it could chew.”

Vienna got soul

Chief executive Gerhard Kirsch is trying to cut spending by 700,000 euros -- a third of the club’s costs -- but faces an uphill battle to save this piece of sporting history.

Regulations only allow the stadium -- now a “nature arena” with a grass bank on three sides -- to hold 5,500 people, stymying efforts to make money through events like concerts.

And in this small Alpine country, only the big clubs like Red Bull Salzburg can make any money, filling their stadiums with 15,000-20,000 fans. “All the others have problems, including in the Bundesliga, with fewer than 2,000-3,000 supporters. That’s not enough to run a club economically,” Kirsch said.

But Josef Keglevic, a supporter since he was six years old, said “Vienna” still has something special.

“At clubs like Barcelona, Real Madrid or Bayern Munich... there is no humanity any more. There as a supporter you are just a number, a revenue generator,” he said.

“But here there is something, a feeling... A soul, yes.” (AFP)

Austria’s oldest football club faces final whistle



Atletico Madrid's Uruguayan defender Diego Godin (L) speaks past Atletico Madrid's midfielder Gabi (C) and Atletico Madrid's Argentinian coach Diego Simeone during a press conference

Atletico aims win, not Real revenge

Madrid

Atletico Madrid captain Gabi insisted yesterday it is winning the Champions League not gaining revenge on Real Madrid that motivates him as the Spanish giants face off once more in Tuesday's semi-final, first leg.

Real have beaten Atletico in each of the past three seasons in the Champions League, including twice in the final in agonising circumstances for the red and white part of Madrid in 2014 and 2016.

"I am not more motivated to play against Real Madrid than any other team," said Gabi, 33, who has spent 10 years at Atletico in two spells.

"What motivates me is being in the final, to win the long-awaited Champions League that we all want."

Atletico led until the 93rd minute of the 2014 final when Sergio Ramos's header sparked a Real fightback as they went onto win 4-1 in extra-time.

A year later Javier Hernandez got the only goal of a bad-tempered tie as Real progressed 1-0 on aggregate in the quarter-finals.

And in last season's final, Real emerged victorious in a penalty shootout in Milan after a 1-1 draw.

"You always correct things from the past, but above all

you learn from defeat," said Atletico defender Diego Godin.

Both sides are seeking historic firsts as Real eye a 12th European crown in Cardiff on June 3 by becoming the first side to retain the trophy in the Champions League era.

Meanwhile, Atletico are still seeking their first ever Champions League as the only side to lose three finals without ever lifting the trophy.

"What happened in the past is in the past, we can't rely on that now," said Real boss Zinedine Zidane.

"It has been positive for us, but now it is a completely different tie and they will be doing their utmost to go

through as well.

"The extra motivation comes from it being a Champions League semi-final."

Bale absent

Gareth Bale and central defender Pepe are Real's only injury absentees.

Isco and Marco Asensio will compete for Bale's place, whilst the fit again Raphael Varane will replace Pepe in the only two changes Zidane is likely to make from the side that started a 1-1 La Liga draw against Atletico at the Bernabeu just over three weeks ago.

"I've been in Madrid for four years and in each of the

four we've faced them in the Champions League," said Isco

"Hopefully the outcome will be the same as in previous years.

"They'll be desperate to beat us after the two Champions Leagues that we've won."

Atletico have more injury worries as Jose Maria Gimenez suffered a groin problem in Saturday's 5-0 thrashing of Las Palmas to join right-backs Juanfran and Sime Vrsaljko on the sidelines.

Diego Simeone will therefore be forced into a defensive reshuffle with Stefan Savic, a centre-back by trade, the favourite to be moved to right-back with Lucas Hernandez partnering Godin

at the heart of the defence.

"I am clear on who is going to play (at right-back)," said Simeone.

"Absences are important, but I understand football as a team game. Many times an important player can be missing as the team overcomes that loss."

Yannick Carrasco is also a major doubt after the Belgian winger suffered a collarbone injury in last week's 1-0 defeat to Villarreal.

The return of Kevin Gameiro, though, was a huge boost for Simeone as the French international scored twice in his first start for six weeks at the weekend. (AFP)

Bouhanni escapes with concussion after fall



Paris

French sprinter Nacer Bouhanni is recovering in hospital after being knocked unconscious during a heavy fall on cycling's Tour of Yorkshire, his Cofidis team said yesterday.

"Nacer Bouhanni has no broken bones. Our sprinter has bad concussion. He's still stunned this Monday morning with headaches and vision problems," Cofidis said in a statement.

"A neurological examination will take place after 48 hours if Nacer doesn't suffer from any new symptoms between then and now," the French team added.

The 26-year-old was knocked unconscious 25km from the finish line at Sheffield, in northern England and lay motionless on the road where he had fallen.

The powerful sprint specialist had won the second stage to Harrogate the day before easily dominating a bunch sprint on a slight upward incline.

His team announced overnight that early diagnosis had been "reassuring" and that Bouhanni "had regained consciousness in the ambulance".

Bouhanni, who joined Cofidis in 2015, has 55 wins to his name including stages on the Giro d'Italia and the Vuelta a Espana.

BAPCO edge out GPIC in Industrial Bowling



Manama

Bapco defeated GPIC 2511-2501 pin falls with the last bowl of the match to reach the semi-finals of the Bahrain Industrial Bowling League Bapco Knockout Tournament 2017 at the Fun Land Bowling Centre in Manama.

In a very tight match, top scoring

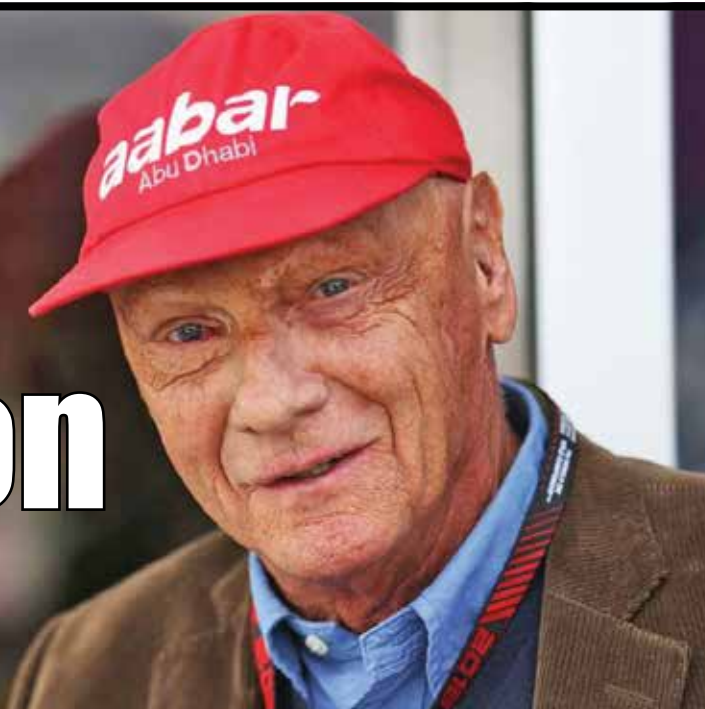
for Bapco was Bahrain national team player Yousif Falah (278) high game of the week and (783) high series of the week and for GPIC, guest player, Ahmed Fareed (257) game and (707) series.

In another match, Batelco were 2430-2345 winners over the Electricity and Water Authority

(EWA) to advance to the final, with the top scorers being Batelco's Ahmed Al Khaja (232) game and (656) series and guest player for EWA, Emad Al Jahromi (249) game and (656) series.

Batelco face either Pioneers or Bapco in the final after this week's semi-final showdown.

Lauda heaps praise on Bottas



Sochi
Non-executive chairman Niki Lauda heaped praise on Mercedes new boy Valtteri Bottas on Monday and said he was a “very good replacement” for retired 2016 champion Nico Rosberg.

The three-time world champion Austrian admitted he was very surprised to see how calm the 27-year-old Finn remained under intense pressure in the closing laps of his maiden Formula One

triumph in Sunday’s Russian Grand Prix.

“The first win, the first Grand Prix win, in a racing driver’s life, is always the most difficult,” Lauda told reporters. “I know from my own experience.

“I remember mine very well because Emerson Fittipaldi called me – who was the world champion – and he said ‘Congratulations! The next one will come easier’ and it was true.

“I told Valtteri the same thing. His next one will come easy now he has proved he can win.”

Lauda added: “He surprised me a lot because it’s his first race victory under such difficult conditions with Vettel in a better combination behind him. Honestly, he did a fantastic job.

“I’ve never seen anyone like him under this kind of pressure to win his first Grand Prix. He can’t do a better job than that.”

As praise poured in for

the unflappable and popular Finn, Lauda was quick also to point out that it was too early to talk about an extension to his one-year contract.

“We are talking about this year,” he said. “I want to win this year. We have had no discussion about next year at all. This weekend, Valtteri did a perfect job -- all that we expected of him.

“And, for sure, he is certainly a very good replacement for Nico!”



Mercedes' Finnish driver Valtteri Bottas takes a pit stop during the Formula One Russian Grand Prix at the Sochi Autodrom circuit in Sochi

Cech ‘angry’ after defeat

London
Arsenal ‘keeper’ Petr Cech made no attempt to hide how “angry and disappointed” he felt after a 2-0 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur on Sunday dealt a huge blow to the Gunners’ bid to qualify for the Champions League.

Goals from Dele Alli and Harry Kane saw Spurs, second in the Premier League, move a huge 17 points clear of Arsenal and ensure they would finish above their local rivals in the table for the first time since 1995.

Tottenham are still very much in the title race, with Mauricio Pochettino’s side just four points behind leaders Chelsea, with both the top two having four league games left

this season.

By contrast, Arsenal are sixth and six points adrift of fourth-placed Manchester City, who occupy the last Champions League place on offer to English clubs, although the Gunners do have a game in hand.

Arsenal next match is at home to Manchester United, who are fifth and are five points ahead of Arsene Wenger’s side, this weekend.

“I feel angry and disappointed because obviously this is not a game we wanted to lose and this is a very big disappointment for us,” Cech told Arsenal’s website.

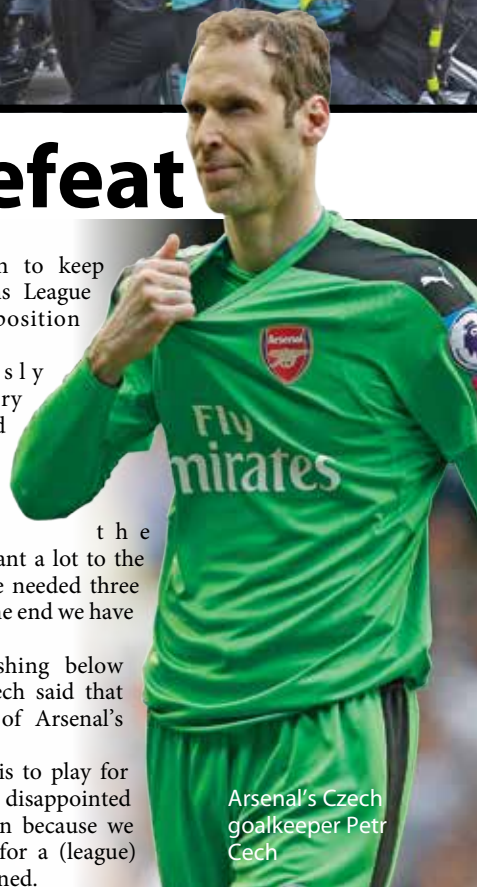
“It hurts because it was a huge game for both teams. They needed to win to keep their title chances alive. We

needed to win to keep our Champions League finishing position [hopes] alive.

“Obviously we are very disappointed because it’s a north London derby, it means a lot to the fans and it meant a lot to the club, to us. We needed three points and in the end we have none.”

As for finishing below Tottenham, Cech said that was the least of Arsenal’s concerns.

“Our target is to play for titles, so we are disappointed with our season because we aren’t playing for a (league) title,” he explained.



Arsenal's Czech goalkeeper Petr Cech

Football

Scores as of closing

English Premier League:



Watford 0 Liverpool 1

Spanish La Liga:



Malaga 4 Sevilla 2

Reset on way for European, World Athletics records

Paris

The European Athletics Council has come up with a radical plan that would wipe out existing European and world records and set a clean slate as part of the fight against doping.

The proposal was adopted during the Council’s meeting in Paris over the weekend, and president Svein Arne Hansen admitted it was “revolutionary”.

In a nod to the stain that doping has left on athletics, he also said that “performance records that show the limits of human capabilities are one of the great strengths of our sport, but they are meaningless if people don’t really believe them”.

“It’s a radical solution for sure, but those of us who love athletics are tired of the cloud of doubt and innuendo that has hung over our records for too long.”

The project proposes that world and European records only be recognised if achieved at approved international events and if the athlete concerned “has been subject to an agreed number of doping control tests in the months leading up to the performance”, a statement said.

All records set before a date that has yet to be defined will

remain but only on a list of old records.

The plan will be put forward to the council meeting of world governing body the IAAF in August.

IAAF president Sebastian Coe, who attended the Council meeting in Paris, indicated that he was in favour of the proposal.

“I like this because it underlines that we have put into place doping control systems and technology that are more robust and safer than 15 or even 10 years ago,” he said.

“There will be athletes, current record holders, who will feel that the history we are recalibrating will take something away from them but I think this is a step in the right direction and if organised and structured properly we have a good chance of winning back credibility in this area.”

The idea was criticised by two leading Swedish athletes when asked by the Swedish newspaper Aftonbladet, with European heptathlon record holder Carolina Klufft saying: “Obviously I would find it disgusting if I were deprived of my record when I was completely clean.”

Patrik Sjoberg, now aged 52 and who set the European high jump record in 1987, complained that the proposal “implied” that all records from 2017 or earlier were set by “doped athletes”.

Bahrain sign off with **WIN**

▶ Qatar qualify for world group

Aidan Payne/DTNN
aidan@dt.bh

Bahrain easily beat Bhutan by 55 runs, as Qatar upset the favourites Saudi Arabia winning by five wickets and promotion after the seventh and final round of round-robin matches yesterday in the International Cricket Council (ICC) 2017 World Cricket League (WCL) Asia Region Division One qualifiers concluded in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Batting first, Bahrain were dismissed for 154 in 43.2 overs after slumping at one stage to 39 for six, with openers Imran Ali Butt (0) and Mohammed Sameer (19 off 16 deliveries, 1x4, 2x6), the first to go, followed rapidly by the skipper Azeem Ul Haq (0), Janaka Chaturanga (9), Gamini Arachchige (1) and Mohammed Rafeh (4).

It needed a 57-run seventh wicket partnership by veteran 42-year old and man of the match Tahir Dar (68 off 93, 6x4, 4x4) and Mohammed Safdar (9) to get the score to 96 for seven after 24.5 overs and add some respectability to the innings, which was followed by an eighth wicket partnership of 40 runs by Dar and Junaid Aziz (27 off 64, 2x4, 1x6) boosting the total to 136 in the 38th over, with Aziz



Bahrain national cricket team the last man out.

Bhutan's key bowler was Thinley Jamtsho (six for 38) in 10 overs and the other wickets were picked up by Kumar Subba (two for 14) in 6.2 and Tobden Singye (one for 23) in 2 and Suprit Pradhan (one for 27) in 10.

In reply, Bhutan were dismissed for 99 in 42.3 overs after suffering a disastrous start with Bilal Mansoor (three for 12) in eight overs bowling out both Kumar Subba and Tenzin Wangchuk without scoring.

A third wicket partnership of 56 runs boosted the Bhutanese hopes thanks to Thinley Jamtsho (42 off 51, 4x4, 2x6) and Kencho Norbu (11 off 61), but once Jamtsho was gone the rest of the innings crumbled, despite late resistance by tailenders Tenzin

Final Standings (after seven rounds)

| | PLD | W | L | R/RATE | PTS |
|--------------|-----|---|---|--------|-----|
| Qatar | 6 | 5 | 1 | +2.665 | 10 |
| Saudi Arabia | 6 | 5 | 1 | +2.472 | 10 |
| Bahrain | 6 | 4 | 2 | +0.652 | 8 |
| Kuwait | 6 | 3 | 3 | +0.676 | 6 |
| Thailand | 6 | 2 | 4 | +0.496 | 4 |
| Bhutan | 6 | 1 | 5 | -1.943 | 2 |
| China | 6 | 0 | 6 | -6.801 | 0 |

Wangchuk jnr (14 off 26, 1x4) and Kishen Ghalley (11 not out off 49, 1x4).

Bahrain other wicket takers were Tahir Dar (three for 16) in 10, Babar Ali (two for 25) in 10, Gamini Arachchige (one for seven) in 5 and Junaid Aziz (one for eight in 2.3).

The Bahrain campaign

also included wins against Thailand, Qatar and China and losses to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Bahrain prepared for this championship with five friendly matches in Sri Lanka, winning three and losing two, getting acclimatised and getting used to turf wickets.

Bahrain's squad comprised head coach Rexie Arunvasagam and manager Syed Rizwan Shah, captain, Azeem Ul Haq, Tahir Dar, Babar Ali, Junaid Aziz, Gamini Arachchige, Imran Ali Butt, Janaka Chaturanga, Mohammed Rafeh, Mohammed Sameer, Mohammed Iqbal Noor, Awad Khan, Bilal Mansoor, Jabbar Amjad and Mohammed Safdar.

Meanwhile, in the other two matches Qatar upset Saudi Arabia by five wickets in the crunch match between the two sides vying for promotion and Thailand beat Kuwait by seven wickets.

Qatar qualified from Asia to the ICC WCL Division 5 which will be staged this September in South Africa as one of the five regional qualifiers, the others are Vanuatu (East

Asia Pacific), Ghana (Africa), Cayman Islands (Americas) and the winner of a European qualifier next month hosted by the Netherlands, featuring, Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Norway and Sweden.

The regional qualifiers will be joined by Italy and Jersey relegated from Division 4 and Guernsey who stayed in Division 5.

Other scores:

1) Qatar 96/5 in 18.1 overs (Tamoor Sajjad 28no, Zaheer Ibrahim 25, Dharmang Patel 15no; Ibrarul Haq 3/26, Imran Arif 2/30) bt Saudi Arabia 94/10 in 43.3 overs (Mohsin Shabbar 23, Mohammed Afzal 22, Inayat Saeed 17; Inam Al Haq 3/10, Mohammed Nadeem 3/11, Mohammed Tanweer 2/11, Awais Malik 2/15) by 5 wickets. Man of the Match: Tamoor Sajjad.

2) Thailand 99/3 in 27.4 overs (Mohammed Shafiqal Haque 43, Bunchuai Sombatraksa 26; Mohammed Asghar 2/9, Abdulla Ghulan 1/30) bt Kuwait (Haroon Shahid 25, Sajid Manzil 24, Abdulla Ghuloom 14no; Wanchana Uisuk 4/19, Kamron Senamontree 2/11, Sameer Gawas 2/11) by 7 wickets. Man of the Match: Wanchana Uisuk

Rick de Groot wins Abdulla Ali Kanoo Cup

Manama

Rick de Groot (gross 83, net 61) was the overall winner and a three shot cut for his endeavours in the 49th Abdulla Ali Kanoo Cup held at Awali Golf Club (AGC).

A field of 90 players took to the course in hot but near perfect playing conditions resulting in some exceptional scoring, runner-up was Onny Martin (gross 80, net

62), while Ali Musbah took the medal with a one over 70 gross.

The Kanoo family has been long term sponsors of AGC with the first Kanoo Golf Tournament being sponsored in 1966/67. In 2011/12 the competition was renamed the Abdulla Ali Kanoo Cup in memory of the late Chairman.

Hanna Kanoo, daughter

of the late chairman Abdulla Ali Kanoo was assisted by Bryan Webster and Steve Wagstaff in presenting prizes to the respective winners. A full clubhouse acknowledged Bill Scarth, this season's captain in his last Master of Ceremonies role as club captain and joined Bill in a rousing rendition of "The Awali Way" sung to the melody of Frank Sinatra's "My Way".



The winner, fourth left with his trophy, Kanoo third from left and club captain Scarth, fifth left

I'll beat Joshua with one arm: Fury

London

Tyson Fury taunted Anthony Joshua yesterday by insisting he could beat the world heavyweight champion with "one arm tied behind my back".

Shortly after his thrilling 11th-round stoppage of Wladimir Klitschko at London's Wembley on Saturday, Joshua 'called out' fellow British heavyweight Fury by saying: "Fury, where are you at, baby?"

While Joshua and Ukrainian veteran Klitschko retained a respectful tone towards one another both before and after their epic fight, the same cannot be said of Joshua's relationship with Fury which has been marked by a series of back-and-forth taunts.

Fury dramatically beat Klitschko on points in a world title fight in November 2015 and once held both the International Boxing Federation (IBF) and World Boxing

Association (WBA) belts now held by Joshua.

But he hasn't boxed since, with mental health problems forcing him to relinquish his titles, while his licence to box was subsequently suspended by the British Boxing Board of Control.

Fury, however, could have his licence returned at a hearing next week and if Klitschko does not want a re-match with Joshua or terms for one cannot be agreed, the momentum behind an all-British clash for the world heavyweight title could prove hard to stop.

"Styles do make fights but I am sure I can beat AJ (Joshua) with one arm tied behind my back," Fury said in a Sky Sports interview from his training base in Marbella, on Spain's south coast.

"I have been out of the ring as long as Klitschko but the difference is, I am not 41, I am 28."

Reflecting on the Wembley epic, Fury, who labelled Joshua a "pumped-up weightlifter", said: "It was an excellent fight, very entertaining and enjoyable and I was screaming for AJ to smash him.

"I wonder what people would be saying today if Klitschko had done him in the sixth.

"I was screaming, pulling my hair out -- or what little hair I've got left -- because I was worried it would cost us millions!

"He (Joshua) showed he can get dropped and come back, which is what champions are made of. He showed he can recover from taking big shots."

However, Fury added: "There's only one fight out there, the biggest fight in the world and everyone knows that. It is the heavyweights, it is me and AJ, no one else.

"I am here, I am the lineal champion, I am still number one in the world and everybody knows that."



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