

DT NEWS

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News of Bahrain

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► P03

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Tweet of the Day



If Trump is serious about helping the middle class, we'll work with him. So far, it's clear he doesn't give a damn about working families.

@BernieSanders

Summit of growth

DT News Network
Manama

The 37th Summit of the GCC Supreme Council to be held here on December 6 and 7 will pave way for more integration between the member states, according to Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Dr Abdullatif Al Zayani.

He pointed out that "the summit of growth" will witness many discussions, pertaining mainly to joint GCC work in political, defence, security, economic and social fields. The summit will also shed light on regional issues, relations of the GCC member states with the rest of the world and counter-terrorism efforts.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud who is currently on a GCC tour, will

attend the summit, a statement issued by the Saudi Royal Court and carried by the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

Concerning Yemen, the GCC Secretary General stressed that the council still considers a political solution as the best option to settle the

conflict and spare the Yemeni people from the horrors of war.

On the agreement to reduce oil production, Al Zayani noted that the Saudi-Russian agreement aims to restore balance and stability to the global oil markets for

the interest of productive and consumer countries.

The Secretary General pointed out that the GCC-US relations, after the election of Donald Trump as President, are deep-rooted and multifaceted, including political, economic, security and military fields.

"You are at home ... and we are your guests"

Minister of Information Affairs Ali bin Mohammed Al Rumaihi affirmed his Ministry's keenness on providing the perfect atmosphere, including the necessary technical and media facilities, to cover the summit.

■ A state-of-the-art Media Centre will officially open tomorrow at The Gulf Hotel Bahrain's Gulf Convention Centre

■ The summit will be broadcast through Bahrain News Agency (BNA), radio, television and social media networks

■ Hi-tech equipment will be provided to ensure easy coverage

■ "This Is the Arabian Gulf Radio" will be activated

The Minister voiced confidence that the 37th GCC Summit will come up with resolutions in the economic, political, social, military and security fields in order to achieve Gulf Unity.



P04
Bahrain joins UAE and France to protect cultural heritage



P24
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11th Hour

HRH Princess Sabeeka congratulates laureate

Manama

Bahraini writer Sawsen Al-Shaer was congratulated by Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa on being conferred the second edition of the annual Arab Woman Award in London. She commended the writer's dedication to promote political, cultural and social awareness through her outstanding writings.

Up to 40 feared dead in blaze at party

Oakland

Up to 40 people were feared dead in a huge fire that tore through a rave party held in a warehouse near San Francisco, authorities said, warning that the initial death toll of nine would likely rise once crews swept the stricken building.

TIME FOR TAXES

Frequently Asked Questions

What is VAT?

Value Added Tax (VAT) is an indirect tax on consumption and it applies to most goods and services. VAT is levied on business transactions, i.e. on goods and services supplied in the course of business.

Although VAT applies to most goods and services, in countries where VAT operates there are normally some exceptions. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) States are expected to adopt a standard VAT system with a single rate applying to most goods and services and potentially some limited exceptions such as basic food items, healthcare and education.

Currently five countries in the Middle East region (Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, Lebanon, Palestinian Territories) have adopted VAT or similar broad based consumption tax system (General Sales Tax (GST)). In detail VAT is levied at each stage in the chain of production and distribution and is collected by businesses on behalf of the VAT authorities. VAT is ultimately paid by the end consumer.

Why is VAT being considered by the GCC?

Governments have been considering the need to diversify income sources. VAT is seen as an effective tool in raising revenue to achieve government objectives whilst preserving the neutrality for businesses. If designed and operated correctly and efficiently it can provide significant revenues with limited administrative costs and impact on business.

When will VAT be introduced by the GCC?

The exact date is not yet known though it is expected that GCC States will most likely introduce VAT on 1 Jan 2018 or by 1 Jan 2019 at the latest. Until further official announcements are made and national legislation issued, the exact date for each GCC country is yet to be confirmed.

What is the anticipated rate of VAT?

It is expected that the standard rate of VAT will be 5%.

Will VAT apply to everything?

Some exceptions may apply mainly driven by socio economic policy considerations. For example, some items may be subject to VAT at 0% (zero-rated), such as basic food – where no VAT applies but the related VAT incurred on purchases can be deducted.

Other areas such as healthcare and education may be exempt from VAT – where VAT will not apply and

the related VAT incurred on purchases cannot be deducted.

What about imports / exports of goods?

Based on general VAT principles, VAT will apply to goods imported into the GCC and this will be payable at the time and place of import. Exports (of goods to countries outside the GCC territory) will not be subject to VAT (generally zero-rated).

Will it affect prices / margins?

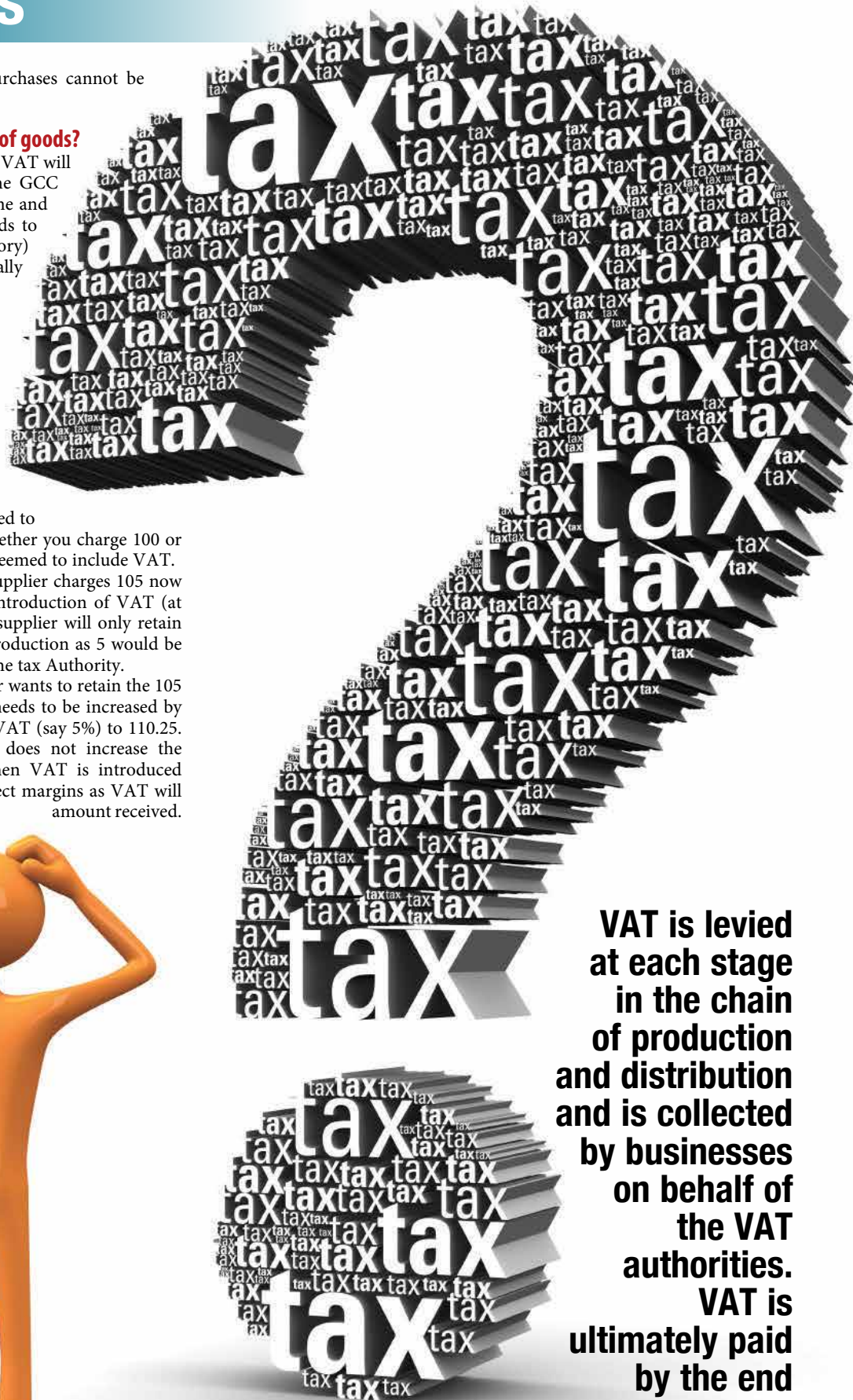
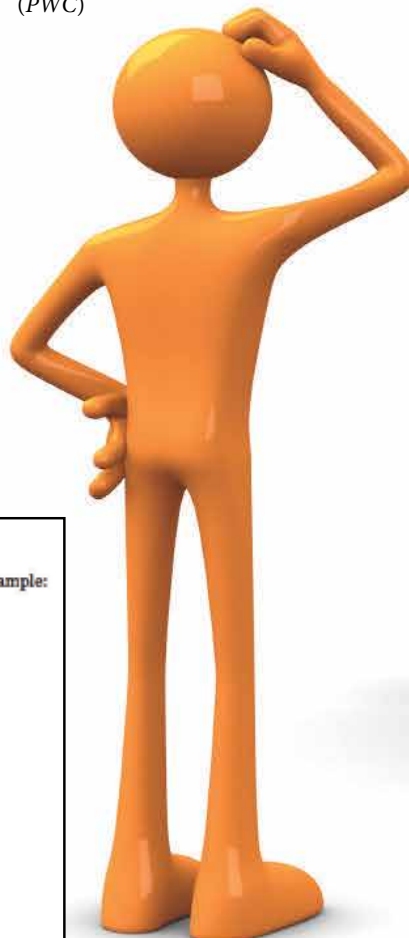
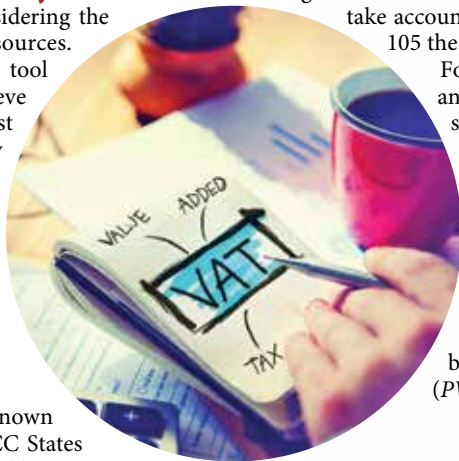
VAT is a tax on consumption and is levied on the price charged to the customer. Therefore it is expected that prices will increase by the amount of VAT.

However, it is ultimately a matter for suppliers to determine the price of their goods / services. The price will need to

take account of VAT, i.e. whether you charge 100 or 105 the amount will be deemed to include VAT.

For example, if a supplier charges 105 now and 105 after the introduction of VAT (at say 5%) then the supplier will only retain 100 after the introduction as 5 would be due as VAT to the tax Authority.

If the supplier wants to retain the 105 then the price needs to be increased by the amount of VAT (say 5%) to 110.25. If the supplier does not increase the selling price when VAT is introduced then this will effect margins as VAT will be due on the amount received. (PWC)



VAT is levied at each stage in the chain of production and distribution and is collected by businesses on behalf of the VAT authorities. VAT is ultimately paid by the end consumer

How does VAT work?

VAT paid on purchases/ expenses is credited against VAT charged on supplies made. For example:

10,000	Business charges VAT on sales (Output VAT)	7,000
(6,000)	Business pays VAT on purchase (Input VAT)	(9,000)
4,000	NET VAT (Output VAT – Input VAT)	(2,000)
Positive		
Payable to VAT Administration		
Negative		
Refundable from the VAT Administration		

Start-ups to flourish next year

Mohammed Zafran/DTNN
zafran@dt.bh

Manama

2017 will provide a suitable environment for all start ups to grow and flourish in the Kingdom, according to a senior official of Bahrain Economic Development Board.

EDB Managing Director Simon Galpin told *DT news* that a new strategy is being envisioned to revitalise the start up scene in Bahrain.

"We have a new branding for the start ups, which is something that the whole community can use and

promote. 2017 is going to be really exciting. We want to have more events where the community can get together," Galpin said.

He added that more promotions would be done outside Bahrain where potential investors in the Kingdom would be taken overseas to promote themselves more effectively at big start up events.

"More events, initiatives and programmes could be held next year as Bahrain Economic Development Board looks to strengthen and promote start ups in Bahrain. EDB has started implementing

a new brand named 'Startup Bahrain' to compliment the strategy," he said.

"We want to grow the number of investors here by persuading high net worth individuals to invest in start ups. We will also look

to work with universities as well to create that spirit of entrepreneurship within the youth, so we have lots to do," he added.

He said that encouraging start ups in FinTech will be on the agenda.

"There are a number of different startup verticals that we are looking at. FinTech of course offers a great potential here. And we would like to work with CBB to develop a sandbox type concept," he said.

EDB Managing Director
Simon Galpin

Bahraini Women's Book Fair to be held tomorrow

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Manama

Isa Cultural Centre is set to organise the Bahraini Women's Book Fair tomorrow under the patronage of HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women (SCW).

The event, which will continue until December 12, is part of Bahrain's celebrations of the Bahraini Women's Day.

Marking the occasion, Board of Trustees Chairman and Executive Director of Isa Cultural Centre Dr. Shaikh Khalid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa lauded the empowerment efforts of SCW to promote women's standing and motivating them to bring about more achievements to the nation.

He also voiced appreciation of the initiatives undertaken by HRH Princess Sabeeka to further consolidate the academic status of Bahraini women.

Sex for money: Man jailed

DT News Network
Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced an American man, accused of inciting men to have paid sex with him, for ten days behind bars.

The defendant is believed to have lured his customers via social media, before inviting them to a five-star hotel to have sex with him. According to court files, the defendant was receiving amounts between BD150-400 from each customer.

The defendant is believed to have lured his customers via social media, before inviting them to a five-star hotel to have sex with him

He was arrested following a sting operation, where an officer in disguise encouraged the defendant to have sex with him. The American man told prosecutors that he had

undergone several cosmetic surgeries to imitate women and he was having sex with men twice a week. The defendant will be deported following imprisonment.

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HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa with other ministers and delegates at the convention

Bahrain joins UAE and France to protect cultural heritage

Abu Dhabi

Bahrain has joined hands with UAE and France in establishing an international partnership to protect cultural heritage during armed conflicts.

Supreme Council for Youth & Sport Chairman, Bahrain Olympic Committee President & Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Chairman HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa made the statements while participating in the 'Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage' Conference held here.

"The nations' heritage embodies their arts, culture



Members of the 'Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage' convention held in Abu Dhabi

and architecture, but the continuing destruction of these treasures in areas witnessing armed conflicts will deny us as well as the next generations valuable resources. All nations must work together towards preserving and protecting

them from destruction, extinction and plunder by anti-civilisation individuals and groups," Shaikh Nasser said.

During the UNESCO-sponsored conference, attended by 40 world leaders, Abu Dhabi Shaikh Crown

Prince and UAE Armed Forces Deputy Supreme Commander Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan along with French President Francois Hollande launched an initiative to establish an international partnership aimed to protect cultural

heritage during armed conflicts.

Shaikh Naseer who attended the conference on behalf of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa stressed that the Kingdom under the leadership of King Hamad has paid tremendous

attention to preserve and protect international heritage as it represents a historical symbol of human civilisation.

The event concluded by agreeing to launch an international network to provide haven for endangered heritage sites, and stressed on the need of joint efforts to protect assets at all times.

The conference also agreed to launch an international fund financed by public and private sectors to sponsor programmes aimed at protecting cultural heritage.

The UNESCO-sponsored conference, was the first of its kind at an international level.

Sheikha Dr Suad Al Sabah wins Arab Woman Award

DT News Network
Manama

Sheikha Dr Suad Al Sabah of Kuwait has been honoured with the Arab Woman Award for 2016 for her prominent role

in promoting Arab women's position, and serving Arabic culture and arts.

She was one among the many awarded during a ceremony hosted by the Arab Women

Foundation in London on Thursday to honour creative Arab women in diverse realms.

Sheikha Dr Suad's representative Sheikha Omnia Abdullah Al Mubarak Al Sabah said that in spite of hardships and incalculable social restrictions, Arab women could make their own way by holding high-level posts in various domains.

"She had devoted herself to promoting Arab women's position and providing intellectual, cultural, scientific, social and human services at both local and Arab levels," Sheikha Omnia said, mentioning her intellectual, cultural and poetic contributions, as well as relentless support to writers through the Suad Al-Sabah Polishing and Distribution House.

Amira Al Taweel of Saudi Arabia (for community leadership), Iman Ayadh



During the felicitation ceremony held in London

(media), Taghreed Hekmat (law) and Asmhan Al Oufi (science) were also honoured at the ceremony.

The list also included Salwa Al Idrisi (business), Sawsan

Al Shaer of Bahrain (writing), Haseeba Bulqamra of Algeria (sports), Jannat Al Jemeeli (an Iraqi girl of special needs, for art), Mazoon Rakan (a Syrian girl, for learning) and the

late chairwoman of Sharjah Businesswomen Council Amira bin Makram.

The event was attended by a host of Arab businesswomen and ambassadors in London.

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Women and the World

Meredith Ann O'Connell



Stop Telling Women to Hide Their Bruises

The Moroccan daily ladies show Sabahiyat featured a demonstration recently on how to use make-up. However, this was no normal make-up tutorial, like the kind you see on Youtube. The program decided to show women the makeup they could use to cover the bruises on their face from domestic violence as a way to mark the International Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women.

The backlash for the segment was swift: people immediately complained and a petition signed by nearly 2,000 people was sent to Morocco's High Authority for Audiovisual Communication. The segment posted online was taken down and the show issued an apology, calling the segment an "error in judgement."

Well, it was certainly an "error in judgment" but it was more than that: it was an example of how entrenched domestic violence is into everyday life. It was an example of how abuse is so commonplace that we must try to normalize it in any way. The show put the onus on women to hide the abuse, by telling them to put on makeup so they can go about their everyday lives.

Many an abused woman has wondered how she is going to hide her black eye from her friends, family, coworkers and the general public. Sure, knowing how to hide bruises or other marks might be a useful skill for women who are constantly subject to battering and want to know how to perfect their makeup skills. Should we not afford them this advice? I think women in such a position should have the ability to learn how to conceal these telltale marks if they want to, if it helps them cope.

Yet while Sabahiyat might have had good intentions behind this episode, it ultimately sends the wrong message. It teaches women to live with violence. Domestic violence should not and cannot be normalized. It cannot neatly fit into our everyday lives, like part of our schedule. Women die from domestic violence every day. Women get severely damaged, inside and out, from abuse every single day.

In teaching women how to conceal their bruises, we are teaching them how to go conceal a crime. However, this is a crime against them, not one they committed. People need to see the bruises and hold men accountable for their actions. We need to teach women what to do. We need to stop telling women to cover up and stay silent and instead start encouraging them to speak out.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

Speak out

Send your comments to letters@dt.bh

This is in response to DT News story, 55 world heritage sites in Danger, published on December 3, 2016. The UN has urged the international community to protect these sites. Natural disasters cannot be controlled but people around the world can take few steps to protect and preserve

these heritage sites. Local organisations and the government must jointly take necessary actions in preserving these sites.

These cultural sites play a major role in an increase in tourism to the country. This in turn will boost the economy of the nation. The sites must be conserved taking into consideration the future generations.

All acts intended to sabotage such cultural sites must be commended and strict action must be taken against the defaulters.

Kasim Manas

Bahrain inspires 'Future Doctors'



'Future Doctors' participants with RCSI Bahrain staff

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Manama

Obviously, the best part of practising medicine is taking care of people, which also makes it divine. However, its demanding nature also creates a fine line for the doctors to walk.

But, this week, things were quite different at the Busaiteen campus of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland - Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain). Making the difference was the presence of a group of students and teachers from around the Middle East.

Their mission: to get an insight into the lives of students and doctors at RCSI as part of the second annual Future Doctors programme by RCSI Bahrain.

The event kick started with a series of hands-on, interactive workshops as well as advice on specialist postgraduate careers in medicine by RCSI Bahrain senior academic staff. This was followed by an extensive tour of the campus by the staff and current RCSI Bahrain students.

The visiting students also interacted with RCSI Bahrain medical students, Reema Mahdi and Farah Zahir Akram Alrasasy, who are part of the Foundation Year programme of RCSI Bahrain. Various laboratory sessions on Echocardiograms and living anatomy sessions provided further insight.

Highlight of the programme was the afternoon tour of the island, Bahrain Fort, Royal Camel Farm in Janabiyah and the Bahrain National Museum.

Other activities included: a lecture on 'Overviews of specialist postgraduate

options' by Professor Martin Corbally, RCSI Bahrain Professor of Surgery and King Hamad University Hospital Chief of Staff, Communication skills workshop with Dr David Misselbrook, Senior Lecturer in Family Medicine,

and a general question-and-answer session.

Organised by the University's Marketing and Communications team, this year's programme included representatives from local and international school.

Twenty students and twenty counsellors participated. Among the attendees were Grade 11 and Grade 12 students and teachers from schools in Qatar, Oman, the UAE, Jordan, Kuwait, and Bahrain.

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Saudi replaces Labour Minister

A handout image provided by United Arab Emirates News Agency (WAM) on December 3, 2016, shows Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz (C-L) and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces (C-R), arriving for a reception at the Presidential Airport in Abu Dhabi.

Reshuffles religious and Shura councils

King Salman bin Abdulaziz has replaced Saudi Arabia's labour minister, state media reported on Friday.

In a royal decree read on state television, the king also reshuffled the country's top religious body, the Council of Senior Scholars, and the Shura Council, which advises the government.

The changes come as the kingdom prepares to implement reforms proposed by its Vision 2030, which aims to reduce dependence on oil, attract foreign investments and promote more cultural openness.

State television said King Salman had appointed Ali bin Nasser al-Ghafis as labour minister to replace Mufrej al-Haqbani.

Ghafis is currently head of the Technical and Vocational Training Corporation, a network of colleges set up to train young Saudis in the trades.

The programme had long been regarded as ineffective but received a new lease on life under former labour minister Adel Fakieh, who is now a leading figure in the kingdom's initiative to transform its oil-dependent economy.

The king also changed the head of the country's consultative Shura Council and replaced several members of the assembly.

Some members of the council have recently come under fire on social media for proposing or supporting cuts to some social benefits and the raising of prices of some basic services.

LABOUR WOES

Haqbani faced a slew of challenges in his time at the helm of the Labour Ministry, as a sharp drop in crude prices slashed government revenues



Ali bin Nasser al-Ghafis and took a toll on economic growth.

Job creation dried up this year amid severe cuts to public spending and delays in state payments to contractors, despite reforms geared toward creating jobs for Saudis.

The unemployment rate rose to 12.1 per cent in the third quarter, up from 11.6pc the previous quarter.

The kingdom's economic reform plan, led by Deputy Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, has set targets to cut the jobless rate to 7pc by 2030 and raise women's participation in the labour force to 30pc from 22pc.

The appointment of more modern-thinking clerics to the Council of Senior Scholars also appears to support the reform plan.

New members include Mohammed al-Issa, a previous

minister of justice and former member of the council often cited by liberals as the sort of moderate Wahhabi cleric that reformers in the royal family want to promote.

Another new member, Sulaiman Aba al-Khail, was formerly head of the religiously-oriented Imam bin Saud University and described by Saudi Twitter users as liberal.

Aba al-Khail was quoted in an interview with *al-Watan* newspaper last month as saying that some scholars have corrupted the minds of young Saudis. (Reuters)

Fatah picks party officials

Ramallah
Palestinian president
Mahmud Abbas's Fatah party yesterday held a vote for members of its ruling bodies that could give clues to a possible successor to the ageing leader.

Fatah, the oldest Palestinian party, is holding its first congress in seven years at a time when Abbas is seeking to quell dissent in the face of internal rivalries.

Casting his ballot on Saturday afternoon, Abbas called the process "democratic and transparent".

The 1,400 delegates voted at Abbas's Ramallah headquarters in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and also in the Gaza Strip.

They are to choose 18 members of the party's Central Committee, its highest body. Abbas will appoint another four. (AFP)

Egypt court rules protest law unconstitutional

Cairo
Egypt's top court has struck down part of a law that allowed the interior ministry to ban all but officially sanctioned protests, a court official said yesterday.

The 2013 law, which has been used to jail activists for up to two years, required demonstrators to inform the interior ministry that they were planning a protest.

The ministry could then refuse permission.

The Supreme Constitutional Court ruled that the article was unconstitutional, barrister Tareq Shibel said.

The court said in a statement that the constitution guaranteed freedom of association and the right to peaceful protest.

The authorities have deployed this law to prevent anti-government protests, but groups of people would be able to attend pro-authorities rallies

during the same period.

The constitutional court's verdict is final and cannot be appealed. However, Saturday's ruling does not mean the law will be scrapped in its entirety, said two court officials who did not wish to be identified.

The verdict is "a partial victory that has granted us a political victory" against the government, Tareq al-Awady, one of the lawyers who challenged the law's constitutionality, said.

"We were hoping the court would accept our appeal against the two articles that criminalise and set the punishment, so imprisoned young people could be freed," he said.

Following the verdict, "as long as the interior ministry is notified" about a protest it cannot ban it, Awady said.

The law was passed months after Egyptian President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, who was army

chief at the time, overthrew his Islamist predecessor Mohamed Morsi. In October, Sisi said

his government would look into revising the law, shortly after pardoning 82 detainees

imprisoned on political grounds or over freedom of expression. (AFP)



An Egyptian policeman standing guard outside the Supreme Constitutional Court in Cairo

India, Qatar ink five pacts



Prime Minister of Qatar Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani with Prime Minister Narendra Modi prior to their meeting at Hyderabad House, in New Delhi on Saturday. Photo: *The Hindu*

New Delhi

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi yesterday expressed India's keenness to invest in hydrocarbon projects in Qatar during talks with his counterpart Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani on key issues of energy, trade and security.

Modi and the Qatari Prime Minister, who is here on his first visit, discussed enhancing cooperation in defence and security, in particular in cybersecurity and agreed on joint action to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing. After the talks, the two sides inked five pacts including in the field of visas, cyberspace and investments.

Modi said the visit of the Qatari Prime Minister showed the growing bilateral ties with Qatar, which India has always

regarded as a "valued partner". "Go beyond buyer-seller relation"

The two leaders acknowledged that the current level of trade and investment was much below potential, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Vikas Swarup said, adding Modi highlighted the tremendous opportunities available for Qatari investment in India's infrastructure and energy sectors.

On energy cooperation, Prime Minister Modi said, "We should go beyond the buyer-seller relationship to include Joint Ventures, Joint Research and Development and Joint Exploration."

"Indian companies were ready to invest in both upstream and downstream projects in Qatar in the hydrocarbon sector."

Not only an important trading partner for India in the Gulf region, Qatar is also the largest supplier of LNG to it, accounting for 66 per cent of the total imports in 2015-16.

On his part, the Qatari leader invited India's participation in infrastructure and investment opportunities coming up in the wake of Qatar hosting the FIFA World Cup in 2022. He also welcomed Indian investment in the port sector of Qatar.

"He (Modi) outlined the various measures taken by his government to open up the Indian economy and welcome FDI. The two leaders identified civil aviation as a priority sector for enhancing cooperation," Swarup said.

Prime Minister Modi recalled that India imports

eight million tonnes of urea per year and said "we would welcome a long-term arrangement with Qatar for the supply of urea", the spokesperson said.

It was also conveyed that India could also meet Qatari needs in the area of food security, he said.

The two leaders also discussed the regional situation, particularly in Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Swarup said five agreements were signed in areas such as visa exemption for holders of diplomatic, special and official passports; technical cooperation in cyberspace and combating cybercrime, letter of intent regarding negotiations on an agreement on grant of e-visa for businessmen and tourists, and an MoU between the Supreme

Committee for Delivery and Legacy of Qatar and CII.

Additionally, another MoU aimed at encouraging greater collaboration and exchange in the field of national ports management was also signed.

Earlier, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval called on the visiting dignitary.

While the visa pact will allow holders of diplomatic, special and official passport of the two countries to visa-free travel between the two countries, the 'protocol on technical cooperation in cyberspace and combating cybercrime' "adds an important dimension of bilateral technical cooperation in cyberspace and combating cybercrime to the existing framework agreement in the field of security signed on 10 November, 2008". (*The Hindu*)

Lion tamer mauled to death during live show



Representative picture

A crowd watched on in horror as a lion tamer was mauled to death during show in Egypt.

Footage shows trainer Islam Shaheen, 35, inside an enclosure with two trainers and three lions in Alexandria, in the north of the country.

As dance music is heard in the background, Shaheen, who had been a lion tamer for ten years, waved a large stick in the air beckoning one of the 200kg animals towards him, while another climbed a ladder.

The third lion then pounced on Shaheen, mauling his neck. The video, taken by an audience member shows the lion rearing on its legs and pinning the trainer to the ground.

As he lay motionless on the ground, the two other trainers rushed to help him and pull the lion off. Shaheen was rushed to Adalusian Salam hospital where he passed away days later.

He is said to have suffered a fractured skull, deep cuts to his face and neck, broken bones in his chest and abdominal bleeding.

The lion was a new addition to the show and brought over from South Africa. It was apparently in mating season, causing it to behave erratically, according to Yahoo News.

It has now been pulled from the show and will be examined by a vet. (*Independent*)

US returns ancient artefacts to Egypt

A treasure trove of ancient artifacts, including a mummy's hand disguised as a movie prop and a small sarcophagus, have been returned to Egypt by US customs in a crackdown on criminal gangs smuggling cultural treasures.

As part of an ongoing initiative to smash international smuggling networks, the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) repatriated five antiquities to Egypt in a ceremony at the nation's Washington embassy on Thursday.

Among the historical artefacts was a child-sized sarcophagus uncovered in a Brooklyn garage in 2009,

ancient figurines and a limestone carving of an Egyptian temple.

The items were recovered as part of the aptly named lengthy investigations, Operation Mummy's Curse

a n d

Operation Mummy's Hand, which turned up a real-life skeletal hand dating back to the 8th century AD.

According to ICE, the 1,200-year-old macabre discovery had been

"misrepresented as a science fiction movie prop."

"While we recognise that cultural property, art and antiquities are assigned a dollar value in the marketplace, the cultural and symbolic worth of these Egyptian

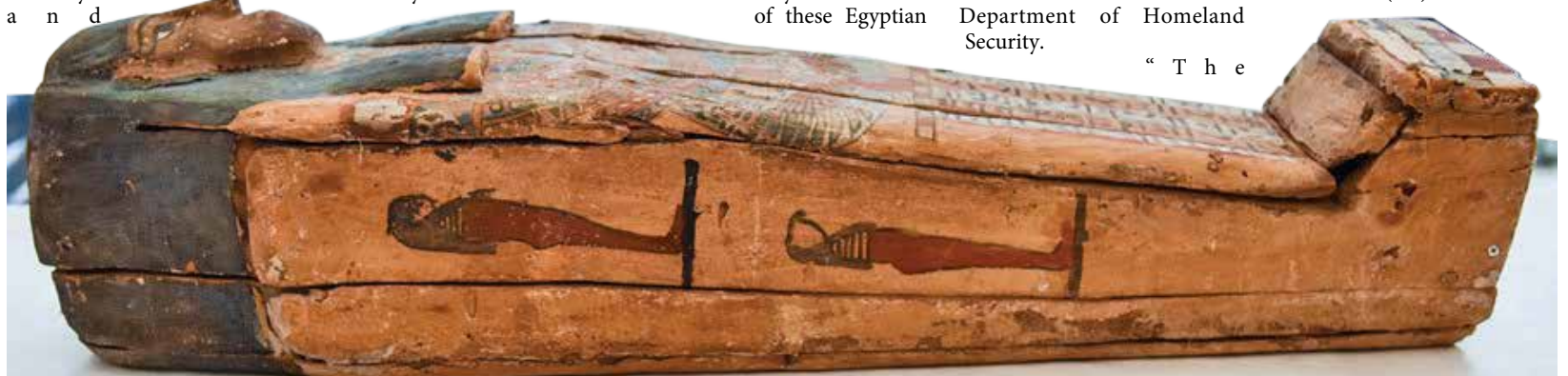
treasures far surpasses any monetary value to the people of Egypt," ICE director Sarah R Saldana said.

On behalf of his country, Egyptian Ambassador Yasser Reda thanked the US Department of Homeland Security.

" T h e

tireless work of these men and women may often go unseen," he said.

"But it is nothing short of vital for the preservation of ancient cultures from around the world." (RT)



Eskan REIT sees growing interest

**Offering
closes in
two days**



Segaya Plaza



Danat Al Madina

Manama

Now just two more days left to subscribe for the public offering of units in Bahrain's first Sharia-compliant retail real estate investment trust (REIT), Eskan Bank announced yesterday. The offering closes on December 6.

The BD14.4 million (US\$38.2m) Eskan Bank Realty Income Trust is reserved for

Bahraini and GCC individual and institutional investors.

The minimum subscription is BD500 equating to 5000 units, and allotment priority will be given to individual Bahraini applicants.

The IPO will be followed by a listing of the REIT on the Bahrain Bourse, which is targeted for 2 January 2017. Investors will have the flexibility to trade their units

on the BHB, with a dedicated market maker providing additional liquidity on an ongoing basis.

The REIT comprises two initial Bahraini income-generating properties, which are wholly-owned by the Trust: Danaat Al Madina in Isa Town and Segaya Plaza in Manama. The properties currently have a combined occupancy rate of over 85 per

cent, and the Trust intends to increase its property portfolio as and when attractive opportunities arise.

The Trust has a target of 6.5pc in net distributable income payable semi-annually; offers lower risk and volatility than stocks and bonds due to long-term rents; the opportunity to share in a stable diversified property portfolio; and liquidity by

being able to easily convert units to cash.

Copies of the offering prospectus and application form can be collected from BisB's financial malls at Budaiya, Arad and Riffa, or the head office branch in the Diplomatic Area; as well as from the Bahrain Bourse at Bahrain Financial Harbour.

The participating BisB outlets will receive completed

application forms and payments.

Securities & Investment Company (SICO) is the mandated lead manager, sub-investment manager and dedicated market maker for the offering; while Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB) has been appointed as the receiving bank. For more details call (+973) 17 515 200 or visit www.eskanREIT.com.

Queen Mary 2 takes on yachts in trans-Atlantic race

The Queen Mary 2, one of the world's biggest passenger ships, is to take on four trimaran yachts in an unlikely trans-Atlantic race in June.

6 million, 6 days

Sponsors have paid six million euros (\$6.4m) to hire the 345 metre, 151,000 tonne liner for six days to sail between Saint Nazaire in France and New York, according to chief organiser Damien Grimont.

Bridge race

Four of France's leading ocean racing skip-pers Francois Gabart (on Macif), Francis Joyon (Idec), Thomas Coville (Sodebo Ultim) and Yves Le Blevec (Actual) will take part in The Bridge race starting on June 25.

28 knots

With a cruising speed of 28 knots, the Queen Mary 2 normally takes about six days to cross the Atlantic. "It will leave on Sunday at 7.00pm and arrive on the Saturday at 7.00am," said Grimont. "According to the statistics, there is a 10 per cent chance that the Queen Mary 2 is beaten." "Mounting the leasing of the Queen Mary 2 took two and a half years of work with the English. Signing the deal took one and a half years, I honestly thought we weren't going to make it," he said.

78 companies

The trimarans will need "exceptional" weather conditions to hope to go faster than the cruiser, added Grimont, a former ocean racer who has spent five years preparing this adventure. 78 companies are backing the project, part of which aims to bring the Queen Mary 2 back to the French port where it was built in 2002-2003. Fifteen people were killed in November 2003 when a gangway from the ship to the quay collapsed.

Cool Trends



Ford recalls 650,000 vehicles in N. America

Ford announced the recall of nearly 650,000 cars in North America over defective seat belts that can fail in a crash. The automaker said two accidents and two injuries have been blamed on the defect, which involves overheating of the cables in the pre-tensioning system of the seat belts. Of the total recalled, 602,000 were sold in the United States, 35,600 in Canada and 8,600 in Mexico.



United Airlines to pay \$2.4m in bribery case

The parent company of United Airlines will pay a \$2.4 million fine after reviving a money-losing air route to please a now-disgraced New Jersey politician, US market regulators announced. The penalty by the Securities and Exchange Commission follows a \$2.25m fine imposed earlier this year by federal prosecutors in the bribery case. "United initiated a money-losing flight solely to curry favour with a public official," Andrew Calamari, head of the SEC's New York Regional Office, said in a statement.



“Entrepreneur is someone who has a vision for something and a want to create”

David Karp

founder and CEO Tumblr



Tips for Networking

Networking goes hand in hand with running a successful business. But many of us dread walking into a room and introducing ourselves to a bunch of strangers. Here are some valuable tips that might come handy:

Resist the urge to arrive late

It's almost counter-intuitive, but showing up early at a networking event is a much better strategy than getting there on the later side. As a first attendee, you'll notice that it's calmer and quieter – and people won't have settled into groups yet. It's easier to find other people who don't have conversation partners yet.



Ask easy questions

Don't wait around the edges of the room, waiting for someone to approach you. To get the conversation started, simply walk up to a person or a group, and say, "May I join you" or "What brings you to this event?" Don't forget to listen intently to their replies. If you're not a natural extrovert, you're probably a very good listener – and listening can be an excellent way to get to know a person.

Smile

It's a simple – but often overlooked – rule of engagement. By smiling, you'll put your nervous self at ease, and you'll also come across as warm and inviting to others. Remember to smile before you enter the room, or before you start your next conversation.



Don't hijack the conversation

Some people who dislike networking may overcompensate by commandeering the discussion. Don't forget: The most successful networkers (think of those you've met) are good at making other people feel special. Look people in the eye, repeat their name, listen to what they have to say, and suggest topics that are easy to discuss. Be a conversationalist, not a talker.



Remember to follow up

It's often said that networking is where the conversation begins, not ends. If you've had a great exchange, ask your conversation partner the best way to stay in touch. Some people like email or phone; others prefer social networks like LinkedIn. Get in touch within 48 hours of the event to show you're interested and available, and reference something you discussed, so your contact remembers you. (Entrepreneur)



Chris Chan

CBB mulls regulations for Fintech

Manama

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) is considering various options to introduce Fintech regulation, said a key financial expert yesterday.

Khalid Hamad, Chairman of the Waqf Fund and Executive Director Banking Supervision stressed that the banks also need to understand and embrace the technology.

"We invite technology companies to set up offices in Bahrain and use it as a base to serve the entire GCC and Middle East region," said Khalid Hamad. He was addressing a group of senior CBB officials and participants of Leadership Grooming Programme including Associate Dean of Ivey Business School Dr. Chris Chan.

Ivey Business School is Canada's top ranked business school and is ranked one

of the best in the world. It has recently established a digital banking lab focusing on thought leadership and research in the space of digital banking and Fintech.

Dr. Chan while shedding light on the increasing activity in the area voiced that Fintech is the future of finance. In support, he pointed out that over 1,000 companies with US\$105 billion in funding and US\$870bn in market capitalisation are engaged in Fintech activities globally.

"The personal/SME segment, which contributes 46 per cent of global banking profits, is the main centre of attention for disruption by Fintech companies and has attracted 92pc of all funding.

"Start-up companies are taking market share from large incumbent banks, forcing them to embrace Fintech or see their profits

erode. We believe soon banks everywhere will be facing their 'Uber moment'," he said.

Citing a research in this area, Dr Chan said Asia is already ahead of the developed western world in terms of digital banking, thanks to mobile penetration.

"Digital payments, crowdfunding, Robo-advisory and blockchain are some of the major new trends unleashed by Fintech," he pointed out. The report also says that investment in private Fintech companies increased ten times in the past five years, with China being the largest peer-to-peer lending market in the world (US\$69 billion vs. US at US\$17bn).

As per forecast, by 2020, the projected assets under management of robo-advisors in the US will be US\$2.2 trillion, up from US\$300bn today, Dr. Chan stressed.

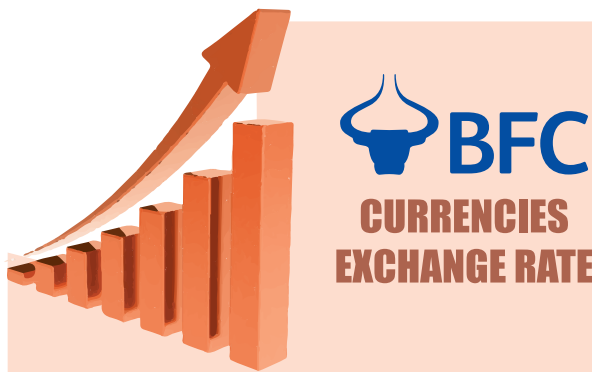


The Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention & Spa has announced Ibrahim Ali Mohammad Taheri as the winner of the Dine and Win promotion grand prize, the Infiniti QX70. The presentation was held at the hotel's lobby during the lighting of the Christmas tree ceremony, attended by the public and members from the media. General Manager Rahim Abu Omar Said, "I would like to congratulate and thank Taheri and his family for his support to our hotel." Above, from left, Hameed Ali, Acting Deputy General Manager, Ali Amralla, Director of Business Development and Strategies, Ebrahim Taheri, the winner, Rahim Abu Omar, General Manager of the Gulf Hotel & Ryan Advincula, Marketing Manager.

Did You Know?



49% of organisations have initiatives to grow via reducing costs, only 29% have initiatives to grow via new products and services



BFC
CURRENCIES
EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2890	0.2866
BANGLADESH	0.00487	0.00479
CANADA	0.2902	0.2870
DENMARK	0.0569	
EGYPT	0.0361	0.0434
EURO	0.4100	0.4079
HONGKONG	0.04983	0.04943
INDIA	0.00603	0.00565
INDONESIA	0.00003016	0.00002862
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000294	
JAPAN	0.003480	0.003410
JORDAN	0.5365	0.5351
KOREA	0.00037341	
KUWAIT	1.2580	1.249
MALAYSIA	0.086900	0.0867
NEW ZEALAND	0.2747	0.2733
NORWAY	0.0469	
NEPAL	0.00368	0.00346
OMAN	0.97962	0.98262
PAKISTAN	0.00365	0.00360
PHILIPPINES	0.00783	0.00760
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10061	0.27350
SINGAPORE	0.2700	0.2680
SOUTH AFRICA	0.27000	0.02920
SRI LANKA	0.00273	0.00255
SWEDISH	0.0441	
SWITZERLAND	0.3811	0.3786
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0017
TAIWAN	0.012300	
THAILAND	0.010800	0.010790
TURKEY	0.1177	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4892	0.4863
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102800	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	0.4764	0.3722	0.3313
KUWAIT	0.2855	32.4870	0.2819	0.2509
OMAN	0.3849	0.3899	0.3800	0.3383
QATAR	3.6420	3.6890	3.5956	3.2006
UAE	3.6730	3.7204	3.6262	3.2279
SAUDI	3.7500	3.7984	3.7022	3.2955



Hisham Al Rayes

GFH backs WIBC

Manama

GFH Financial Group (GFH) yesterday announced its Platinum Sponsorship for the 23rd Annual World Islamic Banking Conference (WIBC 2016) to be held in Bahrain from 5th to 7th December 2016 under the theme "New Economic Uncertainties and Vigilant Growth".

This is the fourth consecutive year for GFH as a leading supporter of the global Islamic summit,

which is being held with the Strategic Partnership of the Central Bank of Bahrain.

GFH will be represented at the WIBC by a delegation of the Group's board members and senior management team including the its Head of Investment Management, Hammad Younas, who will take part on a panel dedicated to "Asset Allocation Outlook - Regions and Countries for New Growth."

Commenting, Hisham

Al Rayes, CEO of GFH Financial Group, said, "As long standing leaders and industry innovators, GFH are pleased to once again lend our support to WIBC. We are also pleased to be supporting another strategic initiative of the Central Bank of Bahrain, who has taken a leading role as an industry pioneer and the positioning of Bahrain as a global Islamic finance centre."

More than 1,300 high-level industry attendees

from 50+ countries are expected to take part in the three day conference. Key features for WIBC 2016 include sessions dedicated to banking leadership opportunities and asset management best practices; thought leadership from leading strategy consultants; and panel sessions focused on SMEs and entrepreneurship and the impact of innovation in financial technology ("fintech") and other important topics.

WTO seeks trade deal on green products

Geneva

The heavyweights of world trade, including the United States, China and Japan, meet in Geneva this weekend to establish a list of environmentally friendly products for which tariffs can be eliminated or reduced.

The green products include solar panels, wind turbines and air quality monitors "that can help achieve environmental and climate protection goals," the World Trade Organisation said. EU Trade Commissioner

Cecilia Malmstroem is expected at the WTO talks on Saturday along with senior officials of 17 countries, including US Trade Representative Michael Froman.

The officials hope to finalise an accord on Sunday but nothing is guaranteed, a source close to the WTO said.

Talks on the Environmental Goods Agreement began in July 2014, based on a proposal at the World Economic Forum in Davos six months earlier.

Malmstroem said some 300

environment-related products would be considered at the Geneva talks.

Over \$1,000 billion (940 billion euros) worth of goods in this sector are traded every year, according to the WTO.

If a deal is reached this weekend, countries will next year establish a list of reduced tariffs for each product, a WTO spokeswoman said on Friday.

The WTO said the benefits of a new agreement would be extended to all of its members. (AFP)



Picture for representation only

Washington Monument shut until at least 2019

Washington

The Washington Monument, which has been plagued with elevator problems since a 2011 earthquake struck the US capital, will remain closed until 2019 for much-needed repairs and renovations, the National Park Service said Friday.

A new elevator will be installed in the towering landmark -- one of the most popular in the US capital -- to allow visitors to reach the top of the giant stone obelisk for sweeping views of the city and its surroundings. Billionaire businessman and philanthropist David Rubenstein has donated the \$2-3 million needed to complete the project, which will resolve ongoing mechanical, electrical and computer issues.

"The monument has become a symbol of our country, and reminds everyone of the towering strengths of our first president," Rubenstein said in a statement issued by the National Park Service.

Rubenstein, co-founder and co-chief executive officer of private equity firm The Carlyle Group, is among the richest people in the United States, with a net worth of some \$2.5 billion, according to Forbes.

I think music in itself is healing. It's an explosive expression of humanity. It's something we are all touched by. No matter what culture we're from, everyone loves music.
— Billy Joel



CAMPUS

campus@dt.bh

Sunday, December 4, 2016

11

AL NOOR INDUCTS STUDENT COUNCIL



Al Noor International School held the induction ceremony of the newly elected Student Council for the academic year 2016- 2017 in the school hall. The ceremony was attended by the School Director Dr Muhammad Mashood, Acting Principal Amin Mohammed Ahmed Hulaiwah, the Head of Quality Assurance Steve Bartlett, Head Teachers of the different sections of the school, Coordinators, teachers and a large number of students.

In the beginning, Hadi Mahdi, the Student Council members marched onto the stage and stood at attention for the singing of the national anthem of Bahrain. The audience received a wonderful welcome from the Head Girl Fatema Masood. The Head Boy Ahmed Ali Abdulhusain gave a rousing speech and thanked the students for the confidence they showed in his potential as a leader and pledged the Student Council members his commitment to working hard towards helping to improve the school.

KINDERGARTEN SPORTS DAY

The 12th Annual Kindergarten Sports Day was held yesterday



at Al Noor International School where about 500 Kindergarten students from Nursery and Reception classes competed with each other in a number of colourful sports events for gold, silver, and bronze medals. In attendance were School Director Dr. Muhammad Mashood, Acting Principal Amin Mohammed Ahmed Hulaiwah as well as other school officials and staff. The Kindergarten students enthusiastically cheered their team mates with their band performance, viewed by more than 800 spectators. The programme commenced with the verse from the Holy Quran

recited by Omar Mohamed Elamir Salah of Reception 27. Farah Ali of Reception 10 and Mohamed Fadhel Ebrahim Salman of Reception 1, delivered the welcome speech. The oath was taken by Salwa Yaser Alawadhi of Reception- 22 and Mohamed Ahmed Bin Hindi of Reception - 2. Medals were proudly given to the winners by the School Director and Acting Principal, who stated, "Today has shown us that children of all ages can compete with team spirit and enthusiasm. Al Noor will always strive towards helping children achieve their desires in all areas."



All participants received gifts for taking part in the events and the day ended with the lowering of the school flag.



PIC: MUHAMED THASLEEM

Annual Winter Concert: On Wednesday, November 30, the Bahrain School bands presented their winter concert. Over 75 students in grades 6-12 performed a wide selection of songs, including pop numbers by Whitney Houston and Neil Diamond, classics by Handel and holiday standards from such artists as the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Brenda Lee and the Chipmunks.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Jameel Humaidan received President of the Arab Union for Voluntary Work Yussef Al Kadhim and members. The Minister praised the union's efforts and activities, while pointing out the great importance given to voluntary work



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister receiving an employee from the Electricity Distribution Company who has earned a degree in business administration



Female employees of the Customs Affairs were honoured as part of the Bahraini Women's Day activities. This year the theme was "Woman in the Legal and Judicial Field". Customs President Shaikh Ahmed bin Hamad Al-Khalifa patronised the ceremony



Commodore Bilal Abdul Nasir (Pakistan Navy) and other officials. Prominent business community member



The Gulf Hotel Bahrain Convention and Spa as part of the festive tradition, held an official Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony at its Al Andalus Lounge on Thursday



Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza received Mona Abdolreza Madoob, Distribution Management, on the occasion of obtaining a memento in honours from Ahlia University



Several University of Bahrain students took part in the Eleventh Annual Forum of the Gulf Petrochemical and Chemicals Association (GPCA) in Dubai, an initiative by the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC)



Navy) hosted a dinner at La Sani restaurant, in honour of Pakistan School Chairman Sami ur Rehman. Several members also joined



Heralding the festive season, The Ritz Carlton Bahrain held the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony last night

CELEBS

Spencer Pratt @spencerpratt
Shout out Santa Anna winds for my new rash update



Amanda Seyfried feared she wasn't normal



Los Angeles

Actress **Amanda** Seyfried decided to keep her Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) to herself when she was younger because she worried she "wasn't normal".

She told *W* magazine: "I feel like there's so much less stigma about everything, like mental health. If I'd only known when I was obsessive-compulsive about stuff when I was 10, I would have shared it with my parents and not thought that I was crazy. But I thought I was crazy. You can't step on this tile or ... all those weird superstitions."

"You would share it with people and they would help you out and make you feel better about it. They'd say, 'That's really normal. Don't worry. That's just your anxiety running high.'" (IANS)



BRITISH HUMOUR IS WITTIER THAN AMERICAN

Los Angeles

Hollywood actor **Elijah** Wood has shared that there is "more wit" to the British sense of humour than American comedy.

"('The Lord of the Rings') was one of the great experiences of my life. It created more opportunities than it hindered," Wood told *Daily Telegraph* newspaper.

He said that the iconic series, based on the work of author J.R.R. Tolkien, had an added benefit he could not have foreseen, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*.

"It exposed me to British comedy. The British actors working on it spoon-fed me everything from 'The Day Today' to 'Brass Eye' to 'The Mighty Boosh'. It doesn't adhere to the same needs of American humour." (IANS)

Amy in talks for 'Barbie' movie



Los Angeles

Actress **Amy** Schumer is in early talks to star in upcoming live-action "Barbie" film.

The original idea and screenplay has been made by Hilary Winston, although it is expected that Schumer and her sister, Kim Caramelle, will rewrite it for the film, reports *variety.com*.

The story is in the vein of "Splash", "Enchanted" and "Big".

In the film, the main character gets kicked out of Barbieland for not being perfect enough and lands in a real-world adventure.

"Barbie" is a global brand power house with sales of over \$3 billion dollars worldwide. Barbie has taken on more than 150 roles through her more than 50 years as a doll, including princess, president, mermaid and movie star. The film will set to release in summer 2018. Schumer was last seen in "Trainwreck". (IANS)



Los Angeles

Actress **Felicity** Jones trained in kung fu for "many hours" ahead of her role as Jyn Erso in "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story" to make her character more "badass".

Jones shared on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon": "I did a lot of Kung fu, I had a wonderful teacher called

Master Yule, who was my kung fu teacher. I mean it was many hours of devotion and practice and doing it over and over again, and now I'm just wanting to make Jyn a bad-ass."

She then showcased her moves to the host as she re-enacted the scenes of her battling with the stormtroopers. (IANS)

JONES LEARNED KUNG FU FOR 'STAR WARS' ROLE

HOLMES IS DEPENDABLE PARENT

Los Angeles
Actress

Katie

Holmes wants to be a “dependable” parent to her daughter Suri, 10, so she gives herself a curfew when she isn’t working.

Holmes, who has Suri with her former husband Tom Cruise, ensures she is home at a sensible hour when she isn’t working, reports *etonline.com*.

“When I’m not on set, I’m being a mom. I’m doing mom stuff,” Holmes told *Modern Luxury* magazine.

“When I go to an event, I leave at 10 p.m. because it’s really important to me to be a mom that is dependable,” she added.

Despite her high profile, Holmes says that she never has to avoid things she likes to do because of the attention she attracts.

Asked if there’s anything she wishes she could do if not under scrutiny, Holmes said: “I kind of do everything I feel like doing.” (IANS)

Hemsworth owes Hollywood move to brother

Luke Hemsworth has credited brother and ‘Thor’ star Chris for helping him realise his dream to shift to LA by hiring him as a fitness trainer. Luke began his acting career in 2001 with a role on popular soap “Neighbours” in their native Australia, and in his down time, he launched a side gig, a flooring company, to help support his family.

His younger brothers Chris and Liam subsequently found fame in Hollywood, and their success piqued Luke’s interest in getting back to acting full-time.

However, it wasn’t until Chris handed him a lucrative job as his trainer on the set of 2013 “Thor” sequel “The Dark World” that the father-of-four was able to fund his family’s relocation to Los Angeles, reported *Entertainment Tonight*. (TOI)

Jessica won’t act for few years

Los Angeles

Actress Jessica Chastain says in the near future, she “won’t be acting” for a few years. She plans to “do something else” where she isn’t in front of the camera.

The 39-year-old thinks that a “change” in her career is just around the corner, and it may see her take some time out of being in front of the camera to teach drama to budding actors or to direct her own production, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*.

Speaking about her plans for the future to Net-A-Porter’s magazine *The Edit*, Chastain said: “Maybe at some point, I won’t be acting. Maybe I’ll be producing or directing or teaching at Juilliard. “I feel like something’s happening.

I feel like a change will soon happen in my life. Maybe I won’t act for a few years.

I’m happy, I’m content, but I could do something else for a bit,” she added. (IANS)

LaBeouf’s new outlook on marriage

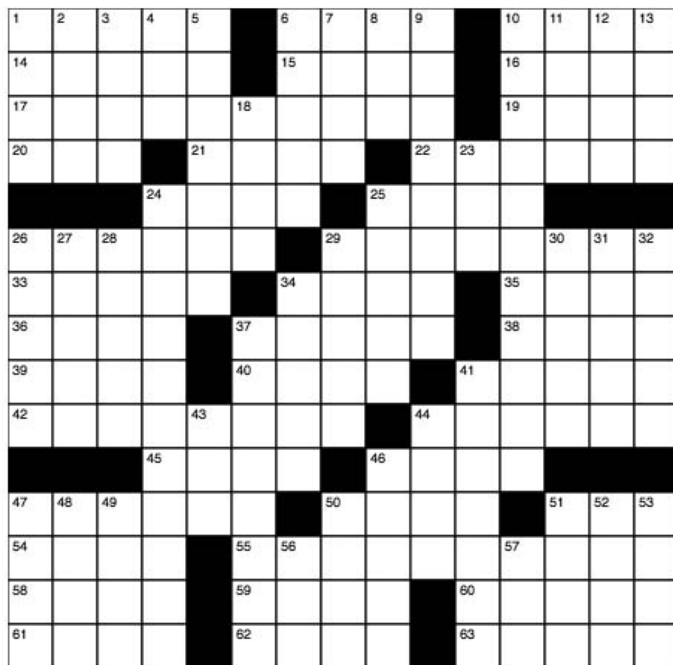
Shia LaBeouf, who has recently tied the knot with Mia Goth, says he has a new outlook on the institution of marriage.

The 30-year-old star said he is enjoying being on the other side of the life, where he is married and has Goth by his side.

“It’s better on the other side. I’ve been lied to my whole life. You always hear these people who are all cynical, like, ‘Ah, man, once you get married everything changes. But for the better though!

“I’m about to create some new ones (traditions). My mom will be involved, her mom will be involved... I’ll probably have to do Hanukkah and Christmas and Kwanzaa and the whole nine,” he said. (TOI)

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Give guns again; 6- Puts in stitches; 10- Very funny; 14- Bellybutton type; 15- That's ____!; 16- Fashion first name; 17- Sore ankle wrapper; 19- Fancy-schmancy; 20- Actor Ayres; 21- Meager; 22- Lethargic; 24- Free from contamination; 25- Beat it!; 26- Soak up; 29- Made of tanned animal hide; 33- Pizzeria order; 34- Cotton deseeders; 35- ... ____ saw Elba; 36- Poi source; 37- List of candidates; 38- Fill to excess; 39- Wait ____!; 40- Clinton cabinet member Federico; 41- Essential; 42- Decreasing; 44- Sharp instruments; 45- Decomposes; 46- Gap; 47- Oppressor; 50- Lumpy fuel; 51- Fast flier; 54- Long time; 55- Dominate; 58- Hardware fastener; 59- Painter's medium; 60- Poke fun at; 61- Got it; 62- Catbird seat?; 63- "Family Ties" mom;

Down

1- Iranian coin; 2- Suffix with exist; 3- Again; 4- Curved bone; 5- Ascertain dimensions; 6- Hawkins of Dogpatch; 7- Jack of "Rio Lobo"; 8- Hairpiece; 9- Pericarp; 10- Assume by hypothesis; 11- Confess; 12- Pianist Myra; 13- Pale; 18- Workers' rights org.; 23- Long-tailed rodent; 24- Nonchalant; 25- Actress Berger; 26- ____ Is Born; 27- World-weary; 28- Fathered; 29- Either of two Chinese dynasties; 30- Muse of love poetry; 31- Pave over; 32- Physicist Bohr; 34- Secluded valleys; 37- Cuspidor; 41- Bordered by a ridge; 43- Swindle; 44- Wander; 46- Actor Buchholz; 47- French actor Jacques; 48- Longings; 49- Cad; 50- Collectible frames; 51- Remain; 52- Cong. meeting; 53- Corner; 56- Compete; 57- Choice: Abbr.;

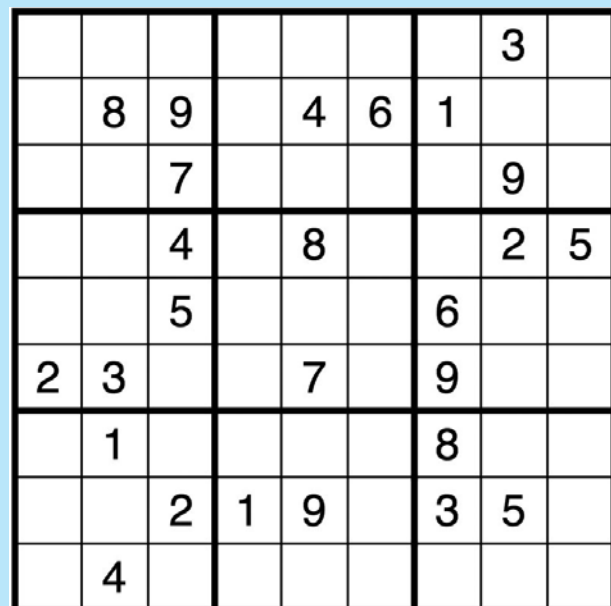
YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



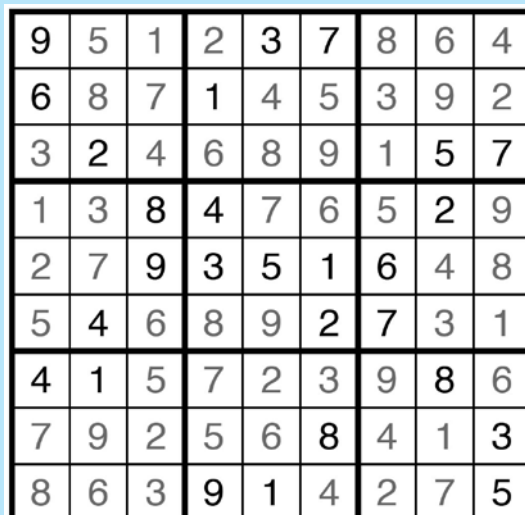
BEETLE BAILEY®



SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



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.

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



Your mental and emotional pictures of things should be in agreement, helping you to develop a clear understanding of all sides. This is a great time for you to rationally analyse your emotions to help you understand why you are feeling the way you do. Don't let this day slip by without spending a little time.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



You are on the brink of something fantastic, so just hang in there a little bit longer. It could be that you feel like the little train engine who is slowly working her way up the mountain. Perhaps you have made compromises and sacrifices along the way in order to get where you are. Just keep going. Pretty soon you will top the crest.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Your may be running into serious conflicts, that strike deep within you emotionally. More than likely, your first reaction will be to turn to your brain to make sense of the issue, and try to figure out what to do next. Be careful of escaping so far into your mind that you neglect the thing that needs the most consideration: your heart.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



The adventurous spirit of the day is likely to keep you on your toes. There is a fast-paced energy swirling about that is encouraging you to take what you know, and move ahead based on your findings. You will find that by the time evening rolls around, the frenzy of the day should have died down, and you will have some quiet time to reflect on the events of the day.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



Your heart may be fully dedicated to the project at hand, but for some reason, your head just does not seem to be into it. Perhaps you are experiencing some conflict with a romantic partner or work colleague who is challenging the way you think about the situation. Remember that there are always multiple ways of looking at the same elephant.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



Try not to be overwhelmed by the tremendous amount of stimuli all around you. As you drive down the highway, do not be lured by the words on every advertising billboard. Their purpose is only to manipulate you in some way or another in order to make you spend your money. Don't be coerced into thinking you need a certain product or service to be happy.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



When you ask for the answer, it should be there right in front of you. When you need advice on a difficult situation, a caring person will suddenly appear. Trust that you have the support you need to go out on a limb - both mentally and emotionally. If you get into trouble and find that you need help, all you have to do is ask for it. You are never as alone as you sometimes think you are.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Life is only as complicated as you choose to make it. In reality, things are simple and will flow quite smoothly. This is how you know that you are on the right path. Keep in mind that your path may feel a bit awkward right now, but it is nothing that you should get obsessed about. The more you overreact to a situation that doesn't require such a volcanic response, the more difficult you are actually making it for yourself.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



You may feel like a great queen who reigns over a tremendous kingdom. Feel free to direct your subjects as you see fit. There is a great deal of wisdom available to you that can help you make decisions for the benefit of the entire population. Your regard for greater humanity is noble, and you should make sure to maintain this attitude in order to keep a good rapport.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



The increased pace of the introduction of new ideas, new adventures, and new gadgets may have your head whirling. Be careful of letting yourself get too overwhelmed by what is going on around you. Take things one step at a time. If you try to jump on a train that is whizzing through the station at breakneck speed, you are apt to hurt yourself.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Your mental confidence is strong, and you will find that there is a great deal of emotional support coming from your heart, as well. Nothing is likely to hold you back, so what are you waiting for? The gate is open, so be off and running. If others try to restrain you in anyway, tell them to move aside. This is not a time to limit yourself because others are slow to start.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Seize greater control of the situation around you by getting your emotions under control. Stabilize yourself in a rational manner to keep from slipping down a slope of self-pity. You have tremendous strength and power in your feelings. Don't let this asset go to waste. Instead, you should make sure to direct this energy toward something positive.

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TENDER

Kingdom of Bahrain



The Bahrain Petroleum Company BSC (Closed) hereby invites tender for the following:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond (BD)	Tender Documents Fees (BD)	Tender Submission		
				Day	Date	Time
PURCHASE OF MOBILE HIGH VOLUME FOAM MONITOR (NOTE: Purchase Document Deadline 14 th December, 2016 at 13:30 hrs)	Q091070 (26)	500/-	15/-	Wednesday	21 st December, 2016	01:30 pm

Interested Contractors with proven capabilities and experience in providing the above services may Purchase the Tender documents online using e-Tendering system from WWW.TENDERBOARD.GOV.BH from **Sunday December 4th, 2016**. Tender documents can be downloaded after paying the non-refundable tender fees as specified above. An Initial Bond should be enclosed for the amount specified above or 1% of the bid value, whichever is lesser (in any case Initial Bond shall not be less than BD 100/-), payable by a Manager's Cheque, Certified Cheque, Letter of Guarantee or Insurance policy issued by Local Agencies Cash. The bond shall remain valid throughout the tender period specified in the relevant tender documents. For more information please call the following numbers: 36027245-17755845- 17752995 – 17757044.

- Quotation should be deposited in the tender box provided at the **Tender Submission Office, Tender Board Office, 7th Floor, Al Moayyed Tower, Seef Area**, before 01.30 pm on the tender closing date.
- This tender is subject to the provisions of Legislative Decree No.36 of 2002 with respect to Regulating Government Tenders- Auction and the Legislative Decree No.37 of 2002 with respect to the Tender Law's Implementing Regulations.
- The following conditions shall be complied with:
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate valid for the current year, and be in conformity with the subject tender.
 - Submit quotations on "Tender Submission Form" No. (TB 02).
 - Enclose a copy of Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
 - Ensure to stamp with the official seal on all the original documents and copies thereof, which form part of the offer.

Vendors who are not registered in Tender Board E-tendering System shall be required to register through the link below.

<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.bh/xcap/supplier/suplogin.aspx>

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- This announcement is considered as a part of the Tender Documents.**

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**Kingdom of Bahrain
Ministry of Interior
Works Directorate**

Ministry of Interior invites the following public tenders:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond	Tender fees	Closing Date		
				Day	Date	Time
Muharrag Governorate Building at Halat Bu Maher	167529	BD 5000/-	BD 50/-	Wednesday	04/01/2017	13:30

Those who are Capable and want to participate in the above tender as per Ministry of Works, Municipality Affairs and Urban Planning Categories (AA, A & B) **are advised to buy the tender documents online through the Bahrain Tender Board e-tendering System (<https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.bh>) by using Credit Card and** has to call the QS Office at Works Directorate (Tel 17571773, Fax 17254146/17252687) at the Ministry of Interior during the working hours and Collect the appropriate tender Drawings after paying nonrefundable fees specified above starting on 04/12/2016. And to enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the tender value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial bonds value shall be less than BD. 100/-. The initial bond should be in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee, Cash or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents. For further inquiries, please contact Works Directorate.

- Offers should be deposited in the tender box provided at Tendering submission office, Tender Board's Office at Al Moayyed Tower, Seef Area, (7th Floor).
- This tender/auction should comply to the provisions of the General Tenders Regulations, no. (36) for the year 2002, and it's Executive Regulations No. (37) for the year 2002.
- In addition these conditions has to be considered:
 - Enclose copy of the Commercial Registration Bill, for the current year, and has to be included/matched with the tender subjects.
 - Form no. (TB 02) is to be filled completely, mentioning the Total Tender Value and Unit Price (accordingly).
 - Enclose a certificate of compliance with the employment percentages for Bahraini manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
 - All tender documents (Original / Copy) which has been submitted with the offers should be stamped with the Company's Stamp.
- This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the Tender Documents.

**Kingdom of Bahrain
Ministry of Interior
Purchasing Directorate**

The Ministry of Interior invites quotations for the following tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond	Tender fees	Closing Date		
				Day	Date	Time
Supply of sports items for MOI	1511681	BD 500.000	BD 15.000	Sunday	25/12/2016	12:30
Supply of study chair for MOI	1511682	BD 500.000	BD 15.000	Sunday	25/12/2016	12:30

- Those who are capable and want to participate in the above tender has to call the **Directorate of Purchase on 17571127** during the working hours and collect the appropriate tender documents after paying non refundable fees, specified above starting on **Monday, 05/12/2016** and to enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the tender value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initials bonds value shall be less than BD 100/-. The initial bond should be in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee, Cash or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- Offers should be deposited in the Tender Box provided at Purchasing Directorate, Police Fort, Ministry of Interior, Gate number 3 before 12:30 of the final date for submission.
- This tender should comply to the provisions of the General Tenders Regulations no (36) for the year 2002 and it's Executive Regulations No (37) for the year 2002.
- In addition these conditions has to be considered:
 - Enclose copy of the Commercial Registration Bill, for the current year, and has to be included/matched with the tender subjects.
 - Quotation form is to be filled completely, mentioning the Total Tender Value and Unit Price (accordingly).
 - Enclose a certificate of compliance with the employment percentages for Bahraini manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
 - All the documents (Original / Copy) which has been submitted with the offers should be stamped with the Companie's Stamp.
- This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the tender documents.



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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	Supplying Plastic Security Seals for use onboard (Acelock)	16-11-1639-ITC	BD 500	BD 15	Monday	9th Jan 2017	14:30
2	Supply & install new 100KW generator for IT Disaster Recover and Business Recovery Sites at GF club premises- Salmabad	16-11-1640-ITC	BD 500	BD 15	Monday	9th Jan 2017	14:30

- Interested vendors, who are able to provide the services specified above should deposit a non-refundable Tender Document Fee to one of the following banks accounts:
Bank Name **BANK OF BAHRAIN AND KUWAIT**
Gulf Air's Account Number **BH68 BBKU 0010 0000 012235**
 - Vendors should submit the Bank Deposit slip to the Cash Office located at Gulf Air Headquarters, 2nd Floor, Wing D, (Tel: 17338726) to collect their payment receipt.
 - A copy of the payment receipt along with the vendor's contact details should be submitted to the Procurement and Logistics department located in Gulf Air Headquarters, 2nd Floor, Wing (A). (Tel: 17338456/17338790/17338545) between 08:00 and 15:00 hours.
 - The vendor is requested to enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the contract value whichever amount is lower, provided that no initial bonds value shall be less than BD. 100/- . The initial bond should be in the form of Cash, a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
 - Sealed offers should be addressed to the attention of Gulf Air Tender Office, 2nd Floor, Wing (A), Muharraq, Kingdom of Bahrain no later than the closing date mentioned above before 14:30 hours.
 - Ensure that the provisions of the general tender regulation No. (36) for the year 2002, and its executive regulation No. (37) for the year 2002, in addition to any other condition specified in the tender document are completed. Incomplete submittals will be rejected.
 - In addition, these conditions have to be considered:
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate valid for the current year, related to the subject tender.
 - Fill the unit rate and total cost in the submission form which will be provided as part of the tender invitation.
 - Enclose a copy of Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour
 - Ensure that your company's seal stamp is on all the original documents and copies thereof, which form part of the offer.
 - This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the tender documents.
- Important Note: All participants are invited to attend the opening of the tender at Gulf Air Tender Office, 2nd Floor, Wing (A) on the next day of the closing date.**

gulfair.com



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 Routable Headsets for Falcon Gold Class and Economy Class	16-10-1626-BTB	BD 1000/-	BD 25/-	Wednesday	11 Jan 2017	13:30
2	Purchase of Various Types of water products (bottles and cuplets) for Gulf Air	16-10-1627-BTB	BD 2500/-	BD50 /-	Wednesday	11 Jan 2017	13:30
3	Supply of Desktops, Laptops and Tablets	16-07-1613-BTB	BD 500 /-	BD 15/-	Wednesday	28 Dec 2016	13:30
4	Supplying of Thermal Boarding Cards	16-11-1630-BTB	BD 500 /-	BD 15/-	Wednesday	11 Jan 2017	13:30

NOTE: Tender documents can be purchased online using e-Tendering system starting on Thursday 1st December 2016

- 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 02 - 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: +97317338456 +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.

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Syria retakes

over half of east Aleppo

Rebel fighters drive a tank in a street in the city of Daraa, in southern Syria

Aleppo

Syria's army advanced overnight deeper into east Aleppo where it now controls more than half of the former rebel stronghold after a fierce assault that has sparked an international outcry.

Tens of thousands of civilians have fled eastern neighbourhoods of the battered city since President Bashar al-Assad's regime began its latest offensive in mid-November.

Overnight, government troops and allied forces seized the district of Tariq al-Bab where heavy fighting had raged a day earlier, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Saturday.

The government has now recaptured around 60 per cent of eastern parts of the city that the rebels overran in mid-2012, according to the Britain-based monitor.

The advance opens the road leading from the government-controlled west of the city to the international airport just outside Aleppo to the east, which is also held by the regime.

And it has prompted more civilians to flee, heading either further south into remaining rebel-held districts or crossing into government-held territory or areas under Kurdish control.

Assad's forces have made swift gains in east Aleppo, and its loss would be the biggest blow yet to Syria's opposition in the more than five-year-old war.

More than 300,000 people have been killed since the conflict started

with anti-government protests in March 2011, and over half the country's population has been displaced.

'Over 300 killed'

The government has trumpeted its advances, and state television on Saturday showed buses full of residents going from west Aleppo back to their

homes in neighbourhoods retaken by the army.

More than 300 civilians have been killed in the government's assault on east Aleppo since November 15, according to the Observatory.

The monitor says nearly 65 civilians have been killed in the same period by rebel fire on government-held west Aleppo, including nine on Friday.

Rebels have struggled to hold back government ground forces, who have advanced backed by air strikes, barrel bombs and artillery fire.

On Friday, they rolled back some regime gains in the Sheikh Saeed district on Aleppo's southeastern outskirts, but it was unclear how long they could hold that line.

Sheikh Saeed borders the last remaining parts of Aleppo still in rebel hands -- a collection of densely populated residential neighbourhoods where thousands have sought refuge from an advancing regime

The government has now recaptured around 60 per cent of eastern parts of the city that the rebels overran in mid-2012, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights

forces.

In preparation for street-by-street fighting in these districts, hundreds of fighters from Syria's elite Republican Guard and Fourth Division arrived in Aleppo Friday, the Observatory said.

The fighting has prompted more than 50,000 people to leave east Aleppo for territory controlled by either the government or Kurdish forces.

On Friday, as the army advanced in Tariq al-Bab, residents had emptied out of neighbouring Shaar district, anticipating the arrival of fighting there.

Vegetable stalls that had been selling the most meagre of supplies after more than four months of government siege were lying shattered in one street by artillery fire.

'Race again time'

Moscow, a staunch ally of the regime, has proposed setting up four humanitarian corridors into east Aleppo.

"We

have informed the UN in New York and Geneva that there is no longer a problem with the delivery of humanitarian cargo to eastern Aleppo," Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Friday.

He said the UN was coming up with a plan and approval from Syrian authorities remained essential.

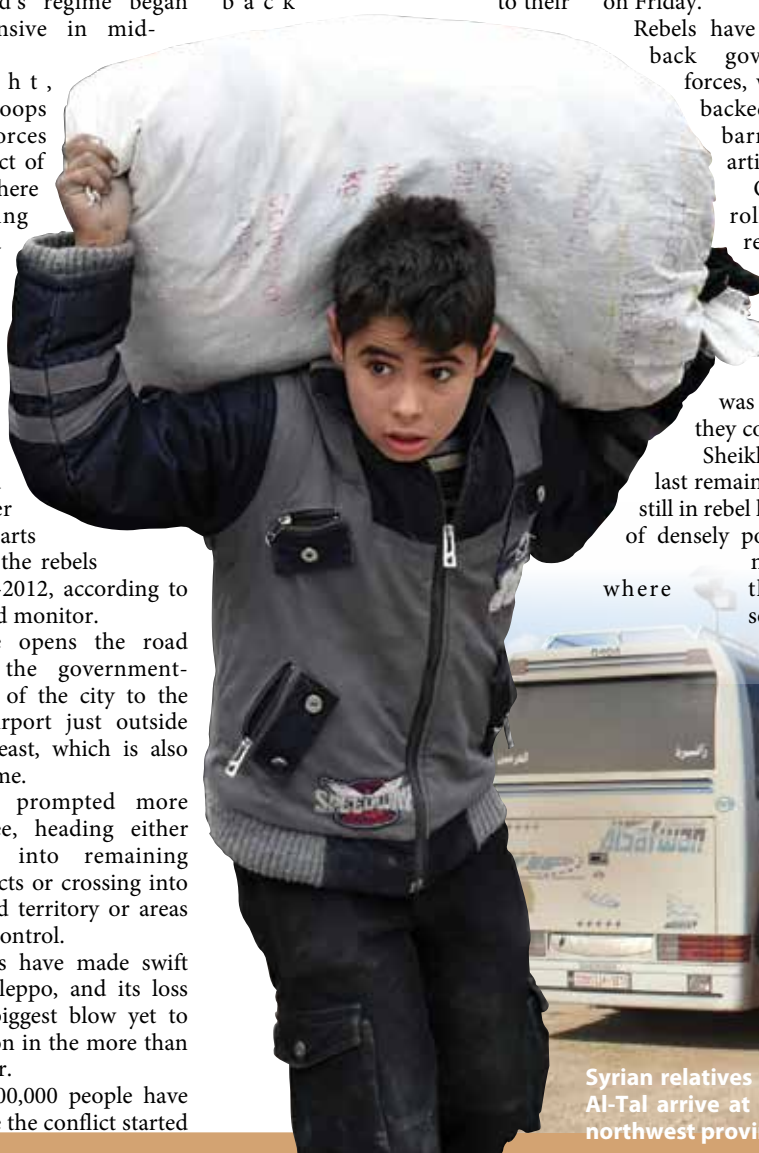
Many civilians in the east previously expressed fear of leaving to government-held areas or through passages run by Moscow, which began a bombing campaign in support of Assad's forces in 2015.

But Damascus and Moscow accuse rebels of holding civilians hostage and using them as "human shields."

Of those who have fled in the east in recent days, nearly 20,000 are children, according to estimates by the UN's children's agency UNICEF.

"What is critical now is that we provide the immediate and sustained assistance that these children and their families desperately need," UNICEF spokesman Christophe Boulierac said.

"It's a race against time, as winter is here and conditions are basic." (AFP)



Syrian relatives of rebel fighters from the opposition-held town of Al-Tal arrive at an emergency transit and reception centre in the northwest province of Idlib

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Will the introduction of income tax make GCC countries less attractive to expats?

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If Afghanistan needs more security assistance, Trump's administration, after assessing the needs, will focus on providing more security support

Ashraf Ghani
Afghan President

Rest in sight

Indonesia police plane missing, feared crashed



An Indonesian police plane carrying 13 people went missing Saturday on a short domestic flight and is feared crashed, police said.

China protests to US after Trump speaks to Taiwan leader

China protested to Washington yesterday after US President-elect Donald Trump broke with decades of foreign policy and spoke with the president of Taiwan.

Russia and Japan 'striving to resolve' island dispute

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said yesterday that the countries' leaders are pushing to end a territorial row.

China coal mine blasts kill 38: report

At least 38 people were killed in two separate Chinese coal mine blasts this week, according to a report by state media.

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Philippines fighting drugs the right way



Manila

US President-elect Donald Trump told Philippine leader Rodrigo Duterte that Manila was conducting its deadly drug war "the right way", Duterte said yesterday, in stark contrast to the criticism he received from President Barack Obama.

The Philippine president called Trump late Friday evening to congratulate him on his election victory with Trump wishing him "success" in his controversial anti-crime crackdown, in which some 4,800 people have been killed since June, according to Duterte.

"He was quite sensitive also to our worry about drugs. And he wishes me well... in my campaign and he said that... we are doing it as a sovereign nation, the right way," Duterte said in a video released by his office Saturday.

"He was wishing me success in my campaign against the drug problem."

Trump's office released a brief statement following the conversation, saying Duterte had congratulated Trump and the two agreed to work together closely.

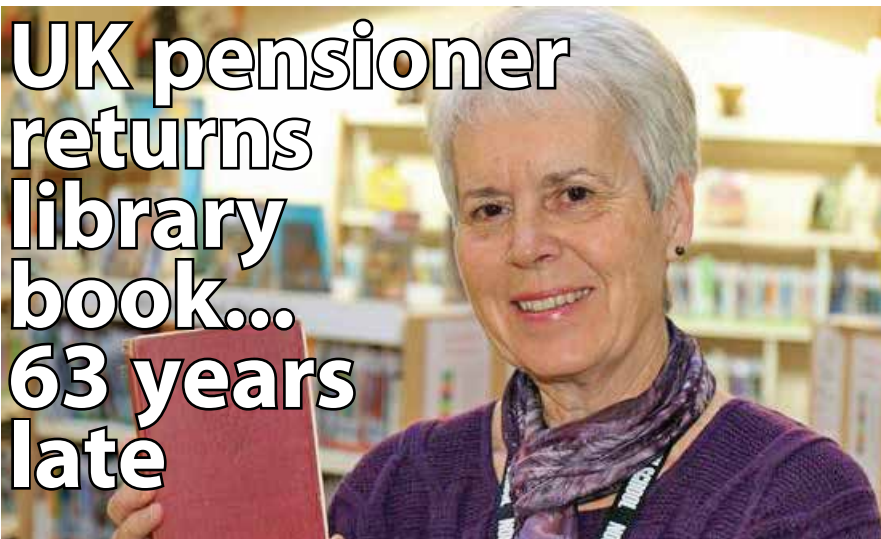
In October Duterte announced a "separation" from the United States and had called for the withdrawal of American troops from his country, putting into question Manila's 70-year-old alliance with Washington.

But on Saturday, Duterte said he "could sense a good rapport" with an "animated" Trump.

Video released by Duterte's office showed the Philippine leader laughing as he chatted on the phone, later saying Trump would be "a good president for the United States of America".

Duterte said the president-elect invited him to visit New York and Washington DC and he returned the favour by asking Trump to attend a regional summit that the Philippines is set to host next year. (AFP)

UK pensioner returns library book... 63 years late



London

A British pensioner has returned a library book to her school some 63 years after taking it out, the librarian said Friday.

The woman, now in her 70s, found the 1929 copy of "Travels With A Donkey In The Cevennes" by Robert Louis Stevenson while clearing out her house.

The book, which charts the author's 120-mile (195-kilometre) solo hike through the Cevennes mountains in southern France, contained a stamp showing it was due to be returned to North Walsham High School in Norfolk, eastern England, in 1953.

Luckily for the student, the market town school has a policy of not fining students for overdue

books. "The lady who brought back the Robert Louis Stevenson book apologised for not returning it sooner -- but better late than never," school librarian Liz Sawyer said, appealing for others with overdue books to do the same.

"While we don't lose many books, there must have been a few which have been inadvertently retained by students over the years," she said, adding: "It would be really nice to get some of them back." The world's largest fine for an overdue library book is \$345.14 (323 euros) according to Guinness World Records. That book, returned after 47 years by the borrower's daughter, was lent out by Kewanee Public Library in the US state of Illinois, and was due back in April 1955.

Alneaimi, Alshammari vroom ahead with impressive double

DT News Network

Manama

Mishal Alneaimi and Ali Alshammari were both dominant on Friday as they each secured an impressive double in National Race Day championships at BIC in Sakhir.

The Qatari Alneaimi powered to a pair of comfortable wins in the second round of the 2016/2017 Bahrain Superbike Championship, while Alshammari claimed the overall victory in both races in the Bahrain Motorcycle Racing (BMR) 600.



BSBK winners celebrate on the podium

Also sharing the honours were Tim Birkin and Hussain Karimi in the second round of the BIC 2,000cc Challenge.

In BSBK action, Alneaimi turned a double pole into a pair of fine victories as he extended

his unbeaten record to 16 races held over eight rounds – a run that dates back to his perfect campaign in the inaugural season in 2015/2016.

Alneaimi (12 minutes 32.473 seconds) lived up to his tag

as the favourite enjoyed a relatively easy win in race one as he completed the 11-lap sprint 15.031 seconds ahead of runner-up Aaron Moris from Australia, while Mike Edwards (+20.096) from the

UK finished third place. In race two, Alneaimi was once again well ahead of the chasing pack finishing (12:39.231) and was 4.255 seconds clear of Morris at the chequered flag. Alneaimi's fellow-Qatari Fahad Alsuwaidi (+18.657) completed the podium placers in third.

Both races had a total of 16 riders, each of whom competed on identical Ducati 899 Panigale sports bikes.

In race one, Alshammari (13:17.702) riding a Kawasaki ZX6R, did just enough to clinch a pole-to-flag victory ahead (+0.493) of Prince Soud Al Thani also riding a Kawasaki ZX6R.

Mohammed Adhan Al Zaidan (+8.902) riding a Yamaha R6 claimed third

place. In race two, Alshammari (13:16.676) enjoyed winning ahead of Prince Soud and Al Zaidan, who were once again in the other podium placers. They were each amongst the top three overall and in the Super Stock class.

In the Hornets class, where all the competitors were riding identical 600cc Honda Hornet sports bikes, Magnus Mossberg, Pawel Rosciszewski and David Wynne were the top three from both races.

In the BIC 2,000cc Challenge, defending champion Shaikh Salman bin Isa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa, driving a white Honda CIVIC, was the early pacesetter as he clinched pole position for race one.

Sami Ghazwan bags the Grand Prize

DT News Network

Manama

Sami Ghazwan bagged the Grand Prize of the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF) Championship for showjumping, held yesterday at the Bahrain Defence Force Sports Association grounds in Sakhir.

Riding on Miss Adhary, Ghazwan made a flawless run to the victory, clocking a total time of 45.02 seconds and finishing behind him was Ali Essa (35.25) on Vivika, but with eight faults and third place on the podium went to Ahmed Mansoor (40.41) riding Edward Du Sud BDF with eight



Highlight from the championship

penalties.

Ghazwan (33.29) riding Miss Adhary went to the top

of another podium, fending off from 37 riders in the second contest which featured

obstacles between 110-125 centimetres. He was followed in second and third place by Ahmed Isa on Loopy and Ahmed Jassim on up Horse Pride respectively.

Meanwhile, Ahmed Al Bastaki won the third event of the day, featuring obstacles ranging between 95-105 cm. Jockey Ahmed Al Hashili was in top form too and emerged victorious in two events, designed for young jockeys.

The podium winners of the event which featured obstacles with heights ranging between 125-136 cm were crowned by Shaikh Khalid bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, the President of the Endurance Committee in the Championship.

Klopp hints at Sakho sale

London

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has hinted he could sell exiled Mamadou Sakho in January after admitting the French defender is no longer in his first-team squad.

Klopp was quizzed about his plans for the January transfer window this week and insisted he had no intention of selling England striker Daniel Sturridge or any other first-team player.

"There is absolutely no thought or idea to sell any player from the first team squad. I don't think it would make sense," Klopp said. (AFP)

Level 4 coaching Programme scheduled

Manama

A Level 4 of the National Coaching Programme, organised by the Bahrain Olympic Committee's Sports Training and Development Centre (STDC) is scheduled to commence today. The course which runs until Thursday will focus on athletes high performance analysis and is organised in cooperation with the Coaching Association of Canada.

Indian Expats football resumes tonight

Manama

Another full programme of group matches in the Indian Club Indian Expats Five-a-Side Football Tournament 2016 is scheduled tonight with the group phase to be completed on Tuesday, with the finals evening set for next Friday.

Tonight schedule: Under-15 Category (from 8pm): Group D: Titan FC vs Ahli FC, Raiders FC vs Gladiators FC.

Dortmund rout Gladbach Berlin

Pierre-Aubameyang scored twice and Marco Reus provided three assists as Borussia Dortmund prepared for their Champions League clash at Real Madrid by routing Borussia Moenchengladbach 4-1 in the Bundesliga yesterday. The fleet-footed Reus was outstanding as Dortmund fought back after Gladbach took the lead with six minutes gone.



Mohammed Gaith and Lyn Barrie won against Sally Meikle and Victoria Chappell 7-4, 7-3 to clinch the BTA Torch perpetual trophy during the sixth edition of the social Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament held at Dilmun Sports Club in Saar. The third place went to Razan Altayeh and Sarah Hugo

Final countdown starts for Ironman

DT News Network

Manama

The final countdown to the Ironman 70.3 Middle East Championship has begun with the Organising Committee putting the final touches on the preparations ahead of hosting the event. The championship be held under the patronage Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

The event will showcase elite international superstars alongside participants from Bahrain and GCC states. General Manager of the Championship, Ahmed Al Hajj, also a member

of the Supreme Organising Committee, revealed that work is ongoing at full swing according to the initial plans made for holding the event amid tremendous efforts from members to give the championship the success it deserves.

Al Hajj hailed the keenness of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, to participate in the practice races, which in turn encouraged Bahraini youths to take part.

Costa keeps Chelsea flying



Chelsea's Diego Costa (C) vies with Manchester City's John Stones (L) and Nicolas Otamendi

Manchester

Diego Costa starred as Premier League leaders Chelsea roared back to win 3-1 yesterday in an ill-tempered game at Manchester City, who had Sergio Aguero and Fernandinho dismissed.

Gary Cahill's own goal gifted City the lead, but Costa equalised and teed up substitute Willian before Eden Hazard struck to send Antonio Conte's men four points clear

of City at the summit.

City's frustration boiled over in stoppage time with Aguero and Fernandinho red-carded, the former for a disgraceful lunge on David Luiz, the latter for pushing Cesc Fabregas over an advertising board.

It was the second time in succession that Chelsea had come from behind to win, having done so against Tottenham Hotspur last weekend, as they recorded

their eighth successive victory.

Pep Guardiola tasted defeat at the Etihad Stadium for the first time as City manager and has now seen his side go four home games without a win.

They were left to rue some profligate finishing, but it was referee Anthony Taylor who attracted the home fans' ire after rejecting four penalty appeals.

A muscular injury sustained by Nemanja Matic forced Conte

to change his starting XI for the first time in seven games, with Fabregas coming into the team in central midfield.

Guardiola showed his respect for Chelsea's recent run by mirroring the Londoners' shape with a back three of his own, as he made six changes from last weekend's 2-1 win at Burnley.

Chelsea were given encouragement in the early stages, Hazard curling

wide and failing to exploit a situation that saw him round City goalkeeper Claudio Bravo.

But as the half wore on, so City began to pin their opponents back and so Taylor became an increasingly central figure. He had already denied City what would have been a very harsh penalty for handball against Cahill when Cesar Azpilicueta's under-hit back-pass gifted Aguero a run on goal. (AFP)

Malaysian player beats Messi, Neymar

Kuala Lumpur

A Malaysian footballer has beaten the likes of Neymar and Messi to score a place in FIFA's shortlist for top three goals of the year.

Midfielder Mohamad Faiz Subri's cracker of a free kick for Penang state in the Malaysian Super League in February was reminiscent of the swerving thunderbolt by Brazil legend Roberto Carlos against France in 1997. Footage of the 29-year-old scoring a viciously swerving goal from 35 metres (115 feet) out has gone viral, making him a sensation in football-crazy Malaysia.

"This is something I will never forget and it motivates me to improve my game further," Faiz said on Thursday.

"Football brings people together and football supporters here are of many races, and they voted for my goal," he added.



Mohamad Faiz Subri (file pic)

Montpellier rock mediocre PSG

Paris

Paris Saint-Germain blew their chance to provisionally move top of Ligue 1 yesterday as they crashed to a shock 3-0 defeat at Montpellier.

Paul Lasne struck just before half-time for Montpellier, the last team other than PSG to lift the French title back in 2011-12, with Ellyes Skhiri adding a second shortly after the break.

Ryad Boudebouz capped a remarkable afternoon at the Stade de la Mosson with a terrific individual goal 10 minutes from time as Unai Emery's PSG remained a point behind leaders Nice.



Montpellier's Paul Lasne (2ndR) is congratulated by his teammates

The reigning champions could lose further ground with Nice hosting Toulouse on Sunday, while Monaco will

climb back above PSG if they beat Bastia at home later. PSG face Ludogorets of Bulgaria in the Champions

League on Tuesday as they try to seal top spot in Group A before taking on Nice next weekend, but they were blindsided by a Montpellier outfit that had won just three times in 15 matches this season.

The visitors were without midfield trio Marco Verratti, Adrien Rabiot and Thiago Motta as 19-year-old Christopher Nkunku was drafted in by Emery for his first league appearance this term.

The teenager should have put PSG in front from Angel Di Maria's left-wing cross with just six minutes gone, but his close-range header was turned away well by Laurent Pionnier. (AFP)

Antlers floor Reds to win J-League title

Saitama

Kashima Antlers stunned perennial chokers Urawa Reds 2-1 away yesterday to win their eighth Japanese title on away goals after an absorbing two-legged championship final.

A Mu Kanazaki double crushed Urawa's dreams of a first J-League title in 2006, the striker smashing home a late penalty to complete an improbable turnaround after they were beaten 1-0 at home earlier in the week.

"Whatever the points totals



Kashima Antlers players celebrate their victory

were over the season, we were desperate to be J-League champions," said Antlers coach Masatada Ishii, who

side finished 15 points behind Urawa over the season's two stages.

"I'm so proud of the players

for battling to the end. Everyone involved with the club can be proud of what we've achieved today." (AFP)



"In my life, maybe I don't have a lot of money, but I always had my family, always supporting me, so in this way I was very lucky"

-Arsenal playmaker Mesut Ozil

REST IN SIGHT

Sunderland off the bottom

Sunderland

Sunderland climbed off the bottom of the Premier League as Leicester City's disastrous title defence suffered another blow with a 2-1 defeat yesterday.

Stone stretches Dunhill lead to three shots

Malelane

South African Brandon Stone stretched his Alfred Dunhill Championship lead to three shots yesterday with a six-under-par 66 for a third-round total of 199.

Wiggins must resolve steroid use controversy

London

Five-time Olympic cycling champion Bradley Wiggins has to clear up the question marks remaining over why he was granted therapeutic use exemptions (TUEs) for a steroid, his former teammate Chris Froome says.

Brazil mourns fallen football team

Chapeco

The bodies of 50 players, coaches and staff from a Brazilian football team wiped out in a plane crash in Colombia arrived home yesterday for a massive funeral.

Indonesia beat Vietnam in first Suzuki semi

Jakarta

Indonesia beat Vietnam 2-1 in the first leg of the Suzuki Cup semi-final yesterday. Hansamu Yama Pranata drew first blood for Indonesia after only seven minutes of play.

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Luis Suarez

Ramos saves Real



Sergio Ramos



Barcelona's Lionel Messi (R) vies with Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo

Barcelona

Sergio Ramos's stoppage-time equaliser maintained Real Madrid's six-point lead at the top of La Liga as the European champions salvaged a 1-1 draw at Barcelona in yesterday's El Clasico.

Luis Suarez looked to have breathed new life into the title race when he headed home the opener from Neymar's free-kick eight minutes into the second half.

Neymar and Lionel Messi then passed up huge chances to add to Barca's advantage, and the hosts were made to pay when Real captain Ramos met Luka Modric's free-kick with a powerful header to stretch Madrid's unbeaten run in all competitions to 33 games.

Before kick-off both sides came together to pay homage

to the 71 victims that wiped out almost the entirety of Brazilian side Chapecoense's

squad in a plane crash in Colombia earlier in the week. However, once the action

got underway old hostilities were renewed as Madrid screamed for a penalty less

than two minutes in.

Lucas Vazquez went down under Javier Mascherano's challenge, but referee Carlos Clos Gomez waved play on.

Barcelona enjoyed the majority of possession, but with captain Andres Iniesta left on the bench on his return from a two-month injury layoff, lacked the creativity to break down Madrid before the break.

Sergi Roberto's shot was deflected behind by Raphael Varane before Messi's harmless free-kick was easily handled by Keylor Navas.

At the other end the spotlight was on Cristiano Ronaldo more than ever in the absence of the injured Gareth Bale and following allegations of grand scale tax avoidance published by a series of European media organisations yesterday.

The Portuguese came to life towards the end of the first-half as he had Madrid's first shot on target that was turned behind by Marc-Andre ter Stegen eight minutes before half-time and the German stood firm to deny another driven Ronaldo effort moments later.

Varane also headed straight at Ter Stegen as Madrid looked the more likely to break the deadlock as half-time approached.

However, Barca got the goal they badly needed to kickstart their title defence when Neymar's free-kick from the left found Suarez somehow unmarked to head home from point blank range. (AFP)



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