

DT NEWS

DAILY TRIBUNE

Saturday, August 19, 2017 Issue No. 7478

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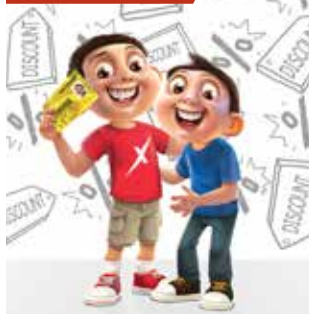
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11th Hour

Bannon out as Trump
chief strategist

Washington

President Donald Trump yesterday finally parted ways with controversial far-right chief strategist Steve Bannon, after weeks of speculation and as the administration reels from the fallout over Trump's response to a violent white supremacist rally.

Tweet of
the Day



Michelle and I are thinking of the victims and their families in Barcelona. Americans will always stand with our Spanish friends. Un abrazo.

@BarackObama

Today's Weather

	Max	Min
	39°C	30°C

Bahrain updates terror list

Representative picture

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

It's official now! The entities and individuals identified as funders of terrorism by the Anti-terror quartet had found their way onto the official terror 'blacklist' of Bahrain.

The names of nine entities and nine individuals are now in the Official Gazette of the Kingdom.

The quartet, which includes Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Egypt, added the new names to the GCC terror list on July 25 accusing them of having "direct and indirect ties with the Qatari authorities in funding terrorist activities".

While announcing the list, the quartet also issued a warning to the Qatari authorities stating that they will be monitoring Qatar's commitments in this regard, which includes not harbouring terrorists, supporting and financing terrorism as well as ending hate speech.

Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain and Egypt severed all ties with Qatar, accusing the Gulf state of supporting terrorism and backing Iran.

They also added 59 people to their terrorist blacklists, including 18 Qataris.

The quartet earlier said they had placed three Qataris and a Kuwaiti citizen on the list for holding fund-raising campaigns in Syria for the Al-Nusra Front, while three Yemenis and Yemen-based organisations were blacklisted for their support to Al-Qaeda with the help of Qatari charities. Two Libyan individuals and six Libyan entities were also blacklisted for spreading chaos and devastation in Libya.

The quartet at that time also warned Qatar that the "recently signed memorandum of

understanding with the United States" and the move to "amend terror-combating laws" were not sufficient.

They required "Qatari authorities to take legal and practical actions to prosecute terrorist and extremist individuals and entities, especially those on this current list and the previous one."

The quartet had also confirmed that sanctions against Qatar would continue.

The terror list originally compiled by the quartet in June includes entities and individuals from Bahrain, Qatar and other Arabian countries.

Minister welcomes approval of new list

Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday welcomed the official inclusion of the new names to Bahrain's terror blacklist.

In a comment posted on

his official Twitter page, the Minister wrote: "Every terrorist, supporter of terrorism, infiltrators and mercenaries are there on the blacklist. The masquerade has ended and the masks have fallen off."

Entities:

- 1) Al- Balagh Charitable Foundation - Yemen
- 2) Al-Ihsan Charitable Society - Yemen
- 3) Rahma Charitable Organization - Yemen
- 4) Benghazi Revolutionaries Shura Council- Libya
- 5) Al-Saraya Media Center- Libya
- 6) Boshra News Agency - Libya
- 7) Rafallah Sahati Brigade - Libya
- 8) Nabaa TV - Libya
- 9) Tanasuh Foundation for Dawa, Culture and Media - Libya

Individuals:

- 1) Khalid Saeed Al Bouaynain (Qatari Citizen)
- 2) Shaqer Jumah Al Shahwani (Qatari Citizen)
- 3) Saleh bin Ahmed Al Ghanim (Qatari Citizen)
- 4) Hamid Hamad Hamid Al Ali (Kuwaiti Citizen)
- 5) Abdullah Mohammed Al Yazidi (Yemeni Citizen)
- 6) Ahmed Ali Ahmed Baraoud (Yemeni Citizen)
- 7) Mohammed Bakr Al Dabaa (Yemeni Citizen)
- 8) Al-Saadi Abdullah Ibrahim Bukhazem (Libyan Citizen)
- 9) Ahmed Abd Al Jaleel Al Hasnawi (Libyan Citizen)



P 02
Stabbing
spree in
Finnish city
of Turku



P 03
CR fee hike:
MP to raise
the issue in
Parliament



P 04
Comfortable
win
for South
Sehla

Stabbing spree in Finnish city of Turku

Suspects hunted



A video grab taken from Instagram shows officials standing in a street next to a person lying on the ground in the Finnish city of Turku where several people were stabbed.



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Helsinki

Police shot and wounded a suspect after a stabbing spree in which a man killed two people and wounded six others in the Finnish city of Turku yesterday.

Within hours the force had announced increased police patrols across the country.

"There are eight victims in the stabbing. Two dead and six injured," Turku police tweeted after the assault in a market square. A hospital official told journalists all the victims were adults.

Police shot one suspect in the thigh minutes after the attack at another square nearby, arresting him and confiscating his knife.

His identity has not yet

been established, police said four hours after the attack, nor was the motive for the attack clear.

While security forces wrote on Twitter that police were "looking for other possible perpetrators", police told journalists it was likely there was only one attacker.

The stabbing spree comes with Europe on high alert a day after drivers slammed vehicles into pedestrians in two attacks in Spain, killing at least 14 people and injuring more than 100 others. The Islamic State (IS) group has claimed responsibility for the Barcelona attack.

In Turku, images of a body covered in a white blanket were published on some

online news sites, including the local daily Turun Sanomat.

The attack took place in the heart of the port city in southwestern Finland, just after 4:00 pm (1300 GMT) in a bustling neighbourhood.

"The perpetrator stabbed two people on the market square, one of whom came to the aid of the other," police told reporters.

"Then the perpetrator left the square to a busy street and stabbed more people."

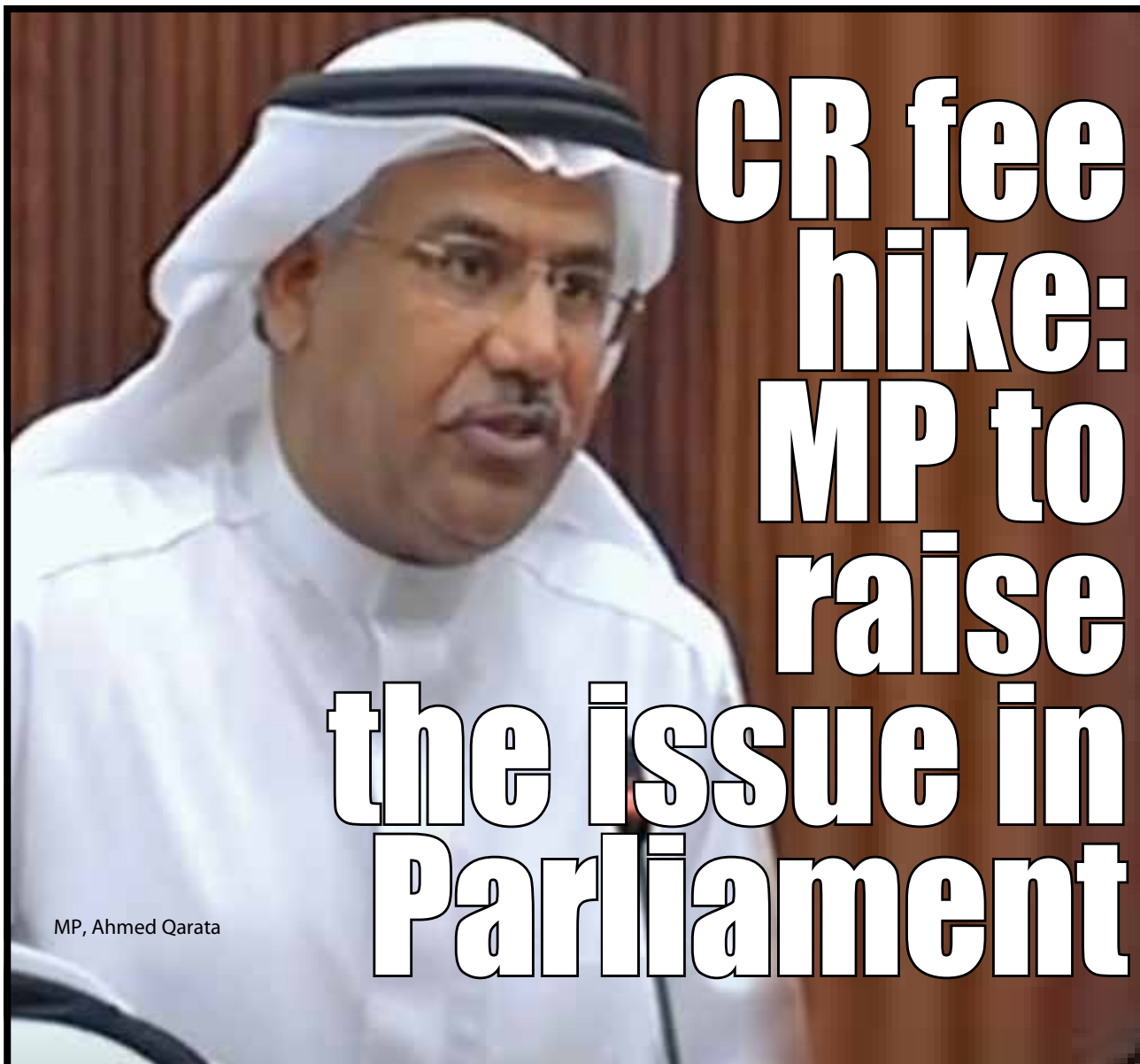
Police arrested a suspect minutes later.

One victim died at the scene and the other in hospital, police said.

Bystanders had rushed to the scene to help the victims.



Police officers standing next to a person lying on a stretcher



MP, Ahmed Qarata

Selling illegal drugs online: NHRA takes down several online shops

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

Health authorities have taken legal and administrative actions against several online vendors selling unapproved medicines and supplements in the Kingdom.

"The authority has taken legal steps against six violating ads posted on the social media networks," said Dr Mariam Al Jahalma, CEO, National Health Regulatory Authority (NHRA).

The violators were referred to the General Directorate of Anti-corruption and Economic and Electronic Security in the Interior Ministry.

Dr Al Jahalma explained that five of the advertisements were for

unpermitted supplements, while one of them was for dentistry products.

"The authority shall monitor all advertisements related to medical products and devices," said Dr Al Jahalma adding; "Most of them found were unlicensed, which will be referred to legal authorities for necessary actions."

The authority has taken legal actions against online vendors in the past too with the most recent case being that of miscarriage related drugs.

In a message, NHRA has also urged citizens and residents to be aware of the dangers of using illegally sold medicines and supplements that aren't approved by the authority.



Dr. Al Jahalma

DT News Network
news@dt.bh

As businesses in the Kingdom brace for the newly introduced Commercial Registration (CR) fee hike, a Bahraini MP yesterday warned that the concerned minister will be held responsible for "harming the national economy".

Al Ayam daily quoting Ahmed Qarata, the House of Representatives' Economic and Financial Committee member, said that the parliamentarian would question Zayed bin Rashid Al Zayani, the Industry, Commerce and Tourism Minister, in the upcoming legislative session over the issue.

The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) also raised the issue recently in an official letter sent to His Royal Highness, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister. The Chamber requested the Premier to revoke the CR fee hike, which would enter into force on 22 September 2017, citing its negative impact on the businesses here.

The Chamber claimed that the businesses here "might go bankrupt or exit the market as a result".

No	Activity	Amount in BD
1	Industrial activities	1000
2	Construction / Real Estate Activities	1000
3	Commercial activities	300
4	Activities support industry	200
5	Activities support construction and real estate	100
6	Service activities	100
7	Logistics activities	100
8	Agricultural activities, animals, hunting	50
9	Small Business	25

"The new CR fees are unstudied and will harm the national economy".

Challenging the fee hike, Qarata, in his comments to the daily, said: "The new CR fees are unstudied and will harm the national economy".

"The ministry had introduced 270 new fees in

the past two years targeting traders," Qarata said adding: "These actions would only push the economy into recession".

He also warned that the fees hike might generate some

additional revenues in the short-term, but would fail in the long run.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism invited commercial establishments, individuals, companies and other institutions to verify the fees for their activities by visiting the portal: www.sijilat.com. This, according to the Ministry, is necessary to continue their commercial activities.

Family escape fire

DT News Network
Manama

A Bahraini family had a miraculous escape after a fire broke out in their house in the Jidhafs Housing

Project, Capital Governorate, yesterday.

Civil Defence firefighters, who reached the scene immediately, rescued the family and doused the fire.

Accident: Driver burnt to death

DT News Network
Manama

In a horrific incident, a driver was burned to death on Wednesday after the vehicle involved in the mishap caught

fire after hitting a lamppost. The accident occurred on the highway near Isa Town, the Interior Ministry said in a statement. All relevant procedures were taken.

Comfortable win for South Sehla

DT News Network Manama

South Sehla Youth Centre comfortably defeated Shakhoora Youth Centre 6-2 in the final round of matches in Group 5 matches of the preliminary stage of the Fifth Khalid bin Hamad Futsal League for Youth Centres, People with Disabilities and Girls (Khalid 5) at the Khalifa Sports City in Isa Town.

The man of the match was Sayed Alawi of the South Sehla team.

In other Group 5 action, Aali Club beat Al Qadisiya 4-2 with Sayed Baqer the man of the match for the winning team, while Sanad ran out 4-1 winners against Busaiteen with Sanad's Ali Abdulaziz the man of the match.

In a Group 6 match, North Sehla surprised Sanabis with a 2-1 win as the latter had previously been unbeaten, man of the match was Hassan Shaker of the North Sehla team.

The final round of five preliminary matches were being played last night.

Meanwhile, Karranah Youth

Centre fans expressed their gratitude to Minister of Youth and Sports Affairs, Hisham bin Mohammed Al-Jowder for replying to the village's needs and requirements to build a youth centre in Karranah.

Meanwhile, competition in the disabled category begins today from 5pm with the participation of eight teams divided into two groups of four, playing six matches.

This tournament is being played under the patronage of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and Honorary President of Bahrain Sports Federation for Disabilities and organised by the Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs and the Media Office of Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, under the slogan #Generations_Meeting.

It started on July 24 and continues until September 14 and features 59 teams, divided into 36 youth centres teams, 9 unregistered clubs, 8 teams of people with disabilities institutions and 6 girls teams.



Action between South Sehla and Shakhoora



Action between South Sehla and Shakhoora



Sayed Alawi receives man of the match award



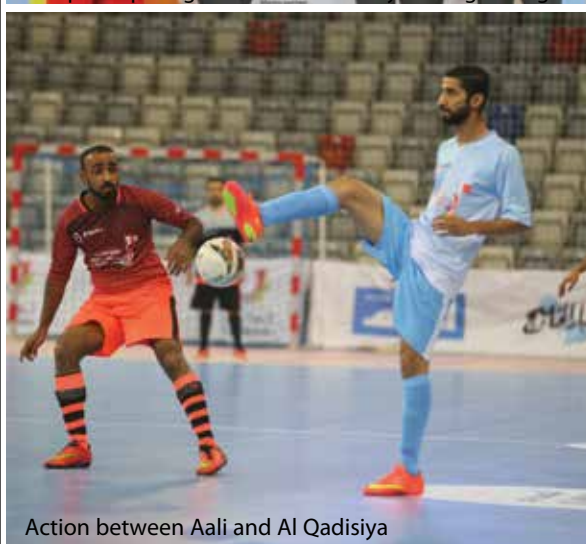
The participating teams honoured by the organising committee



The participating teams honoured by the organising committee



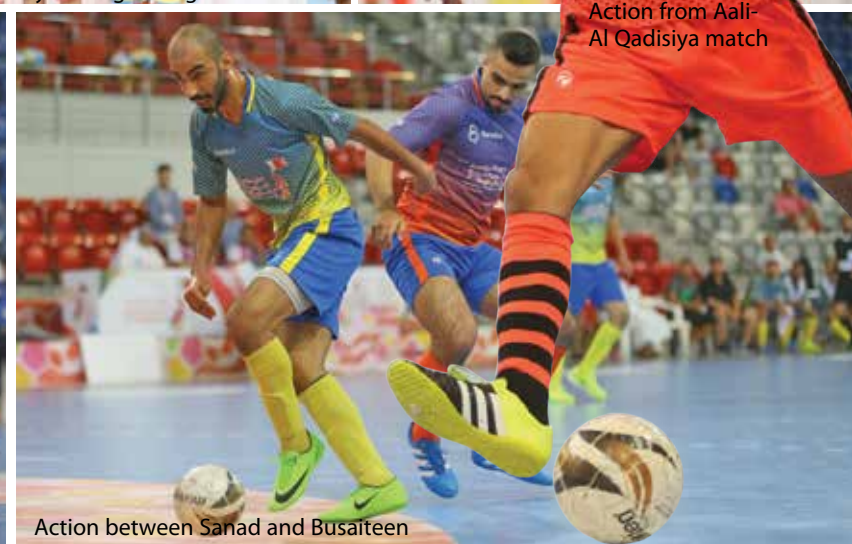
The participating teams honoured by the organising committee



Action between Aali and Al Qadisiya



Action between Sanad and Busaiteen



Action between Sanad and Busaiteen

Action from Aali-Al Qadisiya match

Thinking green

Rehan Ahmed



THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

The world youth makes up one sixth of the total population of the world. The UN defines the youth as the age group between 15 and 24 years old. Majority of these young men and women live in developing countries and their numbers are expected to rise with time.

In 1998 a resolution proclaiming August 12 as International Youth Day (IYD) was adopted during the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth. That recommendation was later endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1999. International Youth Day was first observed worldwide on 12th August in 2000.

Every year, the IYD has a theme. The theme of the year is 'Youth Building Peace'. Globally the governments and organizations are making efforts in involving the youth in all spheres of developmental activities, environmental conservation, pollution abatement, preservation and now in harnessing and building peace in their own domain, areas, cities and countries. The IYD is also to recognize efforts of the world's youth in enhancing global society. It also aims to promote ways to engage them in becoming more actively involved in making positive contributions to their communities.

Since the adoption of Security Council Resolution 2250 in 2015, there is growing recognition that as agents of change, young people are critical actors in conflict prevention and sustaining peace. International Youth Day 2017 is dedicated to celebrating young people's contributions to conflict prevention and transformation as well as inclusion, social justice, and sustainable peace.

Another Security Council Resolution, Resolution 2282 in 2016 recognizes that the scale and challenges of sustaining peace requires partnerships between stakeholders, including youth organizations. It also reaffirms the important role youth can play in deterring and resolving conflicts, and are key constituents in ensuring the success of both peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is also committed to fostering peaceful and inclusive societies and affirmed that "sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security". Goal 16 aims to ensure responsive, inclusive,

participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. The World Program of Action for Youth, which provides a policy framework and practical guidelines to improve the situation of young people, also encourages "promoting the active involvement of youth in maintaining peace and security".

Young people's inclusion in the peace and security agenda and in society more broadly, is key to building and sustaining peace. The process of social inclusion for youth, including participation in decision-making as well as access to quality education, health care and basic services promotes their role as active contributors to society and affords young people with opportunities to reach their potential and achieve their goals. When youth are excluded from political, economic and social spheres and processes, it can be a risk factor for violence and violent forms of conflict. Therefore, identifying and addressing the social inclusion of young people is a precondition for sustaining peace.

The involvement of youth in building and maintaining peace is critical and crucial to the long-term success of a sustainable and healthier world. Many global programs and initiatives are now involving and targeting the youth for bringing in the change.

Many activities and events that took place around the world on International Youth Day was for promoting the benefits that young people bring into the world. Many countries participate in this global event, which included youth conferences on issues such as peace, participation, environment, education and employment. Other activities include promoting the world's youth, as well as various sporting events, parades and mobile exhibitions that show case young people's achievements.

Let the youth of today focus and participate in sustainable and useful activities that promote peace, stability, harmony and understanding. We need to work together for making our home, area, city, country, region and our world more secure, safe, healthy and livable for us and our future generations.

* Head of Waste Disposal Unit, Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain. (rahmed@sce.gov.bh)

(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.)

China, Saudi for greater trade ties

Beijing Chinese Vice Premier Zhang Gaoli yesterday met with Saudi Arabian Minister of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources Khalid al-Falih in Beijing, agreeing to advance industrial capacity and investment cooperation.

Zhang will visit Saudi Arabia next week and co-chair the second meeting of a high-level steering committee for coordinating bilateral cooperation between China

and Saudi Arabia with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

"China-Saudi Arabia relations have entered a fast lane of full development," said Zhang.

"China supports Saudi Arabia's efforts to safeguard stability and security and is willing to implement a list of major cooperative projects in industrial capacity and investment under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative," he added.

"I expect to visit Saudi Arabia next week and discuss with Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman policy coordination and alignment of development strategies between the two sides," he said.

Al-Falih said Saudi Arabia cherishes the traditional friendship with China and is ready to make full use of the high-level steering committee to promote the docking of the Belt and Road Initiative with the "Saudi Vision 2030" growth strategy. (Xinhua)

Trump orders to create cyber warfare command



Washington

President Donald Trump ordered the US military yesterday to elevate its cyber warfare operations to a separate command, signalling a new strategic emphasis on electronic and online offensive and defensive operations.

The move means the US Cyber Command, or Cybercom, will eventually become its own entity.

"This new Unified Combatant Command will strengthen our cyberspace operations and create more opportunities to improve our nation's defence," Trump said in a statement.

"The elevation of United States Cyber Command

demonstrates our increased resolve against cyberspace threats and will help reassure our allies and partners and deter our adversaries."

The move would expand the number of the Defence Department's unified combatant commands to 10, putting cyber warfare on an equal footing with the Strategic Command, the Special Operations Command, and regional commands.

Until now cyber warfare operations have been run under the umbrella of the National Security Agency, the country's main electronic spying agency, with Admiral Michael Rogers heading both.

Rogers will retain his "dual-

hatted" role for now, but once Cybercom is fully elevated he could be replaced by another four-star general or admiral.

Cybercom is headquartered in Fort Meade, Maryland and will eventually comprise almost 6,200 personnel organised into 133 teams.

These "Cyber Mission Force" teams are already actively conducting operations and will achieve full operational capability by the end of fiscal year 2018.

Kenneth Rapuano, who is assistant secretary of defence for Homeland Defence and Global Security, said there was no firm timeline on when Cybercom would be fully stood up as a combatant command.

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PREETHY KARUNAKAR
Dietician

The Salt makers of Lebanon

A Lebanese man works at salt evaporation ponds

Anfeh

At 93, Elias al-Najjar has spent half a century harvesting salt by hand from ponds on Lebanon's Mediterranean shore, but he and his colleagues fear their way of life is dying.

Traditional coastal salt production was once popular in Lebanon, but the fully artisanal practice now survives in just a single seaside town, Anfeh, around 70 kilometres (45 miles) north of Beirut.

Producers like Najjar say the sector has suffered a series of blows, from an exodus of pond owners during Lebanon's civil war, to the lifting of import tariffs.

"I used to produce 300 tonnes myself in the 1950s," the elderly man says.

"Now I make 30 tonnes maximum."

Anfeh's salt producers accuse the government of refusing them permits to repair their equipment in order to turf them off prime coastal real estate and make way for developers.

"If they can't destroy the ponds, they want to make them unworkable so it's easier for fat cats to buy them to build resorts," says Hafez Jreij, 67.

"The land the ponds are on is going to be handed over to developers who want to build beach resorts."

The municipality confirmed to AFP that the central government is not giving any more permits.

But municipal spokeswoman Christiane Nicolas said the local council has no desire to destroy the sector.

"The government

stopped collecting taxes on traditional salt production because it considered it an infringement on public property," she told AFP.

But she added: "There's no evidence the authorities want to hand over the coast to developers."

Seasonal process

Salt extraction is a time-consuming process subject to the vagaries of weather, meaning it can only be practised around four months a year.

First, sea water is drawn into metre-deep concrete ponds via pumps powered by small windmills.

The water sits in the ponds of up to 20 square metres (more than 200 square feet) for at least 20 days, evaporating to leave a salty liquid residue.

That salty water is then swept into shallower concrete pans, and left to concentrate further for another 10 days.

Setbacks

Each day, producers sweep the sea water across the pan to ensure it dries evenly.

As the liquid disappears, blindingly white salt crystals emerge in lines, twinkling in the sunlight.

Jreij says Lebanon's traditional salt industry produced 50,000 tonnes a year during the sector's heyday between 1955 and 1975.

"Lebanon did not need to import salt, and the state imposed a 200-percent tax on

salt imports," he says.

But from 1975, when Lebanon's 15-year civil war erupted, the industry began suffering a series of setbacks.

Many pond owners were among the Lebanese who fled in waves over the years of the grinding conflict.

With their departure, production started to fall below demand, prompting the government

in the 1990s to lift the import tax on foreign salt.

The decision made it hard for local

producers to compete and, with the sector in free-fall, the government announced it considered many of the salt pans to be illegal construction on public coastline.

As a result, it stopped taxing income from salt production in 1994.

And without tax receipts, municipalities started rejecting permit applications from producers to maintain their equipment, producers say.

Those refusals prevent repairs on worn-down infrastructure, thereby killing the industry, they complain.

Jreij estimates half of all the salt pans in Anfeh are now unusable as a result of the 1994 decision.

Scraping by

Jreij also said that local authorities tried to shut him down in 2015 and 2016 by

claiming the sea water feeding the ponds was contaminated.

"We did laboratory tests on the water at extraction points and they all conformed to safety specifications," Jreij says.

Najjar, who said he had had a similar problem, showed to AFP the analysis results, carried out in Lebanon.

For now, producers in Anfeh are scraping by, selling salt to individual and industrial buyers at a rate of between \$2-4 per kilogramme, much less than the price of imported salt.

Bigger battle

Fisherman Daniel Fares, 37, says he is a loyal customer of Jreij because the entire production process is transparent.

"The sea is clean, and you know where the salt is coming from," he tells AFP.

"I prefer it over imported salt because it has no additives, which makes it suitable for pickling sardines too," says Fares, who also sells some of Jreij's salt to his own customers for home use.

Jreij sees the fight to preserve the salt ponds as part of a greater battle to protect Lebanon's coastline, much of which has been gobbled up by developers.

"Salt ponds don't produce waste, they don't block the way to the sea, and they don't block the beautiful view of the Mediterranean," he says.

"Resorts do all of that." (AFP)

Elias al-Najar, 93, displays salt flakes in the coastal Lebanese town of Anfeh north of the capital Beirut



Erdogan

Sigmar Gabriel

Germany slams 'interference' of Erdogan in vote

Berlin

German Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel hit out yesterday against "interference" by Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Germany's elections, after the Turkish leader urged Turks living abroad not to vote for parties of the ruling coalition.

"That is an unprecedented act of interference in the sovereignty of our country," Gabriel told the RedaktionsNetzwerk media group.

"Erdogan's interference in Germany's electoral campaign shows that he wants to incite people in Germany against each other," he said.

Gabriel urged Germans to push back by turning up in strength at the polls and voting for parties that champion democracy.

"Let's show those who want to play us against each other that we will not participate in this evil game," he said.

Erdogan's move also did not go down well with the

Turkish community.

Atila Karaborklu, the co-chairman of Germany's Turkish Community association, accused Erdogan of "seeking to divide German society".

His aim is "to hurt German democracy," charged Karaborklu.

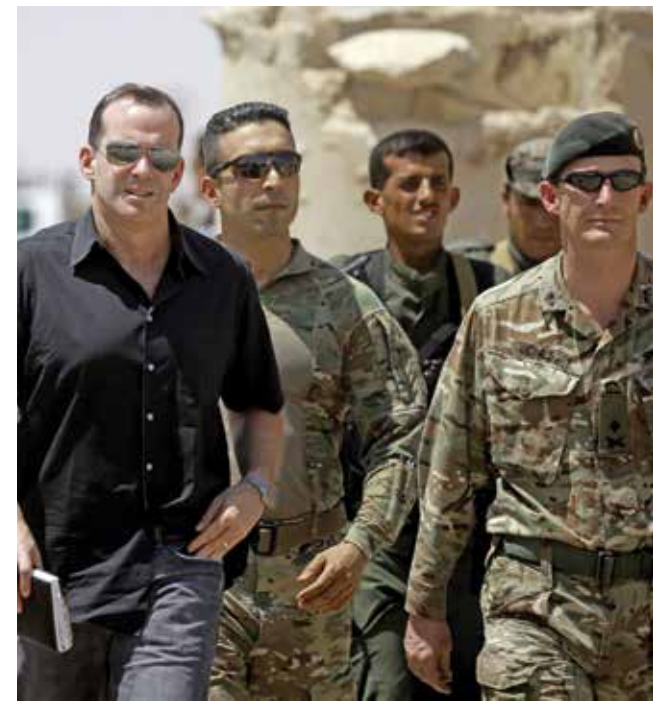
Erdogan on Friday called on Turks living in Germany not to vote for the two parties in Chancellor Angela Merkel's ruling grand coalition or the Greens in next month's legislative elections, calling

them "enemies of Turkey".

Upping the stakes in a intensifying row with Berlin, Erdogan said ethnic Turks in Germany should not cast their ballots either for Merkel's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Gabriel's Social Democratic Party (SPD), or the Greens.

Tensions have spiralled in recent months between Germany and Turkey, in one of the most significant crises in years between two NATO allies with long-standing historical links. (AFP)

IS fighters encircled in Syrian desert: monitor



Beirut

Syrian regime troops have seized more territory from the Islamic State jihadist group in a central desert region, almost entirely surrounding its fighters there, a monitor said Friday.

Backed by Russian warplanes and pro-government militias, the Syrian army has made considerable progress in its months-long offensive to retake the Badiya.

The vast desert region, which stretches from the country's centre to the Iraqi and Jordanian borders, has been held by IS since 2014.

"The regime managed to encircle the area of Okayrbat and the surrounding 44 hamlets, straddling the central provinces of Hama and Homs," said Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for

Human Rights.

Syria's official SANA news agency also reported that Okayrbat had been surrounded.

Russia's defence ministry said the Syrian army had taken control of the last supply route for arms, ammunition and equipment in the area.

It said the jihadists were seeking to flee towards their stronghold of Deir Ezzor to the east.

"The Russian air force is continuously conducting reconnaissance drone flights to find and destroy armoured vehicles, pickup trucks with heavy weapons and cars used by the terrorists," it added.

Regime troops have also seized four gas fields in the central desert, the British-based Observatory said.

S Korea's 'Poop School' wants to change name

Seoul

A South Korean elementary school whose name means "shit" has decided to adopt a more fragrant moniker, school officials said yesterday.

Many Korean names and words are based on Chinese characters, so when rendered in the Hangul alphabet they can have the same spelling, but multiple meanings.

The unfortunate consequence for the Daeyun Elementary School in Busan is that human faeces are the first thing that come to mind when Koreans hear its name.

"Are you from Poop School?" was a typical taunt students and former pupils have endured for 55 years,



The Daeyun Elementary School in the city of Busan reports said.

They have mounted a campaign to change the name, gathering more than 4,000 signatures since April, a school official who declined to give her name said.

"We want to have a pretty school name," read a banner

put up on the school wall by the students and their parents.

A school committee will choose among three options next week and submit a request to local authorities to change the name, she said, with permission expected to be granted from the spring term

next year.

One of them, Haeparang or sea waves, would flush away the stench of the past, while the other two are geographically based.

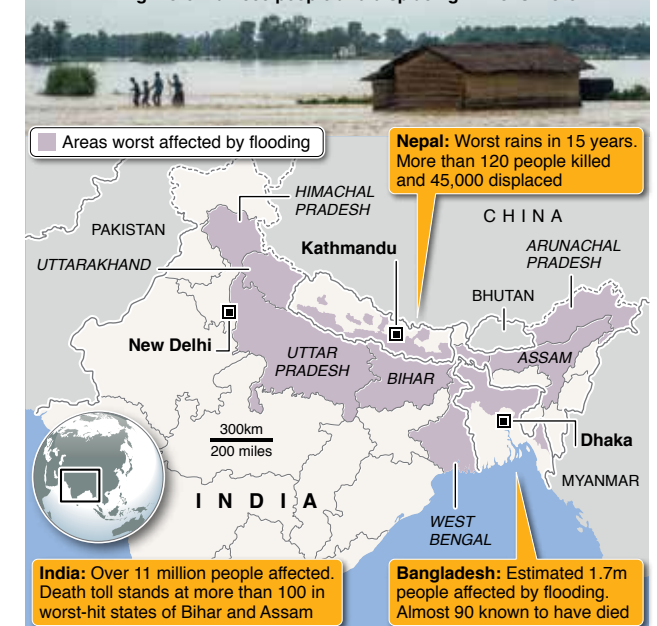
Founded in 1963, the school, which has 77 students, was named after a village called Daeyun-ri, a shortening of the nearby Daedonggobyunpo port, or Daedong Warehouse Coast.

The Kyunghyang Sinmun daily said other schools also have embarrassing homographs, including Jungja (sperm), Jungwan (seminal duct), Yadong (pornography) and Mulgun (prick).

None of the four said they were considering changing their names, they said.

Hundreds dead in South Asia flooding

Heavy monsoon rains have caused landslides and floods across northern India, southern Nepal and Bangladesh in recent days, killing more than 300 people and displacing millions more



Sources: ReliefWeb, wire agencies

Picture: Getty Images

© GRAPHIC NEWS

Fiat Chrysler an enticing takeover target for China



Detroit

Italian-American car maker Fiat Chrysler Automobiles would be an alluring takeover target for a Chinese company, instantly putting it at the top rung of the US auto industry, analysts say.

In July, a well-known but unnamed Chinese automaker made at least one offer to buy Fiat Chrysler at a price supposedly above its current market value, the industry news site Automotive News reported earlier this week.

Fiat Chrysler declined to answer questions but its share price jumped nearly 10 percent on the news.

According to Automotive News, the Italian-American auto giant rejected the Chinese company's advances, because the offer was too low.

With sales of its models ebbing in the United States, a Chinese acquisition could offer a lifeline to Fiat Chrysler, in particular for its Chrysler, Dodge and Fiat brands.

A sale also could provide the means for the company to boost its research and development.

"It won't be a merger. It will be an outright sale," said Joseph Phillippi, president of



Fiat Chrysler Automobile (FCA) workers as they exit from the Warren Truck Assembly Plant at the end of their shift in Warren, Michigan.

Auto Trends Consulting.

He notes that Fiat Chrysler produces the Jeep and Ram brands which not only are popular in the United States but also in China and elsewhere.

Chinese auto market

"FCA would get access to small cars that would be made in China but could really be something pretty nifty with FCA's design help."

Fiat Chrysler would not be the first major automaker to come under Chinese control or to look for ways to break into that huge market.

Sweden's Volvo was acquired by China's Geely in 2010 and has seen strong sales

growth since, with the Chinese market accounting for 20 percent.

US auto giant General Motors now sells more cars in China than in the United States, with 287,500 sold in China in July compared to 226,100 in the US market.

Before its 2009 sale to Fiat in a bankruptcy, Chrysler was one of the first US automakers to plant its flag in China at the start of the 1980s.

Fiat Chrysler sold 110,000 locally-built cars in China in the first half of the year, in particular thanks to rising sales of Jeeps built by a joint venture with GAC Group.

But it has since been overtaken by Ford and by GM,

which now imports Chinese-made Buicks into the United States.

Chinese automakers are no strangers to Detroit, the capital of the US auto industry.

Shanghai Automotive

Industry Corp, for example, a major Chinese producer and partner of GM, maintains a sizeable corporate presence in the Michigan city.

Chinese parts manufacturer YFS Automotive Systems,



Fiat cars on a sales lot in Miami, Florida.

which produces fuel tanks, has announced plans to build a plant in the area.

Ferrari precedent

FCA, which is controlled by Italy's Agnelli family, currently sells 4.5 million cars worldwide under its brands: Fiat, Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, RAM, Alfa Romeo and Maserati.

FCA CEO Sergio Marchionne spun off Ferrari in 2015 and could do likewise with Alfa Romeo and Maserati.

So selling Fiat, Dodge, Chrysler, Jeep and Ram to a Chinese investor could fit in with that corporate strategy.

And Italian newspaper Corriere della Sera said recently the Chinese suitors "have already shown that they are not invaders (for now), and that they can respect the history, culture and human resources of the businesses they take over."

But President Donald Trump could potentially be an obstacle to any deal. He has angrily denounced the US-China trade imbalance and could seek to prevent a flagship US brand from coming under Chinese control. (AFP)

NASA satellite to help astronauts talk to Earth

NASA has launched the latest in a series of satellites aimed at ensuring astronauts at the International Space Station can communicate with Earth.

\$408 million

The \$408 million Boeing-made Tracking and Data Relay Satellite (TDRS-M) soared into space atop an Atlas V rocket that launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida at 8:29 am.

Until 2020
The satellite will "support critical space communication into the mid-2020s"

Space for talks

The satellite will facilitate space-to-ground communication for NASA's low-Earth orbit operations, "ensuring scientists, engineers and control room staff can readily access data for missions like the Hubble Space Telescope and the International Space Station."

13 satellites

TDRS-M is the last of 13 such satellites that have been launched since 1983. An antenna on the satellite was damaged last month at a processing facility in Titusville, Florida. The satellite was repaired, but the mishap set the launch back by about two weeks.

China opens its first 'cyber court'

Beijing

China's first "cyber court" was launched on Friday to settle online disputes, as the legal system attempts to keep up with the explosion of mobile payment and e-commerce. Residents of the eastern city of Hangzhou -- home to e-commerce giant Alibaba -- can now register their internet-related civil complaints online and wait to log onto to their trial via videochat.



US, Japan to speed up bilateral trade talks

Washington

The US and Japan discussed accelerating talks on strengthening bilateral trade as well as bolstering economic relations, the US Trade Representative's office said. The meeting comes after US President Donald Trump withdrew from the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal with Pacific Rim economies, after campaigning on a protectionist platform.



I tell all my kinsmen in Germany... not to vote for them. Neither the Christian Democrats nor the SPD nor the Greens. They are all enemies of Turkey."

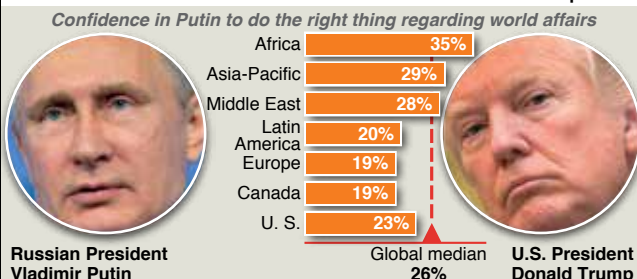
Recep Tayyip Erdogan

Turkey's President on German legislative elections



Putin more trusted than Trump

Few people trust Vladimir Putin to do the right thing for the world, according to a Pew Research Center survey of 37 countries; however, citizens of 22 countries trust Putin more than Donald Trump



Russian President Vladimir Putin

U.S. President Donald Trump

Confidence in Putin / Trump to do the right thing regarding world affairs

Country	Trust Putin more than Trump (%)	Trust Trump more than Putin (%)
Greece*	31	2
Lebanon	31	2
Vietnam	21	1
Germany*	14	8
Tunisia	14	8
Mexico	14	8
South Korea	10	3
Turkey*	9	3
Indonesia	8	5
Senegal	8	6
Chile	8	7
Colombia	8	11
Peru	7	13
Argentina	6	15
Hungary*	5	18
Brazil	5	19
France*	4	19
Japan	4	28
Sweden	2	12
Venezuela	2	22
Italy*	1	26
Spain*	1	8
Tanzania	0	50
Australia	2	27
Canada*	3	19
United Kingdom*	3	19
Netherlands*	5	12
South Africa	6	33
Jordan	7	2
India	11	29
Ghana	13	36
Philippines	15	54
Kenya	18	33
Poland*	19	4
Nigeria	19	39
Israel	28	28

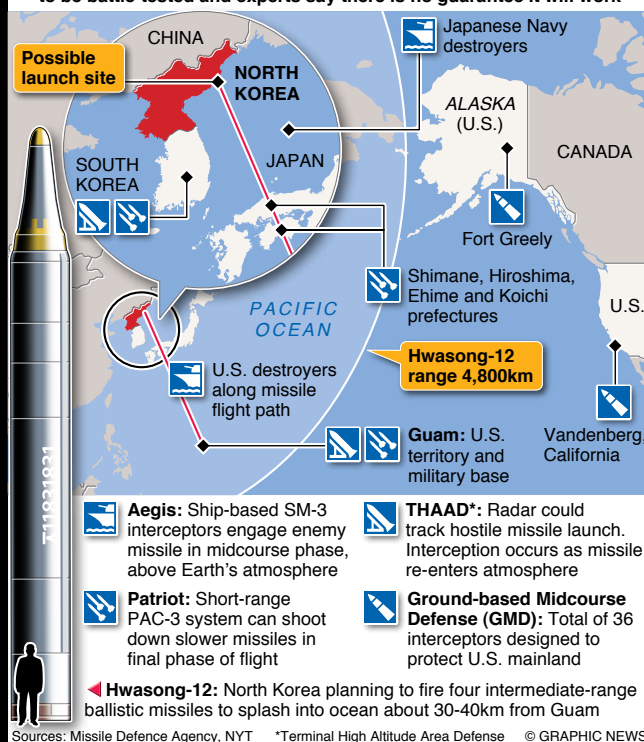
*NATO members. Survey of 40,951 respondents in 37 countries outside of Russia from February 16 to May 8, 2017. No U.S. data for Trump / Putin comparison

Source: Pew Research Center Pictures: Associated Press, Getty Images

© GRAPHIC NEWS

Missile defence systems in the Pacific

The U.S. and its Pacific allies could intercept North Korean missiles launched in the direction of Guam, but much of the technology is yet to be battle-tested and experts say there is no guarantee it will work



Infosys chief quits in rift with founders

Vishal Sikka

Mumbai

Vishal Sikka has resigned as chief executive of Infosys, the Indian software giant announced yesterday, as the growing acrimony between the company's board and its founders burst into open warfare.

Sikka said the "increasingly personal" attacks had hit morale at the company, which has been trying to keep pace with rapid changes in the industry.

The surprise announcement hit Infosys shares, which were down by nearly 10 percent by the end of the day.

"Over the last many months and quarters, we have all been besieged by false, baseless, malicious and increasingly personal attacks," he said

in a statement.

"The distractions that we have seen, the constant drumbeat of the same issues over and over again, while ignoring and undermining the good work that has been done, take the excitement and passion out of this amazing journey."

Sikka had come under fire in recent months from some of the founders of the company on issues related to corporate governance and salary increases for its top executives.

Indian newspapers on Friday quoted a leaked email from one of the company's founders Narayan Murthy in which he said Sikka was not "chief executive officer material". Later Friday

Murthy, who remains a shareholder, reportedly issued a statement saying he was concerned about what he called the "deteriorating standard of corporate governance which I have repeatedly brought to the attention of the board".

Sikka told reporters after the announcement that the antagonism was taking a "heavy toll personally" and had become "untenable".

The company's board came out in support of the outgoing chief, accusing Murthy of waging a "continuous assault".

Analysts said Sikka had helped steer Infosys back on track during a difficult period and his resignation reflected badly on the company.

Uber's ousted CEO calls investor lawsuit unfounded

Washington

Uber's ousted chief executive and company founder Travis Kalanick is asking for the dismissal of an investor lawsuit against him, calling it part of a personal attack aimed at sidelining him.

A response Thursday to a lawsuit filed last week by early Uber investor Benchmark Capital said the litigation was part of a "shameful" effort to remove Kalanick from any role at the ridesharing giant.



Travis Kalanick

The Benchmark lawsuit filed in a Delaware court accused Kalanick of fraud, breach of contract and of

plotting to manipulate the board of directors to allow him to return as CEO following his resignation in

June.

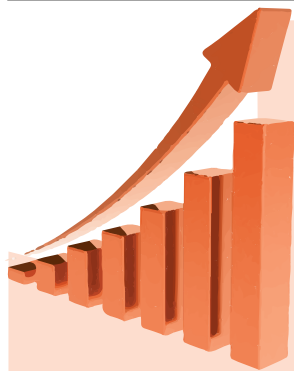
But in his response, Kalanick claimed that Benchmark "began secretly planning an effort to oust him" and "executed its plan at the most shameful of times" following the death of his mother in a May accident.

The filing said members of Benchmark earlier this year "handed Kalanick a draft resignation letter, and told him he had hours to sign it, or else Benchmark would start a public campaign against him."

Did You Know?



Fiat isn't just a car marque; it's also a parent company of many different subsidiaries. The businesses that the Fiat Group owns include: Alfa Romeo; Chrysler; Dodge; Ferrari; Iveco; Lancia; Maserati.



BFC
CURRENCIES
EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES	BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.3066	0.3030
BANGLADESH	0.00478	0.00467
CANADA	0.3056	0.3014
DENMARK	0.0628	
EGYPT	0.0234	0.0217
EURO	0.4498	0.4456
HONGKONG	0.04968	0.04928
INDIA	0.00595	0.00593
INDONESIA	0.00003073	0.00002885
IRAN TUMAN	0.000323	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000304	
JAPAN	0.00359	0.003520
JORDAN	0.5350	0.5354
KOREA	0.00038200	
KUWAIT	1.249	1.249
MALAYSIA	0.0904	0.0900
NEW ZEALAND	0.2806	0.2793
NORWAY	0.0497	
NEPAL	0.00395	0.00368
OMAN	0.98014	0.98314
PAKISTAN	0.00369	0.00358
PHILIPPINES	0.00761	0.00736
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10058	0.10066
SINGAPORE	0.2811	0.2791
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03000	0.29900
SRI LANKA	0.00270	0.00247
SWEDISH	0.0498	
SWITZERLAND	0.3991	0.3942
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0018
TAIWAN	0.013100	
THAILAND	0.011560	0.011540
TURKEY	0.1137	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4950	0.4902
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102810	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37780	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

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

GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5738	0.3870	0.3411
KUWAIT	0.2855	31.5506	0.2931	0.2583
OMAN	0.3849	0.3749	0.3951	0.3483
QATAR	3.6420	3.5477	3.7388	3.2956
UAE	3.6730	3.5779	3.7707	3.3237
SAUDI	3.7500	3.6529	3.8497	3.3934

Global markets falter on Spain attacks



Traders and financial professionals work the floor of the New York Stock Exchange

London

Stocks markets around the world slid yesterday as traders sought haven investments such as the yen and gold following an attack in Barcelona that sent airline share prices tumbling.

"The recent shift towards haven markets continues," said Joshua Mahony, market analyst at IG trading group.

David Madden, analyst at CMC Markets UK, noted that "the combination of political uncertainty in the US and security concerns in Europe are weighing on investor sentiment".

In afternoon trading, the main stock indices in London, Paris and Madrid were each down 1.0 per cent compared with Thursday's closing levels.

Gold, seen as a store of value in uncertain times, jumped back above \$1,300 per ounce for the first time in nine months, while the yen strengthened against the dollar and struck a near-seven week high versus the euro.

Airline shares suffered with

Air France-KLM shedding 1.4pc and IAG, which owns British Airways and Spanish carrier Iberia, down 1.5pc.

Earlier in Asian trading, Tokyo led the fall in regional stocks, slumping to its lowest close since early May, with the Nikkei also struggling in the face of the resurgent yen.

Wall Street stocks opened down on Friday, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average dipping 0.1pc and the S&P 500 Index slipping less than a tenth of apage point.

On Thursday, the S&P 500 Index tumbled by its second-biggest drop of the year, with financial and technology shares among the worst performers.

US stocks had been hit by rumours that Donald Trump's economic advisor Gary Cohn would resign owing to unhappiness over the president's response to a violent rally by racist groups in Charlottesville, although a White House source denied the claims. Sentiment in the

Key figures

London - FTSE 100: DOWN 1.0pc at 7,315.86 points

Frankfurt - DAX 30: DOWN 0.5pc at 12,147.32

Paris - CAC 40: DOWN 1.0pc at 5,095.04

Madrid - IBEX 35 - DOWN 1.0pc at 10,344.70

EURO STOXX 50: DOWN 0.8pc at 3,434.41

New York - Dow: DOWN 0.1pc at 21,726.13

Tokyo - Nikkei 225: DOWN 1.2pc at 19,470.41 (close)

Hong Kong - Hang Seng: DOWN 1.1pc at 27,047.57 (close)

Shanghai - Composite: UP less than 0.1pc at 3,268.72 (close)

Euro/dollar: UP at \$1.1746 from \$1.1724 at 2100 GMT

Pound/dollar: UP at \$1.2883 from \$1.2867

Dollar/yen: DOWN at 108.83 yen from 109.51 yen

Oil - Brent North Sea: UP four cents at \$51.07 per barrel

Oil - West Texas Intermediate: UP 12 cents at \$47.12

US was dented also after the White House said Trump had abandoned plans to form an advisory council on infrastructure, worsening business fears he will struggle to enact pledges to boost the economy. (AFP)

Swiss stop registering Cayenne diesel motors

Geneva

Switzerland said yesterday that it will no longer register Porsche's luxury SUV, the Cayenne, with diesel engines citing the fallout from the emissions scandal that has rocked neighbouring Germany's car industry.

Previously registered Cayennes can stay on Swiss roads, but no newly purchased vehicles with diesel engines will be cleared to drive, the Federal Roads Office (FEDRO) said in a statement, citing the need "to protect the environment".



Representative picture

Germany's transport ministry last month announced that "illegal" software disguising the true level of

polluting emissions had been discovered in Porsche's Cayenne and Macan models with diesel engines, which

needed to be fixed. A total of 22,000 vehicles were recalled, widening the scandal over emissions test cheating that has plagued parent-company Volkswagen for two years.

Volkswagen has admitted to using so-called "defeat device" software to cheat regulatory nitrogen oxides emissions tests.

The devices allowed the cars to spew up to 40 times the permissible limits of polluting nitrogen oxide during normal driving, but this was hidden during emissions testing.

A full solar eclipse in Antalya, southern coast of Turkey (file photo)



First eclipse in 99 years to sweep North America

Miami

The first total solar eclipse to sweep North America in nearly a century will march across the continent August 21, casting a shadow over millions of people from coast to coast.

The event, coined the "Great American Eclipse," is inspiring a surge in tourism in the United States, along with sky-high prices for travel to key viewing spots and a rise in scams such as counterfeit solar eclipse glasses.

Celebrations are planned nationwide, including weddings timed to coincide with the eclipse and a live Caribbean cruise ship performance of the 1983 hit "Total Eclipse of the Heart" by the singer herself, Bonnie Tyler.

In a nation that is increasingly divided along political lines, some expressed hope that fascination for this spectacular phenomenon would offer people a chance to unite.

"A large swath of the population will be able to easily see this eclipse," astronomer James Webb at Florida International University said.

"There are plenty of people out there in this day and age that are denying science, so this is an opportunity to show what we really know about the solar system."

Historic eclipse

The total eclipse, when the Moon fully blocks light from the Sun, will be visible from a 70-mile-wide (113-kilometer) path that carves through 14 US states.

A partial eclipse begins on the northwest coast of the United States shortly after 9 am (1600 GMT).

The total eclipse reaches the western coastline of Oregon at 10:16 am Pacific time (1716 GMT), then forges a diagonal path, exiting over South Carolina in the afternoon.

While the darkest shadows will fall over this "path of totality," a

partial eclipse extends far beyond it, and may be visible as far north as Alberta, Canada and as far south as Brazil, weather permitting.

Even Britain and western France may catch an evening glimpse of a tiny sliver of the eclipse at sunset.

"They'll see a very shallow, partial eclipse," said Royal Astronomy Society acting director Robert Massey.

The last time an eclipse crossed from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean was on June 8, 1918, when a total eclipse was visible from Washington to Florida.

Eye damage

Experts warn that looking directly at the eclipse can burn the retina, possibly causing lasting blind spots.

Anyone planning to look skyward is urged to wear the proper protective eyewear. Regular sunglasses are not strong enough.

"Probably 100 million people are going to look at this but the dangers of looking at the Sun are real and serious," said Vincent Jerome Giovannozzo, director of ophthalmology at Staten Island University Hospital Northwell Health.

"The damage can really be permanent and right smack in the center of their vision," he said.

The US Fire Administration has cautioned people to beware of counterfeit glasses that don't provide the right level of protection. Solar glasses should be marked with the safety standard ISO-12312-2.

Those who don't want to stare at the sky can use cardboard or paper to make a pinhole projector that allows an image of the eclipse to show through.

Other projects aim to capture the sensory experience of an eclipse.

One, called Eclipse Soundscapes, is encouraging scientists and citizens to record environmental sounds before, during, and after

to allow the blind and visually impaired to "hear and feel the physical qualities of the eclipse."

Events planned

For those unable to see the eclipse, NASA is planning an all-day live broadcast on its website, nasa.gov, which will feature on the Toshiba Vision screen in New York's Times Square.

Rooftop viewing parties, kayak trips, baseball games and even weddings are being held nationwide to mark the celestial event.

According to the website greatamericaneclipse.com, between 1.85 and 7.4 million people are expected to travel into the path of totality, raising concerns about traffic jams and accidents.

Prices for lodging have soared, as most hotels and flights have been quickly booked to capacity.

Raggedly motels along the highway in Casper, Wyoming -- one of the choice viewing spots -- were offering their last rooms at more than \$2,100 per night as of Thursday.

The eclipse has also sparked a massive scientific effort to study the Sun's outer region, known as the corona, which is easier to study when the Moon blocks much of the Sun's light.

In an age of smartphone technology, millions are expected to record and photograph the eclipse.

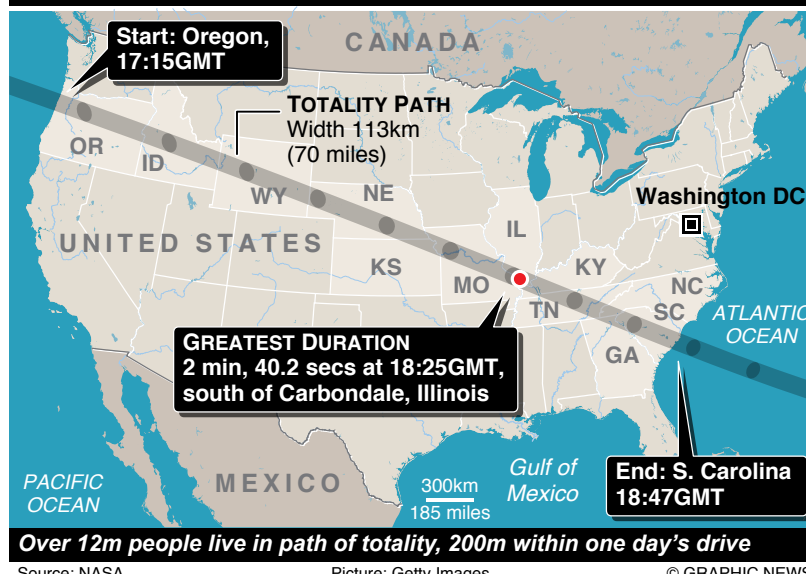
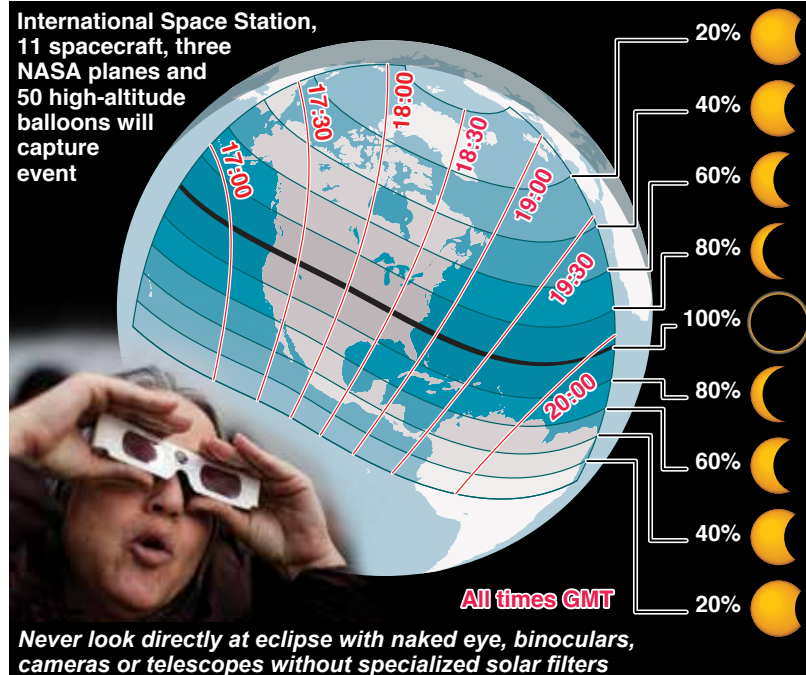
Donald Liebenberg, 85, a scientist at Clemson University in South Carolina, has seen 26 eclipses in his lifetime, and says each one is unique.

"When I first see the onset of totality, of course, I am impressed as the temperature drops and the sky darkens and birds return to their nests," he said.

"I am impressed that even the Babylonians were able to predict when and where an eclipse would occur." (AFP)

Eclipse across America: Aug 21, 2017

For the first time in almost a century, a total solar eclipse will sweep across the U.S., plunging a strip 113km wide into darkness. Outside the path of totality, skywatchers elsewhere in North America and northern South America will experience a partial eclipse





On the occasion of birth anniversary celebrations of Lord Shri Krishna (Janmashtami), a follow-up event of "Breaking the earthen pot" (Matki Phod) was organised yesterday by The Thattai (Bhatia) Hindu Com



In commemorating the 72nd Anniversary of the Independence Day of Indonesia, the Embassy of Indonesia in Manama conducted a flag hoisting ceremony on Thursday. The event was attended by the Indonesian Ambassador, the Embassy Staffs and the Indonesian Community in Bahrain.



National Institution of Human Rights (NIHR) Chair Executive Council Chairman Yaqoob Mohamed Y Committee chairperson Maria Khoury, committee m



The Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA) Hand the participants of the Ceramic Sculpture training worksh During the ceremony, the Chairman of Al Jasrah Handicrafts all 20 participants that took part in the workshop hosted by



Community (THC) at Shri Krishna Hindu Temple premises in Manama. The celebrations were attended by the British Ambassador, Simon Martin and a crowd of over 1,500 devotees.



Man Saeed Al-Faihani received a delegation from Bahrain Free Labour Union Federation (Al-Hurr), led by Hussein Al-Faihani. The meeting was attended by NIHR Vice Chairman Abdulla Al-Derazi, Economic, Social and Cultural Affairs Minister Dr. Aisha Mubarak and legal researcher Amani Al-Haddad.



In line with the E.K. Kanoo's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) strategy, the company held a Blood Donation drive in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, at its corporate offices in Manama.



Handicrafts Directorate held a graduation ceremony for students on Wednesday at Al Jasrah Handicrafts Centre. Centre, Yasser Al Sayed, distributed certificates to students by Ghada Al Khuzaie.



A delegation from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) travelled to Dublin recently for the sixth annual RCSI International Education Forum (IEF). Above, the RCSI Bahrain contingent pictured with senior RCSI officials



I watch a lot of action films

Los Angeles

Hollywood actress Salma Hayek says she watches a lot of action films because of her husband.

"I watch a lot of action films because of my husband (Francois-Henri Pinault). He loves action films and it gets repetitive," Hayek said in a statement.

The actress will next be seen in action movie "The Hitman's Bodyguard". The movie, being brought to India by MVP Entertainment, will release on August 25.

Talking about the action in the film, Hayek said: "It's kind of sophisticated. It's really cool, they go to so many places in Europe and it is impossible to get your eyes and your ears off of this pair, Samuel L. Jackson and Ryan Reynolds are the two actors in the world that can do action-comedy the best, I think. The chemistry between them is fantastic." (IANS)



Demi Lovato @ddlovato
My thoughts and prayers are with Barcelona



Now & Then



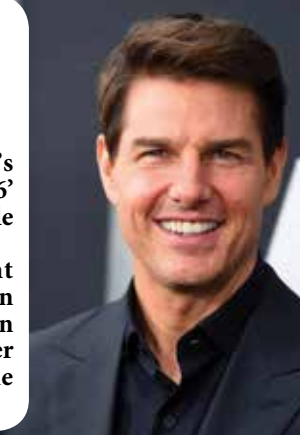
Amber Heard

Amber Heard is an American actress. She made her film debut in 2004 in the sports drama *Friday Night Lights*. After small roles in *North Country* and *Alpha Dog*, Heard played her first leading role in *All the Boys Love Mandy Lane* and appeared in *The CW* television show *Hidden Palms*. Heard's breakthrough came in 2008 with roles in *Never Back Down* and *Pineapple Express*. She received the Breakthrough Award at Young Hollywood Awards.

'Mission: Impossible 6' production halted

The production for Tom Cruise's upcoming movie 'Mission Impossible 6' has been halted after breaking his ankle while attempting a stunt during the shoot.

According to The sources, Paramount Pictures has confirmed that the production of its latest instalment in the 'Mission Impossible' franchise had been paused after he was hurt filming in London over the weekend. (TOI)



Aniston calls me out on my bad jokes

Los Angeles

Actor Justin Theroux says his wife and actress Jennifer Aniston calls him out on his bad jokes.

In an interview with Mr Porter luxury menswear site's magazine *The Journal*, he insisted that his marriage to the Hollywood actress is no different to any other, reports *dailymail.co.uk*.

The actor also said that they have learned to detach themselves from the gossip that their relationship attracts.

"When it's not funny, she calls me out. She says, 'That's not funny'," he said.

Asked if her humour would ever approve of a flatulence quip, he said: "Of course she would allow a fart joke. But I think she actually has a more refined sense of humour than that. I think she's funnier than that." (IANS)



STARRY Birthday
Romeo Miller

August 19, 1989

Versatile talent who recorded his self-titled debut album under the name Lil Romeo when he was only eleven years old. He is a basketball player, entrepreneur, and model.

Columbus proud of 'Gremlins 3' script

Filmmaker Chris Columbus said he is proud of the script for 'Gremlins 3' and teased that the plot of the new movie is twisted and dark.

The 'Harry Potter' filmmaker helmed the first comedy horror back in 1984 but was absent for the 1990 sequel.

Warner Bros has been working on a third instalment of the franchise, though it is yet to be given a release date.

"I'm really proud of the script. It is as twisted and dark as anything, so we'll see. It's always a budgetary conversation when we're going to shoot it," Columbus said.

"I wanted to go back to the really twisted sensibility of the first movie. I found that was a very easy place for me to fall back into and start writing again so hopefully we'll see that movie soon". (TOI)

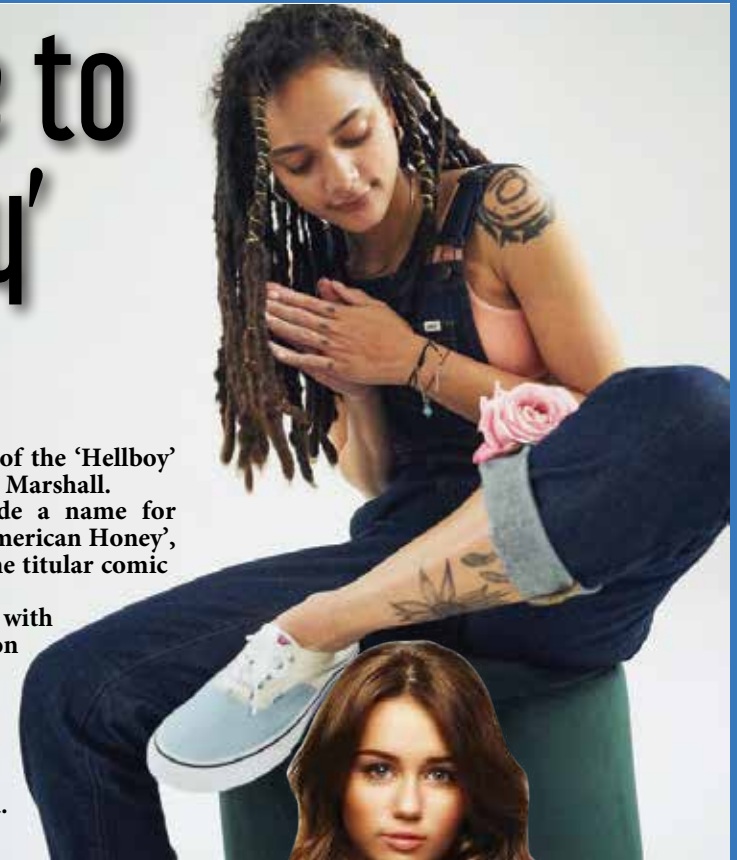
Sasha Lane to join 'Hellboy' reboot

Actor Sasha Lane has joined the cast of the 'Hellboy' reboot, which will be helmed by Neil Marshall.

The 21-year-old actor, who made a name for herself after making her acting debut in 'American Honey', will take on the role of the Irish girl that the titular comic book superhero rescued as an infant.

The plot follows Hellboy as he battles with a medieval evil wizard who is hell-bent on destroying humankind.

David Harbour has already been cast as Hellboy and will be joined by Milla Jovovich, 41, as the Blood Queen and Ian McShane, 74, as Professor Broom, the scientist who adopts the titular demon child. (TOI)



MIDDLE EAST MOVIE BUZZ

OffSide

An Iranian comedy about female football fans? An Iranian Bend It Like Beckham? It sounds pretty unlikely. (I can't really imagine Iranian arthouse master Abbas Kiarostami directing Juliet Stevenson doing her "There's-a-reason-Sporty-Spice-doesn't-have-a-boyfriend" speech, unless perhaps she were to do it unsmilingly and at a fraction of the normal speed, with the camera trained enigmatically on her deadpan face while someone else replies.) A football comedy is none the less what Iranian director Jafar Panahi has created with this likeable, gentle and charming film about young women football fanatics, disguised as boys, doing their darnedest to defy the all-male rule and get in to see the Iran v Bahrain qualifying international for the 2006 World Cup.

With audacity and flair, Panahi filmed it at the actual stadium, at the actual match, and appeared to have two improvised outcomes broadly in mind in case of victory or defeat - though Iran did in fact qualify and their first match, against Mexico, takes place this Sunday.

Comedian Omid Djalili had a routine about the reaction of the British Iranian community's reaction to Iran's sensational 2-1 victory over the United States in the 1998 World Cup final. Well-wheeled professionals and store-owners poured out on to the Edgware Road in west London, got in their cars and drove slightly faster and more happily than usual up and down, honking discreetly, waving flags modestly, smiling benignly: the best-behaved victory celebration in the history of football. (theguardian)



Cyrus releases single 'Younger now'

Los Angeles

Singer-actress Miley Cyrus is out with a new single titled "Younger now".

The title track of the upcoming album by the same name is set for release on Friday while the album will be released on September 29.

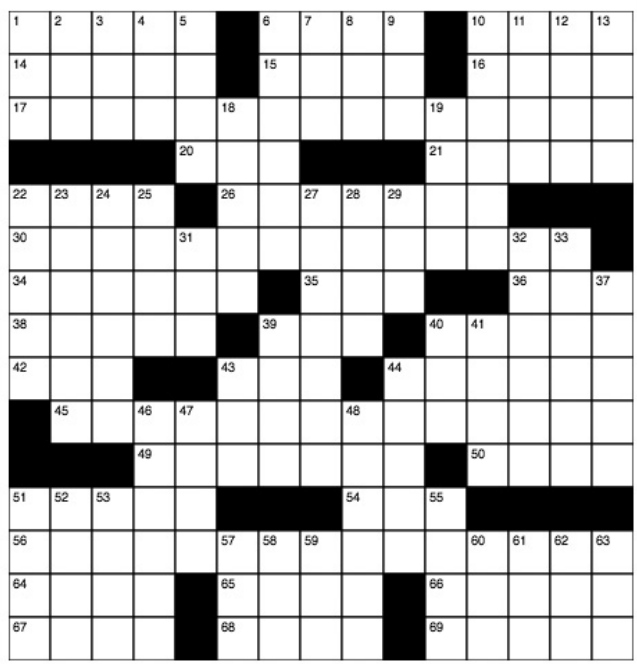
Lyrics of "Younger now" have been penned by Cyrus and she has also co-produced the track with Oren Yoel.

The video for "Younger Now" directed by Diane Martel and co-directed by Cyrus has been choreographed by Michael Rooney which also features the singer paying homage to the late King of Rock and Roll Elvis Presley, timed with his 40-year death anniversary.

The album, her sixth, is expected to be the more or less official follow-up to her 2013 hit album "Bangerz", which debuted at No.1 on the Billboard 200. (IANS)



CROSSWORD



Across

1- Medicinal shrub; 6- Blind as ____; 10- Composer Khachaturian; 14- Slippery as ____; 15- Movable barrier; 16- Kernels; 17- In spite of; 20- Narc's org.; 21- Ready ____; 22- Requests; 26- Slander; 30- County in central England; 34- Guarantee; 35- Writer Hentoff; 36- Absorb, as a cost; 38- "Who's there?" response; 39- DDE's predecessor; 40- Parsonage; 42- Maiden name preceder; 43- Miss Piggy's query; 44- Important; 45- Planes, trains, and automobiles, e.g.; 49- Body of retainers; 50- Sea birds; 51- Come into contact with; 54- To and ____; 56- Direct; 64- Asian prince; 65- "The Clan of the Cave Bear" author; 66- Jazzy Chick; 67- Boot bottom; 68- Shrivelled, without moisture; 69- Conductor Dorati;

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



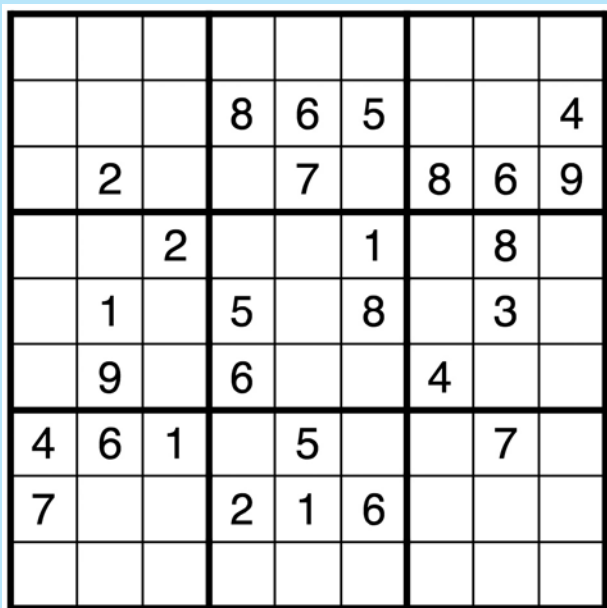
Down

1- ____ Francisco; 2- Rock producer Brian; 3- Butterfly catcher; 4- Original; 5- Put ____ on it!; 6- Shocked; 7- ____-relief; 8- ABA member; 9- Leaves in a bag; 10- Peace Nobelst Sakharov; 11- Undoing; 12- ____ time (never); 13- High-ranking NCO; 18- Poke fun at; 19- Snack; 22- Actor Delon; 23- Stanza of six lines; 24- Where you're likely to get smacked; 25- Worthless person; 27- Annuity; 28- Part of QED; 29- Queue after Q; 31- Before, in poetry; 32- Impressionist Pierre; 33- Singer Sheena; 37- Mall frequenters; 39- Kachina doll carver; 40- Juilliard deg.; 41- Chip in; 43- Colo. clock setting; 44- Alamogordo's county; 46- Obscure; 47- "M*A*S*H" soft drink; 48- Irritate; 51- Sounds of disapproval; 52- Roman emperor after Galba; 53- Russian range; 55- "Jaws" boat; 57- Fuel type; 58- Color; 59- Thrice, in prescriptions; 60- Succeeded; 61- This was produced by Van Gogh, for example; 62- "Michael Collins" actor; 63- Lentil and spice dish;

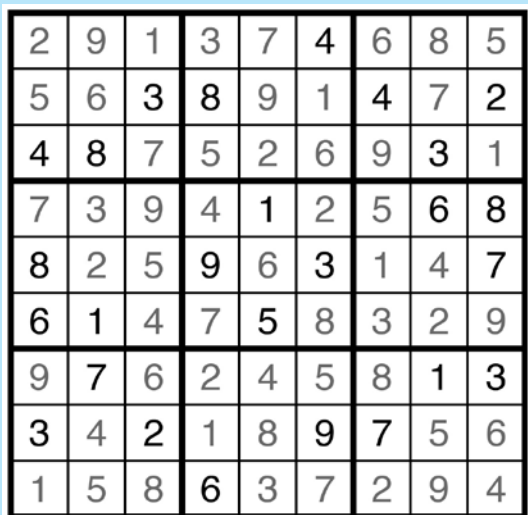
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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play:

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

Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



If you've been hesitant about whether you should go on a diet, this would be a great day to start. If you're one of those people who really doesn't have to watch what you eat, good for you! However, you should still stay away from rich foods. Don't drink too much alcohol, and stay away from a lot of chocolate.

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



If you don't feel that you make enough money, this is the time to do something about it. Are you sure you're doing everything you can to earn as much as possible? Perhaps you've wanted to change jobs for quite some time but something is holding you back. What do you think? Try to figure it out.

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Today you'll have a banker's precision. You will recheck everything from your expenses to your investments to your children's pocket money, not to mention how much you've paid back on your loans. Keep at it! This is the time to do it. Despite what others think, it's important.

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



Do you wonder whether other people are attracted to you? If you'd like to reassure yourself, you could work on your outward appearance today. You may have an inclination to change something, but you don't have to overdo it. The energy of the day is about adding one special touch that makes all the difference when combined with your natural charm.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



You're probably looking for new objectives in your career and personal life. Today you'll get the opportunity to share some dynamic ideas with new people. If you can, you should try to set up regular meetings with them. This could be your new group for brainstorming. These new friendships could be very productive in terms of personal fulfilment.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



This will be a great day for you! Your children, grandchildren, or siblings may have a lot of excess energy. It's up to you to take care of them. It's your turn to plan things in the family. You won't have any trouble with this task. Have you ever thought about being a planner or organizer for a living?

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



A wonderful day lies ahead. Life is giving you more space and freedom at the moment. You could take advantage of this space to do something with your creativity. It's the perfect time to sign up for some art classes or just begin something on your own, like singing, painting, or writing. What would you like to do? Do it!

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Do you feel like you're in a video game and about to get eaten by a monster? Today you should try a new game - avoiding stress! Whether this concerns your career or personal life, you need to find some neutral territory where you can relax. How about going to a friend's house?

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



After a few days of moving in slow motion, today you will get back all of your energy. Your instincts will be excellent and draw you to the people who can help you. It might be an excellent day to write any reports - or even your memoirs. Don't be afraid to grab a pen and paper - you will be wonderfully prolific!

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



If you've encountered a lot of resistance on some of your projects, you should probably let them go. It's possible that you're still doing something a certain way even though your goals have changed. All you used to think about was getting ahead in your career. Is that what you still want? Think about it.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



The planetary positions are telling you to watch what you eat. Why don't you think about eating more fruit? Buy the nicest fruit you can find and really be good to yourself. What you do for your body will bring great benefits in a week or two. It's time to get a lot of sleep, too.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



What a perfect day to go to a spa, get a massage, or enjoy a sauna. You've accumulated a lot of tension and stress lately, and you may have had a hard time trying to calm down. You need some peace and quiet. Don't even pick up a newspaper. Try not to even think! Just tune out and take care of yourself.

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"Terrorists around the world should know -- the United States and our allies are resolved to find you and bring you to justice."

*US Secretary of State
Rex Tillerson*



"I send my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims, as well as to Prime Minister Rajoy and the people of Spain."

*European Commission
President
Jean-Claude Juncker*



"Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones and the people who are recovering in hospital."

*Britain's Queen
Elizabeth II*



"China firmly opposes all forms of terrorism, supports efforts to combat terrorism and supports peace and stability, and would like to cooperate with Spain to enhance counter-terrorism operations."

*Chinese President
Xi Jinping*



"Parisians are at your side. Barcelona and Paris are cities that share love and tolerance. Our values are much stronger than this heinous and cowardly act of terrorism."

*Paris Mayor
Anne Hidalgo*

Night of eerie silence after car rampage

Barcelona

In Barcelona's old town, dozens of stunned tourists dressed in shorts and t-shirts stood behind security tape in the early hours, witnesses to the shocking attack on the famous boulevard of Las Ramblas.

Thirteen people were killed and more than 100 injured when a white van sped into the historic promenade, which was packed with tourists, knocking people down in a scene of chaos and horror.

Close to the statue of Christopher Columbus, which depicts the explorer pointing out to sea, a distressed Scottish couple in their sixties who watched the attack unfold studied the security cordon blocking off the street.

"We were sitting on the balcony of the hotel. We saw everything... the car... the panic everywhere," said the man, who did not want to be named, adding that they now could not get back to their hotel.

"The police, they arrived in two minutes, they were very good," the woman said, staring blankly ahead. "We had to talk with them."

As the city was bathed in sunshine hours earlier, Barcelona was shaken by the first attack on Spanish soil claimed by the Islamic State (IS) group.

Its target was the crowd enjoying the summer afternoon, browsing stalls selling flowers and souvenirs along the central pathway of Las Ramblas, an avenue that stretches more than a kilometre towards the sea.

On a narrow street closeby, 45-year-old Benjamin, a Barcelona resident, stood staring at the spot where the van hit a stall.

"Where we can see the forensic police working, in their white suits, that's



People gather to leave candles, flowers, messages, stuffed toys and many different objects for the victims yesterday at the spot where yesterday a van ploughed into the crowd

Police hunting four suspects

Madrid

Spanish police are looking for four suspects linked to the deadly terror attacks in Barcelona and the seaside resort of Cambrils, newspaper La Vanguardia reported yesterday.

The suspects, aged 17, 18, 22 and 24, are of Moroccan origin, the online edition of the Barcelona-based newspaper reported citing

an internal police document obtained from investigation sources.

Three suspects live in Ripoll, a town of around 10,000 people located about 100 kilometres north of Barcelona, while a fourth is from the Catalan town of Ribes de Freser, the newspaper added.

Among those police are hunting is Moussa Oukabir, the brother of Driss Oukabir

who was arrested on Thursday in Ripoll just hours after a van sped into crowds.

Police said earlier that they were searching for Moussa Oukabir but did not know if he was the driver of the van. They have also said the driver could have been one of the suspected terrorists killed in a police shootout in Cambrils where the second attack took place.

where the van ran up against a kiosk," said the industrial mechanic.

In the city of 1.6 million people -- where nine million tourists come to stay every year -- several cruise ships were also waiting as passengers tried to return to the pier.

The tragedy took the city by surprise: FC Barcelona was digesting a defeat to Real Madrid, the Catalan government was in the middle

of its protracted fight for an independence referendum and security staff were striking at the airport.

But the city which hosted the Olympics in 1992 soon rallied in solidarity with those caught up in the devastation.

The strike was suspended, taxis offered rides free of charge and volunteers rushed to donate blood, according to local media.

Hotels close to Las Ramblas

welcomed tourists, offering them shelter and blankets.

Eerie silence

An eerie silence pervaded the centre of a city that would usually be bustling until the early hours at the height of the mid-August holidays.

"It's a strangely quiet atmosphere," said Remy Gredin, a 23-year-old student from Marseille, finishing dinner at one of the few restaurants open on the Rambla del Raval, a street that runs parallel to the main promenade.

"We are waiting to go back to the apartment we are renting on the Ramblas. The attack happened just below but we had left an hour before to visit the Park Guell," he said as he ate with three French friends.

Beneath the lampposts, road sweepers in fluorescent vests rubbed shoulders with plain

Italian father slain in front of kids in Barcelona

Rome

An Italian father who was killed in the Barcelona attack died in front of his wife and two young children who narrowly escaped harm when a van ploughed into tourists.

Bruno Gulotta, 35, was one of two Italian nationals killed in Thursday's Islamist attack on Las Ramblas, which left 14 people dead and over 100 injured.

The other Italian victim was named as 25-year-old Luca Russo, whose girlfriend was one of three Italians injured in the attack.

"Italy will remember Bruno Gulotta and Luca Russo and expresses its solidarity with their families," Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni said in a tweet. "Freedom will triumph over barbarism and terrorism."

The death of Gulotta was announced by computer company Tom's Hardware, for whom he worked in sales and marketing.

clothes policeman.

"It was a matter of time (before an attack in Spain) but we did not know if it would be in Madrid or here," said Juan Manuel Ruiz, a 43-year-old waiter from Barcelona.

"From now on, it will not be the same, and we must not allow just anyone to come in: It is not a question of racism but of keeping order. You are given food, do not come and kill us," he said.

However his colleague Marc de la Iglesia, 29, said "it makes no sense to be alarmed".

"There needs to be a message of unity, we must help the people who have suffered and ensure Barcelona's reputation is not too damaged."

A text message spread from phone to phone with a warning not to share photos of the attack. "That's what they (the attackers) want," it said. (AFP)

Spain suspects planned bigger attack, say police

Barcelona

Suspects in Spain's deadly twin terror attacks were preparing an even bigger assault that was foiled as events unfolded, police said Friday as the death toll rose to 14 with over 100 injured.

Police said they killed five "suspected terrorists" during the night and arrested three

others as Spain reeled from the double tragedy in Barcelona and in Cambrils, some 120 kilometres (75 miles) south.

In a poignant moment Friday, Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy, King Felipe VI and the president of Catalonia -- where both attacks took place -- held a minute of

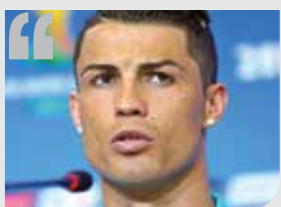
silence in Barcelona. It was followed by applause and shouts of "not afraid".

In what has been a fast-moving investigation, police were quick to connect the two attacks, and at a briefing Friday afternoon revealed the suspects had apparently been planning something bigger.



"I want to send my condolences and all my support to the families and friends of the victims of the terrible attack in our beloved Barcelona, in addition to totally rejecting any act of violence,"

Barcelona star
Lionel Messi



"Dismayed at the news coming from Barcelona. All the support and solidarity to the family and friends of the victims,"

Real Madrid's
Cristiano Ronaldo



"All my support for the families affected and the city,"

Spanish tennis player
Rafael Nadal



"What sadness, all my solidarity with the victims and their families. A lot of strength Barcelona."

Spanish footballer
Iker Casillas



"No to terrorism. No to the dictatorship of fear. Stop terrorism,"

Real Madrid captain
Sergio Ramos



"Deeply saddened by the attack on our city. All our thoughts are with the victims, their families and with the people of Barcelona."

FC Barcelona

Moments of 'chaos and panic' in Spain

Barcelona

At least 14 people were killed and more than 100 others injured after drivers slammed into pedestrians in two quick-succession, separate attacks on Barcelona's most popular street and in another busy Spanish seaside town.

What happened?

An explosion in a house late Wednesday in Alcanar, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) south of Barcelona, left one person dead and seven wounded.

Initially treated as a random gas blast, police later linked it to the Barcelona assault, believing occupants of the house were preparing an explosive device inside. One of four suspects later arrested was detained in Alcanar.

Around 4:50 pm (1450 GMT) on Thursday, a vehicle ploughed into a crowd of pedestrians on the famous Las Ramblas boulevard in Barcelona.

The promenade in the heart of the city is one of Barcelona's busiest streets, normally thronged with tourists and street performers until well into the night.

Witnesses described scenes of chaos and panic, with bodies strewn along the boulevard as others fled for their lives.

The driver fled on foot. Police have since said he may be among several suspects killed in the hours since the mayhem started.

Second attack

Some eight hours after the Barcelona attack, an Audi

Australian caught up in Barcelona, Paris, London attacks

London

An Australian woman who fled in fear from the Barcelona attack has told how she was caught up in two other recent terror incidents in Paris and London during her European travels.

"I was in London at the time

of the London Bridge attack, and we were also at Notre Dame the day the attack took place there too," Julia Monaco, a 26-year-old from Melbourne, told *BBC Radio 5 Live*.

She recounted how she and her friends took refuge inside a shop as crowds ran from a

vehicle as it ploughed through pedestrians on the famous Las Ramblas boulevard in Barcelona on Thursday afternoon.

"One minute everything was fine, and the next it was absolute pandemonium. Everyone just started

screaming and running, being told to get away from the windows," she said.

They lay on the ground, without knowing what was going on, before they were eventually allowed to leave and walked back to their hostel.



People wait before a minute of silence for the victims of the Barcelona attack at Plaza de Catalunya

A3 car hit pedestrians in the resort town of Cambrils, 120 kilometres (75 miles) to the south. Six civilians and a police officer were injured; one of the civilians, a woman, later died.

The five occupants of the car were killed by police.

When asked if the Barcelona driver may have been among those killed, Josep Lluís Traperó of Catalonia's police said "the investigation points in that direction," while cautioning that there was no "concrete proof".

Who are the victims?

Emergency services said at least 14 people had died and around 100 more were injured in the two attacks.

There were some three dozen nationalities among the dead and injured who came from countries as varied as France, Pakistan, Spain, the Netherlands, China, Venezuela, Mauritania, Australia, Britain and the United States.

At least one American was killed in the attacks, US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson said.

Rome said two Italian nationals were killed including a man who died in front of his wife and young children, and Belgium said one of its citizens was among the fatalities.

A 74-year-old Portuguese woman was also among the dead, the government said, while a man called Tony Cadman launched a Facebook appeal for his seven-year-old grandson who is missing.

So far France appears to have the most citizens among the injured, reporting 28 wounded with eight gravely hurt.

Who is behind it?

The Islamic State's propaganda agency Amaq claimed that "soldiers" from the jihadist group carried out the Barcelona attack, according to the SITE Intelligence Group which monitors Islamist websites.

"The executors of the Barcelona attack were soldiers

took place. The three others were picked up in the town of Ripoll, 100 kilometres north of Barcelona.

None of them had any criminal record where "terrorism" is concerned, Traperó said, although some had committed petty crimes.

Only one of those held has been identified as Driss Oukabir.

Police are also looking for his brother Moussa, as well as three other people according to the Catalonia-based *La Vanguardia* newspaper.

The suspects were preparing an even bigger attack but were thwarted in their plans after the house explosion in Alcanar destroyed "the material they needed to commit attacks of an even bigger scope," Catalonia police say.

Terror attacks hit Catalonia

The Catalan government says an attack in the seaside resort town of Cambrils and an explosion in Alcanar are both linked to a deadly van attack on pedestrians in Barcelona's tourist district of Las Ramblas



A person is helped by Spanish policemen and two men after a van ploughed into the crowd

Trump memoir ghostwriter predicts he will resign

US President Donald Trump speaks to the press

#PollToday



Trump memoir ghostwriter predicts US President will resign before his term ends. Do you agree?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Cant Say



"In President Donald Trump, the United States again has a president whose vision, energy, and can-do spirit is reminiscent of President Teddy Roosevelt."

Mike Pence
US Vice President

Rest in sight

Sierra Leone death toll passes 400



More than 400 people have died in mudslides and flooding in Sierra Leone with 600 people still missing in the stricken capital.

Samurai sword attack outside Taiwan presidential office

A samurai sword-wielding attacker carrying the national flag of China slashed a military police guard outside Taiwan's presidential office

Peru military brass convicted in 1980s killings

Peruvian military staff were convicted in the 1983 mass killings of 53 people at a barracks, who they wrongly claimed were part of the Shining Path rebel group.

Chinese fans tell Tevez to stay away

Chinese football fans and media are urging Carlos Tevez not to return from a trip to Argentina, nicknaming him "Very Homesick Boy" as speculation swirls that he wants out of China.

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India welcomes US blacklisting Kashmiri militant group

New Delhi

India yesterday welcomed the United States' blacklisting of Kashmiri separatist group Hizbul Mujahideen as a terrorist organisation.

The US Treasury Department, in a statement on its website Wednesday, said it listed the Pakistan-based outfit as a "foreign terrorist organisation", freezing its assets "to deny Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) the resources it needs to

carry out terrorist attacks".

"We welcome the designation of the Hizbul Mujahideen as a terrorist organisation," Raveesh Kumar, India's foreign ministry spokesman, told reporters.

"All of us are aware of what kind of terrorist activities they have conducted in the state of Jammu and Kashmir," he said, adding it was key to "end moral, diplomatic and material support" to such groups.

Rwanda's Paul Kagame sworn in for third term



Rwanda's President Paul Kagame (R) speaks after being sworn in as Rwanda's Head

Kigali

Rwandan President Paul Kagame was sworn in yesterday for a third term in office after a crushing election win that rights groups criticised over irregularities and voter intimidation.

Nineteen African heads of state were present at the ceremony which took place in front of a packed crowd in the national stadium in Kigali, entertained by a military parade and drummers.

The 59-year-old Kagame, who was re-elected with nearly 99 percent of the vote, took a swipe at critics who regularly highlight repression and lack of freedoms in the tiny east African nation.

"Every African country has to contend with efforts to force us to live on someone else's terms," he said.

"They demand we replace systems that are working well for us with dogmas in which their own people are rapidly losing faith."

Sri Lanka names first Tamil navy chief since 1970

Colombo

Sri Lanka's President Maithripala Sirisena yesterday appointed an officer from the island's Tamil minority to head the navy for the first time since a separatist war erupted 45 years ago.

Rear Admiral Travis Sinniah is the first Tamil to head a wing of the military since 1970, even though Tamils make up around 15 percent of Sri Lanka's population.

In 1972, the separatist Tamil Tigers took up arms and launched a bloody guerrilla war for a separate state for the ethnic minority

that only ended in May 2009 when they were crushed in a no-holds barred military offensive.

"Rear Admiral Travis Sinniah, who has served Sri Lanka navy with immense loyalty for many decades, took office as the navy commander today," the president said on Twitter.

He was a key figure in the war, capturing over a dozen Tamil Tiger rebels as they tried to flee the island in October 1987. Twelve committed suicide, an incident that controversially dragged Indian troops into fighting the Tigers.

Washington

The ghostwriter who penned Donald Trump's 1987 memoir "The Art of the Deal" thinks the US president will throw in the towel before the end of his term.

Writer Tony Schwartz tweeted that "Trump is going to resign" before investigators probing alleged ties between the Republican's campaign team and Russia "leave him no choice."

"The circle is closing at blinding speed," the author tweeted. "Trump is going to resign and declare victory before Mueller and congress leave him no choice."

"Trump's presidency is effectively over," he said in a follow-up tweet. "Would be amazed if he survives till end of the year. More likely resigns by fall, if not sooner."

While writing Trump's bestselling breakthrough memoir Schwartz spent 18 months with the billionaire tycoon.

Californians once again want out of US

Los Angeles

A group of Californians has submitted yet another initiative to secede from the United States as the country is gripped by one of its worst political crisis in recent history.

The new "Calexit" ballot proposal put forward on Thursday by a fringe political group calls for a constitutional convention to overhaul one of the country's founding documents on grounds it is incompatible with what the Golden State stands for.

"The current relationship between the federal

government of The United States of America and California prevents California, and other states, from taking ownership over their future and must be revised," the initiative states.

Supporters hope the measure -- similar to two others submitted this year that ultimately fizzled out -- will be put to voters on the 2018 ballot.

The new proposal, titled "California Calls for a Constitutional Convention," would need the support of the state legislature before it can be submitted to Congress. (AFP)

"I feel a deep sense of remorse that I contributed to presenting Trump in a way that brought him wider attention and made him more appealing than he is."

Brad Pitt must pay 568,000 euros to French chateau decorator

Paris

A French appeal court has ordered US stars Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie to pay 568,000 euros (\$667,000) to a lighting designer they employed for their chateau in southern France, judicial sources said yesterday.

The court ruled on April 19 in favour of Odile Soudant, whose company went bankrupt, in the dispute with Chateau Miraval, the firm that manages the sprawling 17th-century property.

Pitt and Jolie -- now



Brad Pitt separated -- bought the property in the southern Provence region in 2008 and the actors were married in its chapel in 2014.

The multi-million dollar

project to illuminate the 40-room chateau and three outbuildings involved as many as 17 full-time workers at one point but was not covered by a contract, according to the French daily Liberation.

The renovation of the chateau ran smoothly for two years, by which time it ran up 25 million euros in costs, Liberation reported, before technical problems and delays began cropping up, culminating in a billing dispute that brought payments to a halt. (AFP)

Opening victory for Bahrain

Aidan Payne/ DTNN
aidan@dt.bh

Manama
Hosts Bahrain under coach Yousuf Khalifa Alasbool delighted the crowds as they defeated Egypt 3-1 (25-17, 25-20, 19-25, 25-20) in its opening Pool A match last night in the 2017 FIVB Volleyball Boys' U19 World Championship at Shaikh Isa Sports City in Riffa.

In the opening set, it was fairly tight at 8-7 before Bahrain took control with a lead of 17-13 and soon took a 1-0 lead after a strong finish, while the second set saw Bahrain take a 13-10 lead and finished strongly to go 2-0 up in the match.

The national team suffered a setback in the third set as the Egyptians raced into an early 9-3 lead and stayed ahead throughout to fierce a fourth set.

After a tough start to the fourth set with the score at 9-8, Bahrain had a good middle set spell and held on to its advantage for a maiden victory in the championship. Hussain Thamer (21 points) led the scoring for Bahrain, while

other contributions came from Sayed Alabbar (10) and Hassan Haider (9) and Mahmood Abdulhussain (9), Haider also had four blocks, while Mohammed Jassim finished with six.

"This is a good start for us," Bahrain's head coach Yusef Khalifa said. "This is the world championship; we must play every game like a champion."

In the other Pool A match, Puerto Rico edged out Tunisia in a thriller 3-2 (20-25, 25-18, 30-32, 25-22, 17-15) inspired by top scorer Gabriel Garcia with 30 points and supported by Pedro Molina (11), while Hedi Kazri (15) and Salem Naffeti (13) were the main scorers for Tunisia.

France shocked one of the pre-tournament favourites Brazil in Pool B with a come from behind 2-0 sets deficit to win 3-2 (23-25, 20-25, 25-17, 25-17, 17-15).

The win was due to fine

scoring by Remi Bassereau (31) after the fifth and final set was in the balance to the end with the lead changing a number of times, until the French scored two unanswered points with the score tied at 15-15, top scoring for Brazil was Victor Aleksander Al Meid a (26).

Italy in Pool D produced a fine 3-1 (25-19, 25-21, 19-25, 30-28) win over the current European Champions the Czech Republic. Top scoring for Italy was Diego Cantagalli (16) and Lorenzo Cortesia (12).

Other scores:

Pool B: Japan (Kento Miyaura 11, Tatsanori Otsuka 11) bt Cuba (Lazaro Yoelvis Brunet Llanes (17) 3-0 (25-21, 25-18, 25-12).

Pool C: Russia (Maksim Sapozhkov 18) bt Turkey (Adis Lagumdzija 7) 3-0 (25-16, 25-14, 25-12). South Korea bt Chile 3-0 (25-12, 25-20, 25-21).



Team Bahrain celebrate



Action from South Korea-Chile match

Today's Schedule:

1pm: Pool B: France vs Cuba. Pool C: Chile vs Turkey
3pm: Pool B: Poland vs Brazil. Pool C: Argentina vs Russia
5pm: Pool A: Puerto Rico vs Egypt. Pool D: Mexico vs Czech Republic
7pm: Pool A: Bahrain vs USA. Pool D: Italy vs Iran

Bahrain proud to host championship

DT News Network
Manama

HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, First Deputy President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Athletics Association and Honourary President of the Bahrain Disabled Sports Federation has urged all sports federations in Bahrain to support the National Youth Volleyball Team, which started yesterday and continues until August 27 under the patronage

of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee. Shaikh Nasser said, "We call on all sports institutions and clubs in the Kingdom and all Bahraini youth, as well as citizens, to support the team during the tournament, which earlier this month won the Junior Arab Volleyball Championship earlier this month in Jordan."

Tour convinced Contador it was time to quit

Nimes, France

Alberto Contador said yesterday he knew the time had come to retire during last month's Tour de France, where he was unable to keep up with the contenders.

The 34-year-old Spaniard begins his final Grand Tour today as the Vuelta a Espana begins in Nimes, France with a time-trial.

He had announced 10 days ago that he would retire at the end of this season following a glorious career in which he won the Tour twice, the Vuelta three times and the Giro d'Italia twice as well.

But in July he laboured to a ninth-placed finish at the Tour, his worst placing since coming 31st on his debut in 2005.

"It's a decision that I've thought long and hard about," said Contador



Alberto Contador

of his retirement.

"I knew the Tour de France would give me my answer."

"I arrived at the Tour in great shape with the ideal weight."

Until then he had been in talks with his Trek team over a contract extension beyond the end of this season.

"The decision (to retire) had been

70 percent taken but there was a moment where I saw things clearly, after the Tour's ninth stage.

"I had to contend with things that weren't in my plans, such as crashes, and that's the day I got my definitive answer."

Contador has raced the Vuelta four times and last year, when he finished fourth, was the first time he'd failed to win it.

This year, though, his ambitions are limited.

"What's clear is that in every race I want to give it everything," he said.

"I've always been super professional and I'll remain that right to my last active day in the sport."

"This Vuelta is special, it will be three dream weeks, I'm lucky to have this opportunity." (AFP)

Vuelta:

2017

Last 10 winners

2016	Nairo Quintana	COL
2015	Fabio Aru	ITA
2014	Alberto Contador	ESP
2013	Christopher Horner	USA
2012	Alberto Contador	ESP
2011	Juan José Cobo	ESP
2010	Vincenzo Nibali	ITA
2009	Alejandro Valverde	ESP
2008	Alberto Contador	ESP
2007	Denis Menchov	RUS



Everton's Michael Keane (L) vies with Hajduk Split's Franck Ohandza (R)

Everton take charge in Europa League

Paris
Everton took a 2-0 lead in a Europa League qualifying play-off first leg clash yesterday against Hajduk Split in Liverpool in a game stopped temporarily due to crowd trouble.
 Hajduk fans surged towards the Goodison Park pitch and threw objects with play stopped shortly after Michael Keane's 30th-minute header had put the hosts in front.
 After police brought the situation under control players returned to the pitch and Everton doubled their lead in the 45th

minute thanks to Idrissa Gueye's strike off a Wayne Rooney cross.
 "I was really happy with the first half and unhappy about the second. We lost a big opportunity to score more goals," said Everton coach Ronald Koeman.
 Keane said he was delighted to score his first goal for Everton since his move from Burnley in the summer.
 "I'm delighted - first and foremost, to get a clean sheet," the England defender told *www.evertonfc.com*. "That's what we aim for, especially in European

games at home. It's massive and makes it a lot easier when they don't score.
 "It was the same case as in the last tie, when we took a 1-0 win over there. We managed to go one better today. I thought we played well in the first half, we weren't really ourselves in the second half but at least we got the clean sheet."
 In Milan, defender Leonardo Bonucci captained AC Milan to a 6-0 win on his competitive debut for the Italian side against modest Macedonians Shkendija two months after playing for Juventus

in the Champions League final.
 The Chinese-owned club were too strong for the Macedonians with a double from new signing André Silva in the first half and Riccardo Montolivo after 25 and 85 minutes. Fabio Borini and Luca Antonelli added two more midway through the second half to set the Italians on the road to the group stages with the second leg away on August 24. Vincenzo Montella's side have never won the second-tier European competition which they last competed in the 2008-2009 season. (AFP)

Stosur withdraws from US Open



Samantha Stosur (file pic)

New York
Australia's Samantha Stosur has withdrawn from the US Open, where she was champion in 2011, because of a nagging right hand injury, organizers of the Grand Slam tournament said yesterday.
 The 33-year-old from Brisbane won her ninth career title in May on Strasbourg clay but she has not played since losing in the fourth round of the French Open to eventual winner Jelena Ostapenko.
 Stosur, ranked 43rd in the world, will be replaced in the main draw by Germany's Annika Beck, 23, for the hardcourt showdown at Flushing Meadows that begins on August 28.
 Beck, ranked 114th, has an 8-18 record this season with first-round exits at the year's other three Grand Slam events. Her best Grand Slam run was into last year's fourth round at the Australian Open. (AFP)

Pliskova to face double duty in fight



Karolina Pliskova

Cincinnati
Czech defending champion Karolina Pliskova tightened her grip on the world number one ranking but was preparing for a second match Friday at the WTA and ATP Cincinnati Masters.
 Pliskova ousted Italian qualifier Camila Giorgi 6-3, 4-6, 6-0 in one of five matches postponed from Thursday due to rain. She faced a short-rest quarter-final against fifth-ranked Dane Caroline Wozniacki at the last major tuneup for the US Open.
 The winner will advance to a Saturday semi-final against Wimbledon

champion Garbine Muguruza, who ousted Russian eighth seed Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-2, 5-7, 7-5 in a matchup of two-time Grand Slam winners that lasted two hours, 45 minutes.
 "It was one of the best matches of the year," Muguruza said. "It was a battle. I fought so hard. It was very tough. We both played very well."
 Pliskova saved two break points and held in the final game of the first set but Giorgi hit a backhand winner on the only break point of the second set to force a third, which the Czech dominated to advance. (AFP)

Mayweather unfazed by 'dirty' Conor

Los Angeles
Floyd Mayweather has accused Conor McGregor of "fighting dirty" in training but is confident of a clean battle when the two men meet in their August 26 superfight.
 Mayweather told reporters on a conference call on Thursday he believed mixed martial arts star McGregor had used illegal tactics in sparring sessions.

The undefeated former welterweight king, who is coming out of retirement to fight McGregor in Las Vegas, said he had spotted rabbit punches in footage of McGregor's sparring session with Paulie Malignaggi.
 McGregor, who has never fought in a professional boxing contest, appears to floor Malignaggi in the footage.
 Mayweather, 40, was unimpressed.
 "I had a chance to see it and my thought were, it was interesting," Mayweather said of McGregor's Malignaggi knockdown.
 "A lot of rabbit punching, a lot of illegal shots, behind the head," he added.
 McGregor has hired veteran referee Joe Cortez during his training camp to help advise on boxing rules and ensure he fights clean.
 "He's had Joe Cortez in his training camp and I've still seen him being extremely dirty," Mayweather said.

Veteran referee Robert Byrd will be responsible for managing the fight and Mayweather is confident he will maintain control of the contest. Byrd officiated in Mayweather's 2013 win over Robert Guerrero in Las Vegas.
 "I truly believe the referee is going to do a great job," Mayweather said.
 "The referee's job is to keep the fight clean. He don't have anything to worry about. I'm

looking forward to following the Queensberry rules of boxing," he added.
 Mayweather retired from boxing in 2015 with a perfect 49-0 record to emulate former heavyweight legend Rocky Marciano. A win against McGregor would see the welterweight become the only man to ever hold a perfect 50-0 record.
 Mayweather insisted however that moving clear

of Marciano's historic benchmark was not on his mind.
 "Even though this is my 50th fight, this is not my focus," Mayweather said. "Rocky Marciano is a legend, he did it his way. I just like to do it the Mayweather way."
 Win or lose, Mayweather is adamant that nothing will be able to tempt him back into the ring following his return against McGregor." (AFP)

Boxing super fight

Welterweight superstar Floyd Mayweather and mixed martial arts icon Conor McGregor are set for a boxing showdown on August 26

Floyd Mayweather
 United States
 40 years old



Boxing record:
 49 wins, undefeated
 20 knockouts

- Titles held:**
- WBA Super World Super Welterweight
 - WBA Super World Welterweight
 - WBC World Super Welterweight
 - WBC World Welterweight

173 cm	Height	175 cm
183 cm	Reach	188 cm
Orthodox	Stance	Southpaw
\$44 million (2015-16)	1-year earnings Forbes magazine	\$34 million (2016-17)
\$1.3 billion	Total career earnings, estimated	About \$100 million



Conor McGregor
 Ireland
 29 years old



Mixed martial arts record:
 21 wins, 3 losses
 18 knockouts

- Titles held:**
- UFC Lightweight Champion
 - UFC Featherweight Champion

Messi told Neymar he'd make him a Ballon d'Or

Lionel Messi tried to persuade Neymar not to leave Barcelona by telling him: 'I'll make you a Ballon d'Or winner', according to Spain's *Diario Sport*.

In a last ditch attempt by Messi and Luis Suarez to make Neymar stay the pair took the 25-year-old to one side at the Sheraton Parsippany hotel in New Jersey where the team were staying ahead of their game against Juventus in the MetLife Stadium in July.

According to *Sport's Ivan San Antonio*, Messi told Neymar: 'What do you want?' Do you want to be a Ballon d'Or [winner]? I'll make you the Ballon d'Or.'

It was Messi's last big play for Neymar to stay and it centred on giving his team-mate more of the spotlight. The inference is that the Brazilian would be able to take more free-kicks and penalties and have a more central role in finishing Barcelona attacks as Messi morphed ever more into a playmaker.

In the subsequent friendly with Juventus Neymar scored twice with Messi standing aside,

while holding off defenders, as the Brazilian completed his dribble before shooting past Gianluigi Buffon. He also laid a potential third goal on a plate for Neymar who this time failed to beat the keeper.

Despite that especially generous performance from Messi and the declaration before the game, Neymar's mind was already made up and he is now Messi's main rival for the big individual prizes in football.

Messi already has five Ballon d'Or/Fifa World Player/The Best awards. Cristiano Ronaldo should win this year's prize but Neymar will join the race in 2018 with the outcome of

the Russia World Cup likely to play a crucial role in who gets the personal gong.

Messi left an emotional video dedicated to Neymar on social media when he left the club. He wrote: 'It was an enormous pleasure to have shared these years with you my friend @neymarjr I wish you luck in this new stage of your life.' Neymar responded: 'Thanks brother. I will miss you.' Suarez and Neymar also exchanged goodbye messages.

Dani Alves has since revealed that it was at Messi's wedding that he and Neymar schemed

their joint move to Paris Saint Germain and so Neymar's subsequent divorce from Barcelona.

Messi tied the knot in Argentina on July 1 and both Alves and Neymar were at the ceremony having a tete-a-tete about meeting up in Ligue 1 for the new season. (*dailymail.co.uk*)

Lionel Messi and Luis Suarez spoke to Neymar in a New Jersey hotel during Barcelona's pre-season tour against Juventus in the MetLife Stadium in July



Neymar (file pic)



Neymar (L) with Messi and Suarez (R) (file pic)



Lionel Messi (file pic)

Liverpool reject third Barca bid for Coutinho



Philippe Coutinho (file pic)

London

Liverpool have rejected a third bid from Barcelona for star playmaker Philippe Coutinho, a source from the Premier League club confirmed yesterday.

British media reports said Barcelona's latest bid was worth around £114 million (\$146.5 million, 124.7 million euros), a significant increase on their previous offer of £90 million.

Liverpool have publicly stated that Coutinho is not for

sale at any price and consider the figures being offered by Barcelona irrelevant.

The 25-year-old Brazil playmaker, currently sidelined by a back problem, has submitted a transfer request.

He signed a new five-year contract in January.

Barcelona have targeted Coutinho and Borussia Dortmund winger Ousmane Dembele to plug the gap created by Neymar's world-record £222 million euro (\$260.8 million) move to Paris Saint-Germain.

Speaking on Thursday, Barca general manager Pep Segura said deals for the pair were "close".

But Liverpool are refusing to budge and Dembele, 20, has been suspended by Dortmund after going on strike in a bid to force through a move.

Coutinho joined Liverpool from Inter Milan in an £8.5 million move in January 2013 and is the key creative figure in Jurgen Klopp's team, scoring 14 goals in all competitions last season. (*AFP*)

Cook puts

Eng on top

Birmingham

Alastair Cook's double century put England in a commanding position against the West Indies before James Anderson struck in the inaugural day/night Test in Britain at Edgbaston yesterday.

West Indies were 44 for one in reply to England's imposing 514 for eight declared, a deficit of 470 runs, when rain ended the second day's play early in the third session.

Cook's 243, his fourth Test double century, was the cornerstone of England's total and the former captain's dismissal prompted current skipper Joe Root to declare.

That left the West Indies with a tricky nine overs to bat in twilight before the tea interval.

That was time enough for opener Kraigg Brathwaite to be caught behind for a duck off Anderson.

Kieran Powell had made just two when the normally reliable Ben Stokes dropped him in the gully off Stuart Broad.

But come the close, Powell was 18 not out while Kyle Hope, in at nought for one, had made a heartening 25 not out for the tourists.

But by that stage both Cook and Anderson, England's leading Test run-scorer and wicket-taker respectively, had struck telling blows.

England resumed in an immensely strong position of 348 for three in the first of this three-match series and the 50th Test at Edgbaston.

Cook was 153 not out, an innings that had already seen him extend his record tally of England Test centuries to 31.

Significantly it was also Cook's first Test hundred in 17 innings and the 32-year-old left-handed opener's tenth score of 150 or more at this level.

Together with Root, who made 136 after winning the toss, he'd put on 248 for the third wicket.

There was a sombre start to Friday's proceedings with players, officials and spectators observing a minute's silence in memory of the victims of Thursday's terror attacks in Spain.

On the field, Cook again looked to be having a 'net' against an outclassed attack.

Malan, who in marked contrast to Cook is appearing in just his third Test, provided steady support during a century stand that took the total beyond 400. (AFP)

England's
Alastair Cook
celebrates
reaching 200

SCOREBOARD:

England 1st Innings (overnight: 348-3)

A. Cook lbw b Chase	243
M. Stoneman b Roach	8
T. Westley lbw b Cummins	8
J. Root b Roach	136
D. Malan c Blackwood b Chase	65
B. Stokes c Blackwood b Chase	10
J. Bairstow b Holder	18
M. Ali c Brathwaite b Chase	0
T. Roland-Jones not out	6
Extras (lb10, w3, nb7)	20
Total (8 wkts dec, 135.5 overs, 562 mins)	514
West Indies 1st Innings	
K. Brathwaite c Bairstow b Anderson	0
K. Powell not out	18
K. Hope not out	25
Extras (w1)	1
Total (1 wkt, 16 overs, 66 mins)	44

