



New adviser to Saudi Crown Prince named

Riyadh
 Klaus Kleinfeld, who was tasked with developing the NEOM project in northern Saudi Arabia, has been appointed as an adviser to Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the Kingdom announced.
 Kleinfeld "will take over wider responsibilities to enhance the economic, technological and financial development of Saudi Arabia," said a statement.
 The German, who is former chairman and CEO of Alcoa Inc., and former president and CEO of Siemens AG, is set to begin his role on August 1, 2018, with new NEOM CEO Nadhmi Al-Nasr taking the helm of the ambitious Saudi project on the same day.

Israeli move to freeze funds for prisoners' families denounced

Ramallah
 A top Palestinian official yesterday strongly denounced a new Israeli law that will freeze money transfers to the Palestinian Authority for paying stipends to Palestinians jailed by Israel, their families, and the families of those killed by Israeli forces.
 Saeb Erekat, secretary-general of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, said the move threatened the existence of the cash-strapped Palestinian Authority (PA).
 Israel enacted the law on Monday, which gives it the powers to withhold an amount of money based on what is paid to the prisoners and their families by the PA.
 The 120-seat Parliament voted 87-15 in favour of the legislation that orders holding back part of the roughly \$130 million in tax



Protesters flee from incoming tear gas canisters fired by Israeli forces in Gaza yesterday.

130
 million American dollars is the amount Israel collects on behalf of the Palestinians each month under interim peace agreements.

revenues that Israel collects on behalf of the Palestinians each month under interim peace agreements.
 "This is a very dangerous decision that amounts to the cancellation of the Palestinian Authority and is piracy and theft," Erekat said.

"Israel is stealing the land and money of the Palestinian people and that is a result of the decisions of President (Donald) Trump, who supports Israel."
 The PA headed by President Mahmoud Abbas has limited self-rule in the occupied West Bank where Israel retains overall security control. Palestinians seek a state in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip with East Jerusalem as its capital. Hamas, bitter rival of Abbas' more secular Fatah faction, controls the Gaza Strip.

Syrian opposition in talks with Russia

Amman
 Syrian opposition negotiators began a new round of talks with Russian officers yesterday over a peace deal in southern Syria under which they would hand over weapons and allow Russian military police to enter opposition-held towns.
 Accompanied by a major Russian aerial bombing campaign, Syrian pro-regime forces have marched swiftly into insurgent territory in Daraa province over the past two weeks.
 Opposition spokesman Ibrahim Al Jabawi said the opposition had carried to the negotiating table their "response to a list of Russian demands" that include the handing over of weapons and settling the status of rebels in a deal that ends the fighting.

Rouhani's charm offensive

Iran aims to win friends in Europe while struggling to offset the US sanctions

- The Iranian president is in Europe to gather support ahead of a meeting later this week between Iran and the five global powers that are still party to the 2015 nuclear deal.
- The United States pulled out of a multinational deal in May to lift sanctions against Iran in return for curbs to its nuclear programme.

Bern

Iran President Hassan Rouhani appeared on Tuesday to threaten to disrupt oil shipments from neighbouring countries if Washington presses

ahead with its goal of forcing all countries to stop buying Iranian oil.
 The comments, published on Iran's presidential website on Tuesday and partially repeated at a later news conference in Switzerland, could be open to interpretation.
 However, when asked whether he intended to make a threat, Rouhani declined to provide a clarification.
 Iranian officials in the past have threatened to block the Strait of Hormuz, a major oil shipping route, in retaliation for any hostile US action against Iran.
 "The Americans have claimed they want to completely stop Iran's oil exports. They don't understand the meaning of this statement, because it has no meaning for Iranian oil not to be exported, while the region's oil is exported," the website, president.ir, quoted him as saying.
 When asked at a news conference in Bern later on Tuesday whether those



Iran president...isolated

comments constituted a threat to interfere with the shipping of neighboring countries, Rouhani said: "Assuming that Iran could become the only oil producer unable to export its oil is a wrong assumption... The United States will never be able to cut Iran's oil revenues."
 The United States pulled out of a multinational deal in May to lift sanctions against Iran in return for curbs to its

nuclear programme. Washington has since told countries they must halt all imports of Iranian oil from November 4 or face US financial measures, with no exemptions.
 The Iranian president is in Europe to gather support ahead of a meeting later this week between Iran and the five global powers that are still party to the 2015 nuclear deal.
 "Iran will remain committed to the deal, as long as its interests are preserved," Rouhani said. Tehran said its foreign minister would meet counterparts from US allies Britain, France and Germany, as well as Russia and China, in Vienna on Friday to discuss ways of maintaining the nuclear deal.
 The five other powers have all said they still support the deal despite the US decision to withdraw. Iran has asked the European countries to come up with a new economic package to offset the US sanctions and preserve the accord.

RACIAL WOES

Trump administration reverses Obama-era guidance on use of race in college admissions

● Last year, Sessions announced that he was ending the practice of the Justice Department issuing "guidance documents" that have the "effect of adopting new regulatory requirements".

Washington

The Trump administration yesterday rescinded a set of Obama-era policies that promoted using race

“The American people deserve to have their voices heard and a government that is accountable to them.”
 JEFF SESSIONS

to achieve diversity in schools, teeing up new battle lines over admissions standards.
 While the decision does not change current US law on affirmative action, it provides a strong illustration of the administration's position on an issue that could take on renewed



A CNN file picture shows a protest in New York demanding affirmative action in college admissions during the seventies.

attention with the departure of Justice Anthony Kennedy from the Supreme Court.
 Attorney General Jeff Sessions made the official announcement yesterday after-

noon.
 "The American people deserve to have their voices heard and a government that is accountable to them. When issuing regulations, federal agencies must abide by constitutional principles and follow the rules set forth by Congress and the President," Sessions said.
 "In previous administrations, however, agencies often tried to impose new rules on the American people without any public notice or comment period, simply by sending a letter or posting a guidance document on a website. That's wrong, and it's not good government."



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Unified stances needed to address regional issues

Premier hails UK role in enhancing regional security

● **The Prime Minister stressed that the deep-rooted Bahraini-British relations have always been based on mutual respect and shared interests, which, he said, has paved the way for wider cooperation in various fields.**

Manama

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has hailed the joint understanding between Bahrain and the United Kingdom vis-à-vis various issues, which, he said, reflects the strength and advanced level of bilateral relations.

"In the region, we look forward to being preoccupied with development and nation-building, and not with wars and conflicts which resulted in wasted potentials and depleted resources," he said.

HRH the Premier expressed hope in the ability of the region's leaders and



HRH the Premier receives Lieutenant-General Sir John Lorimer.

governments to rally together with allies and friends against attempts to target the stability and security of such a vital part of the world.

"Therefore, we, as brotherly and friendly countries, have to unify stances

and cooperate to confront the challenges that we all face," he said, stressing the need to reduce differences in order to achieve security and stability across the region, which is the ultimate goal for everyone.

The Prime Minister made the stances while receiving UK's Senior Defence Advisor for the Middle East, Lieutenant-General Sir John Lorimer, at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday.

They reviewed the long-standing

Bahraini-UK relations and ways to bolster them in various fields, particularly the defence and military ones.

The Prime Minister stressed that the deep-rooted Bahraini-British relations have always been based on mutual respect and shared interests, which, he said, has paved the way for wider cooperation in various fields.

HRH Premier highlighted Bahrain's keenness to always maintain the advanced level of its relations with the UK, praising the role played by the British expertise in the kingdom's various development fields.

The Prime Minister commended the efforts being exerted by the United Kingdom, alongside the International Community, to achieve security, stability and peace.

HRH Premier discussed with the UK officials the latest regional developments, and ways to safeguard regional security and stability.

UK's Senior Defence Advisor for the Middle East expressed his country's appreciation of the support of the government, led by HRH Premier, for enhancing bilateral relations, commending the government's efforts in this regard.

Bahrain's judicial strides highlighted

Manama

Assistant Foreign Minister and head of Bahraini delegation Abdullah Al Doseri, told the Human Rights Committee in Geneva that the reform approach of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has led to pioneering achievements in the fields of democracy, ensuring public rights and freedoms, and human, political, economic and social development in various fields, including education, health, communication, information and sustainable development.

The Minister also affirmed the success of the independent electoral experiment and the active parliamentary practices that took place in the years 2002, 2006, 2010 and 2014, which will be followed by the next elections by the end of this year.

In his opening address to the Committee, the Assistant Foreign Minister explained that despite many challenges, the Kingdom has made great achievements in implementing the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and was keen to continue to take legislative and non-legislative measures to ensure respect for civil and political rights.

He affirmed the keenness of



Mr Al Doseri speaks at the meeting.

122

sessions of the Human Rights Committee were held in the past decades.

the Kingdom to consolidate the efforts of comprehensive sustainable development and to protect and promote human rights, despite the security challenges facing it which emerge through acts of violence and terrorism.

Al Doseri affirmed that the rule of law, the integrity of the judiciary and its independence are the basis of governance in the Kingdom, and are among the most important pillars of the

protection of human rights.

At the 123rd session, the Human Rights Committee discussed the reports of Algeria, Lao, Liberia and Lithuania, as well as the report of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The delegation included the Ombudsman Secretary-General, Nawaf Mohammed Al-Maawda, the SCW Administrative and Media Policies Director, Ezzeddine Khalil Almoayyed, the Assistant Undersecretary for Labour Affairs, Dr. Mohammed Ali Al Ansari.

The delegation of the Ministry of Interior was headed by the Director-General of Women Police of the Ministry of Interior, Brigadier Mona Abdulraheem, the Chief Prosecutor of the Public Prosecution, Abdullah bin Issa al Dosari, and Legal Advisor for Information Affairs, Fawzan Khalifa Bufarsan.



Bahrain's Ambassador to the United Kingdom, Fawaz bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, held a dinner banquet in honour of Sir Geoffrey Tantom to celebrate the title of knighthood granted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month. Sir Geoffrey Tantom has been honoured for his outstanding service and contributions towards the development of relations between Bahrain and the United Kingdom for over twenty years.

SCH holds urgent meeting to implement Premier's directives



Shaikh Mohammed and Ms Al Saleh at the meeting.

Manama

To implement HRH the Premier's directives during the weekly Cabinet session to deliver best health services, President of the Supreme Council of Health (SCH), Lt Gen Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, chaired a meeting in the presence of Health Minister Faeqa Al Saleh, senior health officials and representatives of private health sector.

The SCH President said the directives of HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa reflect his keenness to ensure the provision of best health services to meet citizens and residents' needs.

He stressed the need to promptly implement the Premier's directives to regulate and develop the management of medicines at the Salmaniya Medical Complex (SMC) and health centers to ensure constant availability of the same to patients.

He attached great significance to coordinate with the National Committee for the Unified Purchase of Drugs in respect of medicine orders to avoid shortage of medicines.

He directed to adopt the drug management system followed by the Military Hospital and to benefit from its doctors' expertise in the management of medicines supplies in terms of procurement, storage and dispensing of medicines.

Piracy devices seized from shops

● **The Ministry of Information Affairs stressed that it would spare no effort in order to reduce piracy, through reinforcing the regulations and mechanisms stipulated by the law to deter the perpetrators.**

Manama

The Mass Media Directorate at the Information Affairs Directorate has carried out an inspection campaign against shops that sell encrypted receivers that broadcast illegally, as well as against buildings with unlicensed cable networks.

The campaign resulted in confiscating a number of devices that violate the kingdom's laws and regulations.

The directorate stressed its keenness to increase its inspection campaigns to monitor Copyright and Related Rights crimes, out of its belief in the importance of respecting intellectual property, and reinforcing regulations and laws, and to refer violators to the Public Prosecution.

The Ministry of Information Affairs stressed that it would spare no effort in order to reduce piracy, through reinforcing the regulations and mechanisms stipulated by the law to deter the perpetrators.

The Ministry lauded the commitment of some parties to laws and regulations in order to preserve the kingdom's gains and reputation in this regard.

BIG STORY

big story

Parking for a living

Sayes can help you find a parking space, saving your precious time every day



Some building watchmen work as al sayes.

● The role of al sayes is not limited to finding a parking space. They clean cars, wipe car glasses and even guard the vehicles on the basis of orders received from “their bosses”.

● Sources say someone seeking the services of al sayes can save a minimum of 20 minutes in places like Bab Al Bahrain or Muharraq Souq where a parking space is nothing less than a treasure.

TDT|Manama
Thamer Tayfour

It is generally believed that every crisis brings out legions of opportunities and ‘al sayes’ is the direct byproduct of the car parking crisis in the Kingdom.

A name borrowed from Egypt, ‘al sayes’ are those who help car drivers find a parking space.

Of late, many expats, are opting the profession and they could be seen in many areas including Bab al Bahrain, Muharraq Souq, Hooraa and Gudaibiya.

The role of al sayes is not limited to finding a parking space. They clean cars, wipe car glasses and even guard the vehicles on the basis of orders received from “their bosses”.



An al sayes in action ... a newly sought after job

700,000
is the approximate number of vehicles hitting Bahrain roads every day.

”
We believe we are providing a great service by helping many save their precious time.

YOUSIF

”
I don't demand money from people, only receive what they give and be happy with that.

KHURSHID

”
In Egypt they need a licence. Here al sayes is the profession for those who have no profession.

AMR

”
If someone parks a car without our permission, we throw eggs on them. So the next time he will seek our help.

AN AL SAYES

Hiring an al sayes' service is not a very expensive process. The total charge including finding a parking place, cleaning and guarding the vehicle generally won't exceed BD2 and, of course, they are subject to bargaining powers.

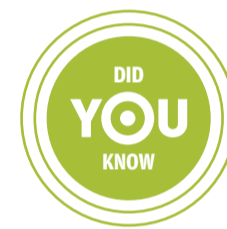
Sources say someone seeking the services of al sayes can save a minimum of 20 minutes in places like Bab Al Bahrain or Muharraq Souq where a parking space is nothing less than a treasure.

“Even in Manama the parking crisis is severe. Though the Ministry of Works, Municipal Affairs and Urban Planning opened a parking lot having a capacity for 400 cars, the crisis still persists,” they said.

Speaking to Tribune, Bangladesh national Khurshid, an al sayes, said, “This is a part-time job for me. I work in a laundry. I don't demand money from people, only receive what they give.”



Sayes charge additional money for cleaning vehicles.



The number of vehicles on Bahrain roads per day will cross the million mark in 2020.

Yousif, another al sayes, said he charges BD1 from “his customers”, which is inclusive of finding a parking space, cleaning and guarding the vehicle. “We believe we are providing a great service by helping many save their precious time. We don't own parking spaces; we are just facilitators.”

Some of these parking assistants also promote illegal parking without their customers getting fined. “I know traffic patrol timings in each and every area across Manama. So my customers can park at places I show to them without any fear of getting fined,” an al sayes, who doesn't want to be identified, said.

There are many al sayes who are illegal residents. “We don't have work permits. We enjoy this job because we have some freedom in it although financial rewards are little,” said Mohammed Bakr.

It is learnt that there are also some expat gangs, which control these al sayes. Through these al sayes the gangs sell illegal parking spaces charging even BD30 a month.

Like all other professionals, al sayes also have some business development tricks. “If someone parks a car without our permission, we throw eggs on them. So the next time he will seek our help to guard the vehicle when he comes here.”

Some building watchmen also wears the shoes of al sayes at times. In places like the Diplomatic Area it is very common to find these watchmen illegally selling building parking spaces to outsiders.

“In Egypt, a licence issued by the municipality is required for al sayes, but here anybody can become an al sayes and earn money,” Amr Mustafa, an Egyptian citizen said.

“It means al sayes is the profession for those who have no profession.”

According to traffic directorate, around 700,000 vehicles hit Bahrain roads every day and all these definitely require a parking space. With the number of vehicles on roads per day reaching a million in 2020, al sayes are going to realise their true potentials.

Bahrain-Japan trade on right track, says envoy

● **Bahrain continues to be a strong trading partner for Japan with bilateral trade between the countries having been “stable” over many years, Japanese ambassador Hideki Ito told Tribune.**

TDT | Manama

Mohammed Zafran

The annual volume of trade between Bahrain and Japan is around \$1 billion, according to the Japanese Ambassador.

Bahrain continues to be a strong trading partner for Japan with bilateral trade between the countries having been “stable” over many years, Japanese ambas-

sador Hideki Ito told Tribune.

“From Bahrain we are importing mainly aluminium and oil products while Japan is exporting cars and machines. The overall trade between the two countries including import and export both ways.”

When asked if there has been any significant boost in trade volume in recent years, he said, “Not quite, it has been stable so far over the years. There have been fluctuations in certain years but overall it has been an average of around \$1 bn.”

However, he said he hopes that the trade volume could increase in coming years.

“In Bahrain, a lot of new projects are coming up in the field of water, electricity and oil and gas and many Japanese companies are interested in participating in these projects,” he said.

A Japanese training squadron that



In Bahrain, a lot of new projects are coming up in the field of water, electricity and oil and gas and many Japanese companies are interested in participating in these projects.

MR HIDEKI

recently arrived in Bahrain for joint exercises between the Japanese Training Squadron and their Bahraini counterparts left yesterday.

The Japanese Training squadron was composed of two vessels JS Kashima and JS Makinami, the squadron is on its way to visit eight ports in different countries having already visited four countries including Bahrain.

Rear Admiral Hiroyuki Izumi Commander of Japan Training Squadron said that the stay in Bahrain has been a fruitful one. He added that Japan remains committed to fighting piracy in the Middle East region.

Ambassador Ito said that he was pleased with the outcome of the visit. “The visit was a good chance for ships from the squadron and their counterparts in Bahrain to have goodwill training exercises. It was a good chance to

communicate with each other and share valuable knowledge.”

“This was the first visit for the training squadron to Bahrain in nine years. We have not decided when it will return. However, the Middle East area is an important area for Japan, so I do not think the next visit should wait a long time. Although, we do not have any immediate plans so it may take a few years before they return.”

Speaking about the Middle East region’s importance as a trading route for Japanese ships he said, “So many Japanese ships pass by this area, the number is huge, this makes this region an important trading route. We import a huge amount of oil from this region. We are also exporting a huge amount of goods. Even ships that are heading to other regions pass by this region,” he said.

Man offers lift, attacks woman in robbery bid

Pakistani man allegedly slapped her several times in the face and tried to suffocate her

● **The Pakistani man was arrested and is facing a trial before the High Criminal Court.**

TDT|Manama

Ali Tarif

A Thai woman’s attempt to save a few bucks on her ride back home by not taking a taxi only resulted in a face-off with death.

The court details say the woman accepted a lift

offered by a Pakistani man, cancelling plans to take a taxi cab home.

The man brutally attacked the woman after taking her to a different direction in his bid to rob her, it added.



He stopped the car and tried to steal my bag. He snatched my phone and tried to kill me.

VICTIM

“I was coming out of a building in Manama, and he (the Pakistani man) saw me talking to a taxi driver over phone. He enquired about my destination and offered a lift, which I accepted,” the woman told prosecutors.

“When I realised that he was taking me to a different destination, I started screaming. He stopped the car and tried to steal my bag. He snatched my phone and tried to kill me,” she added.

The Pakistani man allegedly slapped her several times in the face and tried to suffocate her.

“I somehow managed to get out of the car and ran away,” she said.

The Pakistani man was arrested and is facing a trial before the High Criminal Court.

Sanabis rioters jailed for three years

● **The High Criminal Court said in its verdict that it gave lighter sentences after granting them clemency owing to their ages.**

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

The High Criminal Court sentenced three teenaged defendants to three years behind bars each for rioting and vandalism in Sanabis.

The teenagers were encouraged by an unknown man on social media to carry-out their acts, the court details say.

“I was following an account called Jund Al Hujah (Al Hujah Soldiers) on Telegram. He suddenly began encouraging me to burn tyres and banners in Sanabis,” the 19-year-old defendant said.

The first defendant encouraged his accomplices, both of whom aged 15, to take part in riots. “We agreed to set the tyres on fire on September 1, 2017, after fixing the place,” he added.

According to the official records, the defendants received the items used in their sabotage acts from an unknown man too, whom they met in a remote area.

“He gave us five tyres and a bottled petrol and two banners as well as a firebomb. We carried them with us, and we wore masks.

“He was wearing a mask and he came with us. We put the tyres and the banner on the highway near Sanabis and torched them using the firebomb and the petrol,” the 19-year-old boy told prosecutors.

The accused boys weren’t caught at the scene, but police investigations identified their involvement.

The High Criminal Court said in its verdict that it extended to the trio light sentences after granting them clemency owing to their ages.

Distribution of Khalifa Town housing units underway

Manama

The Housing Ministry said that it had distributed more than 900 housing units to beneficiaries in the Khalifa Town, including 400 ready ones.

The move follows the order of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, to distribute 5,000 housing units, within the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa to meet the citizens’ needs marking the holy month of Ramadan, and in line with the ongoing efforts of the government, led by His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, to continue implementing its action plan.

The Ministry affirmed that the distribution process went on smoothly, highlighting its commitment to harnessing all its potentials to distribute the units ordered by HRH the Crown



Beneficiaries completing official procedures at the ministry office yesterday.

Prince before the end of August. The Ministry added that once the distribution of the 5,000 units ordered by HRH Crown Prince is completed, it will have reached the final stages of the provision of 25,000 units included in the Government Action Plan.

Anti-money laundering efforts stressed

Paris

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) comprising a group of experts from the United States of America, Britain, Belgium, Belgium, Canada, India and Egypt have hailed the efforts of

Bahrain to curb money laundering.

They approved Bahrain’s Mutual Evaluation Report (MER), which highlights anti-money laundering initiatives.

The Central Bank of Bank (CBB) undertook the necessary preparations for the Mutual Review Re-

port (MER) in coordination with the Interior Ministry, the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments, the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism and the Public Prosecution.



Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (Baca) President Shaikha Mai bint Mohammed Al Khalifa yesterday received Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa at the venue of the 42nd meeting of the World Heritage Committee at the Unesco village. The Baca President thanked the Deputy Premier for the visit, hailing his keenness on supporting the Baca programmes and events.

American DJ gets 10 years sentence for selling drugs

Defendant was working at a star hotel here

● The DJ was sentenced to 10 years in prison for selling drugs, while his friend was handed down one year's imprisonment for consuming hashish.

● Police officers raided the apartment after the undercover agent received drugs and handed over the money to the American man.

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

An American DJ, aged 30, took his career to a different level in the Kingdom by selling drugs to people who

came to enjoy his music.

The defendant was working at a star hotel here when caught selling marijuana to people attending parties.

He was nabbed by police officers after receiving a tip-off.

The man promised to sell marijuana for BD1,400 to an undercover officer, according to court details.

"I requested him (the undercover officer) to come to my apartment in Juffair to receive his drugs," the American said in his statement after he was arrested.

The court files say the cop in plain clothes tricked the DJ into selling drugs after managing to build a close relationship with him.

"We had a great bond and I didn't expect him to be working with police. He asked

1,400

Bahraini dinars were taken by the convict from the undercover officer to supply marijuana.

me for marijuana worth BD1,400 and I immediately agreed to deliver him," the 30-year-old added.

Police officers raided the apartment after the undercover agent received drugs and handed over the money to the American man.

The 30-year-old man was arrested along with another man who hap-

pened to be in the property under the influence of drugs.

The DJ along and his friend were tried before the High Criminal Court.

The former was sentenced to 10 years in prison for selling drugs, while his friend was handed down one year's imprisonment for consuming hashish.

The pair will be deported from Bahrain once they serve the punishment.

Union calls to scrap plans to amend Pensions Law

● GFBTU said it intends to organise a roundtable about this subject and invitations were sent to MPs, experts, trade union leaders, activists and NGOs.

TDT|Manama
Mohammed Zafran

A prominent trade union has urged the lawmakers to scrap any plans to amend the Pensions Law.

The General Federation of Bahrain Trade Union (GFBTU) urged the government and lawmakers to focus on the inefficient use of funds by Social Insurance Organisation, rather than amending the pension law.

"We do not support any amendment to the law. The law was passed after taking all stakeholders into confidence and it won't be a progressive move to amend it again," said GFBTU Assistant Secretary for international relations Karim Radhi.

"This is why we urge the committee that has been recently formed by the government, Shura council and the Parliament to not touch this law and concentrate on the real problem which is inefficiencies within the SIO," he said.

"Two letters for the heads of parliament and Shura were sent urging them to not amend the existing pension law of No

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We do not support any amendment to the law. The law was passed after taking all stakeholders into confidence.

MR RADHI

3 / 2008 which was endorsed in 2008 after holding dialogues between all stakeholders," the GFBTU said in a statement.

"In the two letters, we urged the two councils to take the directives by His Majesty the King to study deeply the situation of the social protection and to take enough time and consultations with all parties concerned," it stated.

"We urge the two councils to address the real problem in SIO, which is not the law but the failure of SIO in investing its resources in a correct way that brings profits and increase the resources of the institution to overcome any financial actuarial deficit."

GFBTU said it intends to organise a round table about this subject and invitations were sent to MPs, experts, trade union leaders, activists and NGOs.

GOSI decision to fire senior official overturned

TDT|Manama
Ali Tarif

The High Appeals Court cancelled the decision of the General Organisation of Social Insurance (GOSI) to terminate the contract of one of its department heads as part of an alleged restructuring programme.

The plaintiff took the GOSI to court after he lost his job in 2011.

"At the time I was expecting to get a raise, I was kicked out. They told me that they had introduced a new organisational structure, and my position no longer exists," the plaintiff told the court.

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It was possible for my client to be transferred to another department because his duties and tasks he was fulfilling were still needed.

BU HUSSEIN

The defendant's lawyer Dr Mohammed Redah Bu Hussein argued before the Court that his client's duties were divided between several departments, although his position was cancelled.

"It was possible for my client to be transferred to another department because his duties and tasks he was fulfilling were still needed," Bu Hussein said.

"My client was looking to get a raise which was denied to him since 2007 and he was subjected to an arbitrary decision," he added. Agreeing to the lawyer's views, the High Appeals Court overturned the GOSI decision.

Issues faced by telecom customers discussed

● These projects are considered important to address consumers' concerns and promote their welfare, which is a step towards achieving the vision and policy of Bahrain's leadership.

Manama

The Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA)'s board members held their second meeting this year and discussed issues related to the telecommunications sector, in particular those that are of interest to the general public.

They include the progress of the projects related to the Fourth National Telecommunications Plan (NTP4) and the progress of

achieving the NTP4's objective of establishing the National Broadband Network ("NBN"), which is supported through a single fixed fibre network.

These projects are considered important to address consumers' concerns and promote their welfare, which is a step towards achieving the vision and policy of Bahrain's leadership.

The board also discussed the issue related to regulating telecom towers.

business

Orange plates from August 1, says BCCI

TDI | Manama

Truck owners are allowed more time to comply with the orange number plate regulation, it was revealed.

As per the new order, all trucks crossing King Fahad Causeway are required to use Orange Number Plates starting 1st August 2018.

The decision was taken by the Ministry of Transportation as requested by the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Chamber urged all to comply with the regulation at the earliest with the Land Transportation department in the Ministry of Transportation.

Saudi says ready to pump more oil to balance market

Riyadh

Saudi Arabia, the world's top crude exporter, said on Tuesday it was prepared to use its spare production capacity, estimated at two million barrels, to balance the global oil market.

"The kingdom is prepared to utilise its spare production capacity when necessary to deal with any future changes," a cabinet statement said following a meeting chaired by King Salman. The statement said the kingdom will coordinate with other producers.

Saudi, which has been pumping around 10 million barrels per day, holds the largest spare capacity in the world and is the only country that can add substantial supply to the market.

Greenpeace activists 'crash' drone into French nuclear plant

Lyon, France

Greenpeace activists said Tuesday they had flown a drone fitted out as a flying Superman into a nuclear energy plant in southeast France, aiming to show how the reactors are vulnerable to terror attacks. A video released shows the drone zipping through restricted airspace above the Bugey plant about 25 kilometres outside Lyon before crashing. It said the drone struck a storage pool for spent nuclear fuel next to a reactor, one of the most radioactive areas at the site. "This is a highly symbolic action: it shows that spent fuel pools are very accessible, this time from the air, and therefore extremely vulnerable," Yannick Rousselet, head of Greenpeace France's anti-nuclear campaign, in a statement.

NBB joins Bahrain Trade



Officials following a deal signing held at Bahrain Bourse premises

TDI | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) and Mubasher Financial Services have announced an agreement enabling investors to trade on Bahrain Bourse (BHB) online via the "Bahrain Trade" platform.

The deal was signed by NBB Chief Executive Officer Jean-Christophe Durand and General Manager of Mubasher Financial Services Zaid Aloul

at Bahrain Bourse's premises in the presence of Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa, CEO of Bahrain Bourse and executive management members.

Commenting on the move, National Bank of Bahrain's Chief Executive - Treasury, Capital Markets & Wealth Management, Hussain Al Hussaini said they expect to attract new local, regional and international investors interested in trading Bahraini stocks with the deal.

On his part, CEO of Bahrain Bourse Shaikh Khalifa bin Ebrahim Al-Khalifa, said, "We are looking forward to having other banks and financial institutions follow the step taken by the National Bank of Bahrain by joining this service to enjoy the range of opportunities that Bahrain Trade can offer to their current and potential clientele base."

In his comments, Zaid Aloul, General Manager of Mubasher

Financial Services said, "We are pleased to provide this innovative online trading solution to NBB, going in line with our continuous efforts to invest in technology and offer online trading solutions to enhance the trading activity at Bahrain Bourse."

Bahrain Trade, an innovative trading solution launched in October 2017, is being powered by licenced brokers on Bahrain Bourse.

'Private Notary' services now on 'Sijilat'

TDI | Manama

The Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Tourism announced launching "Private Notary" services for commercial companies and individual institutions registered with the Ministry.

The service was launched in coordination with the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments through "Sijilat" system.

The service will be available during and after official working hours.

The service allows applicants to choose one of the documentation offices in the system and send the approved draft contract to that office.

Investors are required to agree in advance with the documentation office on the value of fees before selecting in the system.

Single fixed fibre network to back National broadband

TDI | Manama

The National Broadband Network (NBN), which is currently in the implementation stage, will be supported through a single fixed fibre network.

Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) revealed this during a meeting held at its headquarters in the Seef district.

The meeting, second held this year, evaluated projects related to the Fourth National Telecommunications Plan (NTP4) and the progress of achieving the NTP4's objective of establishing NBN.

These projects are considered a step towards achieving the vision and policy of Bahrain's leadership.

Further, the board discussed issues related to regulating and rectifying telecoms towers and unpermitted telecoms in coordination with the concerned bodies.

Ithmaar renews PCI-DSS certification

TDI | Manama

Ithmaar Bank, a Bahrain-based Islamic retail bank, announced that SISA Information Security, the Middle East region's leading security assessor, has renewed its certification of the Bank to confirm payment security standards.

The announcement follows the bank's completion of a comprehensive audit and its compliance to the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard v3.2 (PCI-DSS) certification.

The PCI-DSS is a data security standard for organisations that handle payment cards. SISA Information Security, an international authorised assessor for various payments standards, is a payment security specialist firm with a presence in more than thirty-five countries.

"Ithmaar Bank had first



Abdul Rahim (fourth from right) receives the SISA certification from SISA Information Security Associate Vice President-EMEA Office, Yogesh Dange, in the presence of (from right) Ithmaar Bank Chief Risk Officer, Krishnan Hariharan, Ithmaar Bank Information Security Officer, Fatema Faraj, Ithmaar Bank Assistant General Manager, Head of Information Technology and Administration, Yousif Alkhan, and Ithmaar Bank Information Security and Compliance Manager, Rashed Ahmed AlMuawada.

earned the certification on 26 April 2017, making us one of the first in Bahrain to be certified to the PCI-DSS standard," said Ithmaar Bank Chief Executive Officer, Ahmed Abdul Rahim.

"The purpose of the PCI-DSS is to protect card data from unauthorised users, including hackers and thieves, and by following this standard, banks can keep data confident-

tial and secure, avoiding costly data breaches and protecting employees and customers," said SISA Worldwide CEO and Founder, Dharshan Shanthanmuthy.

VIVA summer internship programme kicks off



VIVA Bahrain, through its Corporate Social Responsibility arm, VIVA Jusoor, has kicked off its Summer Internship Programme for the seventh consecutive year, providing local students with an opportunity to attain extensive on-job training that complements their education. The programme involves Bahraini students that will undergo professional and technical training through work-related projects and assignments for a period of three months starting from July. The programme is structured to provide students real-time exposure at various departments within the company. VIVA said it has completed more than 48,000 internship training hours through its multiple talent development programmes since 2011.

Brinc Batelco IOT hub opens

Launched in Bahrain, Brinc Batelco is the first IoT hardware accelerator in the middle east region

● Offers programmes and services for IoT hardware start-ups and entrepreneurs

● Deal to develop the hub was announced by Batelco in 2017

TDI | Manama



Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Kamal Ahmed with other top officials during the opening of Brinc Batelco IoT Hub during a photocall

Brinc Batelco IoT Hub, the first IoT hardware accelerator in the Middle East region, opened doors yesterday in the presence of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Kamal Ahmed.

The launch took place at the Brinc Batelco's premises on the 3rd floor of Batelco Commercial Centre in Manama in the presence of VIPs, Batelco Board members and senior executives.

The hub offers programmes and services tailored for IoT hardware start-ups and entrepreneurs looking for speed, access and the know-how to build successful companies.

The deal to develop the hub was announced by Batelco in 2017 along with Brinc MENA, a hands-on Internet of Things (IoT) hardware accelerator.

Batelco Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa

commented that he is delighted to see the establishment of the new Brinc Batelco IoT Hub which promises to be a leader in driving innovation in the field of technology.

"Encouraging innovation within the ICT sector is one of the most important factors contributing to the continued growth of the Kingdom's economy," he added.

Batelco Bahrain CEO Mo-

hamed Bubashait added that Batelco has been investing time, effort and capital to provide relevant digital solutions for consumers and businesses in Bahrain as part of its drive to create the necessary ecosystem for a fully connected community.

Brinc Chief Development Officer and Head of Brinc MENA, Yasin Aboudaoud said that he is confident that the "new Hub will be a birthing ground not

only for local talent but also talented entrepreneurs from across the Middle East."

From its base in China Brinc has supported hundreds of founders from around the world and invested in and supported more than 30 start-ups, with a portfolio that has so far generated more than \$18M USD in follow-along funding and has products shipping in hundreds of stores around the world.

AirAsia heaps pressure on Airbus over A330neo

Reuters | Singapore

AirAsia X Bhd needs to ensure the price, performance, engines and payment terms for the Airbus A330neo are right before it will "finally confirm" its order for 66 of the jets, its co-group chief executive said yesterday.

AirAsia X, the long-haul arm of Malaysian low-cost carrier AirAsia Group Bhd, is the largest customer for the A330neo, which is struggling for sales relative to the rival Boeing 787.

AirAsia X has a firm order for the fuel-efficient A330neo widebody jets to replace its older first-generation A330s but it has been pushing back the delivery dates.

Facebook shares drop on widened probe

Washington

Shares of Facebook Inc fell 2 per cent yesterday, after a report that a federal probe on the data breach linked to Cambridge Analytica had been broadened and would include more government agencies.

Facebook shares were down 2pc at \$193.36 in early trading on the Nasdaq, erasing nearly \$12 billion from the company's market valuation.

The stock lost about 18pc of its value in the seven trading days after the data scandal broke, but has since gained about 27pc to date.

A Facebook spokesperson told Reuters late on Monday that it is cooperating with officials in the US, UK and beyond.

"We've provided public testimony, answered questions, and pledged to continue our assistance as their work continues," the spokesperson said. The questioning from federal investigators centers on what Facebook knew three years ago and why the company did not reveal it at the time to its users or investors, the Washington Post said.



Assistant Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Eman Al Doseri meets the Director General of the Department of Trade Negotiations of the Ministry of Commerce of the Kingdom of Thailand as part of a preparatory meeting held yesterday for the JSC meeting between Thailand and Bahrain. The meeting co-chaired by the Director General of the Department of Trade Negotiations of the Ministry of Commerce of the Kingdom of Thailand Auramon Supthaweethum and Assistant Undersecretary of Foreign Trade Eman Al Doseri confirmed that signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Food Security, Trade and Investment in Agricultural Products and Commodities in Particular Halal Food is a crucial step to boost trade and economic relations.



Assistant Undersecretary for Foreign Trade Eman A. Al-Doseri and the Bahraini economic delegation visiting CPF Food and Beverage Company. They were part of an economic delegation headed by the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Zayed bin Rashid Alzayani to the Kingdom of Thailand. CPF is one of the world's leading company, which operates in 16 countries, which exports products from Thailand to over 30 countries. The company operates in both the livestock and aquaculture (shrimp and fish) businesses.

IRTI, BIBF in deal for Human Resources

TDI | Jeddah

The Islamic Research and Training Institute (IRTI) of the Islamic Development Bank (ISDB) Group and Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore areas of cooperation in human resource development for Islamic banking and finance.

The MoU was signed by Director General of IRTI, Dr Humayon Dar, and Director of BIBF, Dr Ahmed Al-Shaikh, on behalf of their respective organizations, at the BIBF campus in Manama, Bahrain.

Under the provisions of the MoU, IRTI and BIBF will collaborate to undertake joint programmes and activities aimed to develop human capital for the Islamic banking and finance



IRTI DG, Dr Humayon Dar, third from right, with BIBF Director, Dr Ahmed Al-Shaikh, and other officials.

sector globally.

Collaboration between the two institutions is coming at a time when IRTI is going through a process of reform under the leadership of its new Director General.

Dr Dar said IRTI was delighted to partner with BIBF and other

centres of excellence to support the development of the Islamic financial services industry.

Mujtaba Khalid, Head of Islamic Finance Centre at BIBF, said, "We also took this opportunity to discuss how IRTIX, IRTI's MOOCs Platform, can be used by BIBF for the benefit of

all the stakeholders in the industry."

Prior to the MoU signing ceremony, Dr Dar and Dr Al-Shaikh met with Rasheed Al Maraj, the Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB), who endorsed the agreement between the two organisations.

Saudi see selling pressure

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabia's stock market was under pressure yesterday as investors sold blue-chip stocks, while Dubai's index was buoyed by banks and property shares.

Investors were also taking stock of an announced commitment by the kingdom to keep balance and stability in the oil market. Oil prices rose yesterday after Libya declared force majeure on some of its crude exports.

National Commercial Bank, the largest bank in Saudi Arabia, closed 1.9 per cent down, while Al Rajhi Bank, the second-largest lender, finished 0.9pc lower. Samba Financial Group was 1.3pc down.

The Saudi index was lower at 0.5pc.

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▼ 0.5%	8,236
DUBAI	▲ 0.3%	2,839
ABU DHABI	▼ 0.2%	4,570
QATAR	▼ 0.5%	9,188
KUWAIT	▲ 1.5%	5,001
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.08%	1,311
OMAN	▼ 0.4%	4,537

In Dubai, Emirates NBD and Emaar Development drove gains, up 1.4pc and 2.0pc respectively.

Abu Dhabi's index closed 0.2pc down. Emirates Telecommunications Group closed 0.6pc down.

In Egypt, Commercial International Bank was the main upward driver, rising by 1.2pc. The overall index was up 0.4pc.



Is it unpleasant for women to use Dr titles, if they have a Ph.D?

The best way to respond to online abuses is to own those spaces, to blaze and burn, and to swarm and support each other in masses, in vigilante-hordes



JULIA BAIRD

It had never occurred to me to add “Ph.D.” to my name on Twitter until I was slammed for mentioning that I had one.

In February, I was tweeting about the media’s different treatment of the private lives of male and female politicians when someone snarled back: “And you have evidence of this or are you just being a bitter old sexist?”

“Yes, I have written a Ph.D. on the subject,” I replied. “So it’s Doctor Bitter Old Sexist, mate.”

The response blew me backward. Not from those who got the joke, but from those who took offence at the fact that I said I had an advanced degree in history. One that took several years of solid sloggng for little financial reward. Years marked by as much isolation and self-doubt as discovery and original research.

In the last few months of writing my dissertation — which I did while working full time as a journalist — my hair began to shed in sheets. Three times, I consulted a doctor who told me the only thing that would prevent my going bald was finishing it.

For many years, I was not sure whether it was worth it. But nonetheless, I remain proud of my Ph.D. because I persisted and completed it.

So I was fascinated to discover that some

viewed the degree not as a sign of expertise but as a provocation, a pretension.

I was repeatedly told on social media that I was an elitist snob, that Ph.D.s were worthless and did not prove anything, that five years of research were simply my “opinion,” that no one cared, that doctorates were no sign of intelligence and that I should be ashamed of myself. I immediately changed my name on Twitter to “Dr. Julia Baird.”

And lo, every few days, someone — almost exclusively male — would tweet to say I was arrogant and stupid and that it would be in my best interest to take it down.

One guy called Jim Ball posted: “Perusing @bairdjulia Twitter feed, yes we get that you have a Ph.D. Julia. Well done. But you reveal an underlying insecurity appending it to your Twitter handle.”

A host of academics then piled on, with a horde of women revealing that they, too, had been taunted for using their titles, while many men who had not received such criticism were baffled.

Dr. Alan Nixon, a researcher in the sociology of religion at Western Sydney University, said, “I’ve had Dr. in my profile name since 2015 and have never been questioned on it.” Dr. Stephen Maclean, an anatomy lecturer at the University of Edinburgh, wrote, “I had no idea doctorate-shaming was even a thing!”

And this month, a British historian, Dr. Fern Riddell, had a similar experience.

On June 13, reacting to a decision by The Globe and Mail to restrict use of the Dr. title to medical practitioners, Riddell wrote on Twitter: “My title is Dr. Fern Riddell, not Ms. or Miss Riddell. I have it because I am an expert, and my life and career

consist of being that expert in as many different ways as possible. I worked hard to earn my authority, and I will not give it up to anyone.”

A “David Green” immediately responded that her comments could “legitimately be regarded as immodest.” A man called “Warren Whitmore” said Riddell had “shown extreme disrespect toward white men (who are generally far more useful to society than female academics)” and that she would have to refuse help from a “white male fireman” if her house were burning down. This response, she responded, left her “crying with joy.”

It should be pointed out that Riddell’s area of expertise is sex and suffrage, and she has written a book about a woman who was both an arsonist and a suffragist, which seems apt.

The fracas has incited large swaths of academic women to add “Dr.” to their name on Twitter, and the hashtag #immodestwoman has spread globally.

Previous generations of women demanded entry to parliaments, churches, boardrooms and courts. In many ways, the online realm is the next frontier, a place where we are demanding to speak without abuse. We might not be chaining ourselves to fences anticipating the arrival of police, but we do opine in a space where we anticipate attack.

It’s not just about women: The disturbing tendency to dismiss academic and especially scientific expertise as bias, or elitism, is at high tide, and climbing.

But it seems particularly acute for female academics. Women regularly report being called professor, and even reverend, less than male counterparts, and research has shown that female

physicians are called doctor less often than men are. A 2017 analysis of introductions of speakers at medical gatherings found that about half of the time a man introduced a woman to the group, he did not use her title, but used it for men more than 70 percent of the time.

It is these markers that indicate respect and an acceptance of authority. And it is these markers that can also be tiny plinths we can occasionally mount to add our voices to the cacophony of words in public debate.

Given how often women are disgustingly abused online, I used to think the best response was to periodically retreat and be quiet. But now I think we need to own those spaces, to blaze and burn, and to swarm and support each other in masses, in vigilante-hordes. Twitter is an oft-maligned and imperfect platform. But it is an important part of the public square.

For centuries, the voices of women have been muted, discounted and minimised. Our right to speak has been questioned, our power undermined, our authority mocked. The cultural underpinnings of this run deep in church and state and still erupt grotesquely online. We are regularly told to apologise, to shrink, to shut up.

So don’t. You don’t need a title to speak. But if you do have one, use it. Find your voice, and raise it. Stake your authority, and state it. Don’t recoil. Don’t back down.

Sometimes authority should be worn lightly. But sometimes it should be brandished like a torch.

Julia Baird is a journalist at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.



His Majesty congratulates US President

Manama

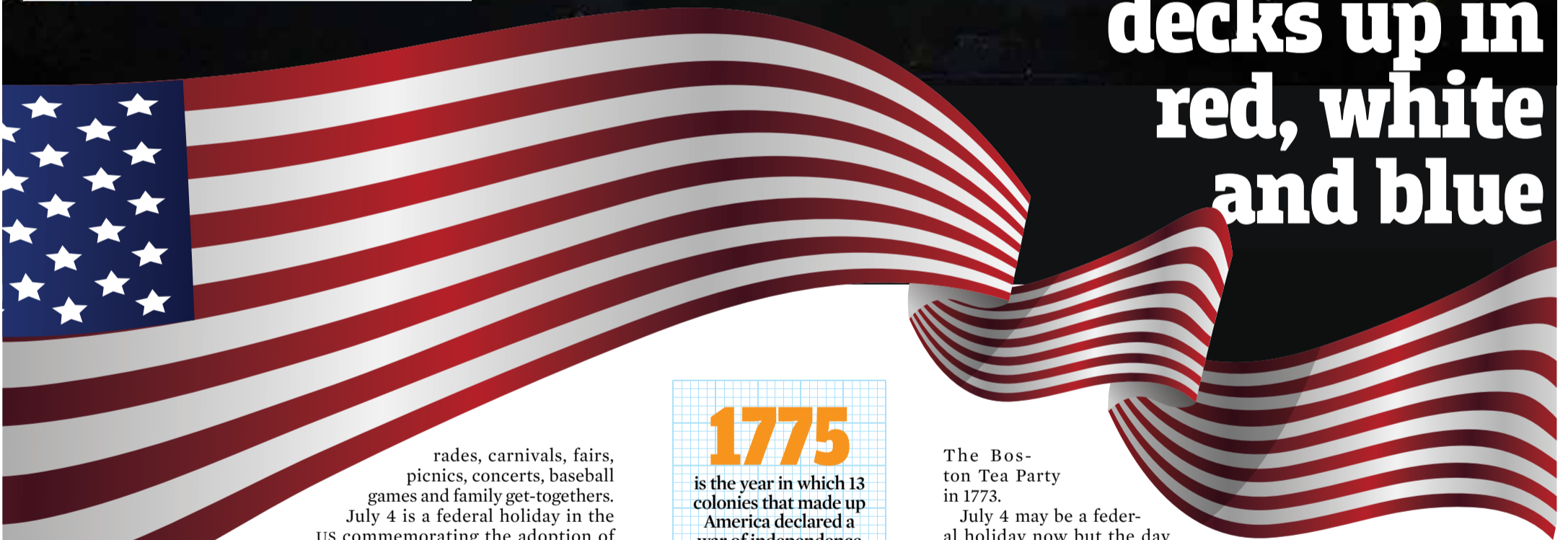
His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa sent a cable of congratulations to US President Donald Trump on his country's Independence Day.

HM the King praised the steadily progressing relations between the two countries and peoples,



wishing President Trump abundant health and happiness and the American people further progress and prosperity.

America decks up in red, white and blue



1775

is the year in which 13 colonies that made up America declared a war of independence against Britain.

It's that time of the year again as the United States deck up in shades of red, white and blue to celebrate its Independence Day.

Citizens are known to go all out to celebrate the nation's biggest holiday and often host barbecue parties and shoot fireworks.

The day is also associated with pa-

rades, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games and family get-togethers.

July 4 is a federal holiday in the US commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence in 1776 after the 13 colonies that made up America declared a war of independence against Britain in 1775.

The Congress, in fact, voted to declare independence on July 2, but the same was adopted two days later.

The British lived in America since 1587 and the Americans accused them of exploiting their resources like tea and tobacco. Such were the tensions between the Americans and the British

that founding fathers, the head of the Sons of Liberty organisation, and a few other people are said to have boarded three ships in the Boston Harbour and threw 342 chests of tea into the waters.

Violence broke out after the move and the incident came to be known as

The Boston Tea Party in 1773.

July 4 may be a federal holiday now but the day was celebrated in a lot of different ways over the years. In 1777, 13 gunshots were fired in salute, once at morning and once in the evening in Bristol, Rhode Island.

The same year, Philadelphia hosted an official dinner for the Continental Congress, complete with toasts, 13-gun salutes, speeches, prayers, music, parades, troop reviews, and fireworks. Even ships at the port were decked with red, white, and blue.

In 1779, Independence Day fell on a Sunday and hence was celebrated on Monday, July 5.

In 1781, the Massachusetts General Court was the first state legislature to recognise July 4 as a state celebration.

In 1870, the US Congress decided that Independence Day would be an unpaid holiday for federal employees. July 4 has been a paid holiday in the nation since 1938.

Bahrain, a true partner for the US

The Fourth of July is a special day for all Americans. It is a day in which we gather with family and friends to celebrate the birth of our country, often with barbecues and fireworks. I would like to convey my best wishes to all of my fellow Americans celebrating the Fourth of July in Bahrain.

The Bahraini-US partnership is stronger today than ever before. We remain grateful to Bahrain for hosting US Navy Central Command and the US Fifth Fleet, the lynchpin of our security partnership. Bahrain has been a true partner for the

United States as we work together to ensure security throughout the region.

Since our bilateral Free Trade Agreement entered into force in 2006, bilateral trade between our two countries has increased over 140 per cent. This has provided tremendous opportunities for Bahraini and American businesses both. Bahraini merchandise exports to the United States have almost tripled since the FTA came into force, increasing from \$360 million in 2005 to almost \$1 billion in 2017. US exports to Bahrain have increased as well, providing good jobs for



Bahraini workers and iconic brands to the Bahraini market.

Hundreds of Bahrainis will travel to the United States this fall to study at American colleges and universities. More than three hundred Bahrainis have participated in US Embassy-sponsored exchange programs in the last five years alone. Last week, US Secretary of State Michael Pompeo announced that Bahrain had achieved a Tier 1 ranking on our annual Trafficking in Persons report. This is a remarkable achievement and reflects the commitment and determina-

tion of the Bahraini leadership to combat human trafficking. The US Embassy has been proud to support these efforts.

As we celebrate America's birthday, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the government and people of Bahrain for their support and friendship. The United States' partnership with Bahrain makes this important day even more special for all Americans in Bahrain.

(Justin Siberell is the US Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain)



Land of liberty: A look back into its history



JOEL INDRUPATI

It took almost five weeks, for the news to travel across the Atlantic.

But when the British learnt in August that, on 4 July 1776, the Americans had declared independence from the British monarchy, there was hardly anything they could do -- to quell a rebellion that had now escalated into a powerful moment itself.

Vexed with taxes, 13 British colonies in North America had formally transformed their colonies into states and declared themselves as independent from Britain.

And it was too late for the British, who couldn't afford a war then, to realize how serious the American Revolution had turned out for its vast empire spanning the world.

Today, as the USA celebrates the 242nd anniversary of its declaration of independence, it might be pertinent for us to look at the history behind the day.

Indigenous populations had been living in the Americas long before European explorers made their way across the Atlantic. The Native Americans were called Red Indians simply because the great explorer Christopher Columbus -- who found the sea route from Europe to North Amer-



John Trumbull's Declaration of Independence, showing the Committee of Five presenting its plan for independence to Congress on June 28, 1776.

ica, in 1492 - thought he had somehow reached his destination, India.

The place where Columbus landed is actually in current day Bahamas, in the Caribbean; which, by the way, is also called 'West Indies' because Columbus had missed the 'real India in the East' by thousands of kilometres.

Anyway, long story short, within the next 200 years, migrants and migrants' descendants from Europe were already populating the continents of both, North and South Americas. And by 1700, there were 13 British colonies in North America alone.

In 1701, a man called William Penn wrote a 'Charter of Privileges' for the residents of his colony, Pennsylvania. So forward-thinking was Penn that he had envisioned a colony that permitted religious freedom, the consent and participation of the governed, and had clear laws pertaining to property rights, including those of Native Americans.

While the charter recognized the authority of the British King and Parliament over the colony, it also provided for the creation of a local governing body that would propose and execute the laws.

In fact, in 1751, it was in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of this charter that the Pennsylvania Assembly ordered a special 'bell' to be made. And this bell had, a century later, become a potent symbol for liberty during the movement for the abolition of slavery, and became known as the 'Liberty Bell'.

The significance of 'Boston Tea Party' towards US independence also cannot be understated.

In the 1760s, Britain was deep in debt. And British Parliament imposed a series of taxes on American colonists.

According to history.com, "The Stamp



Since its independence, the US has come a long way; as a country that promises to all its people - with the declaration - certain unalienable Rights, among which are "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness".

Act of 1765 taxed colonists on virtually every piece of printed paper they used, from playing cards and business licenses to newspapers and legal documents. And the Townshend Acts of 1767 went a step further, taxing essentials such as paint, paper, glass, lead and tea".

The Tea Act of 1773 then, took the cake! Frustrated and angry at Britain for imposing "taxation without representation," protestors got onto ships docked in Boston, and dumped 342 chests of British tea into the harbour. The tea that British East India Company prided in trading around the world went down the sea.

Angered at the Boston Tea Party, British Parliament imposed more coercive laws.

And needless to say, the colonies got together, declared freedom, and called themselves the United States.

Interestingly, only 12 of the 13 states signed the declaration on 4 July. New York signed it only on 19 July.

Since then, with 'abolition of slavery', 'voting rights for women', 'ending of colour-segregation', and 'voting rights to African Americans', USA has come a long way; as a country that promises to all its people - with the declaration - certain unalienable Rights, among which are "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."



Fourth of July is a time to spend with family and friends, eating BBQs, watching firework displays and parades.

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HAPPY
JULY 4TH
AMERICAN
INDEPENDENCE DAY

THE DAILY **tribune**

Reaping the benefits of FTA

Agreement aims to increase trade, economic opportunity, and prosperity for both nations

TDI|Manama

Both the Kingdom and the US have reaped the benefits of FTA, which came to force on January 11, 2006.

The purpose of the FTA is to increase trade, economic opportunity, and prosperity for both the United States and Bahrain.

Under the FTA, both governments removed tariffs and duties on nearly all traded consumer, agricultural, and industrial products, and liberalized the market for services.

The FTA also supports bilateral investment, facilitating job creation in both countries. The US-Bahrain FTA does not expire.

Since its implementation, bilateral merchandise trade has increased by over 140 per cent, from \$782 million in 2005, to \$1.9 billion in 2017. In 2016, the United States and Bahrain also traded \$1.3 billion in services.

The FTA and its companion agreement, the Bilateral Investment Treaty, have supported a growing number of corporate



His Majesty in conversation with Donald Trump as they met in Riyadh last year.

investments in our respective countries, resulting in the transfer of technologies and the creation of jobs and wealth in both economies.

Over 200 US firms have established operations in Bahrain. Bahraini investments in the United States have similarly risen under the FTA, according to the US Embassy here.

The Economic Development Board Bahrain identifies financial services, professional services, manufacturing, ICT, logistics and

transport sectors as particularly ripe for investment. The renewable energies and health care sectors, among others, also offer potential opportunity for US firms.

On the other hand, the US welcomes Bahraini investment. SelectUSA is the official US government office that provides information to investors about the benefits of a US location and hosts the annual SelectUSA Investment Summit, last held June 20-22, 2018 near Washington, DC.

The US Embassy collaborates

on trade and investment with entities in Bahrain including the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism, the American Chamber of Commerce, the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the Economic Development Board Bahrain.

The Embassy also collaborates with entities in the United States such as the US Department of Commerce, the Office of the US Trade Representative, the US Chamber of Commerce, and the US-Bahrain Business Council.

Let this vibrant partnership flourish

As the United States of America celebrates its 242nd anniversary of its independence on the Fourth of July, it is noteworthy that for half this period Bahrain has had a unique relationship with the people of the US through the missionaries like Zwemmer who came to the shores of Bahrain and established the American Mission Hospital.

This relationship between two countries and two people of two faiths have grown to what it is today a vibrant partnership in commerce and strategic military support for this region through the diplomatic mission and the Fifth Fleet. Trade between the two countries stand at USD 3 billion and over 17,000 Americans have Bahrain as their second home.



The American Mission Hospital has witnessed considerable growth during this period thanks to the support we have received from the Royal Court and the Government of Bahrain. From our humble beginnings in 1896 we now provide care through four sites with over 600 employees. We strive to be the best at what we do by providing uncompromising quality in the provision of healthcare at affordable cost to all the people of Bahrain.

The values that set apart Bahrain as a land of tolerance and religious freedom goes back centuries in welcoming foreigners to its shore.

We wish the community of Americans in Bahrain a wonderful independence day as you celebrate the core values of the American independence in freedom and liberty for all that has made the US a great partner to the people of Bahrain.

**Management and Staff
American Mission Hospital**



MANAMA



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Rare tradition of eating hot dogs

Every Independence Day, Nathan's Famous, a hot dog company, hosts an eating contest on Coney Island, in Brooklyn

Americans eat 150 million hot dogs each year on the Fourth of July. That's enough hot dogs to make a line from Washington, DC to Los Angeles five times.

The tradition of eating hot dogs on Independence Day was inspired by a gut-churning annual event: Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest.

The contest, though, is shrouded in lies.

Every Independence Day, Nathan's Famous, a hot dog company, hosts an eating contest on Coney Island, in Brooklyn, New York.

According to legend, it has hosted the competition almost every year on the Fourth of July since 1916.

"To settle an argument over who was the most patriotic, legend has it that four immigrants held a hot dog eating contest at our famous Coney Island stand," Nathan's website says.

"The story that I have heard forever is that there were four immigrants arguing over who was the most American on the Fourth of July," says the president of Major League Eating, which runs Nathan's hot dog eating competition.

NBC, ESPN, and The New York Daily News all also uncritically cite the baloney story about the first contest being



Hot dog eating competition is a unique tradition marking the US Independence Day.

held in 1916.

In fact, there is no evidence of Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest being held in any year before 1972.

Mortimer Matz, a longtime public relations professional, told The New York Times in 2010 the truth about the contest's backstory: He just made it up.

Matz told the Times, "We said this was an annual tradition since 1916. In Coney Island pitchman style, we made it up."



We said this was an annual tradition since 1916. In Coney Island pitchman style, we made it up

MATZ

In a 2016 interview with the Associated Press, former Nathan's president Wayne Norbitz owned up to the lie.

"Our objective was to take a photograph and get it in the New York newspaper," Norbitz said. "We'd honestly wait for a couple of fat guys to walk by and ask them if they wanted to be in a hot dog contest."

The early 1970s contests weren't even always held on the Fourth of July. Ones in 1972, 1975, and 1978 were held on Memorial Day and Labour Day.

By the 1980s, Nathan's started hosting their contest on Independence Day regularly. And with that, it successfully tied the food to the holiday.

"We get hundreds of millions in PR value," Norbitz told The Wall Street Journal. The original Nathan's stand on Coney Island sells 26,000 hot dogs alone on the day of the contest, according to the Journal.

CONGRATULATIONS

to the leaders and people of UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

on the occasion of 242nd Independence Day



AmCham extends Fourth of July wishes

TDI|Manama

American Chamber of Commerce in Bahrain (AmCham) has wished all fellow Americans a happy 4th of July.

"In the US, this is a day of family picnics and patriotic parades, a night of concerts and fireworks, and a great reason to fly the American flag," the chamber said in a release.

As our country marks 242 years of independence, we celebrate the enduring traits of America - determined leadership, audacious vision, the

drive to innovate, and a celebration of individual and collective achievement, it added.

"We do not claim these traits as ours alone, but they have shaped our nation and continue to do so today."

"Here in Bahrain, we appreciate our Bahraini and international friends and the freedom we enjoy to work and pursue a prosperous and happy life.

"We are thankful for the productive trade, strong security and cultural bond shared between our two countries."



CONTRACTING Al Namal Contracting & Trading Co. W.L.L.	REAL ESTATE V.K. Universal Property Management Co.	INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT Bahraini Indian Investment & Development Co. W.L.L.	INTERIOR DESIGNS SACH Interior Design & Contracting	ELEVATOR & ESCALATOR SANYO Elevators & Escalators, KOYO Elevators & Escalators, SANEI Elevators & Escalators
EXISTENCE & EVENT MANAGEMENT AABEX Arab Asia Business & Exhibition Centre	MALLS HIDD MALL	ELECTRO MECHANICAL Al Namal Mechanical Contracting Co. W.L.L.	EDUCATION The American International School of Bahrain	MARINE DREDGING SASCON Al Saman for Sand, Block & Concrete
HEALTH CARE mem HMO ISLAMABAD, mem MIDDLE EAST HOSPITAL, mem Santhigin	HOSPITALITY VK Universal Hotels & Restaurants Management Co. SPC, Back Western Plus The Olive Hotel, Park Regis Lulu Hotel, Holiday Bahrain Hotel, Royal Phoenix Hotel, Crystal Palace Hotel, Wovee Bahrain Restaurant	TRADING SAACH, Zamil		

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The Erdogan Revolution is likely to continue, but it can't go on forever

Turkey is bigger than Erdogan, just as it was bigger than Ataturk. A better country is possible someday



MUSTAFA AKYOL

More than 55 million Turks went to the polls on June 24 to elect the country's new president and to form its new parliament. As has happened repeatedly since 2002, the winner was President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. With more than 52 per cent of the vote, Erdogan secured a mandate to rule Turkey until 2023 – the centennial of the founding of the Turkish Republic after the fall of the Ottoman Empire in World War I.

To many, especially in the West, yet another victory for Erdogan seems hard to understand. The economy has been gloomy. The Turkish lira is in free fall against other currencies. Democracy is in precipitous decline, too. Moreover, the usually fractured opposition seemed to get its act together this time, forming a coalition and putting forth Muharrem Ince, a charismatic candidate. All this led to a widespread expectation that Erdogan could lose this time, or at least would face a major setback.

But Turkey's strongman proved as strong as ever. The reason for this is not ballot rigging. It is not even just the way that Erdogan holds a grip on power with his command of the news media. The truth is, most people who voted for Erdogan will vote for him no matter what. They didn't see this election as a competition between politicians promising better governance. They viewed it as an act of defiance against a century-old existential enemy.

The story goes back to modern Turkey's 1923 founding by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, whose top-down secularist reforms created a Westernised urban population that viewed him as a saviour. But the same "Kemalist

Revolution" left behind a traumatised conservative class, which felt itself as "a stranger in your own home, a pariah in your own land," as the Islamist poet Necip Fazil put it in 1949.

When multiparty elections were introduced in 1950, the conservatives began to enter the system. But they were repeatedly punished by "the regime's guardians," as the secular elite proudly called itself. Only with Erdogan's election and solidification of power in the early 2000s was this secular hegemony fully broken.

This is what Turkey's religious conservatives are thinking about when they vote for Erdogan and his Justice and Development Party, not his flaws, which they may silently admit he has. They aren't thinking about newspapers that have been taken over or professors who have been put in jail, but about how the Arabic call to prayer was outlawed in the 1930s and the headscarf was banned in the 1990s. Against this "Old Turkey" that the religious conservatives despise, Erdogan proved to be their saviour. The more sensible among them may sense that their "New Turkey" is hardly any better than the old – but still it is their Turkey.

In other words, Erdogan is surfing on a sense of a historic revolution, driven by a revolutionary zeal. After a century in the wilderness, Turkey has become great – and Muslim – again. The rest is trivia.

This sense of world historical importance distorts how conservatives are able to see the rest of the world. They assume that the whole world, and especially the evil cabal that supposedly runs it, attaches as much importance to Turkey's conservative turn as they do. And so they believe the main theme of Erdogan's giant propaganda machine: conspiracy. They see a global conspiracy to topple Erdogan; they believe there are endless plots, coup attempts and manipulations against which the New Turkey must be defended. (Of course they felt this suspicion confirmed by the real coup attempt in July 2016.)

This conspiratorial mindset explains away any problems the country faces, and so helps immunise the president. In other countries, a poorly performing economy might make a president unpopular – es-

pecially if his own unorthodox economic theories seem to have played a role. In Turkey, it's used as evidence of an "economic attack" from the West. A recent poll found that four out of five voters – much more than Erdogan's base – find this conspiracy plausible. It may in the end turn out that the more trouble Turkey faces, the more consolidated Erdogan's base becomes.

What is most interesting about the New Turkey is its relationship with "democracy." Human rights groups and Western news outlets may say that Turkish democracy is dying, but Erdogan and his supporters honestly and genuinely believe that Turkey is in fact more democratic than ever.

How can that be? For the president and his supporters, "democracy" has one simple meaning: Whoever wins the ballots should lead the nation – by ruling not just the executive but also the legislative and judicial apparatuses, the media, academia, religion and culture. There is hardly any realm in state or society that should remain autonomous from the elected leader, who represents an almost sacred "national will."

When Westerners speak of "democracy," however, they intuitively mean liberal democracy, which includes values like freedom of speech, a free press, the rule of law, an independent judiciary, academic freedom and property rights. But the synthesis of liberalism and democracy isn't necessary; Turkey is just one of several "illiberal democracies" in ascendance around the world.

But no one should forget that Turkey is bigger than Erdogan, just as it was bigger than Ataturk. The Erdogan Revolution is likely to continue in the foreseeable future, but it can't go on forever. Ultimately, when Old Turkey fully fades and the tide turns against the reactionary excesses of Erdogan's New Turkey, a third Turkey may arise: a Turkey where no group is hegemonic, no one feels like a "pariah in your own land" and finally every person is free.

Mustafa Akyol is a senior fellow at the Cato Institute, the author of "Islam Without Extremes: A Muslim Case for Liberty" and a contributing opinion writer.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Many good conversations with North Korea-it is going well! In the meantime, no Rocket Launches or Nuclear Testing in 8 months. All of Asia is thrilled. Only the Opposition Party, which includes the Fake News, is complaining. If not for me, we would now be at War with North Korea!

@realDonaldTrump

02



While many people consider sensory experience as the main source of happiness, really it is peace of mind. What destroys peace of mind is anger, hatred, anxiety and fear. Kindness counters this—and through appropriate education we can learn to tackle such emotions.

@DalaiLama

03



No nation can make itself secure by seeking supremacy over all others. We all share responsibility for each other's #security, and only by working to make each other secure can we hope to achieve lasting security for ourselves.

@KofiAnnan

04



Nothing could've prepared me for the scale of crisis and extent of suffering I saw today in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. I heard heart-breaking accounts from Rohingya refugees that will stay with me forever. My appeal to the int'l community is to step up support.

@antonioguterres

Disclaimer: (Views expressed by columnists are personal and need not necessarily reflect our editorial stances)

Foreign journalists in Russia could be branded 'agents': MP

Moscow, Russia

Russian lawmakers have drafted legislation that could require reporters working for selected media to be branded "foreign agents", a senior deputy said on Tuesday.

Late last year Russia adopted a law allowing the government to classify foreign media organisations as "foreign agents".

The new legislation would go a step further, extending the definition to individual journalists working for such media.

Iran, world powers to have nuclear meet

Tehran, Iran

The foreign ministers of Iran and five world powers still party to the 2015 nuclear deal will meet in Vienna on Friday for talks on the troubled accord, Tehran and Moscow said.

The top diplomats of Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia will join Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in the Austrian capital, Iran's official IRNA news agency reported, for their first talks together on the deal since Washington pulled out earlier this year.

UK healthcare worker arrested for 'murdering' 8 babies

London, United Kingdom

British police yesterday arrested a female healthcare worker suspected of murdering eight babies and attempting to murder six more after an investigation into deaths at a neo-natal hospital unit.

The investigation in the northwestern English city of Chester began last year and is focusing on the deaths of 17 babies at the Countess of Chester Hospital between March 2015 and July 2016.

Three-year-old in US stabbing attack dies: police

Washington

A three-year-old girl died on Monday after being seriously wounded when a man went on a stabbing spree in the US state of Idaho two days before, police said. The girl was evacuated by air to neighboring Utah for treatment, but did not survive her injuries.

Another ferry sinks



This handout picture taken and released on July 3, 2018 by Indonesia's Badan Nasional Penanggulangan Bencana (BNPB), the accident mitigation agency, shows passengers clinging to the side of a ferry as it sank off the coast of Selayar island, in South Sulawesi province.

16 dead in Indonesia ferry accident, Search called off for another ferry sank with 160 onboard

Jakarta, Indonesia

At least 16 people, including two children, died yesterday after a ferry ran aground off the coast of Indonesia, officials said, as rescuers raced to save scores of other passengers thought to be aboard the vessel.

The deadly incident comes the same day authorities official-

ly called off the search for more than 160 people still missing after another ferry sank on a popular tourist lake in Sumatra two weeks ago.

Images from the latest accident showed passengers clinging to the side of the KM Lestari as it listed in waters off Sulawesi island, while other passengers floated in the sea awaiting help.

The ferry ran aground about

300 metres (985 feet) from the coast, Indonesia's transportation agency said, as waves swamped trucks and other vehicles on the boat's deck before they plunged into the water.

Sixteen bodies have been recovered, with 39 survivors, but authorities have not yet accounted for all 139 people listed in the ship's manifest, said Darfian Mukri, head of the local dis-

aster agency. "The joint search and rescue team and fisherman are still trying to rescue victims on board the boat," Mukri said.

"The number of passengers that are still trapped on the boat is not yet known."

A fleet of smaller boats was working to save passengers as bad weather was preventing larger vessels from getting near the location, the transportation

ministry said. It added that passengers had been wearing life jackets. The 48-metre vessel was sailing from Sulawesi to nearby Selayar island when it ran into strong winds and high waves.

Deadly maritime accidents are not uncommon in Indonesia, where many people depend on boats to get around the 17,000 island archipelago nation despite lax safety standards.

Israel freezes Palestinian Authority money transfers

AFP | Ramallah

Palestinian leaders yesterday strongly condemned a new Israeli law that will freeze money transfers to the Palestinian

Authority to punish the PA's payments to families of those jailed for attacks.

The move threatens the existence of the cash-strapped PA and amounts to "theft", said

Saeb Erekat, secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Both he and a spokesman for Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas called it a "dangerous decision".

The legislation was approved late Monday and gives the Israeli government powers to withhold an amount of money based on what is paid to the prisoners and their families by the PA.

Israel collects around \$127 million a month in customs duties levied on goods destined for Palestinian markets that transit through Israeli ports, and then transfers it to the PA.

'13? Brilliant'

The words that fired hopes of a miracle in Thai cave rescue



This handout video grab taken from footage released by The Royal Thai Navy shows missing children inside the Tham Luang cave of Khun Nam Nang Non Forest Park



Thai soldiers carrying cables inside Tham Luang cave



A telephone line will be installed tonight... they (the boys) will be able to talk with their families via military phone

PASSAKORN BOON-YARAT, DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF CHIANG RAI PROVINCE

What now for the boys?

Could they dive out?

In theory yes: but it is an extremely difficult task. Cave diving is already very risky, especially for young boys in a weakened state who have no diving experience.

Tham Luang cave where the boys have been trapped is one of Thailand's longest at 10 kilometres (six miles) and one of the hardest to navigate with its winding and at times narrow corridors.

If they dive, they have no choice but to follow the steps that rescuers took though tiny

passageways clogged with mud and silt. That journey takes a healthy -- and skilled -- Navy SEAL diver about six hours.

Officials said they would attempt to train the boys to use crucial diving gear after they are rehabilitated with food, water and medical support.

Could they be dug out?

Explorers have spent days scouring the mountain top for possible alternative openings. They have found a few "promising" leads and have tried to drill deeper.

But there is no indication

that any of those chimneys connect to the chamber where the boys have been stranded.

What about walking out?

This would be the safest option, but at the moment it is impossible because parts of the route remain flooded.

So in theory they could wait, but that means hoping that flood waters subside.

Water pumps are working around the clock to drain the floods though it has been an uphill battle for much of the week as heavy rains refused to let up.

If the current break in bad weather sticks, this option could be more promising.

How long could it take?

Hard to say for sure. It depends how long it takes for them to regain strength.

Experts say they could remain inside for weeks -- or even months -- as rescuers work out the safest option for their extraction.

The military said Tuesday it was preparing enough food for four months but did not speculate they could be in there that long.

Bangkok, Thailand | AFP

"How many of you?" asks the British voice loudly, a torchlight scanning the gaunt, hungry boys crowded on a muddy bank. "Thirteen?... Brilliant" -- a remarkable short exchange captured on video has electrified Thailand and paved the way for an astonishing rescue.

The video, which captures the twelve dishevelled and emaciated boys and their football coach sheltering on a slope in the pitch-black belly of a flooded Thai cave, was posted on the official Facebook page of the Thai Navy SEAL early on Tuesday.

Hours later it has been viewed 16 million times.

The footage starts with a touching chorus of "thank you" from the boys, as the rescuers wade through the mucky water towards them.

The figures of the 13 loom eerily in and out of the torchlight, framed by the darkened walls of the cave.

Some have their red football shirts pulled low over bare knees to keep out the cold -- a sign of their unreadiness for nine days in the Tham Luang cave complex.

They look dazed but those who speak appear lucid, despite the long stretch without food.

The conversation continues



The boys were discovered at about 10:00pm (1500 GMT) Monday by British divers some 400 metres (1,300 feet) from where they were believed to be stranded several kilometres inside the cave

with murmurs of Thai as the group confers, punctuated by reassurances from the diver.

- 'You're very strong' -

One boy asks in halting English if they will "go outside".

"No, no, not today... there's two of us, you have to dive... we are coming, it's ok. Many people are coming, many, many people, we are the first... many people come."

The diver raises his fingers to show the group has been underground for ten days, adding "you're very strong".

The diver gives the boys an extra light as the camera jags around and the audio fails, but steadies as one of the boys says "I am very happy."

"We are happy too," the diver adds.

"Thank you so much," say the boys, unfailingly polite despite the urgency of their situation.

They are from the "Wild Boar" football team and the first visual evidence of their survival lit up a country that has followed every permutation of a painstaking rescue that at times looked forlorn with floods rushing through the winding tunnels.

A three-member British team -- Robert Harper, Richard Stanton and John Volanthen -- arrived in Thailand last Wednesday to aid the search.

Two of the Brits reached the boys late Monday, sparking joy in a country that has held its breath throughout the agonising rescue efforts.

It was not immediately clear which diver speaks on camera. The team has avoided media all week, with Volanthen telling reporters only: "We've got a job to do" when he arrived at the site.

Social media in Thailand erupted following the news the boys were alive and safe and "13 lives survive" was the top Thai Twitter hashtag on Tuesday.

"I am almost in tears, you're so brave and tough," Facebook user Pharanya Suntaranusorn wrote under the video.

Elation at the survival of the group was tempered by the reality of a difficult extraction ahead and the possibility of psychological damage from the trauma of being trapped in the dark bowels of a mountain for a prolonged period.

"It's hard to tell (the state of their mental health) from the clip," said Wimonrat Wanpen, spokesperson from the Mental Health Department of the Public Health Ministry.

"Their lives are getting much better after several days of crisis... but whether they will develop trauma depends on many factors."

British divers no stranger to rescues



British diver Richard William Stanton is seen at the Tham Luang cave area

London | United Kingdom

Two British volunteer divers who helped find a youth football team trapped in a cave complex in Thailand have a history of difficult rescues around the world.

Richard Stanton and John Volanthen, who have day jobs as a fireman and internet engineer respectively, negotiated a long and winding path through flooded caverns to find the 12 young boys and their coach nine days after they went missing. "The British divers Rick and John were at the spearhead" of the forward search party, said Bill Whitehouse of the British Cave Rescue Council, an informal grouping of rescue teams around Britain.

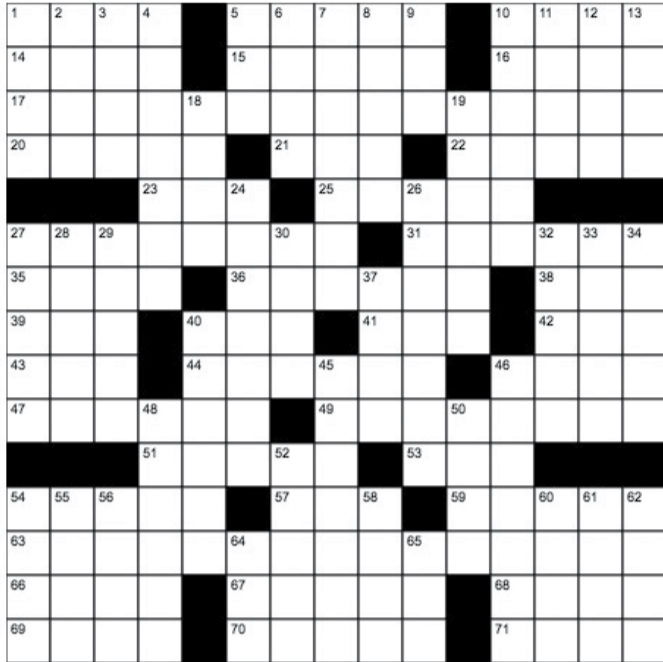
Whitehouse described the difficulties of the search.

"They were diving upstream in the system, so they were having to swim against the current or pull themselves along the walls," he told the BBC.

"I gather the actual diving section was about 1.5km, about half of which was completely flooded," he said, adding that total dive was about 3 hours.

entertainment

CROSSWORD



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



noyance; 49- Goes before; 51- Singer LaBelle; 53- Hightailed it; 54- Clan symbol; 57- From ___ Z; 59- Noted Civil War biography; 63- Direct; 66- Eccentric; 67- Tooth; 68- Years in old Rome; 69- Chamber workers: Abbr.; 70- ___ evil...; 71- ___ majesty;

Down

1- Hustles; 2- Buck follower; 3- Web address starter; 4- Not anywhere; 5- D-Day craft; 6- Horton Hears ___; 7- One who plays the long-necked guitar; 8- Pays to play; 9- D.C. advisory grp.; 10- Bring forward; 11- One who has something coming?; 12- Part of A.D.; 13- Panhandles; 18- Woe ___!; 19- Almost; 24- Small, sassy woman; 26- Power plug transformer; 27- Big name in copiers; 28- "Fear of Flying" author Jong; 29- Triumphant cries; 30- Work the soil; 32- Chilly; 33- Actress Oberon; 34- Sensitive spots; 37- Customer; 40- Italian sausage; 45- Saliva; 46- Subscription continuation; 48- Talks; 50- Singer Vikki; 52- Lake in the Sierra Nevada; 54- Sounds of disapproval; 55- Oklahoma Indian; 56- 1982 Disney film; 58- In the blink ___ eye; 60- Alley; 61- Sea birds; 62- "What I Am" singer Brickell; 64- Baseball execs; 65- Acapulco gold;

Across

1- "All the Way" lyricist Sammy; 5- Father of Leah and Rachel; 10- Captain of the Pequod; 14- ___ take arms against...; 15- Graceful birds; 16- Sandy tract; 17- In spite of; 20- Second-year students, for short; 21- Sugar suffix; 22- Continental cash; 23- 911 respondent; 25- Sir ___ Newton was an English mathematician; 27- Falls back; 31- Visions; 35- Dies ___; 36- Established procedure; 38- Summer sign; 39- EL___ (Spanish hero); 40- Letters on a Cardinal's cap; 41- Engage in espionage; 42- Watchdog warning; 43- Andean tuber; 44- Ready to go; 46- Irritate; 47- An-

BEETLE BAILEY



WORD OF THE DAY

Regardless

Definition

1: despite everything

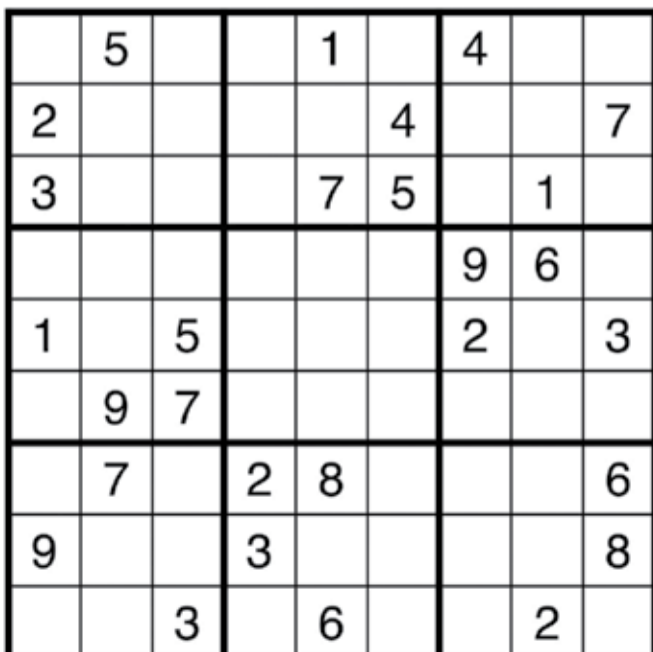
Did You Know?

Regardless is rather simply derived from the noun regard (meaning "attention" or

"concern") plus -less—nothing too shocking about that. But poor regardless became embroiled in a usage scandal through no fault of its own when people began using regardless as its synonym (probably blending irrespective and regardless). Irregardless originated in dialectal American speech in

the early 20th century, and usage commentators have been decrying it since the 1920s, often declaring "there is no such word." Irregardless does exist, of course, but it tends to be used primarily in speech and it is still considered non-standard. Regardless is preferred.

SUDOKU



YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



How to play

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

YOUR STAR TODAY



Aries

Suddenly things are coming to a head for you. The drama is escalating and you aren't sure if you can remember all your lines. Take things one step at a time. Deal with the issues as they come. If you get ahead of yourself, you might be overwhelmed by what you fear will be a more daunting situation than you can handle.



Taurus

A great deal of attention will centre on your emotions today, although being centred in and of itself will be quite the challenge. You may feel like a yo-yo at the mercy of someone else's hand. Don't fall prey to victimization.



Gemini

Maintaining equilibrium might not be the easiest task today, but if anyone can do it, you can. You may find that others' strong opinions are cropping up and challenging your ego. You have a great deal of ammunition in your arsenal. You'll find that you can learn quite a bit by accepting this challenge.



Cancer

Desire is the name of the game for you today. If you want it, you can get it, but it won't come easily. The prize will go to the person who desires it the most. Show the people around you how much you can accomplish. You'll impress others with your incredible drive and determination.



Leo

Today will be like playing a game on your home field. You have fans out there supporting you and you know the territory. Take advantage of the little things that you have going for you. There is a dramatic force at work that may be erratic but extremely powerful as long as you can maintain control.



Virgo

Enlist the help of others today. You'll find that information exchange is the key to putting the last few puzzle pieces into place. Doing things on your own is important and necessary. At some point you need to realize that the next major step requires a certain amount of input from others.



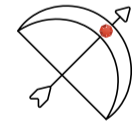
Libra

This is an excellent day for you, so live it up! Your ego is strong, and beautiful things are flowing your way in general. You should enjoy a good mood that will attract favourable people and situations. There is virtually no limit to the expansiveness of this day.



Scorpio

Your emotions may be a bit erratic. It could be hard for you to focus on anything today. Things continue to shift from one topic to the next with little resolution of any. Others aren't apt to be very sympathetic to your feelings, so don't expect them to be. You'll only be setting yourself up for disappointment.



Sagittarius

There is an extra blast of wind to fill your sails today, so make sure you've got both hands on the steering wheel. Whichever way your rudder is pointed is the direction you'll go. Once you get on your course, it will be difficult for you to readjust your position, so make sure that your compass is properly set.



Capricorn

The day's energy is erratic and you're apt to jump all over the place. Don't worry about trying to firm up any plans at this time. You may feel like you're trying to grab a slippery fish with butter on your hands. If this is the case, don't worry about it. Let the fish swim away for now and relax.



Aquarius

Get up and get going today. You have no time to lose. Your quick mind will be busy working on many tasks, but this suits you just fine. You're well equipped to deal with the many frantic situations that are apt to crop up. There is a great deal of strength to your emotions that you can use to connect with others and communicate your thoughts in a healthy manner.



Pisces

Your heart may experience some wild fluctuations today. It may seem as if your emotions are on a runaway train with no track. If so, the best thing to do is sit by yourself and write. Compose a letter, song, or journal entry. You'll find that you're much less confused than you thought. When in doubt, consult someone you love and trust. Go with your instincts.

show

OCEAN'S EIGHT

(PG-15) (COMEDY/CRIME) NEW
SANDRA BULLOCK, CATE BLANCHETT,
ANNE HATHAWAYCINECO (20) (ATMOS): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30
+ 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN DAILY AT (VIP I):
10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM
DAILY AT: (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (II) (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00
+ 11.30 PMSAAR 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 +
11.15 PMWADI AL SAIL 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30
+ 11.45 PM

SICARIO: DAY OF THE SOLDADO

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME/THRILLER) NEW
JOSH BROLIN, BENICIO DEL TORO, ISABELA
MONERCINECO (20) DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15
+ 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN + 1.00 AM
THURS/FRI) (VIP II): 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 +
6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PMSEEF (II) 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30
PM + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)SAAR 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 +
11.30 PMWADI AL SAIL 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 +
8.45 + 11.15 PM

SANJU

(PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY) NEW
RANBIR KAPOOR, SONAM KAPOOR, PARESH
RAWALCINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 +
11.30 PM

SEEF (II) (12.30 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 29TH: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30
+ 11.30 PM

SAAR 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00

WADI AL SAIL 29TH: 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 +
8.15 + 11.15 PM

THE ESCAPE PLAN 2: HADES

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER) NEW
SYLVESTER STALLONE, DAVE BAUTISTA,
XIAOMING HUANGCINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 +
7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN THURS/
FRI)

SEEF (II) (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 +
9.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR 9.00 + 11.15 PM

WADI AL SAIL 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15
+ 11.30 PM

KARMA

(PG-15) (ARABIC/DRAMA/THRILLER) NEW
AMR SAAD, GHADA ABDEL RAZEK, ZEINA,
SARA AL-TUNSI, KHALED AL-SAWY

CINECO (20) 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30

SEEF (II) 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM

SGT. STUBBY: AN AMERICAN HERO

(PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE) NEW
HELENA BONHAM CARTER, LOGAN LERMAN,
GERARD DEPARDIEU

CINECO (20) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 PM

SEEF (II) 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 2.45 + 4.45 PM

BOOK CLUB

(18+) (COMEDY/ROMANTIC) NEW
DIANE KEATON, JANE FONDA, CANDICE
BERGEN

CINECO (20) 2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (II) 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

JURASSIC WORLD: FALLEN KINGDOM

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/THRILLER/
SCI-FICTION)BRYCE DALLAS HOWARD, CHRIS PRATT, JEFF
GOLDBLUMCINECO (20) (IMAX 3D): 2.30 + 7.45 PM + (1.00
AM THURS/FRI) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 +
3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MNSEEF (II) (3D): 11.30 AM + 4.45 + 10.00 PM +
(12.45 MN THURS/FRI)SEEF (I) 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15
PM + 12.00 MNWADI AL SAIL 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 +
11.30 PM

THE INCREDIBLES 2

(PG) (ANIMATION/ACTION/ADVENTURE)
CRAIG T. NELSON, SAMUEL L. JACKSON,
CATHERINE KEENERCINECO (20) 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 +
9.00 + 11.30 PM (IMAX 2D): 12.00 + 5.15 + 10.30
PM (3D): 12.00 + 2.30 + 5.00 + 7.30 + 10.00 PMSEEF (II) 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 +
11.00 PM (3D): 2.15 + 7.30

SAAR 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 +
8.30 + 11.00 PM

DEADPOOL 2

(15+) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
RYAN REYNOLDS, JOSH BROLIN, MORENA
BACCARINCINECO (20) 10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 +
8.45 + 11.15 PMSEEF (II) 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 +
11.45 PM

AL ABLA TAMTAM

(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)
YASMIN ABDULAZIZ, HAMDI ALMIRGHANI,
BAYOUMI FOUADCINECO (20) 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 +
7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PMSEEF (II) 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30
+ 8.30 + 10.30 PM

RACE 3

(PG-15) (HINDI/ACTION/CRIME)
SALMAN KHAN, ANIL KAPOOR,
JACQUELINE FERMANDEZCINECO (20) 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 +
11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 2.30 + 7.30 PM

HEREDITARY

(18+) (THRILLER/HORROR)
TONI COLLETTE, GABRIEL BYRNE, ALEX WOLFFCINECO (20) 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 +
8.30 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (II) 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM

RAMPAGE

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION)
DWAYNE JOHNSON, JEFFREY DEAN MORGAN,
WILL YUN LEE

CINECO (20) 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00

+ 11.15 PM

LIELAT HANA WA SROUR

(PG-15) (ARABIC/THRILLER)
MOHAMMED IMAM, YASMINE SABRY,
FAROUK AL FISHAWY, BAYOUMI FOUAD

CINECO (20) 7.00 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30
+ 10.45 PM

ADRIFT

(PG-15) (DRAMA/ROMANTIC)
SHAILENE WOODLEY, SAM CLAFLIN,
JEFFREY THOMAS

CINECO (20) 10.45 AM + 2.45 + 6.45 + 10.45

SEEF (II) 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 5.30 + 10.30 PM

BEIRUT (HIGH WIRE ACT)

(15+) (THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW
ROSAMUND PIKE, JON HAMM, MARK
PELLEGRINO

CINECO (20) 4.45 + 9.15 PM

HOTEL ARTEMIS

(15+) (ACTION/CRIME)
JODIE FOSTER, STERLING K. BROWN, SOFIA
BOUTELLA

CINECO (20) 12.45 + 4.45 + 8.45 PM

AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
KAREN GILLAN, ROBERT DOWNEY JR.,
TOM HOLLANDCINECO (20) 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 +
11.00 PM

LIFE OF THE PARTY

(15+) (COMEDY)
MELISSA MCCARTHY, GILLIAN JACOBS, JULIE
BOWEN

CINECO (20) 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM

8-BLOOD MONEY

(15+) (THRILLER) NEW
JOHN CUSACK, ELLAR COLTRANE,
WILLA FITZGERALD

SEEF (II) 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM

THE LITTLE WITCH

(PG) (COMEDY/DRAMA/FAMILY)
KAROLINE HERFURTH, AXEL PRAHL,
LUIS VORBACH

SEEF (II) 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 PM

KUTTANPILLAYUDE SIVARATHRI

(MALAYALAM) NEW
SURAJ VENJARAMOODU, ASHAMADATHIL,
MITHUN

SEEF (I) 2.00 + 7.00 PM + 12.00 MN

AL HAMRA 28TH: 12.00 + 3.00 + 9.00 PM FROM
FRIDAY 29TH: 3.00 + 9.00 PM

ABRAHAMS SANTHATHIKAL

(MALAYALAM)
MAMMOOTTY, KANIKA, TARUSHI

SEEF (I) 11.30 AM + 4.30 + 9.30 PM

AL HAMRA 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

ASURAVADHAM

(TAMIL) NEW
K. SASIKUMAR, NANDITHA SWETHA

AL HAMRA 29TH: 12.00 NOON

'I love playing a congenial doofus'

IANS | Los Angeles

Actor Jon Hamm says he likes to take up roles where he can be a "congenial doofus".

"I love playing a congenial doofus, which has been made abundantly clear in my comedy career," Hamm said in a statement.

"But what I really like about 'Tag' is that it is based on a true story about a group of friends who genuinely love being in each other's life.

"I have a very close set of friends that I feel the same way about, which inspires me. By playing this silly children's game, the film's characters stay in touch with one another. I really connected with that idea."



Hamm had a hard time getting roles because many said he looked too old for his age

The film follows the life of a group of friends, now in their forties, who have been playing the same game of tag since they were nine. The Warner Bros Pictures project is releasing in India on Friday.



Jon Hamm

Roberto Aramayo set to star in Craig Roberts' 'Eternal Beauty'

IANS | London

Actor Robert Aramayo, best known for playing young Ned Stark in "Game of Thrones", is set to star in Craig Roberts' upcoming romantic drama "Eternal Beauty".

Aramayo will join an ensemble that includes Sally Hawkins, David Thewlis, Billie Piper, Penelope Wilton, and Alice Lowe, reports variety.com.

The film follows Jane (Hawkins), who breaks down after being left at the altar and eventually spirals into a world of chaos between her own imagination and reality.



Robert Aramayo

Roberts will write and direct the project, which is currently filming in Wales.

This is Roberts' sophomore feature following his 2015 award-winning directorial debut "Just Jim".

Aramayo just finished filming back-to-back features -- Henry Dunham's "Incident at Sparrow Creek Lumber" and "Love Comes Later" with Cynthia Nixon.

Last year, Roberto Aramayo was seen in Tom Ford's critically acclaimed feature "Nocturnal Animals" opposite Amy Adams, Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Shannon and Aaron Taylor-Johnson.

NAME CHANGE

I,NABEEL S/o ABDULLA ACHIPRAVALAPPIL, holding Indian Passport No. K3495876, Dated on 02.05.2012 issued at BAHRAIN, having permanent residence at VAKKATEYIL HOUSE, KANJIRAMUKKU P.O, MALAPPURAM (DT), KERALA presently residing at FLAT 21, BLDG .685, ROAD 3519, BLOCK 335 MANAMA, BAHRAIN will henceforth be known as (Given Name) NABEEL ABDULLA (Surname) ACHIPRAVALAPPIL. Objection(s), if any, may be forwarded to Embassy of india, P.O Box No 26106, Bldg.1090, Road 2819, Block 428, Al Seef, Bahrain

Lilly hints at working with Brie

PTI | Los Angeles

Evangeline Lilly has hinted that she and Brie Larson will share screen space in the much-awaited 'Avengers 4'. Lilly, who will debut as The Wasp in the upcoming 'Ant-Man and the Wasp', said she developed a good equation with the Oscar winner while working together on the sets of the 'Infinity War' follow-up.

Larson will portray the character of Carol Danvers / Captain Marvel, a



Evangeline Lilly

US Air Force pilot whose DNA is fused with that of an alien during an accident, which imbues her with the powers of super-human strength, energy

“When I was working on Avengers, I got to know Brie Larson pretty well, or as much as you can on a film, and her and I talked about it,” Lilly told.

projection, and flight. “When I was working on Avengers, I got to know Brie Larson pretty well, or as much as you can on a film, and her and I talked about it,” Lilly told.

Weinstein indicted on additional charges

IANS | New York

Disgraced movie mogul Harvey Weinstein has been indicted on three additional felony sex charges, two of which carry the potential of life in prison.

Weinstein is already



Harvey Weinstein

facing three sex crime charges, concerning allegations involving two women. The Manhattan District Attorney's office announced on Monday that Weinstein now faces charges involving a third woman, reports variety.com.

'Greyhound' has a new release date

ANI | London

The release of the World War II drama 'Greyhound' starring Tom Hanks has been postponed to March 2019.

Reportedly, the makers has pushed the release date of the film from February 8 to March 22 next year. Helmed by Aaron Schneider, the film is based on C.S. Forester's



Tom Hanks

novel, 'The Good Shepherd'. The movie features Hanks as Capt. Ernest

Krause, the commanding officer of a Navy destroyer. Hanks' co-stars include Elisabeth Shue, Rob Morgan and Stephen Graham.

Tom Hanks and Gary Goetzman, are producing, the film will be funded by Sony Pictures Worldwide Acquisitions, Bron Creative, Sycamore Pictures and Zhengfu Pictures.



Bahrain is a dream destination: Luan

TDT | Manama

Luan Santiago, the former lightweight title contender has announced his intentions to return to Brave Combat Federation after his injury.

Santiago had competed in every edition of the event hosted in Brazil. He had recently competed in the main event of Brave 11 hosted in Belo Horizonte, where he faced Lucas Martins. In the final seconds of the fifth round, he faced a TKO defeat due to an injury that occurred during the take-down. Santiago revealed his intentions to compete in Bahrain post his recovery.

"I am thoroughly happy with the way Brave has been growing and carving space in Brazilian MMA and in our so-



Luan Santiago

ciety in general. Brave is one of the pinnacles of the sport and is fast becoming a dream destination for Brazilian fighters. Bahrain is a dream of mine. I would love to be a part of the International Combat Week one day as I hear great things about the way the event takes over Bahrain. However, I feel this isn't the right time yet. Brave is different for their treatment of the fighters. They go all in on making sure we're comfortable and really care for us. We feel valued with Brave, which is different from some of the other events that try to monopolise the sport. I want to grow together with Brave and become the best in the world," said Santiago.



Bahrain is a dream of mine. I would love to be a part of the International Combat Week one day as I hear great things about the way the event takes over Bahrain

LUAN SANTIAGO

Azaitar expected to make his return at Brave 14

Azaitar is the first champion to have been crowned from Morocco

TDT | Manama

Brave Combat Federation will be hosting the fourteenth edition of the event in Tangier, Morocco on 18th August, 2018.

Ottman Azaitar is the first champion to have been crowned from the Kingdom of Morocco.

Azaitar have last appeared in Brave 9: The Kingdom of Champions hosted in Bahrain during the 2017 Brave Interna-

tional Combat Week.

Azaitar faced Alejandro Martinez from Mexico for the lightweight championship. Azaitar won the bout by TKO to be crowned the first lightweight champion by His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

During the event in Morocco, Azaitar is expected to return to compete and to defend his championship.

Azaitar and Carlston Harris are yet to defend their championship in the promotion.

This will also mark Azaitar as the first champion to defend his championship title in Africa. Brave 14 marks the first time a global MMA event is hosted in Africa.

Cris Cyborg compares Brave CF to Pride FC

TDT | Manama

Cris Cyborg, the reigning UFC Women's Featherweight Champion compared Brave Combat Federation with Pride FC. Pride FC was one of the greatest MMA organisations of all time.

In the world of combat sports the era of Pride FC is compared to be the Golden Age of MMA. Some of the best fights of all time took place in Pride. Cyborg had been supporting Brave Combat Federation from the early days and made her presence felt during Brave 4: Unstoppable hosted in Abu Dhabi, UAE. Cyborg also became a celebrity commentator during the show.

"Brave Combat Federation reminds me of the days of Pride FC. The level of compe-



Cris Cyborg

tion and tough fighters make the event extremely entertaining and memorable. The fights and action brought forward by Brave is changing the sport of mixed martial arts," said Cris Cyborg.

Nadal kills curse of 100

Rafael Nadal beats Israel's Dudi Sela, enters Wimbledon second round

AFP | London

World number one Rafael Nadal breezed into the Wimbledon second round yesterday with a 6-3, 6-3, 6-2 win over Israel's Dudi Sela as the Spaniard returned to action for the first time since claiming his 11th French Open title.

Nadal, the Wimbledon champion in 2008 and 2010, also managed to avoid falling victim to a player ranked outside the world top 100 for what would have been the fifth time in his last six visits to the All England Club.

"It's great always to play here in Wimbledon, especially on Centre Court," said Nadal after seeing off world number 127 Sela. "I'm just happy to be through of course and yes, this match gives me positive feelings. There's still room to improve but after a while without playing on grass, of course it's very important to start with a straight sets victory."

Nadal, the 17-time major winner, has not got past the fourth round since finishing runner-up to Novak Djokovic in 2011.

Argentine fifth seed Juan



Spain's Rafael Nadal celebrates winning a game

Martin del Potro made it nine first round wins in nine appearances at the tournament, breezing past Germany's Peter Gojowczyk 6-3, 6-4, 6-3.

Del Potro, who made the semi-finals in 2013, next faces Feliciano Lopez of Spain who on Tuesday set a record of playing 66 consecutive Grand Slams when he eased past Federico Delbonis of Argentina 6-3, 6-4, 6-2. Left-handed Lopez made

his debut at the majors at the 2001 French Open.

Yesterday, the 36-year-old broke the record for straight Slams which was previously held by Roger Federer.

"When I was about to break the record, I thought, wow, I'm going to beat Federer at something!" joked the 70th-ranked Lopez who has lost all 13 matches he has played against Federer in his career.



Rafael Nadal is the sixth player in the Open Era to reach more than 100 finals on the ATP World Tour

German fourth seed Alexander Zverev eased past world number 748 James Duckworth of Australia 7-5, 6-2, 6-0.

Zverev, who made the last 16 in 2017, goes on to face Taylor Fritz of the United States.

Spain's Garbine Muguruza opened her title defence with a 6-2, 7-5 win over British wild card Naomi Broady.

Muguruza is bidding to reach her third Wimbledon final after winning last year's title match against Venus Williams and losing the 2015 showpiece against Serena Williams.

Australia's Finch revels in record

AFP | Harare

Australia captain Aaron Finch revelled in his record-breaking innings against Zimbabwe, saying it was "up there" as one of the best innings he has ever played.

Finch powered his way to 172, beating his own world record high score in Twenty20 Internationals.

Finch and fellow opener D'Arcy Short put on 223, another world record.

Australia reached 229 for two, the highest total ever scored against Zimbabwe in a T20 international as a slew of records were broken during Australia's 100-run victory.

"It's nice to break my own record," said Finch. "Satis-



Aaron Finch plays a shot

fy. It's something that I'll look back on when I've finished playing and be really proud of."

Finch cracked his first six in the fourth over of the morning,

Scorecard

Australia 229 for 2 (Finch 172, Short 46) beat Zimbabwe 129 for 9 (Tye 3-12, Agar 2-16) by 100 runs

and with his third he brought up a 22-ball half century - his fastest in Twenty20 internationals.

Australia took 75 from the Powerplay, with Finch doing the bulk of the scoring while fellow opener D'Arcy Short was content to turn the strike over to his big-hitting partner.

Finch brought up his second T20I hundred at the end of the 14th over, taking just 50 deliveries.

Terenzo Bozzone seriously injured



Terenzo Bozzone

Stuff | Kumeu

Triathlete and Ironman champion Terenzo Bozzone has been seriously injured after being hit by a truck.

Bozzone was cycling on Waitakere Rd in Kumeu, in Auckland's northwest, when he was hit just after 2pm yesterday.

A witness who was first on the scene said they saw the truck pull over on the side of the road, then drive off at speed.

"When the truck drove off I saw a man lying on the road. I jumped out to help him; he was semi-conscious and his bike was in two pieces."

The witness realised the cyclist was Bozzone after his father showed up at the scene.

"I left as the paramedics were loading [Bozzone] into the ambulance. He was conscious but seemed to be in a lot of pain."

A St John Ambulance spokeswoman said a person had been taken from the scene of the crash to Auckland City Hospital in a serious condition.

An Instagram post uploaded to Bozzone's account yesterday evening said the athlete was in the emergency department.

Kuldeep, Rahul lift India to victory

AFP | Manchester

Kuldeep Yadav claimed his maiden Twenty20 international five-wicket haul and KL Rahul struck his second century in the format as India began their tour of England with an impressive eight-wicket victory at Old Trafford yesterday.

Left-arm spinner Yadav finished with 5-24 as England were restricted to 159-8 after they collapsed from 94-1 following India skipper Virat Kohli's decision to insert the hosts at the toss.

Jos Buttler was the only England batsman to cause the India attack any trouble on his way to 69 from 46 balls before he also fell victim to the beguiling spin of Yadav.

India then confidently chased down the total in 18.2 overs as Rahul -- dropped on 17 by Jason Roy -- mixed finesse with some

Scorecard

India 163 for 2 (Rahul 101*) beat 159 for 8 (Buttler 69, Kuldeep 5-24) by eight wickets



India's Kannanur Lokesh Rahul plays a shot

brutal hitting as he whacked five sixes and 10 fours en route to an unbeaten 101 off 54 balls.

England's form in ODI cricket has seen them climb to number one in the world in that format, but their T20 side remains a work in progress.

After they whitewashed Australia 5-0 in their ODI series and won the only T20, hopes were high against India.

However, their explosive top order toiled against Yadav which will be of particular concern for the respective limited overs and Test challenges ahead

during the remainder of the English summer.

India removed England's Jason Roy in the fifth over when he mistimed a pull shot off seamer Umesh Yadav (2-21) through midwicket and ended up chopping on to his stumps for a 20-ball 30.

Swedes end 24 year wait

Forsberg scores the winner in the 66th minute

● **Emil Forsberg ousts Switzerland and sends Sweden into World Cup last eight**

● **Sweden advances to a World Cup quarterfinal for the first time since 1994**

AFP | Saint Petersburg

Sweden reached the World Cup quarter-finals for the first time in 24 years after Emil Forsberg's deflected shot earned a scrappy 1-0 win over Switzerland yesterday.

Switzerland's Michael Lang was sent off in injury-time for a last-ditch push on Martin Olsson and referee Damir Skomina downgraded his penalty to a free-kick on the edge of the area. But the game was already up.

Forsberg's second-half strike, which deflected off the unfortunate Manuel Akanji, means Sweden are through to the World Cup last eight for the first time since 1994 in the United States.

Their route to the quarters has not been easy and, what they have lost in the individual brilliance of Zlatan Ibrahimovic, they appear to have gained in grit, determination and collective spirit.

Their next opponents would be foolish to take them lightly.

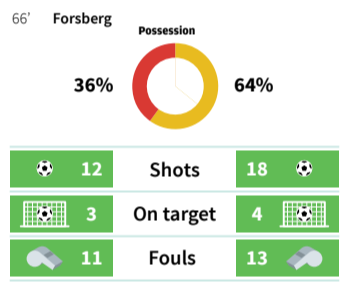
The one blemish on the victory was a yellow card for defender Mikael Lustig, who will now be suspended for the quarter-final in Samara on Saturday.



It was a surreal feeling to stand at the side of pitch hearing fans calling out my name, but football is a team sport and this team, for me, personifies that

SWEDEN COACH JANNE ANDERSSON

SWEDEN 1 0 SWITZERLAND



Both sides had been hampered by suspensions here too, with Switzerland more badly affected. They were without both Fabian Schaer and captain Stephan Lichtsteiner at the back, prompting Johan Djourou and Lang to come in.

For Sweden, Gustav Svensson replaced Sebastian Larsson in midfield.

After back-to-back penalty shoot-outs, Brazil versus Mexico and Belgium's pulsating comeback against Japan, there was always a danger this last-16 tie would struggle to deliver, even on low expectations.

It was a contest that lacked quality, particularly in the final third, where both teams were often painfully imprecise.

Victor Lindelof slipped on the ball in the first 10 seconds and that set the tone for the first half, which was largely a collection of mishit passes, heavy touches and skewed shots.

There were chances and Sweden had most of them. Marcus Berg blasted over when set free early on and then saw his finish blocked following a poor clearance by Swiss goalkeeper Yann Sommer.

After a slow start, and Lustig's foul on Josip Drmic, Switzerland grew in confidence and should have scored when Blerim Dzemaili snatched at Steven Zuber's pull-back.

At the other end, Albin Ekdal was even closer, and completely free, when he sidefooted Lustig's cross over.

Rather than let loose, both teams tightened after the interval, and Forsberg's goal came out of the blue. With space on the edge of the box, his dummy did for Granit Xhaka before the shot was helped in by the out-

What next?

Sweden will face England in the quarter-finals

Quarter final
Quarter-final match-ups

July 6
At Nizhny Novgorod
Uruguay v France
At Kazan
Brazil v Belgium

July 7
At Sochi
Russia v Croatia
At Samara
Sweden v England

stretched foot of Akanji. Switzerland twice went close to grabbing an equaliser, as Djourou's header dribbled agonisingly across the goal-line and substitute Haris Seferovic drew a late save from close range.



Switzerland's midfielder Gelson Fernandes (L) comforts defender Manuel Akanji

WORLD CUP PREDICT AND WIN lucky winner is Francis Pereira. Winner will be contacted

Real Madrid deny Neymar bid

AFP | Madrid

Real Madrid have denied a report that they have offered a world-record 310 million euros (\$360.59 million) for Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) forward Neymar.

Spanish television channel TVE reported on Monday that the Champions League winners had submitted the bid for the player who left Barcelona last year for a record 222 million euros.

"In light of information broadcast tonight by TVE regarding an alleged Real Madrid offer to PSG and their player Neymar, Real Madrid C. F. wishes to state that this information is absolutely untrue," the club said in statement on their website.

"Real Madrid has made no offer of any kind to PSG or the player."

Ronaldo-to-Juventus rumours heating up

ESPN | Madrid

Rumours of a potential transfer that would send Cristiano Ronaldo from Real Madrid to Italian champions Juventus led the front pages of multiple daily sport newspapers in Europe on Tuesday.

Marca in Spain and A Bola in Ronaldo's native Portugal were discussing a report on Spanish TV station La Sexta's "Jugones" show on Monday night that claimed Real Madrid had agreed to sell Ronaldo to Juventus for 100 million euros.

The newspapers cited the TV report in their own discussions of a po-



Cristiano Ronaldo

tential transfer, but did not confirm the claim that the deal has already been agreed.

Meanwhile, the story on the front of Italy's Tuttosport on

Tuesday said Juventus are still preparing an offer of nearly 120m euros for Ronaldo.

Sources told ESPN Deportes' Paola Nunez that the "Jugones"

story means that Real Madrid are at least considering the possibility of negotiations with Juventus.

Spanish newspaper AS reported that Ronaldo's camp had confirmed the existence of an offer from Juventus -- and that more could follow in the coming days -- but insisted that no deal was completed.

Juventus CEO Giuseppe Marotta met with Ronaldo's agent Jorge Mendes last week while finalising the signing of another client, Portugal full-back Joao Cancelo.

Any transfer would still require Ronaldo to agree personal terms on a new contract. The "Jugones" report said Juventus would offer to make Ronaldo the highest-paid player in their history at 30m euros a year.

Lions break the jinx

AFP | Moscow

England edged Colombia 4-3 on penalties to halt a run of five successive shootout defeats at major tournaments and book a quarter-final clash against Sweden at the World Cup.

Harry Kane fired England ahead with his tournament-leading sixth goal just before the hour in Moscow, converting a penalty after he was hauled down by Carlos Sanchez at a corner.

Gareth Southgate's team looked to be heading into the last eight in regulation time until Yerry Mina equalised with a 93rd-minute header as the giant Colombian defender scored for the third game in a row.

Neither team could find an advantage in extra-time and so a bad-tempered match went to a nailbiting penalty shootout.

David Ospina dived superbly to his left to repel Jordan Henderson's third penalty for England, but Manuel Uribe hit the crossbar before Jordan Pickford saved from Carlos Bacca.

Eric Dier drilled home the decisive spot-kick as England won for just the second time in eight penalty shootouts and reached the quarter-finals for the first time since 2006.

Colombia were dealt a huge blow before kick-off as James Rodriguez failed to shake off a calf injury, the Bayern Munich midfielder not even fit

enough for a place on the bench.

The 26-year-old was the Golden Boot winner with six goals in Brazil four years ago, when Colombia reached the quarter-finals for the first time.

Kane, Raheem Sterling and Dele Alli were among nine players recalled for England after Gareth Southgate rested the majority of his first-choice side for their final group game against Belgium.

Kane scored a combined five goals in the wins over Tunisia and Panama, and the Tottenham striker went close when his looping header back across goal landed on the roof of the net.

Sterling then did well to spin past the imposing Davinson Sanchez although his left-footed strike was charged down, while Kieran Trippier curled wide from a free-kick.

Wilmar Barrios was booked for leaning his head into the chest of Jordan Henderson as the game grew into an increasingly fiery affair.

Pickford made his first save from a fizzing long-range effort from Juan Fernando Quintero, while Jesse Lingard sliced over after Colombia half-cleared a cross.



Harry Kane celebrates

COLOMBIA 1 1 ENGLAND

Penalty shootout **3 4**

90+3' Mina 57' (pen) Kane

Possession



14	Shots	16
4	On target	2
23	Fouls	13

England's players celebrate winning the penalty shootout

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