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#### 11th Hour

#### **Top US official** telephones FM

Manama

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, yesterday received a telephone call from the United States Acting Secretary of State, John Sullivan. Both reviewed the bilateral relations, the close strategic alliance and means of enhancing cooperation in all fields to achieve the interests of the two countries and the two friendly peoples.





This #JackieRobinsonDay, I join in celebrating his legendary life and career-and his vision for a more inclusive America. His legacy of breaking barriers continues to impact and inspire. As Jackie said: "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives."

@BillClinton





**PSG thrash AS** Monaco to clinch Ligue 1 title

housing needs **DT News Network** 

he Cabinet chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday reviewed the housing needs, especially in villages where the land is scarce.

Manama

In this regard, HRH Prime Minister was informed about various measures taken by the authorities to address the housing demand.

Implementing new housing projects in cities and villages are under consideration.

HRH Premier stressed the need to take the nature of the Bahraini society into account while implementing the new

housing projects as reflected in the prevailing social fabric in villages and towns.

HRH Premier also requested the Housing Ministry to meet the housing needs of the Sanabis villagers in the nearby housing projects and the Northern City.

The Cabinet also discussed two proposals submitted by the Council of Representatives on postponing housing instalments, and allocating land lot for services and facilities in Hamad Town, and approved the government's replies to them, as recommended by the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs, and presented by the Deputy Premier and committee chairman.



HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa



Akshaya Tritiya Special Supplement

▶ P12-13



**Bahrainis** dominate finance sector jobs

**▶** P 09



May defends Syria strikes



M reviews village

#### ▶P 24



مجمع البحرين . البحرين سيتي سنتر ، مجمع الإنماء (الرفاع) ، مجمع السيف (المحرق) The Bahrain Mall • Bahrain City Centre • Enma Mall (Riffa) • Seef Mall (Muharraq)

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# Panel mulls tough penalties for misuse of social media

muhannad@dt.bh

#### Manama

t a time when the misuse A of social media networks has been rapidly increasing, a committee in the Council of Representatives yesterday discussed toughening penalties for such offences with heavy jail terms and fines.

During their weekly meeting, the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee members yesterday announced that they're studying deterrent punishments for crimes such as defamation using any means of social media networks, introducing fines of up to BD20, 000 and imprisonment of three

Committee Head The Abdullah Binhowail said in

the council yesterday that "the committee discussed amending the Kingdom's Penal Code by toughening the punishment for committing the acts of publishing news, pictures or comments relating to the privacy of individuals or family life of individuals, even if they are true, if publicising it is considered an abuse to them".

The lawmaker underlined that "the amendment stipulates that such acts are considered an aggravating circumstance if they were committed using any mean of social media networks".

#### BD10,000 to 20,000 penalty

The discussed penalties were imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years and fines between BD10, 000 and BD20,

Binhowail added, "The amendment aims at ensuring mutual respect between members of the society, curbing the recently spreading insults and verbal abuse phenomenon on social media networks, ensuring freedom of expression within the framework of the law and without insulting others, and introducing deterrent punishments for such offences.

The committee plans to discuss the amendment with several official authorities that include Interior Ministry and the National Institution for Human Rights before it could refer it to the Council for more discussion and approval.

As reported on DT News recently, the misuse of social have become a concern in Bahrain lately.

This comes as various accounts appeared on social networks, mainly Twitter, spreading personal and abusive information about Bahrain's leadership and citizens.

On March 31, Royal Guard Commander Staff Brigadier HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa warned of malicious attempts on social media to sow sedition and called on all citizens to ignore the tendentious social media accounts as well as the rumours and fallacies posted on them to defame the Kingdom's leadership and people.

"This requires a decisive stand against suspicious calls to undermine the strong and The Foreign Affairs, Defence and **National Security Committee** members yesterday announced that they're studying deterrent punishments for crimes such as defamation using social media networks and introducing fines of up to BD20, 000 and imprisonment of three years

deep-rooted relationship between the Leadership and the Bahraini people," he said back then.

Interior Minister Lieutenant-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa also affirmed in a statement released

on March 25 that "tough steps will be taken to deal with the unprecedented chaos created by disruptive social media accounts"

Since then, the Interior Ministry has announced the arrest of at least seven people for committing offences related to misuse of social media.



# Focus on peace, security

**HM King attends Joint Gulf Shield-1** military drill conclusion

onsidered one of the largest in the world, the Joint Gulf Shield-1 military drill was held yesterday in the Eastern province of Saudi Arabia with the participation of 25 countries.

Bahrain Defence Force represented the Kingdom in the drill held in

the presence of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa and Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

The exercise was aimed at improving military readiness, modernise joint mechanisms and enhance coordination and cooperation to maintain regional security and confront all challenges and threats.

Taking pride in Bahrain's participation, His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa stressed the Kingdom's resolve to achieve security and peace in the region and the world.

"Bahrain always stood united with brothers and friends, assuming military and noble humanitarian duties," said HM the King who attended the ceremony at the invitation of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

His Majesty said that the

continuous BDF participation in the Operation Restore Hope, under the Saudi-led Arab Alliance, aims to support justice and peace and provide humanitarian relief aid to the Yemeni brethren.

Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) took part in the Saudiled military exercise in Eastern province, among twenty-five countries.

Before the start of the ceremony, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques received leaders and senior representatives of the brotherly and friendly countries taking part in the drill, in the presence of Saudi Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Defence Minister His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud.

The Saudi Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Fayyadh bin Hamid Al-Rwaili

delivered a speech, paying tribute to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for patronizing the final ceremony. He said that the Gulf Shield Exercise 1, which represents an extension of previous joint exercises such as the North Thunder Exercise, aims at consolidating security and enhancing the professional competence and combat readiness of the forces taking part in the drill.

HM the King attended a lunch banquet hosted by the Saudi leader in honour of the Arab leaders attending the conclusion of the Joint Gulf Shield-1 military drill. He then bade farewell to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and thanked him on the kind invitation, wishing the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its brotherly people further progress and prosperity.





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#### **Apply for polytechnic courses**

DT News Network Manama

Bahrain Polytechnic yesterday started accepting applications for the academic year 2018-19.

Applications this year will be accepted only through online process. Last day of accepting application will be 4th June 2018.

"The applicant would just need to fill the online application form through the Polytechnic website (http:// www.polytechnic.bh), pay the application fee (BD 20 nonrefundable) online by debit or credit card," said Ahmed Malalla, Bahrain Polytechnic's Director of Registry

Applicants are also required to submit the following documents: an original and copy of passport and smart card, one passport size photo, high school transcript,



Ahmed Malalla

evidence of good conduct (not more than one-year-old). medical examination certificate from the governmental health centre.

"The Registry Directorate will then verify the documents, go through the selection process, and send emails to the applicants with the date for the entry tests," said Malalla.

Applicants are required

to apply to more than one educational institution to ensure the potential applicant does not miss the opportunity for higher education.

"Applicants who meet the minimum high school GPA requirements of at least 70% (to be provided with the graduation certificate), and pass the entry test scheduled to begin on 23rd April 2018 are not guaranteed to be selected, as it depends on the programme requirements and the number of vacant seats in that year," he added.

Bahrain Polytechnic offers the  $following a cademic \, programmes:$ Bachelor of Business, Bachelor of International Logistics Management, Bachelor of Information and Communications Technology, Bachelor of Engineering Technology, Bachelors of Web Media, Bachelor of Visual Design.







Near Al Hayat Shopping Centre

# Govt to implement plan to tackle stray dogs menace

Manama

Awell-studied plan by the Government to resolve the increasing numbers of stray dogs will soon be implemented, it was officially announced yesterday.
Few days after Works,

Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry announced that it will begin the second phase of addressing the widespread phenomenon of stray dogs in residential areas, Agriculture Acting Assistant Undersecretary Dr. Ibrahim Yousif confirmed that a meeting was held to discuss the mechanisms of implementing the plan, which includes cooperating with private sector's licensed veterinarian clinics to carry out castration process on stray dogs to stop their breeding.

Dr. Yousif confirmed that the ministry will call on the clinics to offer their tenders

**Agriculture Acting Assistant Undersecretary** Dr. Ibrahim **Yousif** confirmed that a mechanism has been devised to tackle the stray dogs menace which includes castration

through Bahrain Tender Board.

He commented, "This meeting reflects the beginning of the joint work between the municipalities in the Ministry and the private sector to reduce the phenomenon of



stray dogs.

The official also said that it was also discussed during the meeting, the of strengthening means of the current campaign procedures to presently deal with the phenomenon of stray dogs and in the long term, in accordance with the standards and methods used at the global level".

ministry announced on Thursday that it will bear the costs of carrying out these operations until the completion of the construction of a permanent shelter for stray animals within this year in Ma'ameer village.

#### **Driver detained** for performing car stunts

**DT News Network** Manama

The Public Prosecution yesterday announced the detention of a driver for performing car stunts, the video footage of the illegal act

Traffic Prosecution Chief Attorney Hassan Al Buali confirmed in a statement that the prosecution initiated its investigations into the video, which appeared online yesterday and showed the man dangerously performing the stunts using illegal tyres and near pedestrians and private properties.

Al Buali said the investigations led to the man, who was immediately arrested. Further probe showed that the man doesn't hold a driver's

The official added that the suspect confessed to his crimes in the interrogation and that he will stand trial before the criminal court tomorrow (18/4). At least seven similar cases were reported this year, in a bid by the concerned authorities to impose tighter control on illegal traffic practices and behaviours.

#### Jerusalem capital of Arab tourism

**DT News Network** Manama

Arab Tourism Organization (ATO) has declared Jerusalem as the 'Capital of Arab Tourism' for 2018. The announcement was made by the President of Arab Tourism Organization, Dr. Bandar bin Fahad Al Fuhaid during the 20th session of the Arab Ministerial Council for Tourism held in Cairo.

Al Fuhaid expressed his gratitude to the President of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage and Honorary President of ATO and Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdul Aziz, for supporting the announcement.

He praised the support provided by the Arab tourism ministers and Arab League towards promoting tourism in the Arab world.

Dr. Bandar confirmed that declaring Jerusalem as the 'Capital of Arab Tourism' reflects the Organization and the Arab Ministerial Council for Tourism's continued efforts to highlight its

Canadian accreditation renewed

importance as a historical and religious destination, further strengthening its relationship with citizens of the Arab nations. It also reflects the interest of Arab leaders and Secretary-General of the Arab League in preserving Jerusalem's Arab-Islamic identity.

The selection of the 'Capital of Arab Tourism' is an annual occurrence, which chooses a destination based on its historical and tourism offerings.

#### **ADMISSIONS IS ONGOING** FOR THIRD TRIMESTER **ACADEMIC YEAR 2018-2017**

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Officials of Health Directorate during the meeting

#### **DT News Network** Manama

he Directorate of Health and The Directorate of Francisco Accreditation Canada Agreement as part of an official visit of a delegation from the international organisation to the department. The latest development of the programme and the upcoming plans were reviewed during a joint meeting that was attended by the Assistant Undersecretary of Administration Affairs, Director of Health and Social Affairs and experts.

Director department, Major Fatima Omar Abdulrahman asserted that the agreement includes accreditation of the Public Security Health Centre and seven clinics, along with the new standards that would be launched in 2019.

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# Cabinet hails outcome of 29th Arab Summit



#### **DT News Network**

he Cabinet chaired by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa yesterday welcomed the outcome of the 29th Arab Summit held in Dhahran and said that the keynote speech delivered by His Majesty King Hamad bin İsa Al Khalifa at the summit fully expressed the Kingdom's firm stance towards various Arab issues as well as its support for Arab solidarity.

**Traffic Law amendment** 

Welcoming the "positive results of the Jerusalem Summit", the Cabinet observed that the conference was "constructive and fruitful" in serving joint Arab action and strengthening unified Arab stance towards the multiple challenges facing the Arab Nation.

The cabinet also welcomed the Summit's final communiqué aimed at strengthening joint Arab action. The session also appreciated the Arab Summit for backing Bahrain's measures

to safeguard its security and capabilities against foreign interference in its domestic affairs as well as for showing full-fledged support for the Kingdom in tackling terror groups seeking to undermine its security and stability.

The session also lauded the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud for the wise management of the 29th Arab Summit and praised the strenuous efforts made by sisterly Saudi Arabia to ensure its success.

**Economy in good shape** 

The Cabinet reviewed the main economic data for the year 2017, and expressed satisfaction with its positive economic indicators, including the remarkable growth in various economic sectors, reflecting Bahrain's ability to deal with the challenges thanks to the key role played by the successful government policies and the activities of the private sector in pushing economic growth

Figures highlighted in the presentation of the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism showed a remarkable 4.1 per cent increase in the GDP in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to 2016, amounting to BD 12.4 billion.

The GDP data also indicated that non-oil trade volume had reached BD 7.6 billion, posting an increase of 10pc compared to 2016, with Bahraini non-oil exports reaching BD 2 billion, or going up by 16pc.

#### **Security cooperation**

The session discussed Bahrain's signing of a draft comprehensive agreement that promotes security cooperation among Arab countries. Presented by the Minister of the Interior, the agreement aims to enhance cooperation among the States Parties on preventing and combating various types of crimes, arresting the perpetrators and exchanging information and experiences, as the best means to combat and address various forms of criminality.

While reviewing the memoranda on its agenda, the session

approved a draft-law on amending the Traffic Law to allow

for more out-of-court settlement cases, including cases of

crossing the traffic signals and exceeding the prescribed

speed limits resulting in no deaths or injuries, misusing

vehicle registration plates or failing to place them in the

correct place, in addition to cases stipulated in the current

Aiming to ensure easy procedures for the citizens and residents, the bill on amending some provisions of Law

23/2014, highlighted in a memorandum presented by the

Deputy Premier and Chairman of the Ministerial Committee

for Legal Affairs, was referred to the Legislative Branch.

A draft-law on ratifying the agreement was referred to the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs.

#### **Industrial licenses**

The Cabinet was also informed that 91 industrial licenses had been issued in 2017 with a total investment value of BD 93 million.

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa during the Cabinet meeting held at Gudaibiya Palace yesterday

#### **Cabinet decisions**

- The Cabinet endorsed, based on a recommendation by the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs and highlighted in the memorandum presented by the Deputy Premier and committee chairman, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Bahrain's National Space Science Agency and the UAE's Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre. Under the MoU, the two sides will exchange expertise, information and data in the field of space images applications, which will contribute to building national capacities.
- The session approved a draft air services agreement between Bahrain and Brunei Darussalam, for the aim of enhancing bilateral cooperation in the field of air transportation, as well as in expanding international air service opportunities between them. The Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications was mandated to sign the agreement, which replaces the one signed between the two sides in 1990, on behalf of the Kingdom of Bahrain, based on a recommendation by the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs, highlighted in the memorandum presented by the Deputy Premier and committee chair-
- The Cabinet referred to the Ministerial Committee for Legal Affairs an MoU between Bahrain's Capital Trustees' Board and its Moroccan Rabat counterpart on municipal work. The MoU, highlighted in the presentation of the Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, aims to ensure that Bahrain takes advantage of Morocco's experience in the field of municipal work and urban planning, as well as pave the way for exchanging expertise in this regard.
- The session referred to the Legislature two draft-laws which had been drafted based on proposals from Council of Representatives, along with the memoranda including the government's opinion on them. They included a bill on adding a new clause to Article (2) of Law 58/2006 on Protecting Society from Terrorist Acts, and another on amending Article (327) of Decree-Law 12/1971 with respect to the Civil and Commercial Procedures Law.

Inspectors yet to gain access to Douma Moscow blamed the delay on the Western air strikes.

#### The Hague

Western accused countries Moscow on Monday of preventing inspectors from reaching the site of a suspected poison gas attack in Syria and said Russians or Syrians may have tampered with evidence on the ground.

The United States, Britain and France launched air strikes on Saturday against what they described as three Syrian chemical weapons targets in retaliation for a suspected gas attack in the

#### "I can guarantee that Russia has not tampered with the site,"

Damascus suburb of Douma on April 7.

Inspectors from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) went to Syria last week to inspect the Douma site but have yet to gain access to the town, which is now under government control after the rebels

withdrew.

"It is our understanding the Russians may have visited the attack site," U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Ward said at a meeting of the OPCW in The Hague on Monday.

"It is our concern that they may have tampered with it with the intent of thwarting the efforts of the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission to conduct an effective investigation," he said. His comments at the closed-door meeting were obtained by Reuters.

Russian Foreign Minister

Sergei Lavrov denied that Moscow had interfered with any evidence: "I can guarantee that Russia has not tampered with the site," he told the BBC in an interview.

The inspectors aim to collect samples, interview witnesses and document evidence to determine whether banned toxic munitions were used, although they are not permitted to assign blame for the attack.

"Unfettered access is the British essential." delegation said in a statement.

#### US envoy says Russia may tampered with evidence, Moscow denies

#### Get '50% cashback' on tickets at Cineco through bwallet



From left, Shiraz Ali – Director of Frictionless Payments, AFS; B Chandrasekhar - CEO, AFS; Bayalan Sunil Balan - COO, Cineco; Kunal Taneja- Head of Operational Risk and Information Security, AFS; Pranay Upadhyay – Manager of Merchant Services, AFS.

#### Manama

bwallet's exclusive offer of "50% Cashback" on movie tickets at Cineco is valid until September, 2018.

The cashback offer currently available exclusively at Cineco Seef Mall, Seef District (Seef 1 and Seef 2) will be available soon across Cineco's in Bahrain, bwallet said in a statement.

bwallet, the first wallet in Bahrain to provide peer-to-peer money transfer, was launched earlier this year. Customers can scan a QR code for seamless merchant transactions and enjoy secure cashless payments with exclusive benefits through their mobile phones.

"This innovative payment service coupled with exclusive offers has placed bwallet as the leader in the digital payments sector across Bahrain. We are proud of our partnership with Cineco and we continue to strive in providing our bwallet customers with the best offers," AFS CEO B Chandrasekhar

COO of Cineco, Bayalan Sunil Balan added: "Digital banking and customer centricity must add value and satisfaction to the end customers by offering a seamless banking experience which goes far in product and service offerings. Cineco is proud to be part of the digital transformation and shift in consumer purchasing behaviours and we look forward to our continued business relationship with bwallet.'

#### By Invitation



Dr. Jassim Haji

#### **Mobile Data on Moon surface**

Scientists teams up in Germany to bring mobile data roaming to the surface of the Moon – and the cost needn't be astronomical!

No need to worry about letting people know that you've arrived safely on the Moon – you'll be able to check in on Facebook and send a selfie from the lunar surface thanks to a new partnership between Berlin-based Scientists and international (soon to be lunar) mobile communications operator.

Pioneering new-space company, is working with Vodafone to deliver the first mobile data (4G LTE) base-station to the lunar surface. Not only will this enable super-fast data access for those of you who make it to the Moon, but it will provide essential communications support their upcoming Mission to

This is a crucial first step for sustainable exploration of the solar system. In order for humanity to leave the cradle of Earth, they need to develop infrastructures beyond our home planet. With Mission to the Moon that will establish and test the first elements of a dedicated communications network on

Investing in vital infrastructure is always costly, and the additional hurdle of launching equipment into space only adds to the expense. But scientists have designed their lunar lander, to double up as a communications base station in order to keep

In addition, using commercially available technology that's already in a billion mobile devices on Earth, scientists are creating a network that will be accessible to future lunar explorers - and maybe even the first settlers on the Moon.

The group aim is to be the first commercial company to land on the Moon and will be launching their mission next year. They are sending a pair of small, but sophisticated, rovers to explore the final landing site in the US Apollo programme.

Their rovers are packed with sensors and equipped with high definition cameras. They will be collecting a lot of scientific data on the Moon and the high-speed data connectivity that LTE gives us will enable the rovers to communicate with lunar lander to send that valuable data back to Earth.

The benefit of using LTE data connectivity is that it uses drastically less energy than traditional radio communications. This means that large amounts of data can be transferred from the rover, via lunar lander, and back to Earth, without the risk of draining the rovers' batteries, or requiring them to stop each time they have data to transmit. The less energy they use sending data, the more they have to do science.

Once the spacecraft has safely landed the pair of Audi lunar rovers on the Moon, it will act as a base station enabling high speed data connectivity between all vehicles. What's more, it can also be used as a navigation beacon for future missions landing on the lunar surface.

"Together with the PTScientists we are embarking on a journey to space, enabling Germany's first private Moon landing. All whilst establishing the first LTE network in space." says the CEO of Vodafone Germany, Hannes Ametsreiter. "With this this step we are laying the groundwork for all future moon missions to come. When Elon Musk sends his first private passengers to Orbit the Moon in 2018 or ESA opens the doors of its moon village our Vodafone LTE network will already be there. With our contribution, we don't just want to enable space based infrastructures but show that with bravery, pioneering spirit and inventive talent made in Germany great things can be achieved.

The consumer market for mobile data on the Moon may be some way off, but PTS cientists believe that building versatile infrastructures is the key to make humanity a fully-fledged space-faring species. Not only will they reap the benefit of connectivity during next year's Mission to the Moon, but they are delivering an important first piece of equipment for a future space communications network.

(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.)

# New ISO boost for Kanoo Shipping



From left, Jameel Al Sharaf, Group Corporate Services Manager, Fawzi Ahmed Kanoo, Deputy CEO of YBA Kanoo Group and Robert Moss, Executive General Manager of Kanoo Shipping & Logistics

anoo Shipping, a business division of the Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo Group (YBA Kanoo), achieved a milestone of having all branches across Bahrain and Saudi Arabia upgraded to the new "ISO 9001-2015" Standard certification.

The new standard, according to YBA Kanoo, helps to improve overall performance and provides a sound basis for sustainable development initiatives, which fits into the Group's Vision 2020 transformation programme.

"Upgrading to ISO 9001 - 2015 in Kanoo Shipping branches reflects our serious commitment towards delivering sustainable excellence through all the Group's businesses. This achievement came as a direct result of the accurate implementation of the systems by the operations and support team in respective branches,"

Fawzi Ahmed Kanoo, YBA Kanoo's Acting CEO said.

Branches of Kanoo Shipping, which received the ISO 9001 – 2015 upgrade are in Dammam, Riyadh, Jeddah, Rabigh, Jubail, Khafji, Ras Tanura, all in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as well as the branch in Bahrain.

#### Get ready for "Sawasdee Thailand" festival



The festival will be held on April 23 at The Gulf Hotel Convention & Spa –Royal Thai Restaurant

#### Manama

The Gulf Hotel Convention & Spa -Royal Thai Restaurant is holding "Sawasdee Thailand" festival Restaurant in collaboration with the Thai Embassy of Bahrain.

The festival, held on 23rd of April, will feature cultural performers specially flown in from Thailand along

with exotic and sumptuous delicacies. Royal Thai Restaurant is the winner of the Food & Travel awards best Thai cuisine.

The event will feature dancers, fruit carvers and umbrella painters, in addition to a specialty menu created by Chef Tawatchi. "I am excited to present the very best of Thai

cuisine that will be created from the freshest ingredients along with traditional cooking methods and innovative recipes," said Chef Tawatchi.

Hathaichanok Frumau -Charge d' affaires of the Thai Embassy said, "The Sawasdee Thaliand"! Thai food and culture festival represents the cultural and artistic overview

kingdom, since opening in 2002 and with the recent awards, Royal Thai has been also honoured with the Thai Select Awards, and is now officially listed on the website of the Thai trade ministry as one of the exceptional places to dine in Bahrain," -Fares Yactine,

"We are honoured that

the Royal Thai Restaurant! Royal Thai is by far, the

ideal Thai restaurant in the

The Gulf Hotel Bahrain, General

of what Thailand has on offer!" "With the support of our sponsors namely LuLu Hypermarket, Sri Lankan Airlines and The Gulf Hotel Bahrain, this is a onetime opportunity that shouldn't be missed and I thank you all for your kind support and commitment," added Frumau.

#### **Mumtalakat names** new board for Danat



Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa

Bahrain Mumtalakat
Holding Company
(Mumtalakat), the sovereign wealth fund of the Kingdom, announced the appointment of the board of directors at Bahrain Institute for Pearls and Gemstones (DANAT).

Chaired by Yaser Abduljalil Alsharifi, the new board of directors at DANAT comprises: Rashad Redha Faraj, Amal Ishaq AlKooheji, Yusuf Abdulrahman Fakhro,

Nouf Abdulrahman Jamsheer, Mohamed Abdulrazaq Shirazi, Danielle Pasquarelli Algosaibi, Khalid Mohammad Matar and Latifa Yousuf Salahuddin.

Commenting on the move, Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of Mumtalakat said, "The new Board members bring with them deep industry knowledge, strengthening the DANAT management team's ability to successfully execute the Institute's strategy and ensure global impact.'

#### **Enhancing the role** of internal audit



#### Manama

KPMG's survey findings show that there is a gap between the expectations from Internal Audit (IA) as a function and the views of internal auditors in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

According to a new KPMG in Bahrain study titled 'Bahrain internal audit survey 2018: Enhancing the strategic value of Internal Audit', more than half of the surveyed IA professionals (65 percent) consider IA to be a support function rather than a strategic player.

The survey report is based on the analysis of responses from IA professionals in the Kingdom of Bahrain, to obtain perspectives on the roles and responsibilities of IA and how they see the role of IA evolving.

The survey respondents also revealed their aspiration to see the role of internal auditors evolve into a more strategic

According to the report, the future of IA also depends on its ability to embrace emerging technologies. Although digital transformation in IA is in its infancy stage in Bahrain, a majority of the surveyed IA professionals (95 percent) believed that the adoption of technology can trigger greater efficiency.

Jeyapriya Partiban, partner and head of Risk Consulting at KPMG in Bahrain elaborated on the report's findings and said, "Having had the opportunity to work with clients from across a full spectrum of size, industry and sector; we have been able to witness and experience first-hand as to how the rapid advancements of digitalization, data analytics, and other technologies impact businesses; and more specifically the IA functions and related activities in the marketplace."

## Bahrain international eGovt forum on way

The 9th edition of Bahrain International eGovernment Forum 2018 will be held on 7th & 8th October by the Information & eGovernment Authority

The event will be held under the patronage of Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, the Deputy

Prime Minister Chairman of the Supreme Committee for Information and Communication Technology.

iGA Chief Executive Mohamed Ali AlQaed said more than 400 participants are expected to take part in the forum which will discuss papers on the latest ICT developments.

Specialized papers on

cloud computing, ePayment initiatives, Smart City Technologies, Information Security, eTransformation amongst many others will be discussed on the occasion.

The forum will also focus on the current trends in Block Chain, Data Analysis and future trends to benefit while implementing development policies in the country.





# **Industry Ministry** gets ISO 9001:2015

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism has obtained the Quality Management System Certificate ISO 9001:2015.





#### Sets high standards

The award honours Ministry's commitment to ensure that its services are provided with high standards according to international prac-



The Undersecretary of Commerce Affairs Nader Al Moayyed received CEO of Bureau Veritas Company, the company that granted Quality Management System Certificate ISO: 2015

This achievement stems from the continuous desire to work according to global methodologies and systems. The Ministry was awarded the first certificate in 2002 and the Ministry is keen to pass the external audit on an annual basis,"

**Nader Al Moayyed** 





#### Manama

Bahrainis are dominating job market in the Kingdom's finance sector, thanks to the successful localization drive, a latest report has said.

The report 'Annual Manpower survey 2017' by the Central Bank of Bahrain also finds that Bahraini women enjoy 32.2 per cent of the total Bahraini managerial positions in the sector, which is an increase from 31.0pc at end-2016.

The survey also covered the number of board members of the banks and financial institutions. The Bahraini women held 8.7pc of total Bahraini board members

at end-2017 up from 6.4pc at end-

As a whole, Bahraini workforce, according to the survey, represents 65.6pc of the total workforce in the financial sector, in which women's share remains unchanged at 38.3pc.

The sector employed 9,248 Bahrainis in 2017, which is an increase of 93 jobs compared to the prior year period.

The total number of jobs in the financial sector in 2017 is 14,093, compared to 14,015 at the end of 2016, an increase or 78 jobs.

In the banking sector, the total number of employees reached 7,447 at end-2017 from 7,402 at end-2016, an increase of 45 jobs.

In the non-banking financial sector, the number of jobs rose 0.6pc to reach 6,194 at end-2017 compared to 6,156 jobs at end-

Insurance firms, moneychangers, financing companies, investment business firms, and other non-bank financial institutions are classified as a non-banking financial

The number of employees in the supporting institutions, however, decreased from 457 employees at the end of 2016 to 452 employees at the end of 2017.

## Russia begins blocking messaging app Telegram

#### Moscow

communicationswatchdog has begun enforcing a nationwide ban for the popular messaging app Telegram.

The Federal Communications Agency said Monday that Russian providers have been instructed begin blocking Telegram

after a court last week sided with authorities that had demanded that the app be blocked in Russia until it hands over the keys to its data encryption.

Telegram, which was developed by Russian entrepreneur Pavel Durov, argues that Russia's FSB intelligence service is violating consumer rights, while authorities say the app has been used by violent extremists.

Telegram was briefly unavailable to users early Monday afternoon but was back online later in the day. Durov said last week the latest version would have "builtin" features that would be able to circumvent the ban.





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COUNTRY/CURRENCIE	ES BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2993	0.2969
BANGLADESH	0.00472	0.00452
CANADA	0.3059	0.3027
DENMARK	0.0657	
EGYPT	0.0237	0.0219
EURO	0.4722	0.4697
HONGKONG	0.04967	0.04927
INDIA	0.00585	0.00582
INDONESIA	0.00002941	0.00002801
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000317	
JAPAN	0.00369	0.003620
JORDAN	0.5359	0.5351
KOREA	0.00040279	
KUWAIT	1.263	1.264
MALAYSIA	0.0996	0.0994
NEW ZEALAND	0.2825	0.2826
NORWAY	0.0507	
NEPAL	0.00395	0.00362
OMAN	0.98168	0.98301
PAKISTAN	0.00350	0.00327
PHILIPPINES	0.00750	0.00727
QATAR	0.10381	0.10404
SAUDI ARABIA	0.1006	0.10067
SINGAPORE	0.2925	0.2905
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03290	0.03280
SRI LANKA	0.00273	0.00243
SWEDISH	0.0483	
SWITZERLAND	0.3996	0.3965
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0017
TAIWAN	0.013600	
THAILAND	0.012280	0.012280
TURKEY	0.0971	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.5433	0.5404
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102850	0.102870
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37790	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

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



#### **INTERBANK RATES**

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5738	0.3938	0.3532
KUWAIT	0.2855	30.4714	0.2982	0.2675
OMAN	0.3849	0.3685	0.4021	0.3606
QATAR	3.6420	3.4865	3.8045	3.4123
UAE	3.6730	3.5162	3.8368	3.4414
SAUDI	3.7500	3.5899	3.9173	3.5135



stocks rose on strong bank earnings, while other bourses in the region were lacklustre.

The Saudi index closed 1.0 per cent higher, lifted by financial stocks. Insurance firm BUPA Arabia gained 5.5pc after it recommended an increase in capital to 1.2 billion rivals (\$320 million) from 800 million rivals through a 1-for-2 bonus share

Banks were also up, with Al Rajhi Bank gaining 2.7pc, returning to the multi-year

Overall we have positive vibes in the market for now ahead of a (potential) MSCI upgrade," said Muhammad Faisal Potrik, head of research at Riyad Capital.

Index compiler MSCI will decide in June whether to upgrade Riyadh to emerging market status.

Bank gained 1.6pc after reporting a 12.6pc rise in first-quarter net profit to 625.2 million riyals (\$171.8 million). That was above analysts' average forecast of

EGYPT rose 0.2pc to 17,620 points. BAHRAIN added 0.5pc to 1,299 points.

In Doha, Qatar Islamic

547 million riyals.

In Dubai, Emaar Properties fell 1.7pc, pushing the index 0.3pc lower. Emaar, which has lost 10pc so far this year because of a weak local real estate market, has been a big drag on the index.

OMAN dropped 0.2pc to 4,767 points.

In Oman, National Bank

of Oman fell 1.6pc after it reported a nearly 9pc drop in quarterly net profit to 12.6 million rials (\$32.7 million), below EFG Hermes' forecast of 13.3 million rials but above Gulf Baader Capital Markets' 11.1 million rials. (Reuters)

#### **Batelco backs Gulf Construction Expo**

#### Manama

Batelco has announced its sponsorship of the Gulf Construction Expo 2018, which will take place from 24 until 26 April 2018, at the Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre.

The sponsorship also covers the Gulf Property Show and Interiors, which will coincide with the Gulf Construction Show. During the exhibition, Batelco will be showcasing their latest products and offers.

The Gulf Construction

Expo highlights the industry's latest products, cutting-edge technologies and services from reputable local, regional and international companies, and is considered an important platform that brings together industry leaders under one roof.

The Gulf Property Show is a golden opportunity to learn about investment potential in residential and commercial properties. The Interior Expo highlights innovative designs for homes and commercial spaces.







His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa returned to Bahrain from Saudi Arabia after attending the conclusion of the Joint Gulf Shield 1 military exercise held with the participation of Bahrain Defence Force. HM the King sent a cable of appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud for the warm welcome and generous hospitality shown during the 29th Arab League Summit and the Joint Gulf Shield 1.



The Minister of Finance Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa received Indian Ambassador Alok Kumar Sinha. The Minister praised the long-standing relationship between the two countries, which covers a wide range of sectors and spans several decades. He discussed with Ambassador Sinha means of enhancing joint co-operation in areas relating to finance and banking on the basis of mutual interest, while building on the progress achieved so far.



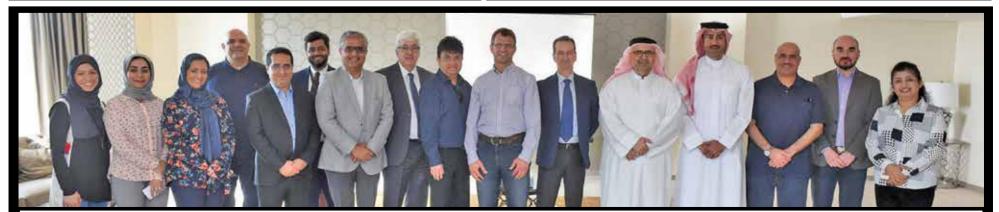
Chairman of Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Sameer Nass held a dinner party in honour of the Board of Directors and the employees



Secretary-General of the Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Dr. Mustafa Al-Sayed Al-Amin received here the Bahraini Ambassador to the U.S Shaikh Abdulla bin Rashid Al Khalifa and discussed with him areas of joint cooperation. Dr. Al-Sayed lauded the major role played by the Bahraini Embassy in Washington to highlight the kingdom's civilisational image.



The sports federations of equestrian and badminton & squash were reviewed at a meeting with representatives of the Bahrain Olympic Committee recently. The meeting was chaired by BOC sports affairs executive director Abdulialil Asad, who thanked both federations for their efforts in the development of their respective organisations. The Executive Director stressed the keenness of the committee to work hand in hand with the federations to achieve its aspirations.



Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) hosted an Air Service Development (ASD) workshop instructed by Aviation Strategies International's Executive Vice President Jean Marc Trottier and Senior Prac tice Executive, Aviation Safety & Risk Management Peter Adams. The workshop touched on various aspects related to ASD, such as the marketing position of BIA in the regional market, the role of Gulf Air at the airport, and the importance of ASD and how to prepare for it, among other topics.

# at Dream Gold Many more exciting offers as part of Old Offers as part of 
Dream Gold and Diamonds, a part of leading GCC healthcare group announced its special Akshaya Tritiya offers for its customers.

As a part of Akshaya Tritiya celebrations, customers who buy jewellery worth BD50 and more will be eligible to get a raffle coupon. Customers who purchase BD50 worth diamond jewellery will get two coupons for raffle draw,

doubling the chance to win a BMW.

Along with the raffle draw, the customers are benefited with other offers like a free two-gram gold coin for every purchase of diamond jewellery worth BD 500, one-gram gold coin for a purchase of diamond worth BD 300, and 0.200 gram gold coin on every purchase of gold worth BD200.

Said Abdul Latheef, the

Chairman of the Group "As a part of the long-standing custom, women consider it auspicious to buy gold and diamond jewellery on Akshay Tritiya. These exciting offers will seek to give consumers not only a chance own exquisite gold and diamond jewellery, at the best possible prices but to try their luck by the raffle draw. Apart from discounts, customers can also take advantage of

our No making charges on 8 gram gold coins, 0 per cent deduction on the gold exchange on 22kt, 50 per cent discount on diamonds and uncut diamonds, customer can protect gold rate of their jewellery by paying 5 per cent of total gold rate,

These exciting offers help our customers bring home prosperity as per tradition and also give them an opportunity to buy pure gold and diamond jewellery at affordable prices."

The offers are available in both the branches of Dream Gold and Diamonds, Manama & Lulu- Riffa.

Customers can avail these special offers until April 19, 2018, and the raffle draw coupons will be available until August 31, 2018. Akshay Tritiya,

The third day of the new

moon of Vaishakh month (April - May), is considered one of the four most auspicious days of the Vedic Calendar. It marks the beginning of Treta Yug. On this day, the sun and the moon are simultaneously at their peak of brightness.

This year Akshaya Tritiya falls on April 19 and regarded auspicious for starting new ventures and making new purchases.



GOLD & DIAMONDS

#### How to Buy Gold Jewellery

old jewellery never goes out of style, and for good reason, because gold is as wearer-friendly as it is beautiful. This precious metal is long lasting and retains its value over time, so buying gold jewellery is often considered an investment. When you have a piece of gold jewellery that is properly cared for, that jewellery can be passed down for generations and outlive all of us. Knowing how to buy gold jewellery like an industry professional will help you make the most of your purchase. Learn everything you need to know in this gold buying guide.



#### **How Gold Purity Impacts Value**

Chances are the ring on your finger is marked 18K, 14K, or 10K, with the K standing for karat, the system used to describe the percentage of pure gold an item contains. The higher the karat number, the higher the percentage of gold in your gold jewellery. Also, the higher the karat, the more expensive the item.

- → 24K gold is pure gold.
- ▶ 18K gold contains 18 parts gold and 6 parts of one or more additional metals, making it 75% gold.
- → 14K gold contains 14 parts gold and 10 parts of one or more additional metals, making it 58.3% gold.
- → 12K gold contains 12 parts gold and 12 parts of one or more additional metals, making it 50% gold.
- ▶ 10K gold contains 10 parts gold and 14 parts of one or more additional metals, making it 41.7% gold. 10K gold is the minimum karat that can be called "gold" in the United States.

Purchasing jewellery less than 14K won't hold its value as much over time. The higher the gold content, the more the gold market will influence the item's value. Remember, there are other factors to consider besides gold content to determine if your jewellery is valuable



# 200

#### at Joyalukkas for Akshaya Tritiya

kshaya Tritiya is one A of the most celebrated festivals amongst the Indian community in any part of the world and is believed to be an auspicious day to make investments, purchase gold or start a new venture. Buying gold and jewellery on Akshaya Tritiya day, which falls on April 18 this year, is a huge part of the tradition, thought to bring prosperity and joy to the entire household.

Joyalukkas, the world's favorite jeweller, joins the celebration and adds a golden touch to the festivities with a limited edition collection, special gifts and a grand prize giveaway. For Akshaya Tritiya 2018, Joyalukkas has announced a very attractive prize of 200 gold bars.

"Akshaya Tritiya is a festival with a beautiful message about acting now, doing good now to reap an abundance of rewards in the future," says Joy Alukkas, Chairman & MD, Joyalukkas Group. "This resonates with the journey of Joyalukkas and each year we celebrate Akshaya

Tritiya grandly. This year we are offering fabulous gifts and up to 200 gold bars as a thank you to our loyal customers, whose support has driven the tremendous growth of the Brand and made the success we enjoy as a household name in jewellery retail worldwide possible."

In over 140 showrooms in 11 countries, customers will be spoilt for choice in diamond and polki jewellery specially created for the Akshaya Tritiya celebration. And for a minimum purchase of gold or diamond jewellery, shoppers enter a raffle draw for a chance to win up to 200 gold bars.

Aside from special rates on jewellery sets, patrons also enjoy 1 gram gold coins free on purchase of Diamond and Polki Jewellery, as well as 0% deduction on gold exchange. Even more exciting is the gold rate protection guarantee on offer for the duration of the promotion. By just paying 10% advance, customers are assured to get their gold at the lowest rate till 18th April

#### Things to know while buying gold



You'll want to know about gold alloys when shopping for gold jewellery.
Since pure gold is soft and isn't practical for daily wear, other metals are mixed with it to make it more durable (and to lower its cost).

Adding other metals to the mix also allows metallurgists to change the colour of gold. Palladium or nickel can be added to create white gold. Adding copper produces a rose or pink tint, while silver gives gold a

When metals are added to the gold the result is an alloy, a blended mixture of the metals that you can think of as a very expensive cake batter.

Solid gold is a term that can be used to describe an item that's at least 10K (in the US) gold all the way through. Even though it's a gold alloy--18K, 14K, or anything down to 10K--it can be called solid gold.

#### So What Gold Jewellery Should You Buy?

Solid gold is durable, so it is a better choice for jewellery you'll wear regularly. If you have allergies to nickel or other metals, choose items that have higher gold content, such as 18K or 22K gold jewellery.

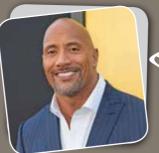
Gold filled or plated jewellery is suitable for jewellery that you wear occasionally but shouldn't be considered an investment. Everyday use would eventually diminish the gold layer, exposing the metal below, which might stain your skin or cause an

For pieces that will last a lifetime and beyond, buy the highest quality gold your budget allows.

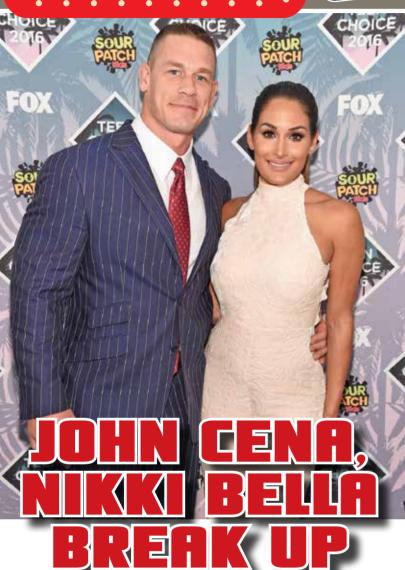


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ctress Hailee Steinfeld, Actress mance occurred who has been romantically tournament.

According to the Mail on Sunday newspaper, Steinfeld, Horan, and his friend Thomas the pair are "casually dating", reported femalefirst.co.uk.

"It's true that Hailee and Niall are dating, but at this Backstreet Boys perform at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino before taking a stage table at a nightclub. (IANS)

**Los Angeles** 

Wrestling star and actor John Cena and actress Nikki Bella have decided to go separate ways after dating for six years.

The WWE couple have announced they have called off their engagement, reports usmagazine.

"While this decision was a difficult one, we continue to have a deal of love and respect for one another. We ask that you respect

our privacy during this time in our lives," read the statement.

The former couple, who got engaged last year, had been sparking break-up rumours in the latest "Total Divas" preview in which they appeared to have a second thought's on getting married.

Cena and Bella started dating in 2012. The couple was last seen together in public at Wrestlemania 34 on April 8.

**McKellen wants** 'celebratory' funeral

London eteran actor Ian McKellen thinks his own send-off will

V be quite a party.
The 78-year-old "Lord of the Rings" star says he often thinks about death, reports aceshowbiz.com.

In an upcoming documentary, "McKellen: Playing The Part", the thespian reveals he would like his "celebratory" memorial to

(IANS)

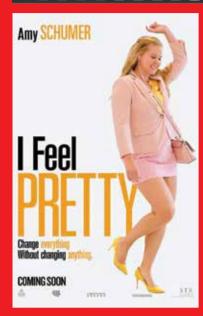
take place in a theatre.
"It would be free admission and I'd want a lot of beautiful people there. When I finished this plan I thought, 'Ooh,
I'd love to go to that funeral', so I hope I might
arrange a dress rehearsal before I go," he said.
But he is not looking forward to his final

years.

"As I see other people getting decrepit and unable to work, I think, 'Well, that may well happen to me!"

**April 17, 1974** Known as Posh Spice, Beckham is a former Spice Girl who has released several top-ten UK singles during her solo career, including "Out of Your Mind."





#### I Feel Pretty

Directors: Abby Kohn, Marc **Silverstein** Stars: Amy Schumer, Michelle Williams, Emily Ratajkowski, Busy



#### **Super Troopers 2**

Director: Jay Chandrasekhar Stars: Lynda Carter, Emmanuelle Chriqui, Rob Lowe, Brian Cox



#### Traffik

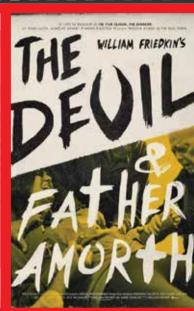
Director: Deon Taylor Stars: Paula Patton, Missi Pyle, Dawn Olivieri, William Fichtner



#### **Ghost Stories**

Directors: Jeremy Dyson, Andy Nyman Stars: Andy Nyman, Martin

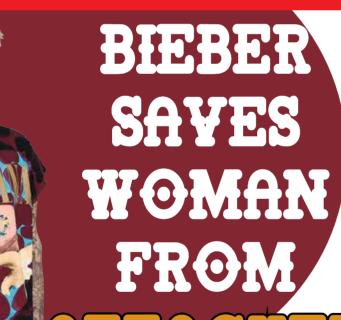
Freeman, Paul Whitehouse, Alex



#### The Devil and Father **Amorth**

**Director: William Friedkin** Stars: Gabriele Amorth

(www.imdb.com)



**Los Angeles** 

inger Justin Bieber rescued a fellow party guest at Sactor Patrick Schwarzenegger's Coachella party during

According to the guests, Bieber grabbed a drugged-up man and held him up against a wall after spotting him grabbing a woman by the throat, reports tmz.com.

The "Baby" singer was at the party with a friend on April 14 when the unnamed attacked, who appeared to be on drugs, attacked a woman.

Bieber and his friend stepped in and tried to convince the man to stop. But when he didn't, the singer hit the man in the face and pushed him against a wall. (IANS)

Holland's 'boyish charm' hel Man's ro

Singapore

om Holland was just 19 years old when he made his debut as the friendly neighbourhood web slinger Spider-Man. Director Joe Russo says the actor was perfect for it as he was close to the character's age and had boyish charm.

Actors Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield had donned the red-and-blue suit to play the high-school superhero, but Joe -- the other half of the Russo brothers -- wanted someone younger for his 2016 film "Captain America: Civil War".

"When I watched the Spider-Man films, I loved them but I always felt that the actors cast to play Spider-Man were much older than the character," Joe, who directed Marvel Studios' "Captain America: Civil War" with his brother Anthony Russo, told media.

So, it was important for them to get somebody closely

aged to Peter Parker, aka Spider-Man.
"Tom Holland was perfect for it because he is very close to the age and he has this boyish charm. So, it felt for me that for the first time you are really getting the essence of what Peter Parker was like on the screen and off from the comic books," said Joe. (IANS)



16 Tuesday, April 17, 2018 Classifieds





#### **NOTICE**

This is to inform all the concerned that **Mr. Mohammed Hanif Mullaji** holding Indian Passport No. R1560252 & CPR No. 79075717 is no longer authorized to represent the Awal Gulf Manufacturing B.S.C. or enter into any business dealing on behalf of the company.







#### **HOW TO REACH US**

"Out & About', a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island.

To be included, please send the matter to the following email ID: news@dt.bh



#### FRIDAY SPRING FAIR BRUNCH

Date: Every Friday from April 6 until May 11 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay

Spring fairs bring forth many exciting memories to mind. Expect fun, excitement, vivacious colours, floral fragrances and comfortable weather. Every Friday, Bahrain Bay Kitchen's garden will be transformed into a welcoming hive of activity. Lounge in the open air while indulging in new seasonally influenced dishes. Children's hearts will be filled with a sense of delight as they enjoy plentiful fair-style games and activities. Discover pony rides, Ping-Pong, darts and train rides. Throughout these Friday afternoons of indulgence, sip on a refreshing iced tea, chilled milkshake or your desired beverage. The Spring Fair Brunch is a nod to everything that inspires weekend bliss.

#### **RE/IMAGINE YOUR SATURDAYS**

Date: Every Saturday from 12:30 pm until 3:30 pm Venue: re Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck Asian

Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay invites you to discover the perfect Saturday Brunch at re/Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck. Soak in the immersive views from the 50th floor and feast on mouthwatering Asian selections like Korean Fried Chicken Bao Buns, Wok Fried Shrimp Dumplings and Brisket Wontons for BD 19++.

#### 26TH ANNUAL HERITAGE FESTIVAL - MEMORY OF MUHARRAO

Date: 25 April - 5 May 2018, 5:00 - 9:30 pm Venue: Events Tent By Arad Fort

Under the Patronage of his Majesty King Hamad Bin Isa AlKhalifa, the 26th Annual Bahrain Heritage Festival brings the island's unique culture to the forefront and showcases the variety and diversity of local heritage. The festival portrays the theme of "Memory of Muharraq" which features exhibition spaces, craftsmen, workshops, food vendors, and live traditional music. It also offers a chance to see some of Bahrain's finest craftsmen at work. A balanced mixture of contemporary and traditional products at the souq which is surrounded by Bahraini cafes and offers the visitor to experience flavours of the Kingdom.

#### DAR AL RIFFA AL-ODA

Date: 14 & 28 April 8:00pm Venue: Dar Al Riffa Al-Oda

The Dar Al-Riffa Al-Oda will host a series of musical concerts that highlight the rich tapestry of Bahraini folk music. The newly inaugurated Dar Al-Riffa Al-Oda comprises of the conservation and rehabilitation of the existing original Dar in the old neighbourhood of East Riffa along with a contemporary extension that can accommodate larger performances and residency spaces, with the ultimate aim of enhancing Riffa's intangible heritage and the folk singing specific to that area.

#### THE 13TH SPRING OF CULTURE FESTIVAL

Date: February – April 2018 Venue: Different Locations The 13th edition of the Spring of Culture Festival brings with it a treasure trove of surprises that cover the different interests and tastes of the culture and art audience. Hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain's numerous cultural institutions, historical sites and landmarks, the festival's wide variety of events, programs and activities continue to build bridges of cultural communication between Bahrain and the rest of the whole world.

This year's edition of the festival is part of the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities' celebration of Muharraq, the Capital of Islamic Culture in 2018, in which it highlights the deep-rooted heritage and traditions of this ancient city, particularly the history of pearl diving, a glorious history whose details are revealed by the Pearling Trail, Bahrain's second site to be inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage site.

The festival kicks off in conjunction with Arab Tourism Day, an initiative which was adopted when Manama was the 2013 Capital of Arab Tourism to mark the anniversary of the birth of the Arab traveler Ibn Battuta.

#### **ART EXHIBITION**

Date: 8th April to 22nd April Venue: Albareh Art Gallery

Enchained Dyads showcases the works of Annie Kurkdjian, a Lebanese artist who has exhibited extensively in her home country and in France, Jordan, and Bahrain. Her art questions the grand themes of life and death through the topics of religion and eroticism and reflects on their current state far removed from their early beginnings as

central to humanity. The exhibition will run from Sunday 8th April to 22nd April at Albareh Art Gallery. Time: Saturday-Thursday, 10am-2pm and 4pm-8pm

#### EVENING CONVERSATION: "THE MAGIC OF NATURAL PEARLS"

Date: 30 April 2018, 7:00pm Venue: Bin Matar House

In collaboration with the Pearling Path, the Parisian-based L'Ecole Van Cleef & Arpels brings together two pearl experts: Talal Mattar, a 6th generation pearl merchant from one of the oldest pearl merchant families in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and Olivier Segura, Director of the French Gemological Laboratory (LFG) and natural pearl expert, for an insightful discussion about this gem that has fascinated civilizations since ancient times.

#### **MOVIE: CHRONIC**

Date: Wednesday 18th April 2018 Venue: Bahrain Cinema Club

Chronic is a 2015 English-language Franco-Mexican drama film written and directed by Michel Franco. David is an in-home nurse who works with terminally ill patients. Efficient and dedicated to his profession, David develops strong, even intimate, relationships with each person he cares for. But outside of his work, David is ineffectual, awkward, and reserved – effects of his chronic depression – and he needs each patient as much as they need him. Having long carried a burden of guilt and remorse, David must face his past in order to heal. The film won the Best Screenplay Award and was nominated for the Golden Palm Award at Cannes Film Festival.

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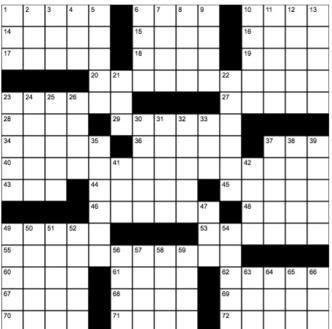
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Down

1- Letter addenda; 2- Answer to a sea captain; 3- Discount rack abbr.; 4- Crackpot; 5- Extra; 6- Biblical gift bearers; 7- Enthusiastic vigor and liveliness; 8- Mtn. stat; 9- Cabbagelike plant; 10- Vinegary prefix; 11- Polite denial; 12- Bucky Beaver's toothpaste; 13- Express mirth; 21- PC panic button; 22- Breastbones; 23- Orgs.; 24- Beneath; 25- Narrow mountain ridge; 26- Simmer; 30- Doorkeeper; 31- Dreadlocks wearer; 32- Architectural piers; 33- Afternoon social; 35- Pipes collectively; 37- Like some infections; 38- Diciembre follower; 39- Heron, usually white; 41- \_\_\_\_ the season...; 42- Urgent; 47- Destiny; 49- Persona non \_\_\_\_; 50- Ignited again; 51- Maternally related; 52- Weird; 54- Surrenders, as territory; 56- Bridge expert Sharif; Bell; 58- Bakery worker; 59- Ethereal; 63- Guido's high note; 64-Mouthpiece of a bridle; 65- Lord, is \_\_\_\_?; 66- Sawbuck;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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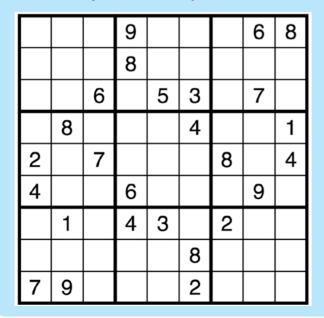
A S E

#### Across

1- Hurts; 6- Overly submissive; 10- Blue dye source; 14- Thick sweet liquid; 15- \_\_\_\_ breve; 16- Nightclub of song; 17- Sealy rival; 18- Scottish Celt; 19- Son of Isaac and Rebekah; 20- Sinking more money into; 23- Humbles; 27- Law of Moses; 28- Spanish muralist; 29- Prepare an exhibition; 34- Bed down; 36- More reasonable; 37-Neckline shape; 40- In spite of; 43- Nor. neighbor; 44- Michelangelo masterpiece; 45- Broadcaster; 46- Sharon's land; 48- Hard to find; 49-Fresh; 53- Leopardlike cat; 55- Do the deal again; 60- Banned orchard spray; 61- Clublike weapon; 62- Modern bank card; 67- South American monkey; 68- Super server; 69- A-list; 70- To \_\_\_\_ (exactly); 71- Actor Calhoun; 72- Glossy fabric;



#### SUDOKU



#### YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

#### 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

It's likely that you'll receive some unpleasant

news today. Perhaps there are changes

occurring at work that you read about in the morning newspaper. Or it could be that you

get a phone call and receive some upsetting news about an old friend. You'll need to take

the information in stride and not let it ruin

This could be a day of technical glitches and malfunctions. It's frustrating, to be sure, but a little bit funny, too. Everything you touch, from computer to washing machine, seems to groan and shudder before finally breaking. Apparently, today you have the opposite of the Midas touch. Don't take it personally. Instead, use it as an excuse to do something out of the ordinary.

You might want to make an extra effort to tidy up the house this morning. It's likely that you'll have some unexpected guests. Some neighbours could drop by unannounced, or an old friend could call from her car and say she's on her way over. Take it all in stride. Even

though you had a lot planned for the day, it will be enjoyable if you spend it with friends.

You'll have to let go of your usual drill-sergeant

manner and simply let the day unfold as it will. Try as you might, even you won't be able

to direct events today. You could find your attention diverted from one project to another.

It isn't an unpleasant day but a disjointed one.

Stay open to all possibilities.



(Apr 21st - May 21st)



(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Today is filled with socializing, with a strong emphasis on the exchange of information. If you're attending a party this evening, be receptive to anyone you meet. It's likely that someone new will arrive who will have a significant impact on your life. It might be that he or she tips you off about a professional opportunity at work.



(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



(Aua 24th - Sep 23rd)



You work hard to reach your goal of financial independence. All signs indicate that you're well on your way. Today you could receive some news that makes you realize you aren't there yet. Perhaps a relative calls to say you're no longer his/her sole beneficiary. Your investment statement may show poor return. This isn't what you expected, but you're still on right track.

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



You're bound to be busy but happy today. You'll likely spend the morning doing chores and generally puttering around the house. Don't be surprised if a friend drops by unexpectedly in the afternoon with some important news to share. Your evening could occupied doing research at the library or on the computer.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



This could be a rather intense day for you. Your mind is filled with plots for novels you want to write and ideas for ways to streamline production at work. Don't you have an "pause" switch? You'd benefit from taking some muchneeded time off. You'll find that you can quiet your mind simply by sipping some tea and being still for ten minutes. Call it meditation or a break, but allow yourself this small indulgence.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)

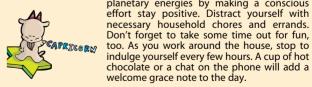


This is one day for you to be as flexible as possible. It may be that you begin with a specific list of items that absolutely must be done, but get distracted by some news from a friend or co-worker. What had seemed so important is no longer so, and your day shifts to accommodate this new piece of information.

You can overcome the intensity of today's

planetary energies by making a conscious effort stay positive. Distract yourself with necessary household chores and errands. Don't forget to take some time out for fun,

(Dec 22nd- Jan 20th)



(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Don't take any information you receive today at face value. Technical glitches will likely plague you throughout the day. Your bank statement could be incomprehensible. Bills could show up

some phone calls and get all the facts. Whatever you do, don't let this ruin your day. Everything will get sorted out.

Don't take anything you read or hear today at face value. It's possible that you'll receive some rather distressing news, but before you react in frustration, read the fine print. The news may not really be so bad. In fact, it may not even be true! Take a deep breath and heave a sigh of relief, they are the better your normal routine. then get back to your normal routine.

with an extra zero tacked on. Don't panic, Make





# May defends Syria Strikes



#### London

British Prime Minister Theresa May defended yesterday her decision to launch air strikes against Syria, answering criticism over her bypassing of by saying parliament lawmakers could now hold her to account.

May, who has regained confidence after winning support for her tough stance on Syria and Russia, said she was driven by the need to decide quickly on joining the United States and France in Saturday's strikes, made in retaliation for a suspected gas attack.

Saying she had no doubt the "Syrian regime" was behind an attack which she called a "stain on humanity", May told lawmakers she had acted in the national interest and refused to say whether she would seek their approval for further action.

"I'm absolutely clear that it is parliament's responsibility to hold me to account for such

decisions and parliament will do so," she told the House of Commons in a rowdy session that laid bare divisions over the military action. "But it is my responsibility as prime minister to make these decisions and I will make

May has weathered months of doubt over her leadership due to rows over Brexit and an ill-judged decision to call an early election when her Conservative Party lost its parliamentary majority. She is now enjoying international support for her action in Syria and against Moscow over a nerve agent attack on a former Russian spy in Britain.

Still, she has had to tread carefully in parliament, where she now relies on a small Northern Irish party to get enough votes to pass legislation, and has worked hard to offer lawmakers, angry about being sidelined, time to discuss the Syrian

Blackford, leader of the opposition Scottish National Party in Westminster, was one of many who asked May why she had not recalled parliament for a vote, breaking with a convention dating back to the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

"The prime minister leads a minority government," he said. "It was perfectly possible for the house to have been recalled in advance, why was this not done?"

While some Conservatives  $also\,expressed\,their\,regret\,that$ she had bypassed parliament, May also enjoyed praise from others - one calling her a "real prime minister" by moving swiftly to support the joint air strikes.

Instead, it was the opposition Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn who drew jeers and shouts when he suggested that May had simply followed the orders of U.S. President Donald Trump - something the British leader denied. (Reuters)

#### Afghan returns captured Pak soldier, five bodies

Afghan tribesmen yesterday returned a Pakistani soldier they captured in a deadly skirmish along the countries' border, as well as the bodies of five soldiers, the governor of Afghanistan's Khost province said.

were handed to Pakistani troops, said Khost governor Hukum Khan Habibi.

The dispute arose over Pakistan's work on a fence intended to span nearly all of the disputed 2,500-km (1,550-mile) border, much of

The soldier and the bodies it mountainous and porous. Afghan officials have alleged that Pakistani troops crossed Afghanistan soil, prompting firing on Sunday by border forces and the local tribal force.

The two sides later agreed on a ceasefire.

#### **#PolIToday**



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Yes ○ No ○ Cant Say



fighting because the government is back in Aden. We will exert all our from further deteriorating and to stop further assassination attempts on dozens of religious and military

-Ahmed Obeid bin Daghr, Yemen's Prime Minister

#### **Rest in sight**

#### Archaeologists find silver treasure on **Baltic island**



Hundreds of 1,000-year-old silver coins, rings, pearls and bracelets linked to the era of Danish King Harald Gormsson have been found on the eastern German island of Ruegen.

#### India set to receive average monsoon rains

India is likely to receive average monsoon rains in 2018. the weather office said, raising the possibility of higher farm and economic growth in Asia's third-biggest economy.

#### **UAE stops training** Somalia's military

The United Arab Emirates says it will end its military training mission to Somalia after an incident that saw its soldiers assaulted and \$9.6 million seized at an airport in Mogadishu.

#### Macron says Trump, France agree on Syria

French President Emmanuel Macron said on Monday he had not meant to signal a change in the U.S. position on Syria.

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#### **Arab Coalition implements** humanitarian plan in Yemen

The Arab Coalition in Yemen has established a support center to implement a humanitarian operation for Yemen, which aims to improve the critical situation in the country by providing financial support and improving development and economic projects, as well as providing safe routes in parallel with new outlets.

The priorities of the operations plan is to meet the humanitarian needs of the Yemeni people, delivering commercial cargos, and oil derivatives to all regions of the country. The plan aims to achieve levels of flow of commercial goods and achieve tangible improvement in various aspects of life in Yemen.

It will also take into account the serious threat posed by the Houthi militias, and beyond it by Iran, to security in Saudi Arabia, the countries of the region, and the vital waterways international trade. (AlArabia)

#### **Coinsecure exchange says** \$3m worth of bitcoins stolen



A Bitcoin automated machine (ATM) is seen at Hong Lim Complex in Singapore

#### New Delhi

Poinsecure, an Indian Coinsecure, and cryptocurrency exchange, said nearly \$3 million were stolen from its bitcoin wallet, the biggest reported so far in the country.

The theft is expected to further weaken trade in cryptocurrencies, which the government has likened to 'Ponzi schemes" that offer unusually high returns to early investors.

Coinsecure, which has over 200,000 users trading on its platform daily, said that around 438 bitcoins, which were stored in a passwordprotected virtual wallet were siphoned off to an unknown destination on the internet after the details were leaked online.

"We regret to inform you that our bitcoin funds have been exposed and seem to have been siphoned out to an address that is outside our control," the company said in a statement posted on its website.

Legal experts said there was a need to regulate the virtual currency market, instead of imposing restrictions on its trade.

Bitcoins in India were trading at 480,000 Indian rupees, or about \$7,359 on Friday, according to cryptocurrency exchange Coinome, well below its international market price of about \$7,771.

#### **US, UK accuse Russian**backed hackers

#### Washington

The United States and Britain alleged that Russian government-backed hackers had infected computer routers around the world in a cyber espionage campaign that targeted government agencies, businesses and critical infrastructure operators.

U.S. and British officials told reporters that they planned to issue a joint alert on the

attacks, which targeted routers that form a key part of the internet infrastructure in a cyber espionage campaign that could be leveraged in the future to launch offensive attacks. "When we see malicious cyber activity, whether it be from the Kremlin or other malicious nation-state actors, we are going to push back," said Rob Joyce, the White House cybersecurity coordinator.



#### The tenacious Honey Badger

Daniel Ricciardo is almost always smiling. But that sunny demeanour has been put to the test of late. Heading to China, he had retired from four of the last six races he has

An engine problem meant his Bahrain Grand Prix was over pretty much as soon as it started. Then in China, a turbo failure in final practice meant he almost missed qualifying.

And even in the race, his prospects looked bleak. He lay sixth after the first round of pit stops, the last of the leading pack, while his team mate Verstappen was starring in third.

But then everything changed when the Safety Car was deployed. Ricciardo fitted fresher tyres, took advantage of Verstappen's mistake and then delivered an overtaking masterclass.

#### Nico Hulkenberg – Mr Consistency

Nico Hulkenberg is arguably driving at his highest level right now. The German has outperformed his highly-rated team mate Carlos Sainz in every race this season.

The Renault project is still a work in progress, but in Hulkenberg's hands, they are getting the most out of the car, as he proved once again in China.

#### **McLaren's fighting Spaniard**

McLaren have been solid but not spectacular so far this season. In China, Racing Director Eric Boullier admitted the team may not have been as ambitious as they could have been with targets

But while they battle to add more performance to the MCL33, at least they are scoring points, with Fernando Alonso, slightly under the radar, continuing to deliver at a tremendously high level.

The Spaniard made up for another poor qualifying with a bullish race that saw him gain six places from his grid slot - including three on a typically charging opening lap (above) and another with a bold pass on a struggling Vettel to snatch seventh late on. That's even more impressive when you consider all but one car reached the flag.

#### The reigning world champion

Lewis Hamilton? Are you quite sure he belongs in the winners' section?' - we can hear you all asking. The answer is yes - just hear us out. Ok, so the world champion was off-colour most of the weekend - uncharacteristically spinning off in practice, beaten by his team mate again in qualifying, unable to make any headway in the race.

But - and it's a big but - he emerged from Shanghai having taken more points out of Sebastian Vettel's championship lead – eight – than he would have done had he been victorious and the Ferrari driver finished second. In the circumstances a BIG win.

#### Red Bull's strategists and pit crew

There has been a feeling so far this season that while Red Bull may not quite have the car to challenge in qualifying, they have a race day package that can win Grands Prix. In the first two races of the year they couldn't put it all together, and for much of the race in China, it looked like they would finish third best again.

But then their strategists came into their own, rolling the dice and opening the door for a

First they managed to double-stop both cars at the first round of pit stops (above). Then they reacted to the Safety Car by doing it again, bringing both drivers in on the same lap for

That gave Ricciardo and Verstappen an overwhelming performance advantage over their rivals and ultimately provided the conditions for the team's first win of the season.

## LOSFRS

#### **Sebastian Vettel and Ferrari**

Sebastian Vettel delivered a staggering qualifying lap to snatch pole from his team mate Kimi Raikkonen at the death and then at the start made a solid getaway before building a gap at the front.

But then he and Ferrari got caught out and what looked like being a great day unravelled. Valtteri Bottas pitted and while Vettel responded the next lap, it was too late. The lead was lost. Vettel admitted the team don't yet understand what happened, although a slower (and safer) pit stop than usual looked to have played its part.

#### **Toro Rosso's communication**

Last Sunday, Toro Rosso were ecstatic as they celebrated a brilliant weekend for the team in Bahrain that culminated in a deserved fourth place for Pierre Gasly.

But they came crashing down to earth on arrival in China. All weekend, the team were hunting pace. The STR13 was tricky to handle. Come race day, things didn't get much better. Both drivers lost positions at the start. Then when running 18th and 19th, Gasly and Hartley got their wires crossed. Hartley was instructed to let Gasly through as they were running different strategies.

#### The not-so-sparkling Silver Arrows

Shanghai had previously belonged to Mercedes. Heading to the venue, they had four straight wins and six straight poles. And that dominance looked set to continue after their form in Friday practice.

But it all went downhill on Saturday as Ferrari romped to a front-row lockout. Mercedes just couldn't understand the tyres when it was clear there was only a narrow window to hit the sweet spot.

#### Max Verstappen

Max Verstappen should have won the Chinese Grand Prix. It's that simple. The Safety Car came at the perfect time for the Dutchman, as he was just approaching the pit lane exit.

Smooth work from the Red Bull pit crew put him back out in fourth and ahead of Ricciardo who mirrored the Dutchman's strategy.

But as his boss Christian Horner admitted later, Verstappen was too impatient. Rather than wait until the hairpin to pass Hamilton, he tried around the outside at Turn 7 and paid the price. (Formula1)





#### Madrid

ristiano Ronaldo and Gareth Bale ✓were both rested and Real Madrid hardly broke sweat as they beat Malaga 2-1 on Sunday to climb to third in La Liga.

Isco scored one and set up another at La Rosaleda in a comfortable victory for a much-changed Real side, following Wednesday's last-gasp Champions League win over Juventus.

Diego Rolan grabbed a consolation for Malaga with the last kick of the game but the result was never in doubt.

As well as Bale and Ronaldo, Luka Modric and Raphael Varane were left out by Zinedine Zidane, with the allimportant Champions League semi-final against Bayern Munich looming next

But Isco did his chances of a start in Germany no harm at all by bending in a free-kick that both Ronaldo and Bale would have been proud of, and then generously teeing up Casemiro when he might easily have finished himself.

After scoring his first Real goal in nine appearances against his former club, Isco held his hands up apologetically, and he enjoyed a warm reception from the Malaga fans when substituted in the second half.

Victory means Los Blancos leapfrog Valencia, who were beaten by Barcelona on Saturday, but remain four points behind Atletico Madrid in second.

Malaga, meanwhile, stay bottom and are all-but doomed, sitting 14 points behind 17th-placed Levante, who had earlier been beaten 3-0 by Atletico.

Fernando Torres stole the show at the Wanda Metropolitano, marking the announcement of his Atletico departure with his 100th La Liga goal off the

Six days after confirming he will be leaving his boyhood club at the end of the season, Torres rolled back the years with a volleyed finish, reminiscent of the 34-year-old in his prime.

"Fernando is an icon here," Atletico

coach Diego Simeone said.

"Whether he is scoring goals or not, winning titles or not, he has a place in the club that has been earned by respect, hard work and having an identity with the club. That will not change because of one more goal."

Torres' grievance this term has been a lack of playing time and he was a substitute again, replacing Antoine Griezmann, who was also on target. Angel Correa opened the scoring in the first half.

A comfortable victory cuts the gap behind leaders Barcelona back to 11 points and restores some momentum for Atletico, with their Europa League semi-final against Arsenal less than a fortnight away.

The result also guarantees Simeone's side a place in the Champions League for a sixth consecutive season.

"Barcelona's season is tremendous," Simeone said. "We will try to get closer to them and if we can't get closer, we will congratulate them." (AFP)



#### Horner sees no reason for Ricciardo to leave

Red Bull hope they can convince Daniel Ricciardo to stay with them after giving the Australian a winning car in Sunday's Chinese Grand Prix.

The victory, from sixth on the starting grid, was a moralebooster for the 28-year-old after a frustrating start to the season and comes as he is deciding his next career

Out of contract at the end of the year, Ricciardo has been linked in media speculation to Ferrari and Formula One champions Mercedes.

"I think Daniel's happy in the environment. If we can give him a car like we did today, why would he want to be anywhere else?," Red Bull team boss Christian Horner told reporters in Shanghai.

"He had the energy store failure in Bahrain, he had a turbo failure here yesterday, losing him important track time," recognised the Briton.

"You get to a point where you think 'what next?'. But it's a great confidence booster for him, to get this result now in this point in the year. Everything is wide open.'

Mercedes, the dominant team in Formula One for the past four seasons, have vet to win in three races.

Ferrari won in Australia and Bahrain with four-times champion Sebastian Vettel, who may not relish the prospect of his former Red Bull team mate joining him at Maranello.

Red Bull's future engine partner remains uncertain, however, with the team mulling whether to continue with Renault or switch to the Honda units now being used by the energy drink company's Toro Rosso outfit.

The Honda engine, while seemingly much improved this vear after three years of failure in the back of a McLaren, remains behind rivals on

Red Bull have made clear since last year that they want Ricciardo to stay alongside 20-year-old Dutch driver Max Verstappen, a hot prospect whose race on Sunday was marred by needless overtaking errors. (Reuters)

#### **Pele confident Neymar** can lead Brazil at WC

Dubai

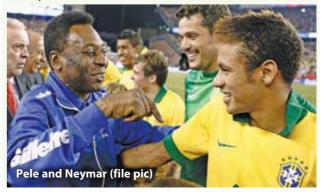
Prazilian legend Pele says he is confident about Brazil's chances at the upcoming World Cup and expects injured star Neymar to be fully fit to lead the side in Russia.

Speaking to AFP in Dubai, the 77-year-old, who has been in ailing health recently, put his faith in Paris Saint-Germain striker Neymar's ability to recover from

a fractured foot in time to lead Brazil to a possible sixth global football title.

"We don't know exactly what is going to happen, but I think for the World Cup he's going to be in shape because his injury is not so bad," said Pele, the only person to have won the World Cup three times as a player.

"I wish he has the same luck I had in the World Cup. (AFP)



#### **SPORTS**

#### Asgharali beat Hajweri CBA Division B

Manama

Asgharali defeated Hajweri by 81 runs in CBA Division B 25 overs League.

Toss was won by Asgharali who elected bat first. Initially they straggled to score and lost both their openers.

Skipper Obaid joined with Shoaib and put a 114 runs partnership for the third wicket. Obaid scored 80 runs in 45 runs and was well supported by Shoaib's 41 runs. Rafaqat and Waheed bagged two wickets each for Hajweri.

At the end of 25 overs Asgahrali scored 201 runs for 6 wickets.

Chasing the target, Asgharali bowlers never gave a chance to the opponent to reach near the target.

They restricted opponent Hajweri for 120 runs and won the match by 81 runs. Jamal took two wickets for Asgharali.

#### **Brief Score:**

CBA Division B 25 overs League

Asgharali 201/6 (Obaid 80, Shoaib 41, Rafaqat 2/26) beat Hajweri 120/7 (Adil 23, Jamal 2/17) by 81 runs.

Indian Rising star 99/1 in 10 overs (Romy 66, Kiran 24) beat Young Challengers 98/10 (Alladin 28, Sham 3/26, Arun 3/19) by 9 wickets

Alpha Safety 216/8 (Younis 79, Afzal 28, Anto 2/6) beat Firstcare 158/10 (Sameer 53, Younis 5/24, Rizwan 4/31) by 58 runs

CBA Division C 25 overs League

Kerala XI 245/6 (Vinod 89, Mathew 63, Aqeel 2/26) beat Pak Hawks 99/10 (Khalil 19, Suraj 3/20) by 146 runs

Central Café 194/8 (Ganesh 81, Ali 3/27) beat Mudabbar 136/10 (Waqas 27, Sachin 3/12) by 58 runs.

Bassali Tigers 179/4 (Salamn 58, Umer 56, Sukesh 2/34) beat Awali Bapco 72/10 (Irfan 28, Salman 6/19) by 107 runs

Lanterns XI 116/2 in 15.4 overs (Afzal 54, Shahid 31) beat ACL Haseena 115/10 (Nasir 23, Farhan 3/19, Adeeb 3/35) by 8 wickets

Bahrain Indians 97/4 in 14.3 overs (Shameem 26, Shyju 2/19) beat Alghad Cargo 96/8 (Leju 25, Jaseer 4/17) by 6 wickets. Karnataka Royals 139/10

Karnataka Royals 139/10 (Raghuram 43, Ashok 30, Anoop 3/28) beat LuLu76/10 (Anoop 16, Vinay 3/15) by 63 runs.

Liaison CC 201/9 (Qadeer 50, Zahid 44, Naushad 3/23) beat Unique 62/10 (Vijay 22, Majid 5/16, Zubair 3/19) by 139 runs.



Afzal - Lanterns



Obaid - Asgharali



Qadeer - Liaison



Romy - Indian Rising Star



Salman -Bassali Tiger



Vinod Kerala XI



Younis - Alpha Fire

# DJOKOVIC Thrashes Lajovic Two-time Monte-Carlo champion Novak Djokovic saves all four break points he faces to beat Dusan Lajovic

Monte Carlo

Former world number one Novak Djokovic showed signs of a return to form with a 6-0, 6-1 thrashing of fellow Serb Dusan Lajovic in the Monte Carlo Masters first round yesterday.

It was an impressive performance from the 30-yearold in his first match since splitting from coach Andre Agassi and starting to work again with long-time former coach Marian Vajda.

Ranked 13th in the world after lengthy spells off the court with an elbow injury, Djokovic is training with Vajda for the first time since last year's Monte Carlo Masters.

Djokovic dominated from the outset as Lajovic struggled, and despite some nervy moments on serve in the second set, wrapped up victory in under an hour to book a second-round meeting with Borna Coric.

It was the 12-time Grand Slam champion's first win at a regular ATP Tour event this season, after losing his opening matches in Indian Wells and Miami to Taro Daniel and Benoit Paire respectively.

Djokovic started strongly, dropping only three points on serve as he cruised to a first-set bagel which was sealed with a fierce return winner.

Lajovic had his chances in the second, creating breakpoint opportunities in three consecutive Djokovic service games as the two-time Monte Carlo champion threw in two double faults.

But the qualifier was unable to make the most of those openings, and Djokovic, who lives and trains in Monaco, broke in game four as Lajovic fired wide.

Djokovic had to save two break points when serving for the match, but sealed the win to stay on course for a possible quarter-final meeting with old rival Rafael Nadal.

Earlier yesterday, Japan's Kei Nishikori fought back from a set down to see off Czech 12th seed Tomas Berdych and reach the second round.

In a battle of two former Grand Slam finalists, Nishikori raced through the final two sets to progress with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-1 victory.

The former world number four, who is now ranked 36th, missed a large part of last season with a right wrist injury and started his 2018 campaign in American second-tier Challenger Tour events.

But he was close to his best against Berdych, despite making a slow start and calling for a medical timeout for his troublesome wrist.

"It's not great but, I mean, first match on clay, you know, I'm expecting little soreness," said Nishikori "Hopefully I have day off tomorrow. If I have to play tomorrow, I got to be ready tonight."

The 28-year-old, playing in the tournament for the first time in six years, will take on Russian youngster Daniil Medvedev in round two.

Elsewhere, American Jared Donaldson launched into an angry tirade at umpire Arnaud Gabas while squaring up to the Frenchman over a line call during his defeat by Albert Ramos-Vinolas.

The 21-year-old petulantly insisted a supervisor was called to check the mark, saying: "I can call the supervisor whenever I want."

He then sarcastically apologised, saying he was "sorry" to hurt Gabas' feelings.

Ramos-Vinolas, who lost last year's final to Nadal, was leading by a set and a break at the time and went on to win 6-3, 6-3, (*AFP*)



Five matches were played on the sixth day in The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain 7th Annual Inter-Hotel Charity Cricket Tournament held at the Ritz-Carlton Staff Recreation area in Manama. Sheraton, Domain, K Hotel, Majestic Arjaan and Diplomat won their respective matches. Above, team Diplomat Radisson Blu pose for a photo after winning their match.

Match 1: Sheraton VS Golden Tulip Sheraton 34 all out in 5 overs beat Golden Tulip 26 all out in 5.1 overs. Man of the match: Shoaib (Sheraton)

Match 2: Domain VS Marriott Executive Apartments Domain 62/5 from 6 overs beat Marriott 34/5 in 6 overs by 28 runs Man of the Match: Rahul (Domain) Match 3: K Hotel VS Ramada Manama

City Center
K Hotel 51/5 from 6 overs beat
Ramada Manama City Center 44 all
out in 6 overs by 7 runs
Man of the Match: Ansari (K Hotel)

Match 4: Majestic Arjaan by Rotana VS Westin

Majestic Arjaan 45 all out in 6 overs beat Westin 14 All out in 3.4 overs

Man of the Match: Sandeep (Majestic

Match 5: Diplomat Radisson Blu VS Wyndham Garden Diplomat 72/2 from 6 overs beat Wyndham Garden 44 all out from 6 overs by 28 runs

Man of the Match: Saurav (Diplomat)



## **Khalid Taha** signs multi-fight contract

Khalid Taha has signed a multi fight contract with Brave Combat Federation.

Taha had won the bantamweight title twice in a year at the Japanese MMA organisation, Rizin. It has been divulged that Taha will make its debut

in Indonesia on 11 May. He will compete in the featherweight division for the first time in almost five years.

"I am very happy to open new chapter in my career

with Brave Combat Federation. My friends Ottman and Alan are already under contract there and have only told me good things about the organisation, their professionalism and their ambitions. I am a Dortmunder boy, the roots of my family are lying in Lebanon and I hope one day I would be able to compete in the home country of my ancestors" said Ťaha.

Taha will make his debut at Brave Combat Federation at the 12th edition the event in Jakarta, Indonesia

on May

id Taha signs multifight contract with Brave Combat Federation

#### Shaikh Isa awarding ceremony today

The fourth edition of Shaikh Isa bin Rashid Al Khalifa Award for Voluntary Work in the field of sport is all set for today at the Sofitel Hotel in

Starting at 6.30pm, the evening will see the honoring of sports-related authorities who volunteered to work in the field of sport for many years.

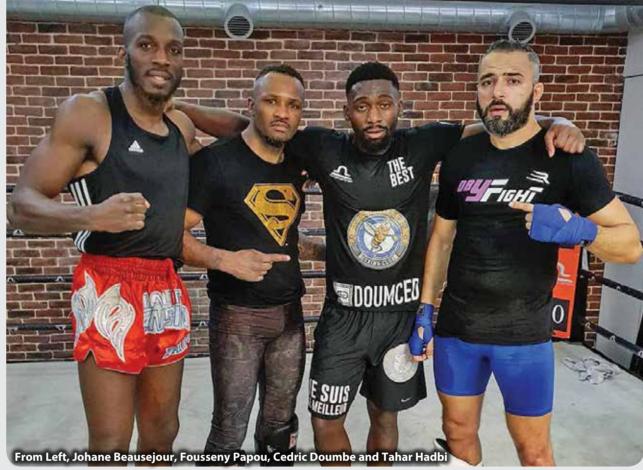
It will be held under the patronage of His Majesty for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports chairman and Bahrain Olympic Committee president Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al

This edition of the ceremony has allocated its awards for four different categories, namely national teams managers, international referees, teams supervisors and media personnel.

The Bahrain Olympic Committee, organisers of the event, has completed all preparations to hold a very successful and memorable ceremony this

The first edition of Shaikh Isa bin Rashid Al Khalifa Award for Voluntary Work in the field of sport was held in 2012 and was dedicated for sports personnel who spent 25 years and more in voluntary

# Hadbi prepares to take on Jarrah



Manama

ahar Hadbi has initiated Tahar Hadbi nas initiated his training camp alongside Cedric Doumbe, Fousseny Papou, Azize Hilali and Johane Beausejour in preparation for the upcoming bout against Jarrah Al Selawe.

Hadbi and Al Selawe will face at Brave 12: KHK Legacy hosted in Jakarta, Indonesia. The camp is set at ObyFight and consists of Cedric

Doumbe who is a 3 time Glory Kickboxing champion and Fousseny Papou is a 2 time French Muay Thai Champion. Also part of the camp are the champions, Azize Hilali and Johane Beauseiour.

Al Selawe and Hadbi had previously competed in Brave 9: The Kingdom Rises hosted Amman, Jordan where both the fighters were victorious.

With Welterweight championship yet to be defended by Carlston Harris, the bout is pivotal in deciding the contender for the upcoming title defence.

'I am giving my best to be the best. At the moment some of the best fighters in France are a part of the camp. If you understand the level of competition and history of the welterweight division in the

promotion, this fight decides the best welterweight fighter in Brave Combat Federation. Jarrah has defeated Carl Booth just like I have defeated Fakhreddine, who were the original contenders for the title. The camp with the best French fighters is constantly improving myself in every discipline and I aim to keep growing my skillset to take on Jarrah" said Hadbi.

#### Bahrain to host physical literacy erence

Bahrain was once again granted to host another major regional sports gathering this year, as the International Conference on Physical Literacy for Middle East and North Africa (MENA) will be embraced by the kingdom from September 9 to 11.

The three-day conference is organized by the Bahrain Olympic Academy, which is under the Bahrain Olympic Committee, in cooperation with Podium Conferences, based in Victoria Canada, and the Sport for Life Society.



Marischal De Armond, president of Podium Conferences, said he was

excited to bring such an and awareness about physical event here in Bahrain in an attempt to expand knowledge

Marischal De Armond meets Abdulrahman Askar and Bahrain Olympic Academy representatives literacy on both, how to apply in practical settings, and to

build policies to support healthy communities.

The conference is designed to attract representatives of a variety of ministries both here in Bahrain and within the region, ministries like health, recreation, education, economy.

"We are excited with the fact that Bahrain as a nation has created an initiative around physical literacy together with my partners in Canada sport for life society we manage and deliver international physical literacy conferences around the world," said De Armond.

"Because the leadership of Shaikh Nasser Al Khalifa and the work that they are doing in Bahrain we are excited to be putting on the first IPLC or International Physical Literacy Conference for Middle East and North Africa here in Bahrain".

De Armond was recently in Bahrain for three days at the invitation of Abdulrahman Askar, the general secretary of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, to review venues and to search out appropriate locations for the international physical literacy conference.





# **SPORTS**

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

Paris St Germain claimed their seventh Livre 1 1111 seventh Ligue 1 title in emphatic style with a 7-1 home win against defending champion AS Monaco on Sunday.

PSG, who netted four goals in the opening half-hour, have 87 points with five games remaining and lead second-placed Monaco by 17 points after doubles by Giovani Lo Celso and Angel Di Maria, goals by Edison Cavani and Julian Draxler and a Radamel Falcao own goal.

Monaco, who could only reply through Rony Lopes, are now threatened by third-placed Olympique

fourth-placed Lvonnais Olympique de Marseille who are four points behind them after weekend wins.

Playing at the Parc des Princes against the team who denied them the title last year was the perfect occasion for PSG, owned by big-spenders Qatar Sports Investments since 2011, to wrap up their fifth title in the Qatari era.

They joined Lyon in fifth place in the rankings of the clubs with the most French titles — three behind record holders St Etienne.

"The team maintained the pressure throughout the game," said coach Unai Emery, who failed to take PSG past the last 16 in the Champions eague this season.

"Our great goal is the Champions League; it's not easy but we're going to work hard for it."

"It is possibly my worst defeat as a coach," said Monaco coach Leonardo

Kylian Mbappe sat on the bench as Emery, whose contract is unlikely to be renewed at the end of the season, gave Javier Pastore a rare start.

Monaco, who were humbled 3-0 by PSG in the League Cup final, got off to a good start but the home side had the first clear chance in the 10th minute when Cavani volleyed just wide from Dani Alves's cross. (Reuters)



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