Qassim Al Muamen now a Specially Designated Global Terrorist

Al Muamen is an Iran-based leader of Al Ashtar Brigades (AAB), a US-designated Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and SDGT that seeks to overthrow the Bahraini government.

The move was done under Section 17 of Executive Order 13224, which imposes sanctions on foreign persons who have committed, or pose a significant risk of committing, acts of terrorism. The designation seeks to deny Al Muamen the resources to plan and carry out terrorist attacks, the statement said. Among other consequences, all of his property and interests subject to US jurisdiction are blocked, and US persons are generally prohibited from engaging in any transactions with him, it added.

The action notifies the US public and the international community that Qassim Al Muamen has committed, or poses a significant risk of committing, acts of terrorism.

US STATE DEPARTMENT

Pompeo holds talks with Saudi Crown Prince

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo spoke with Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman via telephone on Monday to discuss the ongoing situations in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Yemen, according to a US State Department statement.

It said Pompeo thanked the Crown Prince for “Saudi Arabia’s support for northeast Syria’s urgent stabilization needs” and Riyadh’s “engagement with the US government.” They also “discussed their support for a cease-fire in Afghanistan over the coming Eid, and peace in Afghanistan more broadly.”

US stabbed in back: Erdogan

Will not abide by sanctions on Iran: Iraq

Iraqi Prime Minister Haider Al Abadi said yesterday his government was only committed to not using dollars in transactions with Iraq, not to abiding with the full scope of US sanctions against the country.

“Our commitment in the Iran issue is to not use the dollar currency in transaction, not abiding by the US sanctions,” he quoted him as telling a news conference.

His statement contradicted one he made last week when he said Iraq disagreed with the US sanctions on Iran but that it would abide by them to safeguard its own interests, triggering criticisms from Iran-allied Iraqi politicians.

Pompeo holds talks with Saudi Crown Prince

Washington

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It said Pompeo thanked the Crown Prince for “Saudi Arabia’s support for northeast Syria’s urgent stabilization needs” and Riyadh’s “engagement with the US government.” They also “discussed their support for a cease-fire in Afghanistan over the coming Eid, and peace in Afghanistan more broadly.”

The sanctions target Iran’s trade in gold and other precious metals, its purchases of US dollars and its car industry.

The rial has lost about half of its value since April in anticipation of the renewed US sanctions, driven mainly by heavy demand for dollars among ordinary Iranians trying to protect their savings.

Ankara

Iran’s Supreme Leader yesterday rejected US President Donald Trump’s offer of unconditional talks to improve bilateral ties and he also accused the Iranian government of economic mismanagement in the face of reimposed US sanctions. Washington reimposed the sanctions last week after pulling out of a 2015 international deal aimed at curbing Iran’s nuclear programme in return for an easing of economic sanctions.

Trump has also threatened to penalise companies that continue to operate in Iran.

“I ban holding any talks with America. America never remains loyal to its promises in talks,” said Ayatollah Ali Khameini, who has the final say on policy in the Islamic Republic.

The sanctions target Iran’s trade in gold and other precious metals, its purchases of US dollars and its car industry.

Washington had said Iran’s only chance of avoiding the sanctions would be to accept Trump’s offer to negotiate for a tougher nuclear deal. Iranian officials already rejected the offer but it is the first time Khameini has publicly commented.

Rouhani blamed for economic debacles

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei accuses Iranian government of economic mismanagement

The double suicide of a man and his brother-in-law’s wife, both doctors, sent shockwaves across the Kingdom yesterday.

The bodies of Dr Ibrahim Rawther and Shamina Muhammed Salim were found in an apartment in Ru Kuwara. Sources said both killed themselves by consuming poisonous pills.

Dr Ibrahim is an anaesthetist from Kollam in Kerala State in India and his immediate survivors include wife and a seven-year-old son.

Dr Shaminia hails from Pathanamthitta in Kerala State, who was survived by her husband, also a doctor and a seven-year-old daughter. Interior Ministry has begun a probe into the incident, while the bodies have been moved to Salamnaya Medical Complex.

The suicide report went viral instantly among acquaintances of the doctor who worked as a key figure in Salamnaya. The bodies had been moved to the Salamnaya Medical Complex by interior ministry authorities.

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Saudi support to pilgrims stressed

Session hails Saudi leadership for providing great services and huge facilities to Hajj pilgrims

King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, to enable pilgrims to perform Hajj rituals easily and comfortably.

The session wished all pilgrims a great pilgrimage.

The Premier extended deepest congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, the Bahraini people and Muslims all over the world on Eid Al Adha, wishing all of them many happy returns of the auspicious occasion.

The Prime Minister lauded the youth, marking the International Youth Day 2018, themed “Safe Spaces for Youth”, lauding the key role they are playing in the kingdom’s development progress. The Premier underlined the government’s unwavering keenness to support Bahraini youth’s effective involvement in the decision-making process, and interest in providing safe spaces for them to develop their skills and capabilities through programmes and initiatives in its action plan.

The Premier gave directives to relocate the current scrap area in Mazraa to another site to ensure its security and administrative organisation, prevent violations and irregularities and pave the way for supervision over it.

The Cabinet approved, based on a recommendation by the Executive Committee, chaired by HRH the Crown Prince, a proposal to amend the legal status of the Shilat Al Khaleej Company. The competent authorities were directed to study the matter, in cooperation with the Southern Governorate and other relevant authorities.

The Cabinet endorsed the steps taken by the port operators to ensure the safety status of the Silat Al Khaleej Company. The Government of Bahrain will be a partner in the company. The Cabinet endorsed the steps taken by the port operators to ensure the safety status of the Silat Al Khaleej Company. The Government of Bahrain will be a partner in the company.

The session reviewed the operational processes and initiatives in its action plan.

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A draft edict on amending the regulatory fees imposed by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) on licenses and other services covered by Edict 7/2017. A draft edict on amending the regulations, included in the memorandum submitted by the Minister of Transport, Telecommunications and Information Technology, was referred to the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs.

Under the MoU, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia in space-related fields.

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Dogs in the ring

Afraid of raids, organisers of dog fights now hold the blood sport secretly at remote places across the Kingdom

According to sources and animal rights activists, the practice still exists in the country albeit in a much smaller scale than it did a few years ago.

According to sources, dog fights are based on gambles. “They gamble money on who will win the fight; it is like any other gambling scenario. It is basically for the money and the thrill they get.”

Mariam Zafran
TDT
Mohammed Zafran

Sources say dog fights are based on gambles. “Dogs used for fighting are well known; they can be recognised. The practice is totally illegal in Bahrain, no animals are allowed to be used for fighting shows.”

“Dog fighting still happens but it is nothing like how it was before. Whenever we receive news about a dog fighting ring, we report it to the authorities and action is taken immediately. We only call for help when we have enough information about the location. The police raid the place quickly at the right time. At certain times there are only rumours which don’t lead to anything,” he said.

“Dog fights were illegal, they are still illegal. Sometimes we have campaigned about the issue to make it stop. It is difficult for me to bring statistics for dog fights as the perpetrators keep changing the location fearing a police raid.”

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Woman pleads not guilty to molestation, robbery charges

32-year-old Arab woman was arrested following a complaint filed by the laundryman

The defendant’s youngest child is a newborn baby who is with her at the detention centre.

A

n Arab woman, aged 32, who allegedly molested an Asian man in a bid to rob him pleaded not guilty yesterday before the High Criminal Court.

The woman, a mother of seven children, is said to have molested her victim at a laundry shop, where the Asian man was working before she robbed him and fled the scene.

Revealing the events of the incident, the victim told prosecutors when he filed the case against the Arab woman: “The woman was wearing a niqab (veil) when she entered the shop. She asked me water and then said she wants to go to the toilet.

I told her the shop didn’t have a toilet. Suddenly, she entered my area and pressed her body against mine before she hugged me and touched my private parts.”

While she was doing that, the “Arab woman reached her hand into the pant pocket of the victim in a bid to snatch his wallet.”

“I directly grabbed her hand to deny her from doing this immediately about the robbery and hereported it to police,” he said.

The woman was arrested in another robbery case, and she denied her links to this incident.

However, her involvement was confirmed after reviewing the CCTV cameras installed in the shop.

“T came to Bahrain with my husband since seven months ago and I have seven children. I usually go on begging to make a livelihood, but I was arrested in connection with a robbery incident,” the 32-year-old woman said.

The defendant’s youngest child is a newborn baby who is with her at the detention centre.

BDF Hajj Mission received

Chief-of-Staff Lt-General Dhiyab bin Sayar Al Khalifa yesterday received the BDF Hajj Mission in the presence of senior officers. A General Al Hourani welcomed the mission members and conveyed to them the greetings of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Supreme Commander; His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister; and the BDF Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.

He directed the mission to insert their cooperation and unity with fellow pilgrims and provided them with his valuable advice aimed to follow the teachings of Islam and its good traditions.

Jidhafs market ‘revamp work on track’

Lawmakers say the market lacks basic facilities.

The Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning has begun the revamp work at Jidhafs Market.

Ministry Undersecretary Dr Nabil Abdul Fathen said the ministry has an integrated plan to carry out the revamp in two phases.

The works are also being carried out in consultation with the traders at the market, the official said.

It is learnt that the traders have been requesting the ministry to find a solution to traffic issues preventing people from entering the market.

Capital Municipality Director-General Shaqiyah Hmaidan said there are plans to develop all markets in the capital, seeking cooperation from all parties concerned.

For his part, Capital Municipality Chairman Mohammed Al Khuraie said the development of the markets in Jidhafs and Sitra has always been a top priority.

“Specialised committees were appointed to study the possibilities of developing these markets,” he said.

On the flip side, Parliament member Ali Alatish said the plans were devised as early as 2010 to develop the market for a cost of BD10 million.

“The market serves a population of 20,000 people. The ministry has only surprised the vendors by removing them completely from there,” he said.

Sheikh Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister; and the BDF Supreme Commander; His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister; and the BDF Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa.

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Somali sheep in great demand

Somali sheep priced between BD65 and BD75 are the cheapest available for sacrifice in the livestock market.

- The biggest market for Somali livestock is Saudi Arabia, which imports more than two-thirds of the goats, sheep and camels.
- The sources said that there is also an increase in demand for Somali calf with price ranging between BD500 and BD700.

The demand for Somali sheep has been rising over the years.

For the first time Iranian sheep belong to Hejmn breed and are called Al Tallayad, which means they descend from a precious breed. Breeders generally prefer not to sell them a precious breed. Breeders generally prefer not to sell them.

Livestock is an important mainstay in Somalia's economy, contributing to about 40 per cent of the country's gross domestic product.

The camels in Bahrain belong to Hejmn breed and are called Al Tallayad, which means they descend from a precious breed.

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In 2015, the nation exported record 5.3 million animals, the highest such figure in two decades, according to the Food and Agriculture (FAO) organisation.

At the port of Berbera, in the northwestern region of Somaliland, this increased demand for livestock translates into good business and top dollar for Somalia's livestock traders.

The camels in Bahrain belong to Hejmn breed and are called Al Tallayad, which means they descend from a precious breed. Breeders generally prefer not to sell them.

The accuses faces charges of fraud and investing money without obtaining a licence.

many breeders are preferring not to sell their camels.
On a healthy food journey

A cook by passion, Areej is in her best efforts to promote healthy cooking in the Kingdom

She realised her passion at the age of eight and her love for it has grown over the years. Areej Matooq needs many pages if one asks her to describe her passion on the resume. A master’s degree holder in media studies, she is a chef, recipe developer and food blogger widening her horizons each and every second while advocating a healthy lifestyle. Areej has been conducting healthy cooking classes for kids and adults at the Nakhool Tent as well as the Cycling Bees home. She is keen on changing the cooking scene in the Kingdom by promoting healthy cooking and its significance.

“I have been cooking since I was eight years old. I never stick to a recipe. I always improvise and add my touch. I supported my passion with studies, when I went to Le cordon bleu, London, where I studied the French cuisine for two months,” Areej told Tribune.

Areej says her career in media has never affected her enthusiasm to pursue her passion.

“The idea of healthy cooking and the importance of a healthy lifestyle came to me four years back after I gave birth to my second child. I realised how hard it is to get back in shape, no matter how hard I trained or little I eat. It’s the healthy lifestyle that does the trick, and I have noticed the impact of that on me and my family.

“Since then I began researching on the essentials of healthy cooking.”

Areej now pursues a course in general nutrition from the Future Fit Academy in the UK.

“A major part of my day is spent searching for and creating new healthy recipes where you can still enjoy your common dishes but with healthy swaps in ingredients.”

Moreover, I believe it is important to promote the idea of a healthy lifestyle among kids in the kingdom. The idea emerged after I took part at the Nakhool Tent. I was overwhelmed after interacting with the kids there. They were very much focused.

“I started taking more classes to teach kids on the importance of nutrition and healthy eating. Now I also take healthy cooking classes at the Cycling Bees home, which is being attended by kids aged between seven and 15.”

Areej says her dream is to witness a revolutionary transformation in eating habits in the Kingdom, where healthy cooking is given maximum prominence.

BKS lines up programmes to celebrate Onam, Eid

The Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS) is gearing up to celebrate Onam and Eid Festivals with lots of cultural programmes and competitions starting August 21.

This was announced by BKS Acting President Dileesh Kumar V S and General Secretary M P Raghu at a press conference held at BKS Ravi Pillai Hall.

The inauguration ceremony of BKS Eid Onam celebration will be held on August 21 followed by Onam songs and drama “Mahasamaram” directed by Prasanth Narayanan.

The 15-day celebration will end on September 14 with a grand Onasadya by the famous chef Pathanjali Mohanan Nambiar and team.

While the musical nights by legendary singers SP Balasubramaniam and KS Chithra being the highlights of this year’s Onam programme, the BKS is convening many in-house events and competitions that would enable the members and Malayalis residing in Bahrain to nurture their Onam memories.

Like every previous years, the BKS has set many programme depicting the Kerala culture as the same is intended to refresh nostalgic memories of Kerala residing in Bahrain.

On September 6, important personalities will be felicitated, which will be followed by a musical concert by famous playback singers K S Chithra, Sharath and team.

A floral display competition will be held on September 7 followed by a musical evening led by famous Indian playback singer SP Balasubramaniam.

For registration and details please contact N K Veeramani, General Convenor on 36421369 or Harikrishnan, General Coordinator, on 66759824.

BKS officials at the press conference.

BKS officials at a workshop for kids.

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### INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL Position

(All amounts expressed in thousands of United States Dollars unless otherwise stated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At 30 June 2018 (Reviewed)</th>
<th>At 31 December 2017 (Audited)</th>
<th>At 30 June 2017 (Reviewed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and balances with banks and central banks</td>
<td>626,408</td>
<td>797,168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables and other current assets</td>
<td>385,196</td>
<td>241,392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial assets</td>
<td>3,467</td>
<td>3,572,871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shares in unconsolidated associates</td>
<td>618,907</td>
<td>372,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share capital</td>
<td>757,690</td>
<td>757,690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share premium</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share premium</td>
<td>149,085</td>
<td>149,085</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign currency translation reserves</td>
<td>38,418</td>
<td>38,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>50,727</td>
<td>50,727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>3,366</td>
<td>3,366</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>3,141</td>
<td>3,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>(64,449)</td>
<td>(64,449)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total shareholders' equity</strong></td>
<td>185,185</td>
<td>185,185</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(All amounts expressed in thousands of United States Dollars unless otherwise stated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the period</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from operations</td>
<td>19,915</td>
<td>23,849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income before overseas taxation</td>
<td>27,350</td>
<td>17,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investing activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income before provision for impairment and overseas taxation</td>
<td>21,983</td>
<td>23,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income available for distribution to shareholders and investors</td>
<td>4,850</td>
<td>4,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Financing activities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided by operating activities</td>
<td>8,364</td>
<td>164,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash used in investing activities</td>
<td>(9,318)</td>
<td>(246,801)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash used for financing activities</td>
<td>(50,606)</td>
<td>(74,156)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>(44,962)</td>
<td>(74,156)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

(All amounts expressed in thousands of United States Dollars unless otherwise stated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For the period</th>
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<th>For the period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from unconsolidated investment accounts</td>
<td>87,393</td>
<td>77,797</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision for overseas taxation</td>
<td>51,647</td>
<td>51,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net income/(loss)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income before overseas taxation</td>
<td>35,246</td>
<td>26,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net income available for distribution to shareholders and investors</td>
<td>4,850</td>
<td>4,850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shareholders' equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>185,185</td>
<td>185,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total shareholders' equity</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>8,364</td>
<td>164,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shareholders' equity</td>
<td>(9,318)</td>
<td>(246,801)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>(44,962)</td>
<td>(74,156)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period</strong></td>
<td>757,218</td>
<td>716,782</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period</strong></td>
<td>727,256</td>
<td>716,782</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ahmed Abdul Rahim, Chief Executive Officer, said the half-year results of both institutions reflect the strength of the Group’s core retail banking business.

Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Samer Haddad alongside second vice chairman Mohammed Al Rokbi, and board members Basim Al Saleh and Samia Yousif with the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Amin El Shafei at Bami At Tijar. The meeting centred on entering cooperation between BCCI and the UNDP, conducting research and steering the national economy toward sustainability. The meeting also discussed reinforcing the resilience and competitiveness of the private sector, and empowering the country’s transition toward a knowledge-based economy.

Bahrain Islamic Bank’s (BisB) has posted a net profit of BD3.5 million for the same period last year, an increase of 6 percent.

The bank achieved a total income of BD20.5 million for the period compared to BD20.6 million, a decrease of 0.5 percent. Total expenses were at BD12.3 million, a decrease of 3.1 percent over the same period last year which was equal to BD12.7 million.

Earnings per share have also increased from 3.34 fils for the three months period amounted to 3.48 fils, an increase of 7.8 percent. Net impairment provisions for the six months period amounted to BD6.4 million, compared to BD4.7 million for the same period last year.

The three months of the second quarter, ending June 30, 2018, the bank recorded a net profit of BD1.4 million compared with BD2.7 million for the same period last year, a decrease of 48 percent while total income achieved BD10.3 million compared to BD10.9 million, a decrease of 5.5 percent.

Total expenses during the three months amounted to BD6.4 million for the same period last year, while net provisions for the three months amounted to BD2.6 million compared with BD3.8 million for the same period last year.

“Taking into account the strong competition in the banking industry, along with the current economic and political conditions in the market, the bank continues to follow the newly-formed policy adopted by the Board of Directors, which focuses on accommodat- ing large, medium, and small enterprises, eval- uating the risks and opportunities outlined at the start of the year,” said Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dr. Esam Abdulla Fakhro.

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“There results of the second quarter reflect the bank’s continuous improvement across various business sectors. We achieved an increase of 6pc in net profit. The bank relies on revenues and fees from financing and other major activities which represent major portion of total income.
Turkey turmoil hits markets

Gold prices hit 17-month low

Gold prices hit 17-month lows on Monday, losing out to U.S. Treasuries as a stronger dollar as investors sought refuge from a financial market stressed by a crashing Turkish lira. Investors traditionally use gold as a means of preserving the value of their assets during times of political and economic uncertainty and inflation.

But it has this year failed to keep its place as a safe haven, slipping as a bullion to U.S. Treasuries, seen as the ultimate safe haven, which meant they had to buy dollars.

Bahrain Smart Cities Society, Smartwater Consultancy sign pact

A group presents its sustainable character experience at the SDG Business Forum in New York

Turkey’s benchmark bond yields rise

BY THE TRIBUNE

Bahrain Smart Cities Society and Smartwater Consultancy officials after signing the deal

Al Baraka signs MoU with UNDP

Bahrain Smart Cities Society and Smartwater Consultancy signed an agreement to support countries in the Middle East and North Africa to implement the success of the SDG Business Forum, where they presented the experience of the SDG Business Forum and the achievements of the sustainable development goals for 2016-2020.

Gold banks’ Turkish exposure pulls down indexes

Turkish banks are seen as investors fled away from banks with links to Turkey's deepening economic turmoil. Attracted by its large population and strong economy, several Gulf banks have been investing in Turkey for several years, most recently Dubai’s largest bank Emirates NBD, which in May agreed to buy Turkey’s Denizbank in a $3.2 billion deal. But investor confidence in the economic outlook has been shattered by the lira tumbling on worries over President Recep Erdogan’s increasing control over the economy and deteriorating relations with the United States.

Saudi Arabia’s stock index touched its lowest level in more than three months yesterday, with regional markets sinking as investors fled away from banks with links to Turkey's deepening economic turmoil.

The Kingdom will host the World Islamic Banking Conference (WIBC) from November 26-28 under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, with the strategic partnership of the Central Bank of Bahrain. The event will be held at the ART Botana Hotel in Amwaj Islands. Over 1200 global industry practitioners, policy makers, innovators and stakeholders will converge for the three-day long forum that will see a series of discussions gravitating around the theme “Islamic Finance & Sustainable Economic Growth in the Age of Disruption” in line with its steady vision to serve as a compass for the global Islamic financial and banking industry. During the 25th anniversary edition of the World Islamic Banking Conference - testament to its continued significance as a platform, the industry to gather and share critical insights going forward,” and Ehsan Al Baraka, Chairman, Middle East Global Advisors. Rashid Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor, Central Bank of Bahrain, will deliver the keynote address at the conference.

The Middle East and North Africa's largest bank, Qatar National Bank, retreated by 2.6 percent.

Shoppers can choose a wide array of perfumes, cosmetics, watches, skin care products, leather bags, luggage items, gift sets, electronic items, home appliances and accessories, at amazing discounts. Major brands like Guess, GC, Samsung and branded luggage items from Samsonite, and American Tourister are featured at the Shopping Bazaar. The Bazaar will conclude on August 18.

The Shopping Bazaar organized by Al Hawaj at Hall 1, Bahrain International Exhibition Centre (BIEC). The Bazaar is open from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm and 4 pm to 10 pm every day. Shoppers can choose from 50,000 goods and products at high-quality brands, which have been imported from Turkey.
Trump is not tough enough on Iran

BARIA ALAMUDDIN

S

ometimes the world’s media resembles a giant echo chamber. A high proportion of the liberal media is consumed by endless criticism of President Donald Trump’s divisive politics — often justifiably. So with Trump reimposing sanctions on Tehran, this vast media machine has steamed ahead, thoughtlessly denouncing Trump’s “tough” position against Iran. We are treated to televised debate without any debate. Participants simply take turns repetitively and tediously arguing that the nuclear deal seemed to be working fine, and “Trump’s approach will only undermine Iran’s moderates.”

Meanwhile — instead of working with America to create a workable successor deal — Europe is vigorously trying to appease Tehran and subvert efforts, dream- ing up a bizarre framework for conferring anti-sanctions protection for Western firms who have mostly been smart enough to interpret the wind direction and exit the Iranian economy as fast as possible.

The fundamental problem is what the nuclear deal didn’t cover. Namely, the ballistic programme, the long-term future of Iran’s nuclear programme, and the unleashing of paramilitary forces across the region to sabotage the governing systems of Middle Eastern states. Why is the latter point consistently ignored by the Western media?

Iran’s paramilitary proxies strategy is arguably an outgrowth of Western pressure on the nuclear program. During the 1980s, revolutionary Iran bankrolled para- military forces almost literally everywhere: Lebanon, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Iraq, Yemen, etc. However, with Ayatollah Khomeini’s death, it was the “pragmatists” — Ali Khamenei and Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani — who curated this activity, allowing Iran to rebuild after the catastrophic war with Iraq.

We now know that Supreme Leader Khamenei, the “pragmatist,” spent the 1990s quietly pursuing breakout nuclear capacity so Tehran could menace its enemies — America, Israel, Europe, and the Gulf Cooperation Council states — with nuclear Holocaust. When this program was discovered in 2003, Khamenei was forced to shelve his frenzied ambitions for nuclear apoca- lyptic warfare. In order to retain his warmongering abilities, Khamenei dusted off Khomeini’s revolutionary blueprint for a transnational proxy army of brainwashed militants based on the hugely successful model of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), which today outguns the Lebanese state itself.

Within a couple of years, Khamenei’s lieutenant, Gen. Qassem Soleimani, had armed and trained Iraqi Shiites militants for staging thousands of attacks against American, British and Israeli forces, causing hundreds of fatalities. Then came the Syrian uprising, where around 60,000 proxies have retained Bashar Assad in power as an Iranian puppet. Iran, likewise, armed various parties in Afghanistan, while cashing in on the lucrative opium trade. In Yemen, Houthi terrorists rain down Iranian missiles upon Saudi Arabia and menace the globally crucial Bab Al Mandab Strait. Iran, meanwhile, has sought to exacerbate religious and political tensions throughout the Middle East and North Africa, while its arms smuggling networks penetrated deep into the African continent.

Sanctions are necessary. Yet, despite the accumulation of international sanctions after 2005, Iran’s paramilitary spending similarly mushroomed, partly because the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps filled its coffers through monopolizing sanctions-evading networks in oil, heavy arms, narcotics and basic goods. The IRGC reinforced its stranglehold on the economy while ordinary Iranians suffered.

During the 1980s, the Western media portrayed Khomeini as a deranged, bloodthirsty demagogue, while Khamenei was widely viewed as a pragmatic voice of reason. Today we have Hassan Rouhani and Mohammed Javad Zarif providing the “reformist” facade. Yet, from the earliest days of the revolution, Rouhani, alongside Khamenei, was a quintessential regime insider. Instead of meeting America halfway, Rouhani is today escalating his anti-Western rhetoric and winning plaudits from Soleimani and Khamenei.

What would be the point of negotiating with Rouhani, when the so-called president isn’t sufficiently senior to be properly briefed about Khamenei and Soleimani’s bellicose regional strategy? The presidency is a smiling facade for a repressive and hated terrorist regime. Let’s not kid ourselves.

By trying to honor a deal that is already dead, Europe is undermining any hope of a holistic and enforceable containment program against Iran. Meanwhile, China, Russia and India will happily circumvent American ef- forts and provide Iran’s economy with back-door funds.

Yet Trump himself lacks a coherent Iran containment strategy. I doubt he clearly understands who the Revo- lutionary Guard Corps filled its coffers through monopolizing sanctions-evading networks in oil, heavy arms, narcotics and basic goods.

Mr. Rouhani, the world’s media must take a hard look at what Iran is actually doing

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The contribution from the part of non-oil sectors to the GDP is on the rise. This is a very good trend for the economy and is a result of the diversification process kick off by the government a few years ago. While oil is an important part of the Kingdom’s economy, it is equally important that the authorities should concentrate on developing other sectors with equal enthusiasm. Tourism, construction and banking are some of the sectors that are poised to grow in the Kingdom. Bahrain has invested heavily in the sectors and has already attracted some international companies, with the result that it has managed to create new jobs and opportunities, where they can grow and succeed.

Vernon Bernard
As Independence Day draws near, the hot and humid weather of Pakistan has not deterred the nation’s patriotic zest as markets are flooded with children, elders and youngsters busy finalizing their preparations to celebrate the day today. The Embassy of Pakistan will join the Independence Day celebrations today at the embassy premises in Manama.

**A TIME FOR CELEBRATION**

Felicitate fellow Pakistanis on the auspicious occasion of our 72nd Independence Day. This day refreshes our enthusiasm and rejuvenates our resolve to work for the progress and prosperity of our motherland. It also inspires us to serve our country and raise our green flag, which symbolizes our hopes and aspirations, even higher. It is indeed a time for celebration as our hopes and aspirations bore fruit on this day. Pakistan is a blessing of Almighty Allah and a haven for the Muslims of the sub-continent. Our forefathers waged a unique struggle and gave unparalleled sacrifices for achieving Pakistan. Now it is our responsibility to shape Pakistan according to the dreams of its founders and to achieve this objective there should be good relations, harmony and brotherhood among all strata of society. It is heartening that the new generation of Pakistan is imbued with the love of the country and is filled with the zeal to sincerely work for progress and its development. Yet, it is necessary that we should educate our children of the need for the creation of Pakistan and the sacrifices rendered to achieve it.

National days are celebrated with the purpose of educating society, particularly the new generation about the objective and the struggle for the attainment of Pakistan. I believe that the objective of developing the country and reviving its glorious past can only be achieved if we work single-mindedly keeping aside our personal interests. The economic problems being faced by Pakistan and the complex issues confronting it can only be overcome if we follow the teachings of the Quaid-e-Azam and Allama Iqbal in their true spirit.

Mamnoon Hussain
Islamic Republic of Pakistan

**HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS**

It is fitting to extend heartiest felicitations to all the Pakistanis, living within the country and abroad, on the auspicious occasion of the Independence Day of Pakistan. August 14 reminds us of the epic democratic struggle of our forefathers for securing a separate homeland for the Muslims of the sub-continent where they could fashion their lives according to their religious, cultural and social values. Indeed, we are indebted to our ancestors for their innumerable sacrifices for the cause of freedom and dignity of their future generations.

This day provides us an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the ideals of our Quaid and to the aspirations of Dr. Allama Mohammad Iqbal who wanted to see the Muslim community flourishing in a separate homeland without any fear of oppression, intolerance, inequality and injustice. Our great Quaid Mohammad Ali Jinnah had envisioned a democratic, tolerant and progressive Pakistan where every citizen could utilize his or her faculties to the fullest and could reap the benefits of socio-economic progress in an equitable manner. He strived and stood for rule of law, egalitarianism and establishment of a democratic polity. Let us on this day rededicate ourselves to those ideals and abate to reason as to what extent we have been able to achieve those ideals.

Undoubtedly, our beautiful country is blessed with every gift of the nature. From an ideal geo-strategic location to the most talented and progressive youth, we have all the ingredients to carve out our own destiny and rise as a successful nation of the world. Unswerving commitment to the ideals of the Quaid and following the principle of ‘Unity, Faith and Discipline’ would certainly help us overcome our present-day challenges and make Pakistan a self-reliant, economically vibrant and a prosperous country. Let us on this day renew our pledge to build the Quaid’s Pakistan. Let us on this day also pay our tributes to our heroes and to all those who have put their heart and soul towards ensuring that our freedom is not marred by any internal or external factors.

Happy Independence Day! Pakistan-Paindabad.

Justice (Retd) Nasir-ul-Mulk
Prime Minister
Islamic Republic of Pakistan
O n the occasion of the 72nd Independence Day of Pakistan today, I offer my heartfelt felicitations to all the Pakistani community who are working and living in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This day reminds us of a great struggle and endeavour by the leaders of Pakistan movement to achieve and establish an independent Islamic country under the leadership Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah for the Muslims of sub-continent, so that they could live and shape their lives according to the values, traditions of Islamic ideology. This day also reminds us of the sacrifices of the Muslims of sub-continent to achieve Pakistan on the world stage.

Today Pakistan has been standing tall after 70-years of independence as the most viable working and largest democratic country of the Muslim world. As a result of democratic process for the third time civilian transfer of power is taking place. The general elections were held throughout the country on 25th July, 2018 was a big success and the great feat. These elections proved that the people of Pakistan believes in democracy, freedom and democratic process. As a result of these elections, members of new National Assembly and four Provincial Assemblies have already taken their oath of allegiance and the new government will be formed soon. All these show confidence and faith of the people of Pakistan in the elected and democratic process. This has also been acknowledged by the leaders of the world and election observers.

The 14th August also reminds us of our obligations towards our country. We had to strive hard to achieve economic prosperity and social development for the betterment of our people.

I am glad to state that the members of the Pakistani community living and working in this beautiful kingdom of Bahrain are contributing to the peace, progress and prosperity of both Bahrain and Pakistan. They are many successful entrepreneurs, businessmen, doctors, lawyers, engineers and teachers in our community. They are our real heroes. They are our assets and their services are appreciated and recognized at all levels.

On behalf of the government of Pakistan, our community living in Bahrain and the Embassy of Pakistan and its staff, I would like to state that we are extremely grateful and appreciative of the efforts of the government of the Kingdom of Bahrain under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al-Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister in looking after the welfare and wellbeing of the Pakistani community. I would also call upon our community to respect the local laws and be a source of strength and asset to further bilateral relations between the two brotherly countries.

Pakistan and Bahrain have traditionally enjoyed excellent bilateral relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations. High level exchanges are a hallmark of our friendly relations. The government of Pakistan lays special emphasis on further developing these relations in all fields of life including trade, commerce and political. It is mutual desire of the leadership to further deepen cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology, culture and sports and various other fields.

I am confident that the bilateral relations between Pakistan and Bahrain shall continue to grow from strength to strength in future.

M. Murad Ali Wazir
Pakistani Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain
INCULCATING VALUES IN STUDENTS

On this glorious day of Independence, Pakistan School wishes all our fellow compatriots in Bahrain a happy Independence Day. Let’s salute the martyrs who laid down their lives for a free Pakistan. Pakistan School has laid down a well-defined and practical network of extra and co-curricular activities for the personality and character building of students. These activities are conducted on inter class, inter house and inter school levels. Pakistani students have been performing tremendously in the Bahrain level sports, academic and cultural activities. Under the able leadership of the sitting Board of Management, Pakistan School has covered many distinctive landmarks over the last three years in academic and administrative areas. Pakistan School’s Federal Board results have shown consistent and impressive improvements over the last two years and this year history of sorts have been made in the Board exam results of SSC & HSC declared in the first and second weeks of July 2018, where the students broke all the previous records in the 50 years old history of the school. The school financial status is now reliable and stable. An internal educational quality assurance system has been introduced to ensure dynamic and resourceful classroom teaching, in line with BQA (Bahrain Quality Assurance Authority) requirements. The sole aim of Pakistan school is to create a new generation instilling in them qualities needed to be visionary to lead their country in the future. The 72nd Pakistan Independence Day celebrations are being planned in a grand scale in the school.

Sami ur Rehman, Chairman Board of Management, Pakistan School
Attiq ur Rehman, Principal & Secretary Board of Management, Pakistan School

INSPIRING FRAGRANCE

Asgharali has re-launched its simply inspired fragrance SARA Spray, which is a popular given first name for girls across Europe, North America and the Middle East. As its name is often translated simply as “Princess” and just like its name, Sara Spray comes with such royalty with its fragrance of citric fruity floral a perfect duo for a summer day that is timeless inspired of the Asgharali brand. Presentable in its opening are of citric and fruity notes a clean slate of a refreshed tone. A captivating middle notes are formed from its lacey floral and amber notes, think of it as an autumn light breezy fragrance that won’t suffocate you. Notes of ambry and a pinch of musk lies in the base, which is wearable even with the scorching sun, burning you up and you still manage to wear it enough to be revitalizing. Sara Spray, in its fuchsia-colored accents also double as chic perfume available at 50ml in all Asgharali outlets in store and online. Follow Asgharali on Instagram @asgharalioco or visit the website: www.asgharali.com
Independence Day observed annually on 14 August, is a national holiday in Pakistan. It commemorates the day when Pakistan achieved independence and was declared a sovereign nation following the end of the British Raj in 1947. Pakistan came into existence as a result of the Pakistan Movement, which aimed for the creation of an independent Muslim state in the north-western regions of South Asia via partition. The movement was led by the All-India Muslim League under the leadership of Muhammad Ali Jinnah. The event was brought forth by the Indian Independence Act 1947 under which the British Raj gave independence to the Dominion of Pakistan which comprised West Pakistan (present-day Pakistan) and East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). The main Independence Day ceremony takes place in Pakistan Bahrain Friendship Society office at Pakistan House Riffa, where the national flag is hoisted at the Pakistan House buildings. It is followed by the national anthem and live speeches by leaders. Usual celebratory events and festivities for the day include flag-raising ceremonies, parades, cultural events, and the playing of patriotic songs. A number of award ceremonies are often held on this day, and Pakistanis hoist the national flag atop their homes or display it prominently on their vehicles and attire.
Western observers interested in Jerusalem can be forgiven for thinking the most politically significant building in this city is a low limestone edifice featuring American flags and marines—the embassy opened in May by the Trump administration to international fanfare and criticize. But anyone attentive to the forces in play in the summer of 2018 would be advised to look past the embassy to an obscure structure a half-mile to the south. This building has no flags at all. Instead there are Arabic books on a wheeled shelf in the lobby, a few boys with soccer haircuts and girls with hijabs, and a modest sign welcoming you to the community center of Sur Baher.

It’s there, in the Palestinian neighborhood of Sur Baher—a four-minute drive from my Jewish Israeli neighborhood of Talpiot—that you can find Ramadan Dabash, the center’s chairman, who’s running a Renaissance campaign for a seat on Jerusalem’s City Council.

In a city where more than a third of the 860,000 residents are Palestinian, there should be nothing strange about Dabash’s candidacy. But a victory in the October 30 election would make him the first Palestinian representative at City Hall—and the personification of a political shift that isn’t making headlines.

Dabash, a civil engineer, was born and raised in Sur Baher a few months before Israel captured it in a war with Jordan in 1967. Unlike the West Bank, which was placed under military occupation pending a peace deal with the Arab world, east Jerusalem was declared by Israel to be part of Israel proper. For the past 51 years, Dabash and the other Arab residents of Jerusalem have lived an ambivalent and disadvantaged political existence. In the last election, in 2013, according to City Hall, not even 2% of them cast a ballot.

“This has helped keep Jerusalem’s Palestinians in limbo and has contributed to a gap that’s clear to anyone who spends time in the city’s Arab neighborhoods, which are neglected, crowded and unsafe. Eighty-three percent of children in east Jerusalem are poor, according to Israeli government statistics, twice the rate in the city’s west.

That reality, Dabash says, is why he’s floating his community’s political taboo to run. “Fifty-one years is enough,” Dabash told me a few weeks ago in one of the classrooms at the community center he helped found four years ago. “We can’t be left hanging between heaven and earth.”

The Palestinian Authority, based in nearby Ramallah, sees participation in Jerusalem elections as a form of collaboration. Last month a council of Islamic clerics banned any involvement. Dabash says he has faced backlash in the form of hostile phone calls and messages on Facebook and WhatsApp groups, where he’s tarred as a “traitor” or “collaborator”—epithets that carry a threat of violence. But he’s determined to forge ahead, armed, perhaps, with the striking results of a poll released this year that found 58% of Jerusalem’s Palestinians support voting. Just 14% said they opposed.

About 7,000 votes are needed to win a seat, depending on the turnout. Because Jewish residents here are split acrimoniously between mainstream Israelis and the ultra-Orthodox, if Palestinians have even a few seats, it will tip the balance crucial swing votes. But pundits who’ve predicted Palestinian turnout in previous elections have been wrong. History and national sentiment mitigate against it, and there’s a big difference between supporting the idea of voting and actually showing up on Election Day.

Dabash is not a leftist. He quoted the Quran throughout our conversation. He didn’t seem like someone who’d be comfortable at a coexistence conference funded by European nongovernmental organizations, or like a guy you want to run your union—a blunt operator who’d give an opposing negotiator a hard time.

To explain why he’s running, Dabash pulled out his smartphone to show me photos of a nearby kindergarten overrun with mice and cockroaches. He pointed out the window toward Har Homa, a Jewish neighborhood in east Jerusalem, which has the kind of potential that Palestinians can only dream of. In all of Arab Jerusalem (he slammed the table for emphasis) there isn’t a single municipal pool. They need teachers, classrooms and jobs.

“That way Dabash sees it, the chances of a peace deal are nil. With Hezbollah, Hamas, the Islamic State group and the Syrian War all within a three-hour drive from here, an Israeli pullout isn’t happening anytime soon. To get things done, Dabash has been willing to play ball not just with Israelis but with the Israeli right, the only real political force in this conservative city. Last year, he even went so far as to briefly join the Likud party.

The political cost of this approach is high. The closer he gets to Israelis, the more suspect he becomes in the eyes of his potential voters.

He points to the community center, which is funded by Israel, as proof he can work the system and get results: “Israel says it’s Jewish and democratic,” he said. “I say, ok, show us your democracy.”

Over the past five years or so, watching from west Jerusalem, it’s been clear that remarkable changes are afoot in the city’s human landscape. Not long ago, it was unheard-of to see Palestinian salespeople in Israeli stores. Now it’s commonplace. Palestinian enrollment at Hebrew University is up dramatically, as are requests for Israeli citizenship. The number of east Jerusalem wage earners employed in west Jerusalem is now estimated at close to 50%. The trend is driven not by good will but by economic interests by demand for labor in Jewish Jerusalem, and by a lack of better options for Palestinians.

The city remains unequal, there are periodic acts of terrorism and there’s no reason to be sanguine about the future. But at the same time, worlds that have long been distinct are moving closer together. All of this means the Palestinians of east Jerusalem are taking a vote seriously. Although the 30 election would make him the first Palestinian representative on turnout. Because Jewish residents here are split acrimoniously between mainstream Israelis and the ultra-Orthodox, if Palestinians have even a few seats, it will tip the balance crucial swing votes. But pundits who’ve predicted Palestinian turnout in previous elections have been wrong. History and national sentiment mitigate against it, and there’s a big difference between supporting the idea of voting and actually showing up on Election Day.

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Indonesia quake death toll tops 400

The death toll from an undersea quake off Indonesia’s Lombok island has topped 400, authorities said Monday, as bodies were still being recovered from the ruins of destroyed buildings.

The shallow 6.9-magnitude quake on August 5 killed at least 100 Afghans security personnel petrol in the city of Ghazni province west of Kabul

Sutopo Purwo Nugroho, spokesperson for Indonesia’s disaster management agency, said 17 were killed.

A doctor in the hospital’s intensive care unit said they had received over 80 dead bodies as of Sunday and had treated more than 160 patients, many of whom were injured by gunshots or shrapnel.

“The hospital is overwhelmed,” Andrea Catta Preta, spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Kabul, said.

Flash floods triggered by the annual monsoon rains have continued to kill people and displace families in Pakistan’s southwestern province of Balochistan.

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A total of 16,663 people have been killed and 41,456 injured, according to the national disaster agency.

At least 8 killed in Pakistan mine blast

No sooner had the family rushed out of the house,“The house was flooded and demolished their home,” Arif Omari, who was present in the house, said.

Two Afghan security personnel petrol in the city of Ghazni province west of Kabul

Ghazi Citadel, the Minaret of Ghazni, the Palace of Sultan Mas’ud III and several other cultural heritage-protected objects have brought travels and archeologists to the city for centuries, according to the Britton-Rabinowitz in Kabul, offering the assurance in Kabul, according to the Britton-Rabinowitz in Kabul, offering the assurance.

The Taliban swiftly responded to the blast at a weapons depot in Syria’s northwest Idlib province.

The explosion also killed more than 160 patients, many of whom were injured by gunshots or shrapnel.

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Turkey’s central bank yesterday sought to calm markets rattled by the precipitous plunge of the Turkish lira as a defiant President Recep Tayyip Erdogan endorsed the trip to seek to stab Ankara “in the back.”

A dispute between NATO allies Turkey and the United States – which reached new intensity over the detention of an American pastor – has hammered the lira and also raised questions over the future partnership between Washington and Ankara.

As the latest developments caused the lira to plunge further in value, investors fretted over potential economic contagion from Turkey, particularly to Europe.

The already embattled Turkish lira tumbled some 18 percent against the dollar on Friday as President Donald Trump said he had offered tariffs on steel and aluminium from Turkey.

“We are together in NATO and you seek to stab your strategic partner in the back. Can such a thing be accepted?”

Erdogan said at a conference in the capital Ankara.

After Erdogan’s speech, the lira was trading back at 6.9 to the dollar, a loss of seven percent on the day, recovering from even sharper losses in earlier Asian trade where it struck a record low of 7.2632 to the greenback.

In its first statement since what was dubbed “Black Fri- day” in Turkey, the central bank said it was ready to take “all necessary measures” to ensure financial stability, promising 100 billion lira banks with “all the liquidity” they need.

The bank also revised reserve requirement ratios for banks, in move also aimed at stemming capital flight and liquidity issues.

But to the dismay of markets, the statement gave no promise of rate hikes, which is what most economists and analysts say is needed to ease the crisis.

“Economic siege”

Erdogan indicated he was in no mood to offer concessions to the United States in one of the worst spats between the two NATO allies in years.

Erdogan and Turkey was fac- ing an “economic siege”, slam- ming the currency movements as an “attack against our coun- try.”

The Turkish leader has been sanguine over the punitive measures announced by the US, saying that while Turkey’s relationship with Washington is at stake it will look for other partners.

Analysts say that while Wash- ington’s sanctions against Anka- ra sparked the immediate crisis, Turkey’s economy has been rick- eting trouble for a while due to high inflation and the weak lira.

The central bank has over the last few weeks defied calls from markets for rate hikes to combat these problems, raising fears of interference from Erdogan who has repeatedly called for low interest rates.

Ninth of them seriously, officials said yesterday.

Korea to hold summit in September

North and South Ko- rea agreed yesterday to hold a summit in Pyongyang in September in a joint statement said, without giving a precise date.

A trip by the South’s Pres- ident Moon Jae-in to the North’s capital would be the first such visit for more than a decade, as the diplomati- c thaw on and around the peninsula builds.

But despite the ramp- ing interaction, interna- tional tension remains over North for its nuclear and missile programs, which have kept eco- nomic cooperation between two sides from taking off, while little progress has been made on key issue of North’s denuclearisation.

Hundreds hurt as Spain festival promenade collapses

AFP | Madrid

Picnic erupted at a packed music festival in northwest Spain when part of a wooden promenade suddenly collapsed, injuring more than 300 people, nine of whom seriously, officials said yesterday.

The seafront platform, which measures 30 metres by 10 me- tres (100 feet by 30 feet), was jammed with people watching a rap artist in the city of Vigo when part of it collapsed just before midnight on Sunday, mayor Abel Caballero said.

Rescuers armed with an in- frared camera combed the site for three hours to ensure no one remained trapped under the debris while divers searched the near- by sea, he said.

“Police got the people out of the area very quickly. There were two or three people who got trapped by debris, firefighters had to remove them and it was not easy to get them out,” he told Spanish television TVE.

It was not immediately clear what caused the collapse of the promenade, which was built in the 1990s, he said.

But the president of Vigo’s Port Authority said he thought it was due to “excess weight, to overcapacity”.

“That is what seems the most likely cause. We are going to order an expert study to see what may have happened,” he told TVE.

Local daily El Faro de Vigo said the promenade collapsed shortly after Spanish rap artist Rels B told the crowd to jump at the start of his concert.

Nine killed in Taiwan hospice blaze

AFP | Taipei

Nine people were killed and 60 injured in a blaze that broke out early yesterday at a hospice for the terminally ill near Taiwan’s capital Taipei, fire officials said.

All of the 44 people inside, including 33 patients, were evacuated after the fire started at the hospice on the seventh floor of a nine-storey govern- ment hospital in New Taipei city.

Sixteen patients had car- diac arrests and seven were revived.

The other nine died with the cause of death given as smoke inhalation, according to the local fire department.

New Taipei fire department told reporters an initial probe showed that the fire was likely caused by the short circuit of an electrical device.

“We are clarifying wheth- er it’s the power cable of the hospital’s electric bed or an air cushion bed brought in by relatives of a patient, he said.

One caregiver working in the hospice reported seeing a spark on the bed where the fire started, according to local media.

Local fire chief Huang Te- ching earlier denied reports the sprinkler system had mal- functioned.

Mammoth carcass found in Siberia could be of new species

The carcass of the extraordinary pygmy woolly mammoth found in Siberia is being studied for the study of mammoth fauna, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Sakha (Yaku- tia), insisted after examining the carcass that it is an adult not a baby and the specimen will be excavated from its inaccessible grave next summer.

Dr Protopopov, head of mam- moth fauna at the Academy of Sciences in the Siberian region of Yakutia, said: “It’s hairs look golden in the sun.

A stunning picture of the specimen shows that one task is fully intact, while the other has been broken or severed – with its ‘golden’ locks visible.

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In Troy, there lies the scene. From Isles of Did You Know?

Definition: Orgulous

1. Soon; 7- Marseille Mrs.; 10- Limos, hatchbacks, and coupes; 14- Sister of Venus; 15- Petroleum; 16- Work without ___; 17- 13- Remains; 21- Snoozed; 22- Fourth highest peak in the world; 23- 1978 Nobel sharer; 24- Common person of ancient Rome; 25- Hardened part of the skin; 26- Work without ___; 27- Hawaiian dances; 28- Jai ___; 29- Gibbon, e.g.; 30- Diddley; 31- Writing space; 33- Was in session; 34- Gallery

Across

18- Cargo; 43- Suffix with pay; 45- Suffix with pay; 46- Son-gun link; 47- Ark-eologist?; 48- Nitrogen compound; 51- Chowed down; 52- Cordage fiber; 53- To destroy oneself; 54- Place in position; 55- Walking; 56- WWII battle site; 57- U-tarn from oven; 58- Go between; 62- Nabisco treat; 63- dana tooth; 64- Wrestling hold; 65- Bud of “Harold and Maude”; 66- Poetic; 67- She’s a Dall;

YESTERDAY’S SOLUTION

Across

1- This; 2- Pince- ___; 3- Sheet music abbr.; 4- Unconventional person; 5- Inactive; 6- Currency unit in Western Samoa; 7- Muslim temple; 8- Laos; 9- “The Time Machine” people; 10- Hardened part of the skin; 11- For want of ___...; 12- Oscar de la ___; 13- Remains; 20- Smoused; 22- Fourth highest peak in the world; 23- 1978 Nobel sharer; 24- Common person of ancient Rome; 25- Alleviates; 26- Large artery; 30- Iraqi port; 31- Followed; 32- Not entirely; 33- Feel; 34- Special vocabulary; 35- 1986 Indy 500 winner Bobby; 36- One tenth, usually; 44- Place in position; 45- Walking; 46- Furry;

Down

1- Thor Heyerdahl craft; 41- Your, to Yves; 42- ___;

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 3x3 square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

SUDOKU

YESTERDAY’S SOLUTION

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TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2018

Bard’s day, orgulous dropped from sight for from Anglo-French orguillus. After the word first adopted in the 13th century Shakespeare begins the Trojan War tale Troilus sent their ships. “Thus William Shake-
Gemma pens short story about her bond character

IANS | Los Angeles

A tress Gemma Arterton has written a short story based on her Bond film character tied “Strawberry Fields.” The British actress starred in “Quantum of Solace” opposite Daniel Craig in 2008, and believes the high-profile role gave her a big career boost, while helping her secure the finances necessary to shoot her latest film “The Escape.”

“I’ve written this short story, which I could get in so much trouble for. It’s called Woke Bond Woman and it’s about what my Bond girl should have done, but it’s really funny,” Arterton told publication Cover Media.

Arterton thinks it is high time a woman took on the James Bond role, but she does not want a female 007 to become just like 007. “I’ve always thought there should be a Bond woman... but I would not want to see her take advantage of a young man,” the actress added.

But Arterton has other plans for herself, including a film project with Felicity Jones, thanks to the star’s commitment to the Time’s Up anti-harassment and equality movement.

Aretha Franklin is critically ill

IANS | Detroit

“Expect” fame singer Aretha Franklin is believed to be very ill, with the music icons family gathering at her bedside.

In his Showbiz 411 column, entertainment reporter Bog ton Friedman said: “Aretha is surrounded by family and people close to her. She will be so missed as a mother, sister, friend, cousin.”

The 76-year-old singer was diagnosed with cancer in 2010, and delivered her most recent performance at the Elton John AIDS Foundation party in New York last November.

“But her legacy is larger than life. It’s not just that Rolling Stones called her the number one singer of all time, or that she is the Queen of Soul. Long live the Queen,” added Friedman.

Franklin is won 17 Grammy awards, as well as three special recognitions from the academy, and even achieved a Golden Globe award for “Never gonna break my heart.”
Silva retires from Spain duty

Reuters | Madrid

Spanish midfielder David Silva has joined compatriots Andres Iniesta and Gerard Pique in retiring from international football.

The 32-year-old Manchester City playmaker won the World Cup in 2010 and the European Championship in 2008 and 2012, a key player during Spain’s golden era.

Silva scored 35 goals in 125 games for the national team over 12 years and was described as ‘Spain’s Lionel Messi’ by former coach Vicente del Bosque.

The midfielder was part of the squad which was surprisingly eliminated by hosts Russia in the last 16 of last month’s World Cup.

It is not easy, after all I’ve lived through, to sit and write these lines. It has been days and weeks of reflection and analysis to take the decision to end my era in the Spanish national team,” wrote Silva in an open letter on his Twitter account on Monday.

“Without a doubt it’s been one of the most difficult choices of my career, which I make with gratitude and humility,” he said.

“The national team has given me everything and allowed me to grow as a footballer and person since (playing in) the youth categories.”

Silva was brought into the side by the late Luis Aragonés and shone as Spain triumphed in Euro 2008, winning their first major trophy since 1964.

It was on his Twitter account on Monday, with the potential of a captain’s pick remaining to add to his squad Monday, with the potential of a captain’s pick remaining to add.

Brooks Koepka makes incredible comeback

AFP | St. Louis, United States

Sitting on a couch watching the Masters on television with an injured left wrist, Brooks Koepka never dreamed he would win two majors this year, much less battle his boyhood idols.

But the 28-year-old American did just that, defending his title at the US Open in June and taking his third major crown Sunday at the PGA Championship by two strokes over Tiger Woods.

“When I look at what I’ve done in the past two months, it’s incredible,” Koepka said.

“Looking where I was, sitting on my couch watching the Masters, to think I would do this, I would have laughed at you and told you there was no way, no chance. I can’t even believe it.”

As impressive as his long drives was Koepka’s coolness under pressure, a compass that has become a trademark.

“When I show up to the majors I’m very focused, very disciplined,” he said. “For some reason the majors get my attention. When you’re hitting at flags you have to be calm and focus on every shot.”

To battle Woods and 2013 Masters winner Adam Scott, an Australian who took third as a dream for Koepka.

“I told him it was in,” Koepka said. “It really was surreal.”

Woods was impressed with Koepka’s skill.

“We have to do that at the right moments in the biggest events. He’s got that mindset. There’s something inside his brain that makes him believe that’s what he’s destined to do.”

Koepka gets into a routine and keeps swing coach Claude Harmon III, his chef and physiotherapist near during majors.

“He has a unique ability on these really intense weeks to be the calmest he is all year,” Harmon said. “Brooks is a creature of habit. He enjoys keeping the same guys around him. He likes the routine. That’s one reason he’s so successful. He’s able to keep things normal. He doesn’t get too high. He doesn’t get too low.”

He admits being down when injured but adds, “I’ve never been more focused, more driven, more excited to play!”

Koepka has won three majors in 14 months, the fastest such run since Ireland’s Padraig Harrington took the 2007 British Open and 2008 US Open and PGA. Koepka was most proud of a 247-yard tee shot to six feet that set up a birdie at the par-3 16th hole.

“I hit a laser right at the flag,” he said. “That will probably go down as probably one of the best shots I’ve ever hit under pressure.”

USA confirms eight for Ryder Cup, door still open for Tiger

AFP | St. Louis, United States

US Ryder Cup captain Jim Furyk unveiled the first eight members of his squad Monday, with the potential of a captain’s pick remaining to add Tiger Woods to the lineup.


Four others who previously clinched positions were top-ranked Dustin Johnson, reigning Masters champion Patrick Reed, third-ranked 2017 PGA winner Justin Thomas and second-ranked Brooks Koepka, this year’s Championship and US Open winner.

Furyk will make four captain’s picks in early September, potentially including Woods, before the Americans defend the trophy against Europe at the Golf National near Paris on September 28-30.

The US captain has previously singled out Woods as a potential captain’s pick. And the former world number one strengthened his case for inclusion in the team with a second place finish in the PGA Championship.

The 14-time major champion, eight months into his comeback following spinal fusion surgery, fired a six-under 66 in the final round at Bellaire Country Club to finish second to two-time US Open champion Koepka in two shots.

Woods has already been selected as a vice-captain of the Ryder Cup team.

Abu Dhabi to Host BRAVE 16

TDT | Manama

The Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, Honourary President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the UAE, will organise the 16th edition of BRAVE CF, previously known as BRAVE Kickboxing Federation Mohammed Shahid, which will take place again during the UAE National Day on September 21.

By naming the same squad, England and named unchanged 13-man squad on Monday for the third Test against India at Trent Bridge starting Saturday, where victory would see them clinch the series.

Stokes’ ongoing trial on a charge of affray in Bristol saw him left out by England as they toured India by an innings and 159 runs in the second Test at Lord’s on Sunday to go 2-0 up with three to play in the five-match campaign.

However, a brief statement issued by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said they would review Stokes’ position following the conclusion of the trial, which is expected to end by the third week of September.

“The ECB will make an assessment of Ben Stokes’s availability after the trial in Bristol has concluded,” the statement said.

 Fellow pace-bowling all-rounder Chris Woakes, who took Stokes’s place, starred with both bat and ball in a man-of-the-match display at Lord’s. Woakes made 137 not out, his maiden Test century, and also took four wickets as England defended their 155-run lead to win.

By naming the same squad, England retained uncapped Essex pace-man Jamie Porter and off-spinner Moeen Ali, both of whom missed out on a place in their side that played at Lord’s.
Emery needs time to rebuild Arsenal: Cech

Nadal withdraws from Cincinnati Masters

Nadal found world number one Nadal an obstacle too far as the Spaniard ran out 6-2 7-6 (7/4) winner at the Toronto Masters

Halep takes Montreal crown

Tsvitsipas found world number one Nadal an obstacle too far as the Spaniard ran out 6-2 7-6 (7/4) winner at the Toronto Masters
Lewandowski hat-trick leads Bayern to Frankfurt cup revenge

Bayern's Alaba escapes ligament damage

Bayern's Robert Lewandowski in action

Barca rallies to win Spanish Supercup

Dembele puts troubles Barca past behind him

A brilliant hat-trick from Robert Lewandowski led Bayern Munich to a comfortable 5-0 victory over Eintracht Frankfurt in Sunday's German Supercup, giving former Frankfurt coach Niko Kovac a memorable start to his reign at the Bavarian giants.

Kovac returned to Frankfurt for his first competitive game in charge of the Bundesliga winner having ended two successful years at Eintracht with a shock win over Bayern in last season's German Cup final.

Yet there was no time for sentimentality on Sunday as Baye-

ron took brutal revenge for their cup humiliation, Lewandowski leading the Frankfurt defence to task.

"It was a really good perfor-
mance today, we scored at all the right moments," Kovac told ZDF.

"Of course I feel some sympathy for my former players and

for my former club, but I think it will still be a good season for

Frankfurt.

"I am very optimistic for this season. I have a great team and a

lot of strength in depth."

A ruthless Bayern took the lead with their first chance after

21 minutes. Joshua Kimmich's cross picked out Lewandowski

at the far post and the Polish star

fired a header across Freder-

ik Ronnow in the Frankfurt goal.

The striker nodded in a sec-
dond from almost exactly the

same position five minutes later, heading Arjen Robben's corner past the stranded Ronnow.

The game could have turned in Frankfurt's favour just before

half-time when Mats Hummels

escaped with a yellow card after

bringing down Mikel Guzmán

in front of goal.

At the other end, Le-

wandowski faced increasingly

Bayern rallies to win

Spanish Supercup

Dembele delivers his new star to the first trophy of the Spanish football season

Ousmane Dembele in action

Barcelona battled back to
defeat Sevilla 2-1 and win the Spanish Supercup on Sunday with winner Ousmane Dembele hitting a sensational winner to
give Lionel Messi a win-
ing start as captain.

It was Barcelona's 13th Su-

percup and sixth in the last nine seasons.

However, Sevilla squandered

a golden chance to send the

match into extra-time when

Wissam Ben Yedder missed a

last-minute penalty.

Pablo Sarabia gave Sevilla the

lead after just nine minutes on

a counter-attack.

Gerard Piqué, who announced

his international retirement

with Spain on Saturday, levelled

three minutes before the inter-

val for Barcelona after he was

fastest to react to a loose ball

following a Messi free-kick.

That set the stage for French
dembele to take the head-

lines with a 79th minute scream-

er from 25 yards and again Mes-

si played a crucial role with

the key pass.

There was still time for late
drama when Barca goalkeeper

Marc-André Ter Stegen brought

down Aílex Vidal in the area as

the Sevilla youngster closed in

on an equaliser.

But Ben Yedder hit a weak

penalty which was easily saved

by Ter Stegen.

The match had endured a

controversial build-up when

Sevilla threatened to file a com-

plaint against Barcelona if the

Liga champions fielded more

than three non-EU players.

The Spanish football fed-

eration (RFEF) said on Sat-

day that there would be no

restrictions on players from

outside the EU for the Super-

cup, despite only three being

allowed in squads for league

matches.

Sevilla said they could file a

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Wayne Rooney (left) set up the winner for Luciano Acosta - bringing up the Argentinian's hat-trick - seconds after a last-ditch tackle while his
goaliekeeper was ungloved.

AFP | Washington

A moment of magic from

Wayne Rooney fired DC United to a last-gasp 2-1 vic-

tory over Orlando in Major League Soccer on Sunday.

The two sides had appeared to be heading for a 2-2 draw at Audi Field as Orlando broke out following a United corner in the fifth minute of stoppage time.

With United goalkeeper Da-

vid Ousted stranded upfield, Orlando’s Will Johnson ad-

vanced past halfway with an empty net ahead of him.

But a superb last-ditch
tackle from Rooney unsped Dusted, and the former Eng-

gland and Manchester United star then launched a long ball into the area met by Luciano Acosta, who nodded home the winner.

Argentinian striker Acos-

ta’s goal completed a hat-trick
give United a vital three points as they attempt to move

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Neymar scored his first goal for Paris Saint-Germain since February as the French champions kicked off the new Ligue 1 season with a 3-0 defeat of Caen on Sunday.

The Brazilian star, who scored 19 times in 20 league games before fracturing his foot last season, struck just 10 minutes into his first start for the club in almost six months.

Adrien Rabiot netted a second for the visitors before half-time and Timothy Weah, the son of 1995 Ballon d’Or winner and Liberia president George Weah, rounded out the victory with his first league goal.

Gianluigi Buffon also produced a couple of sharp saves on his home bow in goal for PSG as coach Thomas Tuchel made a winning start at the Parc des Princes.

“We played a good match with lots of intensity, especially in the first half. In the second half we managed things a bit more because we’re not yet at 100,” PSG captain Thiago Silva told Canal+.

“Some players arrived late (for pre-season) and are not ready, like myself for example. At the end of the match I had a lot of cramps, but well done to all the team for the match we played today. We’re going to make more progress.”

German Tuchel, who replaced Unai Emery on a two-year deal, was without a host of first-team regulars as PSG’s trio of World Cup winners -- Kylian Mbappe, Presnel Kimpembe and Alphonse Areola -- showed off the trophy to fans before kick-off.

Edinson Cavani and Marco Verratti were also absent as Tuchel handed starts to youngsters Colin Dagba and Stanley N’Soki in defence, and fellow 19-year-old Antoine Bernede in midfield.

After appearing in a 15-minute cameo at the end of last weekend’s 4-0 rout of Monaco in the Champions Trophy in China, Neymar made a long-awaited return to the line-up in Paris.

He needed little time to leave his mark as Caen goalkeeper Brice Samba was punished for a sloppy pass, with Christopher Nkunku setting Neymar up for a calm, side-footed finish on his left foot.

Angel Di Maria, on target twice in the victory over Monaco, laid the ball on a plate for Rabiot to add PSG’s second on 35 minutes.

The Argentine winger’s acceleration took him past Alexander Djiku and into the Caen area where he crossed for a charging Rabiot to tap in from close range.

Silva was indebted to the quick reflexes of Buffon on the stroke of halftime when an attempt to head clear a cross left his keeper scrambling to turn the ball behind.

Stef Peeters had Buffon beaten after the break when his free-kick smacked against the inside of the post, while a combination of Samba and the woodwork then denied Weah on 85 minutes.

But the US international pounced on another mistake by Samba a minute from time, Weah forcing the ball over the line after catching the Caen keeper in possession.

Earlier, Bertrand Traore and Memphis Depay scored for Lyon in a 2-0 victory over Amiens.

Burkina Faso forward Traore fired Lyon ahead on 24 minutes when he broke down the right side of the area and sneaked the ball through the legs of Amiens goalkeeper Regis Gurtner.