

**Cardi B splits with husband**

Rapper Cardi B announced on Wednesday she is seeking a divorce from her husband Offset after just over a year of marriage, saying "I guess we just grew out of love." | P13

**Artist revives Lebanon's abandoned historic buildings**

THE DAILY **tribune**

**Five missing after two US jets crash**

**School issues swine flu alert to parents**

TDT | Manama

A private school in Bahrain has sent text messages alerting parents to take precautionary measures against swine flu or H1N1 as a case was detected.

The letter, according to parents, urges them to look out for any symptoms and see a paediatrician, if necessary.

The message showed that these symptoms are the same as normal "flu symptoms, high temperature".

The school administration asked parents to test swabs at the American Mission Hospital or King Hamad Hospital if their children were suffering from flu-like symptoms.

Meanwhile, sources at the school said the letter is to inform parents and there is no cause for alarm.

The school assured that it is taking action to minimise any spread of infection.

The virus is mild and passes within a few days, however, people with weak immune systems are at higher risks. Visiting a doctor is, therefore, a preventive measure.

**UN-backed Yemen talks open in Sweden**

TDT, Al Arabia | Manama

Peace talks between the Yemeni government and Houthi militias opened yesterday in Stockholm, Sweden which is slated to last for one week.

Opening the talks at a castle in Rimbo, a town north of Stockholm, Sweden's foreign minister, Margot Wallstrom, wished the Yemen adversaries strength to find "compromise and courage" as they embark on the difficult task ahead.

"Now it is up to you, the Yemeni parties," she said. "You have the command of your future."

The UN envoy for Yemen Martin Griffiths said the coming days were a milestone and urged the parties not to "waver... let us



Swedish Foreign minister Margot Wallstrom (L) and UN special envoy to Yemen Martin Griffiths attend the opening press conference of the Yemeni peace talks at Johannesberg castle in Rimbo, Sweden

work in good faith ... to deliver a message of peace."

"There is a way we can resolve

the conflict," Griffiths said, adding that the Security Council was "united" in its support for a

resolution to the conflict. Griffiths added that he is grateful for the role that Saudi Arabia played in supporting the Yemeni peace talks.

"I'm also pleased to announce the signing of an agreement on the exchange of prisoners, detainees, the missing, the forcibly detained and individuals placed under house arrest," Griffiths said. "It will allow thousands of families to be reunited, and it is the product of very effective, active work from both delegations."

The government and Houthis on Tuesday said they agreed to a prisoner swap, to be overseen by the International Committee of the Red Cross, after the Sweden talks.

The UN envoy stressed the fact that the peace talks will also discuss several aspects of the Yemeni people's situation including ensuring aid deliverance.

Griffiths added that the possibility of direct meetings between the government and Houthi militias are still being looked into.

Regarding Sanaa's airport, the UN envoy said that they have a proposal to discuss with the conflicting parties of Yemen.

Griffiths also spoke about the priority UN goal being easing the tension in Yemen and then reach a political solution.

Griffiths' plans to host talks in Geneva in September collapsed on the opening day after the rebels refused to leave the Yemeni capital.

**Arab block sans Qatar still strong, says UAE**

TDT, Al Arabia | Manama

The United Arab Emirates yesterday lashed out at Qatar for its support of extremism saying, "The political crisis will end when the cause behind it ends."

Qatar, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash tweeted, should end its support of extremism and its interference in the stability of the region."

Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have repeatedly warned Qatar to stop supporting terrorism in the region.

"The main success of the council is in its economic aspects and the creation of a Gulf common market," UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Anwar Gargash tweeted.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) continues to function despite crisis with Qatar, he said adding that the upcoming summit in Riyadh under the presidency of Oman and despite the Qatari crisis indicates that "the Gulf Cooperation Council carries on."

Saudi Arabia's King Salman Bin Abdulaziz has invited Qatar's Emir to attend the December 9 gathering of heads of states but Doha has not yet said what level of representation it would send.

The message was delivered by Secretary-General of the GCC Dr Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, during a reception by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sultan bin Saad Al Muraikhi.

Bahrain's Foreign Minister Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed Al



Anwar Gargash, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs

Khalifa, in a statement to *Asharq Al-Awsat*, said that the Doha "has burned the return ships."

"There must be a new agree-

ment and a new regime, and Doha should be placed under scrutiny," he said.

"I do not know how Qatar will

“The main success of the council is in its economic aspects and the creation of a Gulf common market”

ANWAR GARGASH

return. It has committed to the enemies of the region, such as Iran, and separated itself from the GCC. We are realistic in dealing with this issue and we don't want to waste more time," he affirmed.

At last year's summit, held in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Bahrain sent ministers or deputy prime ministers.

Promoting interfaith

**Pope to visit United Arab Emirates in February**

Vatican City, Holy See

Pope Francis will visit Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates in February, the Vatican said yesterday.

The pontiff was invited by both Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan and the local Catholic church.

Francis will take part in an international "interfaith" meeting during the trip, which will run from February 3 to 5.



Pope Francis (L) speaks with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas at the end of a private audience at the Vatican

The Vatican said the theme for the Abu Dhabi trip was summed up in the phrase "make me a channel of your peace" -- a quote from Saint Francis of Assisi, the pope's namesake.

The hope was the visit would "spread in a special way the peace of God within the hearts of all people of good will," it said.

"This visit, like the one to Egypt, shows the fundamental importance the Holy Father gives to inter-religious dialogue," spokesman Greg Burke

said. "Pope Francis visiting the Arab world is a perfect example of the culture of encounter," he added.

The UAE prides itself on its religious tolerance and cultural diversity, and most Gulf Arab states have long allowed Christians to worship in churches.

Nearly 80 percent of the population of the UAE is Muslim, while Christians constitute around nine percent, according to the Catholic News Agency.

**Trump fumes over low popularity**

Washington, United States

President Donald Trump says the polls have it all wrong, so on Thursday he calculated his own popularity rating: 75 per cent.

The Republican began reflecting on his approval numbers with an overnight tweet celebrating a new poll that gave him 50pc.

"Working hard, thank you!" he wrote on a tweet featuring a huge "50pc" superimposed over a picture of Trump clapping at a campaign rally.



03 Cos misusing labour law

04 Nov warmer than normal

05 Future looks bright





Interior Minister Lt-General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa with American Jewish Committee (AJC) delegation headed by John Shapiro. The meeting reviewed the current cooperation between the two friendly countries and ways to enhance it.



Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa expressing his condolences on the demise of Vice Admiral Scott Stearney, Commander of US Naval Forces Central Command and the US Fifth Fleet, who recently passed away in the Kingdom of Bahrain. This came during the visit by the minister to the US Ambassador to Bahrain, Justin Siberell, at his residence. The minister extended his sincere condolences to the family of the late V. Admiral Scott Stearney, praising his dedicated efforts to enhance the bilateral relations between Bahrain and the United States.



Foreign Affairs Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa holding talks with American Jewish Committee (AJC) delegation headed by John Shapiro. The minister welcomed the AJC members and stressed the keenness of the Kingdom of Bahrain to bolster cooperation with the US in various fields, for the common interest of the two countries. Regional and international issues of common concern were also discussed during the meeting.

## Capital Council chairman, members take legal oath

TDI | Manama

Capital Municipal Council's Chairman, Saleh Tahaer Mohammed Tarrada, and members took the legal oath yesterday during the council's first meeting held at the Municipalities Affairs headquarters.

Minister of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, Essam Khalaf, Municipalities Affairs' Undersecretary, Dr Nabil Abu Al-Fateh, Assistant Undersecretary for Joint Municipal Services, Wael Al-Mubarak, Director-General of the Capital Municipal Council, Shawqiya Humaidan, Legal Advisor and Works Ministry's officials were present.

Congratulating council's chairman and members, the minister said the oath-taking session augurs a new phase of municipal work in the kingdom to continue the nation-building march under HM the King's National Project.

The minister affirmed unwavering support enjoyed by municipal work from His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier.

He stressed that the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning will harness all its potentials to support the Capital Municipal Council.

## Capital Gov to mark national celebrations

Manama

Capital Governor Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa said the Governorate will organise 12 artistic, cultural and sports activities to mark Bahrain's celebration of the anniversary of the establishment of the modern state of Bahrain. The celebrations mark the establishment of Bahrain as an Arab and Muslim country in 1783 by its founder Ahmed Al-Fateh, the 47th Anniversary of its accession to the UN as a full member and the 18th Anniversary of HM the King's Accession to the Throne.

The Capital Municipal Council Chairman congratulated the Works Minister on his re-appointment to the post, wishing him further success.

Capital Municipal Council's director-general said that the council will develop municipal work, stressing the need for partnership between the executive authorities and the Capital Municipal Council to enhance services and projects in the capital, Manama.

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Chief of Staff of Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Lieutenant General Dhiab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi chaired yesterday the meeting of Isa Royal Military College council which convened in the college building. Discussions focused on issues pertaining to the college development programmes as part of BDF modernisation policy.



The Civil Service Bureau (CSB) employees during Bahraini Women's Day celebration themed "Bahraini women in the legislative and municipal fields". The celebration took place at the CSB premises in coordination with the Supreme Council of Women (SCW). Izzudin Khalil Al-Moayyed, Director of Media and Administrative Affairs at the SCW, held an awareness lecture which shed light on the role of SCW in following up the implementation of its terms of reference, and women's participation in parliamentary elections.

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# Firing them legally

Companies misusing article 110 in the Labour Law No 36/2012 to fire employees, says Labour Union

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

A prominent trade union in the Kingdom yesterday lashed out at companies here for misusing an article in Bahrain's Labour Law to sack employees in an unfair manner and deny them proper compensations.

Urging the government to take strict actions against such practices, Karim Radhi, the General Secretary of the General Federation of Bahrain Trade Unions (GFBTU) told *Tribune* that there is a widespread increase in the number of such cases where the article 110 in the Labour Law No 36/2012 has been misused to lay off workers.

The article, Karim Radhi said, allows companies to downsize in times of financial difficulties but are currently being employed as an 'excuse' to fire employees.



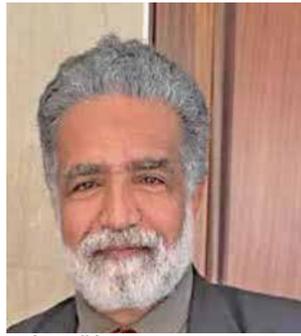
Representative picture (file)

"Many of the companies are making the plea that it is a matter of restructuring or full or partial closure making laid-off workers eligible for the least compensation which is 12 days per service year with a maximum of 6 months salaries," GFBTU said in a statement.

The reality, however, is much

more serious, Radhi told *Tribune*, with GFBTU suspecting a foul play where companies are using layoffs as a pretext to hire cheaper labour or to replace Bahraini workers.

"We have noticed that some companies have done this," Radhi said adding: "The question is whether the companies are real-



Karim Radhi

ly having financial difficulties."

"They fired many but only to move on with expansion plans soon after. They are also using this article to pay workers less compensation," Radhi claimed.

"We know that certain sectors such as the construction industry are having difficult times, but this is not the case with many

other industries that are actually flourishing."

## Calls for strict action

Karim Radhi told *Tribune* that the government should take strict actions against companies employing such practices.

Before taking any mass dismissal action, Radhi said, a company should inform the ministry one month prior and the ministry has to confirm their claims of being in financial turmoil. "Also, if a company goes ahead with expansion plans soon after the dismissals, it must be investigated and retrospective action must be taken. The employees should then be given full compensation for unfair dismissal," he stressed.

Justifying, he further claimed that the companies using article 110 don't even provide a minor evidence to prove their claims of

**”**  
Ministry of labour has an important role to play in investigating the real cause of possible dismissal and whether article 110 is really applicable or it is misused

GFBTU

financial difficulties or production system change that affects the manpower.

"This shows that those companies are purposely dismissing workers to recruit others with less payment and benefits and more obedience, submission and subordination," he claimed.

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## Citi Alumni hosts annual event, presents awards

TDT | Manama

For the sixth year in a row, Citi Bahrain hosted its annual Citi Alumni Network Event at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Atiq Rehman, Middle East and Africa Chief Executive Officer of Citi, CEO for Citi in Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait, Usman Ahmed and other seniors attended the event.

This year, Citi Bahrain presented the 2018 "Citi Distinguished Alumni Award" in Leadership and Ingenuity to Hani Al Maskati. Al Maskati began working at Citi in 1984 and left in 2000 to co-found Zawya in London, the Arab world's first business and finance portal. He currently serves as a Director of Zawya Limited.

The second award presented was the Community Involvement Award. This award is presented to an alumnus who gave a significant contribution to the improvement or enhancement of their community through direct engagement. This year's awardee was Madeeha Al Hulaibi.

# November unsettled, warmer than normal

TDT | Manama

November was slightly warmer than normal this year with the kingdom also experiencing unsettled weather and heavy showers during the month, according to the latest met data.

The month, Bahrain's Meteorological Directorate said, was wet with 5 rainy days, accumulating 29.2 mm of precipitation at Bahrain International Airport and 8 times more than the long-term normal for November which is 3.8 mm.

The highest monthly rainfall ever recorded during November was 146.8 mm which occurred on November 1940, while the highest daily rainfall ever recorded during November was 57.6 mm which occurred on 19th November 2000.

Thunderstorms occurred on 3 days. Unsettled weather affected the kingdom on the 11th of No-

vember producing heavy rain showers with thunderstorm and strong gusts.

Visibility dropped to 800 meters at Bahrain International Airport and gust reached 35 knots. Also, a total precipitation of 33.6 mm fall at Shakir Airbase with gust reached 33 knots on the same day.

The total monthly precipitation recorded for November 2018 at Sitra Island was 37.2 mm whereas the total precipitation at King Fahd Causeway was 34.8 mm, at Durrat Al Bahrain was 19.0 mm and at Shakir Airbase was 45.4 mm.

Light rain was also reported in some areas on the 8th of November. The mean temperature of the month was 24.9 C which is 0.6 C above the long-term normal.

The mean maximum temperature of the month was 27.5 C which is 0.2 C below the long-term normal. The highest tem-

## 32.5c

occurred on 15 November at Bahrain International Airport was the highest temperature of the month

perature recorded during the month was 32.5 C which occurred on the 15th of November at Bahrain International Airport.

The mean minimum temperature of the month was 22.7 C which is 1.5 C above the long-term. The lowest temperature recorded was 18.9 C set on the 30th of November at Bahrain International Airport but recorded 16.3 C on the 29th of November at Durrat Al Bahrain.

The mean relative humidity



Representative picture (courtesy of Daily Express)

for November was 69% whereas the mean maximum relative humidity was 79pc and the mean minimum relative humidity was 56pc.

Northwesterly winds ac-

counted for 34pc with gusts reaching 35 knots on the 11th of November at Bahrain International Airport. But reached 37 knots on the 25th of November at Durrat Al Bahrain.



From right, Anwar Murad - Deputy CEO at Al Salam Bank-Bahrain, Hanan Al Ammadi Director of Administrative and Financial Affairs of the Supreme Council for Women and Muna Al Balooshi - Head of Human Resources and Administration at Al Salam Bank-Bahrain on the occasion of Bahraini Women's Day celebration. The Bank extended its support to the Supreme Council for Women in celebration of Bahraini Women's Day which was held on 3 December at the Manama Municipality building under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.



Wireless Licensing, Frequency & Monitoring team from the Information & eGovernment Authority during a group photo session. The Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA) - presented by the Wireless Licensing, Frequency & Monitoring Directorate - took part at the Bapco Bahrain GT Festival 2018 organised by the Bahrain International Circuit from 30th November to 1st December. Its participation included managing radiocommunication systems, providing and protecting frequencies from harmful interferences. Inset, Hassan Mohamed Hassan - Wireless Licensing, Frequency & Monitoring Director at the Information & eGovernment

## "As One" sweeps Bahraini audience

TDT | Manama

Korean Film Festival began on an emotional note with the screening of 'As One' or Korea, which is a 2012 critically acclaimed production of two female Ping pong players.

The movie which left the Bahraini audience in tears over the sentimental and love-above-all spirit was the official opening film for the Korean Film Festival, now in its 5th edition.

The Film Festival was hosted and organised by the Korean Embassy in Manama.

'As One' portrays the life of two female Ping pong players, one belonging to North Korean National Team and the other to the South Korean National team, who - forced by sudden unexpected circumstances, end up teaming together, regardless of their countries'



The Korean film festival is hosted in Theatre 13, Seef 1 Cineco every Wednesday of the month of December with a free admission and a snack on the third week film, courtesy from the Korean Restaurant "Da Rae Jung".

political situations, to win the Championship.

Over 150 guests and moviegoers attended the opening and Korean embassy distributed free Korean snacks to the audience to enjoy the savoury taste of Spicy Chicken, the Korean style, with the movie.



In pictures, the film festival

The Bahraini audience is promised yet three more movies: the supernatural thriller "Along with the Gods" on 12 December 2018, the comical thriller "Midnight Runners" on 19 December 2018, and the Family romantic comedy-drama "My Brilliant Life" on 26 December 2018.

## Arab reading challenge book fair begins

● The fair at the Education Hall in Isa Town will remain open until Friday

TDT | Manama

Opening up a whole new world of knowledge, Education Minister Majed Al Naimi opened the "Arab Reading Challenge" book fair seeking to inculcate the love of reading in the hearts of young people.

"This fair is part of the efforts exerted by the ministry to continue to achieve honourable results in the important Arab competition, initiated to encourage students in all Arab countries to pay attention to reading," the minister said.

The initiative was launched by His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai.

"The Ministry is particularly



Minister with children during the fair



An interactive session with children during the book fair

keen on participating actively in such leading initiatives and educational programmes across the region and the world," Al Naimi said.

The ministry is seeking to increase the number of public and private school participants in the competition, he added. "We have succeeded over the past editions to increase the number of Bahraini students participating to more than 50,000, of whom 4,570 successfully completed all the requirements that include reading and summarising 50 books."



# Future looks bright in young hands, says Shaikha Hessa

● The honouring ceremony was held at the Royal University for Women campus

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's future is ought to be bright and optimistic, said Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa expressing her confidence in the "powerful potentials" of Kingdom's youth.

Speaking during an award ceremony to honour the victory of Royal University for Women team "TaaWin", the Chairwoman of INJAZ Bahrain said, "With such tangible achievements such as that of TaaWin, Bahrain's future is ought to be bright and optimistic".

"TaaWin" represented Bahrain in the 12th Annual Young Entrepreneurs Competition held in Kuwait and won the 'Product of the Year' award. The winning team members are Alaa Shafei, Fatema Assad, Asma Almulhem, Marwa Haider, Razan Jamal and Maryam Algaoud.

The award was for an innovative book called "RestnGo", a lightweight book that can be converted to a seat, a side table, a footrest or a piece of decoration in public places, houses and offices.

The honouring ceremony was held at the Royal University for Women campus located in West Riffa.

In her address to the students, Chairwoman of INJAZ Bahrain said the Kingdom is honoured to commend the remarkable efforts of the students. "We are extremely proud of where we stand today and looking forward to more success in the future."

"This victory is the fruit of the hard work done by RUW students for the aim of raising the flag of Kingdom of Bahrain high and to emphasise on the high level of performance," said Dr David Stewart, the acting president of the Royal University for Women.

He further stressed that the victory also reflects the empowerment and dedication of our young entrepreneurs who shall indeed place their biggest marks in the field of entrepreneurship.

Dr Stewart highlighted that RUW is the first private university in the Kingdom of Bahrain to achieve the HEC Accreditation.

Moreover, the Royal Univer-

**“**  
We are extremely proud of where we stand today and looking forward for more success in the future

SHAIKHA HESSA BINT KHALIFA AL KHALIFA  
CHAIRWOMAN OF INJAZ BAHRAIN

sity for Women has Won the national competition of INJAZ Bahrain in the category of Best Company - University level for two years in row. Also, it is the only university that represented the Kingdom of Bahrain in the INJAZ Al-Arab Young Entrepreneurs Competition for two years and won the Best Product Award this year 2018.

## Gold medal in Graphic Design

RUW student Sheikha Al-Abbasi received a Gold medal in the Graphic Design Technology Skill at the World Skills Asia Competition held in Abu Dhabi.

Sheikha Al-Abbasi, who is studying her fourth year of graphic design at the College of Arts and Design in the Royal University for Women, was awarded the Gold medal in the adult category.

It was the first Asian skills competition held in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi.



Shaikh Hessa with winners and officials during an honouring ceremony



World Skills Asia Abu Dhabi awards



World Skills Asia awards ceremony held in Abu Dhabi

## Al Noor school honours Quran competition winners

TDT | Manama

Al Noor International School held a ceremony to honour the winners of the "Quran Recitation and Memorising" competition.

Two Hundred and sixty students received prizes under different categories i.e. reciting surah by heart, for best voice and tajweed, during the event held on 28 November 2018.

The Guest of Honour, Dr Rashed Bin Mohammed Al Hazeri, Chairman of Sunni Waqf

Council, Ministry of Justice & Islamic Affairs & Waqf, Sunni Waqf Directorate, Kingdom of Bahrain, handed out the prizes and certificates along with Ali Hasan, the school's Founder Chairman.

Also present were the School Director Dr Muhammad Mas hood, Principal Amin Mohammed Hulaiwah, as well as Head Teachers and staff members.

A total of 4390 students participated in the competition, with 890 reaching the semifinal rounds.



Two Hundred and sixty students received prizes under different categories during the event

WORLD  
world

**Australia, Japan to deepen defence ties after historic Darwin visit**  
Darwin, Australia

Australia hailed a “deeply symbolic” visit to Darwin by the Japanese Prime Minister on Friday, more than 75 years after the northern city was bombed in World War II, as the two countries vowed to deepen defence ties in the face of an emergent China.

Trade and strategic relations took centre-stage at a meeting between Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Shinzo Abe during his two-day visit, before both travel to Papua New Guinea for the weekend’s APEC summit.

In a communique, they expressed hope an agreement on enhanced defence cooperation that includes joint military exercises and which the two countries have been discussing for several years would be concluded by early next year.

“Prime Minister Morrison and I confirmed our commitment to further deepen this special strategic partnership between Japan and Australia,” Abe told reporters in Darwin via a translator.

“Our common vision is of a free and open Indo Pacific, in the area of security we agreed to deepen our security and defence cooperation.” Abe said they discussed regional strategic issues including maritime security in Southeast Asia and the Pacific island nations, and the denuclearisation of North Korea.

# Five missing after two US jets crash

An F-18 jet with 2 crew and a KC-130 tanker with 5 crew -- crashed into the sea

● One crew member has already been rescued

● The marines were conducting “regularly scheduled training”

AFP | Tokyo, Japan

Rescue operations were underway yesterday for five US marines missing after two American military aircraft crashed during a refuelling operation off the coast of Japan, the Japanese defence minister said.

One crew member has already been rescued and is



The US military has about 50,000 troops stationed in Japan and accidents are not uncommon.



A US Navy F-18 Super Hornet from Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach



A KC-130 Hercules takes off during a training exercise at Yokota Air Base, Japan

thought to be in a stable condition, Takeshi Iwaya told reporters. A spokesman for the Japanese Self-Defense (SDF) said another crew member had been found but there were no immediate details of the marine’s condition.

“US military and the Japanese Self-Defense planes and vessels are searching for those still missing... I hope all the members will be rescued safely as soon as possible,” Iwaya added.

The marines were conducting “regularly scheduled training” when the crash occurred around 2am local time, the 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force said in a statement.

The F/A-18 fighter jet with two crew onboard and a KC-130 refuelling tanker with five crew -- crashed into the sea around

100 kilometres (55 nautical miles) off the cape of Muroto in south-western Japan, Iwaya said. The crew member rescued had been in the fighter jet, the minister confirmed.

Japan’s SDF had deployed nine aircraft and three vessels for the search, he said.

“We are thankful for the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force’s efforts as they immediately responded in the search and rescue operation,” the Marines said.

A spokesman for the Japanese coastguard said six vessels and an aircraft had been dispatched separately to assist in the rescue efforts.

During a normal KC-130 refuelling operation, the tanker aircraft trails a hose from the back of the plane with a so-called

“drogue”, shaped a bit like a windsock, at the end.

The fighter jet then inserts a probe inside the drogue to receive fuel, which it can do at a rate of up to 3,000 pounds per minute.

‘Appropriate measures’

In November, a US navy fighter jet crashed into the sea off Japan’s southern island of Okinawa and its two crew members were rescued alive.

And in November 2017, a C-2A “Greyhound” aircraft with 11 people on board went down in the Philippine Sea -- eight were rescued and the search was called off for the remaining three after a two-day search.

The US military has also experienced difficulties with its Osprey helicopters.

**Satellite images show activity at N. Korean missile base: CNN**



North Korea test launches an intercontinental ballistic missile Hwasong-14 in 2017.

Washington, United States

North Korea has expanded a key long-range missile base in the months since a summit between the country’s leader Kim Jong Un and US President Donald Trump, according to satellite images published by CNN on Wednesday.

The two men met in Singapore in June and signed a vaguely worded document that pledged to “work toward” the complete denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, though it did not detail specifics on how this would come about.

According to CNN, Pyongyang has upgraded the Yeon-Deung missile base in North Korea’s mountainous interior and has built up another facility that had not previously been publicly identified.

Experts told the US news network that the site’s location made it suitable to host North Korea’s newest long-range missiles, including ones that could carry nuclear warheads.

## Zuckerberg defends Facebook in new data breach controversy

London, United Kingdom

Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg pushed back Wednesday against emails showing the social media giant offering Netflix and other popular apps preferential access to people’s data even after it had tightened its privacy rules.

A British parliamentary committee investigating whether the social media behemoth was being used to manipulate the results of elections published 250 pages of internal Facebook documents earlier Wednesday.

They show executives holding discussions about big companies such as Netflix being granted preferential access to user data even after Facebook had tightened its privacy rules in 2014-15.

Zuckerberg featured in one email exchange from 2012 in which he mulled selling the information to developers.

The emails feature in a lawsuit filed against Facebook in a California court by the now-defunct US app developer Six4Three.

They were sealed by the presiding judge but seized by the British committee under a never-before used parliamentary enforcement procedure last month.



Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg arrives to testify before a joint hearing of the US Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee and Senate Judiciary Committee on Capitol Hill, April 10, 2018 in Washington, DC.

Zuckerberg said he was writing because he did not want the emails to “misrepresent our actions or motives”.

“Like any organization, we had a lot of internal discussion and people raised different ideas,” Zuckerberg said in a message posted on Facebook.

He did not directly address Facebook’s apparent decision

to give some of the world’s most popular apps special access to friends lists and other personal information that many people want to keep private.

“Ultimately, we decided on a model where we continued to provide the developer platform for free and developers could choose to buy ads if they wanted,” Zuckerberg wrote.

But he added: “To be clear, that’s different from selling people’s data. We’ve never sold anyone’s data.”

‘Public interest’

The UK parliamentary committee headed by Damian Collins -- a member of Prime Minister Theresa May’s Conservative Party -- calls the policy of giv-

ing apps privileged information about users “whitelisting”.

“Facebook have clearly entered into whitelisting agreements with certain companies, which meant that after the platform changes in 2014/15 they maintained full access to friends data,” Collins wrote in a note accompanying the emails.

“The idea of linking access

to friends data to the financial value of the developers relationship with Facebook is a recurring feature of the documents.”

The emails show Facebook holding “whitelisting” discussions with the Russian-founded dating service Wadoo and US giants such as Netflix and the cab hailing service Lyft.

Most of the emails released by Collins were from years before Facebook had tightened its privacy policy rules.

Collins said his decision to ignore the US court gagging order and release the exchanges was based on “considerable public interest” in their content.

“We need a more public debate about the rights of social media users and the smaller businesses who are required to work with the tech giants,” he wrote in a Twitter post.

Zuckerberg did not condemn the emails’ publication or threaten any reciprocal measures against Collins.

“I understand there is a lot of scrutiny on how we run our systems,” Zuckerberg wrote.

“That’s healthy given the vast number of people who use our services around the world.”

# From dream to nightmare

Afghan 'Little Messi' forced to flee as one of thousands of Afghans displaced by war

AFP | Kabul, Afghanistan

Murtaza Ahmadi moved the world with his love for footballer Lionel Messi in 2016. His dream of meeting the Argentinian came true, but now the seven-year-old boy is living a nightmare as one of thousands of Afghans displaced by war.

Murtaza and his family abandoned their home in southeastern Ghazni province in November, along with hundreds of others fleeing intense fighting after the Taliban launched an offensive in the previously safe area.

Now they are among the thousands of similarly uprooted people struggling to get by in Kabul, and also living with the fear that the Taliban are hunting for their famous son.

The image of Murtaza sporting a makeshift Messi jersey -- made of a blue and white striped plastic bag and with Messi's name and famous number 10 written carefully on the back in felt-tip pen -- flooded media and social networks in 2016.

The media hype drew the football superstar's attention, and that year Murtaza met his idol in Qatar, where he walked out onto the pitch clutching Messi's hand as a mascot for a Barcelona friendly.

Messi, a UNICEF goodwill ambassador, also gave his tiny fan an autographed jersey and a football.

But the moment of happiness has quickly dissipated.

AFP met with the family recently in the cramped room in Kabul they are renting from another impoverished family, where Murtaza's mother Shafiqah told how they had fled their home district of Jaghori in the night after hearing gunshots.

"We couldn't take any of our belongings, we left only with our lives," she said, her face half hidden by a scarf.

The family belongs to the Shi-



Murtaza Ahmadi, a supporter of Argentine footballer Lionel Messi, playing outside his home in Kabul

ite-denominated Hazara ethnic group, who were targeted by the Sunni Taliban in their November operation in Ghazni.

The UN says up to 4,000 families fled, with witnesses describing "absolute terror" to AFP. Hundreds of civilians, soldiers, and insurgents were killed in the fighting.

The fear felt by the Ahmadi

family was ratcheted up when they learned that the Taliban were searching for the small Murtaza by name.

"(They) said if they capture him, they will cut him into pieces," Shafiqah said, her eyes horrified. Sports were rarely tolerated under the 1996-2001 Taliban regime, and the Kabul football stadium was a well-known ven-



**We couldn't take any of our belongings, we left only with our lives**

MURTAZA'S MOTHER SHAFIQA

*Murtaza and his family abandoned their home in southeastern Ghazni province in November, along with hundreds of others fleeing intense fighting after the Taliban launched an offensive in the previously safe area.*

ue for stonings and executions. Shafiqah said she hid her famous son's face with a scarf to prevent him from being recognized as they fled.

They took refuge first in a mosque in Bamiyan, before arriving in Kabul six days later. Among their belongings left behind are the football and jersey signed by Messi.

#### 'I miss Messi'

Although Afghan security forces have beaten back the Taliban in Jaghori, the family says it no longer feels safe.

"The danger of the Taliban coming back is high, going back is not an option," Shafiqah said.

The attention they received as a result of Murtaza's fame has added to their fears, she continued.

"Local strongmen were calling and saying, 'You have become

rich, pay the money you have received from Messi or we will take your son,'" she said.

"At night we would sometimes see unknown men, watching and checking our house, and then the calls. During the days, we wouldn't dare let him outside home to play with other children."

The family have already fled once before, to Pakistan in 2016, where they sought asylum in "any safe country".

They returned reluctantly to Jaghori after their money ran out, Shafiqah said.

Murtaza's father Arif remains in Jaghori working as a farmer while his family lives in Kabul under precarious conditions, with inadequate shelter, food, water or sanitation available to the refugees.

They are among the more than 300,000 Afghans -- 58 percent

of whom are under the age of 18 -- who have fled their homes due to violence since the beginning of this year alone, according to the most recent tally by the UN's agency for humanitarian affairs.

Homayoun, Murtaza's eldest brother who made him his plastic jersey, says that even in Kabul he is afraid. "We are worried something bad will happen if they know who Murtaza is," he said.

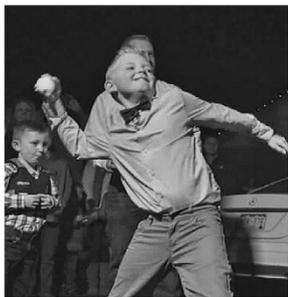
Little Murtaza, meanwhile, says he misses his football and his jersey from Messi.

"I want them back so I can play," he told AFP.

"I miss Messi," he added.

"When I meet him, I will say, 'Salaam' and 'How are you?' Then he will reply saying thank you and be safe, and I will go with him to the pitch where he will play and I will watch him."

## Boy overturns Colorado ban on snowball fights



Mayor McLeod watches as Dane excitedly throws his first legal snowball

Los Angeles, United States

A nine-year-old boy in Colorado this week threw his first snowball -- legally -- after a battle to overturn a century-old ordinance banning snowball fights in the small town of Severance.

Dane Best said he decided to take on local authorities and persuade them to change the law by using simple logic.

"Today's kids need reasons to play outside," Best said on

Monday as he appeared before the town trustees, local media reported.

"Research suggests that a lack of exposure to the outdoors can lead to obesity, ADHD, anxiety and depression."

He said the nearly 100-year-old measure, which bans throwing any stone or missile, including snowballs, was outdated and meant any kids throwing snowballs were breaking the law.

"The children of Severance want an opportunity to have a snowball fight like the rest of the world," Dane told the trustees. "Kids want to have snowball fights without breaking the law. Kids want to have a voice in our town."

His arguments won over the board, which unanimously voted to tweak the ordinance to allow snowball fights.

The boy said his little brother would be his first target and that he would avoid breaking windows.

## US woman sues Hilton for \$100mn over shower video

New York, United States

A Chicago woman is suing Hilton Worldwide for \$100 million saying that she was filmed naked in the shower by a hidden camera while a hotel guest -- in footage uploaded with her name onto multiple porn sites.

The unnamed plaintiff sued the hotel giant for negligence citing "severe and permanent psychological injuries," "severe mental anguish, emotional distress and other damages" such as medical expenses and loss of earnings.

The woman was a guest at a Hampton Inn and Suites hotel in Albany, the capital of New York state, in July 2015 while taking a bar exam after graduating from law school.

She was recorded, fully nude, while taking a shower by a hidden video camera, the 19-page lawsuit claims.

But she was blissfully ig-

**The extortionist then demanded an immediate hush payment of \$2,000 followed by \$1,000 a month for a year, the lawsuit claims, also alleging that other people were recorded in the same room at the same Hampton Inn.**

norant until September 2018, more than three years later, when she received an email saying "this is you right?" with a link to the video on a porn site published with her full name.

The same person, claiming "I'm a perv," then sent multiple threatening emails, professing to know where she went to university and where she worked.

When the threats went unheeded, the video appeared on a string of other porn sites.

Colleagues, friends and former classmates received a new version of the video, sent from a fake email address set up in her name.

"We take the safety and well-being of our guests incredibly seriously, and find the details included in the civil filing distressing," said a spokesperson for Hilton, the parent company of Hampton Inn.

"We commit to supporting the independent ownership and management of the property as they investigate, respond and cooperate with any law enforcement investigations," the statement added.

A spokesperson for the Hampton Inn in question said they were "shocked and stunned to learn of the allegations" late Monday, saying that no recording devices "of any kind" had been discovered at the property promising to hold accountable the perpetrator.

## Bush to be buried after four-day tribute

Houston, United States

George H.W. Bush was glad to rest Thursday, concluding a four-day tribute to the 41st president that saw America briefly set aside its political divisions.

After a state funeral Wednesday in Washington that was attended by the country's five living presidents and foreign dignitaries, Bush's flag-draped coffin was flown to Houston.

Bush will be interred at his presidential library in College Station next to his wife Barbara, who died in April, and their daughter Robin who died of leukemia at age three.

At the memorial service President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania shared a front row pew in the National Cathedral with past presidents Barack Obama, Bill Clinton, Jimmy Carter and their wives.

# Artist revives Lebanon's abandoned historic buildings

## SLEEPING BEAUTIES

*British artist Tom Young studies the history of abandoned buildings in Lebanon. His exhibitions, held in the abandoned buildings, are free of charge and include community events to help stir public interest in their history*



Tom Young



A visitor viewing paintings by 45-year-old British artist Tom Young during an exhibition at the Sofar Grand Hotel

## SILHOUETTES

# Syria's last shadow puppeteer

Syrians last week received news that their war-battered country's shadow puppetry has been named a UNESCO World Intangible Cultural Heritage site.

AFP | Damascus

In a crowded dark room, Syria's last shadow puppeteer crouches on stage, holding two intricate figures against a brightly lit silk screen and voicing their animated chatter.

Hiding inside his booth and moving the silhouettes around on sticks, Shadi al-Hallaq gave a proud performance on Monday night after his disappearing art finally received international recognition.

Syrians last week received news that their war-battered country's shadow theatre has secured a coveted place on the UN's list of world treasures.

"When they rang to congratulate me, it was like a day dream," said the puppeteer, a slim 43-year-old wearing a dark grey suit and warm beige scarf.

His two star characters -- the naive but charming Karakoz and clever friend Eiwaz -- would finally receive the limelight they deserved, he said.

"There's no one in Syria who masters the art except me," said Hallaq, who learned it from his late



Syria's last shadow puppeteer Shadi al-Hallaq is seen moving his puppets Karakoz (R) and Eiwaz (L) from inside his booth during a presentation



Shadi al-Hallaq, a puppeteer, holds two puppets during a performance in Damascus.

43 BC

Marcus Tullius Cicero, Roman orator and politician is assassinated in Formiae

1909

Inventor Leo Baekeland patents the first thermo-setting plastic, Bakelite, sparking the birth of the plastics industry

1941

Imperial Japanese Navy with 353 planes attack US fleet at Pearl Harbour Naval Base, Hawaii, killing 2,403 people



1988

PLO delegation lead by Yasser Arafat proclaims the State of Palestine

Reuters | Sawfar, Lebanon

**D**otted with bullet holes and scarred by war, a once iconic hotel in Lebanon abandoned for more than 40 years is coming back to life through the paintings of an artist on a mission to revive the memories of its glorious past.

British artist Tom Young studies the history of abandoned buildings in Lebanon, many of them a reminder of the country's civil war, and creates paintings based on old photographs, stories, architecture and their surrounding environment.

His exhibitions, held in the abandoned buildings, are free of charge and include community events to help stir public interest in their history.

"These great places ... are just sleeping and in many ways with my art I am hoping to perhaps wake them up and make them relevant for the present day and the future," said Young, who has been living in Lebanon for the past nine years.

Lebanon has no law to protect historic buildings and many have been demolished to make way for modern apartment buildings and offices.

In the capital Beirut the number of historic buildings has dropped to about 250, down from 4,200 in the 1990s, according to campaign group Save Beirut Heritage.



Visitors look at Tom Young's painting inside the Grand Sofar Hotel, Sawfar, Lebanon

Young's latest project is the Grand Sofar, a 75-room hotel built in 1892 under Ottoman rule that was bustling with famous people from Egyptian actor Omar Sharif to diplomats and generals who shaped the history of the country and region.

The hotel, about 30 km away from Beirut, became a casualty of the country's 15-year-long civil war, which began in 1975, the year the hotel closed its doors.

One of the owners, Roderick Sursock Cochrane, whose family built the hotel, wanted to bring its history back to life through Young's "out of the ordinary"

exhibition.

"Every painting which you see here depicts an event which happened in the hotel. And that is very, very important I find, because people just don't come and see regular paintings but they also come and learn what has happened in this place," he said.

One of Young's paintings is based on a photo he found of 80-year-old Samira Sayegh on her wedding day standing with her husband on one of two grand staircases at the entrance of the hotel.

"It was so emotional because I went 52 years back (to) the day of my wedding," Sayegh said with a smile, remembering when she first saw Young's painting.

"The young generation, they don't know what is the Grand hotel. Since 1975 it (has been) hidden — now it's coming back."

Cochrane plans to use the old hotel as a wedding venue and cultural center for local artists, and he hopes to encourage young people to appreciate historic buildings.

"Old does not mean necessarily that it has to be destroyed for something new to come instead of it," said Cochrane, sitting outside the hotel.

Naji Raji, founder of Save Beirut Heritage, a local organization fighting to save architectural heritage in the capital, said buildings like the Grand Sofar are under threat.

"There is no law protecting heritage buildings in Lebanon. The dangers of removing these historic buildings

Inside the abandoned century-old hotel, paintings of the Arab world's once powerful and famous hang around a worn poker table, testimony to its glamorous past before the civil war. Built in 1892 under Ottoman rule by Lebanon's wealthy Sursock family, the forgotten hotel was hub to which Arab diplomats, French and British officers, but also Egyptian film stars all flocked before the 1975-1990 conflict forced it to close down

to the building to be used as a public cultural center for three years before becoming the residence of the head of the European Union delegation to Lebanon.

"Really our memories, our history is what gives us our identity, and in Lebanon that identity is under threat because of this destruction of both architecture and human memory," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in the Grand Sofar hotel.

In several of his exhibitions, including in the Grand Sofar, he teaches art classes to refugee children and orphans to show how art can be used to revive memories and history in derelict buildings.

Learning about history through art helps young people to connect to their identity, a different experience than through history books, said Young.

He hopes his next exhibition will be in Beirut's Holiday Inn, a hotel that once exemplified the city's glamour and became an icon of the civil war only a few weeks after it opened.

It was the military headquarters of whichever militant faction was winning the war over the next 15 years, and it is still not open to the public.

"I hope that a transcendent public art event can help all those involved and transform a place of unresolved trauma into a site of culture and creativity," said Young.

means losing identity and common memory," said Raji.

In 2013, Young found an abandoned 19th century mansion in central Beirut that was left in ruins. He brought it back to life with his paintings and through partial renovation.

But what mattered most to the 45-year-old is that his exhibition led



Visitors walking through a hallway at the Grand Sofar Hotel, the venue of an art exhibition that tells the story of the building



Visitors explore the artworks during an exhibition as part of Beirut International Art Show 2015 organized by the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) Beirut and Beirut Art World NGP, in Beirut

TE STORY

# Puppeteer hopes to save his art

Shadow theatre has secured a coveted place on the UN's list of world treasures



Shadi al-Hallaq is seen next to a disabled child during a performance

father, a famed storyteller who performed in one of the capital's oldest coffee shops.

"There are no regular shows anymore, though I have given performances in a few places over the past years," said the puppeteer, who previously worked as a taxi driver.

The advent of digital entertainment as well as mass displacement due to conflict have contributed to the gradual decline of the art in Syria, the United Nations says.

Only a few such performers existed in the country before the war broke out in 2011, and a leading shadow puppeteer has since gone missing.

Traditionally, shadow plays were held in coffee shops.

A bright light would project the silhouettes of the puppets onto a silk screen, usually accompanied by dialogue and music.

Often including humorous social commentary, they would star Karakoz and Eiwaz, as well as female characters and talking animals.

Hallaq's characters are crafted from cow leather,

their clothes cut out with decorative patterns and painted with watercolours "so the light can shine through".

Karakoz is short and dons a large red hat, while Eiwaz sports an elegant moustache.

As they move around before an arched alleyway, their witty banter entertains all generations.

"My audience are old and young -- from three years old to old men in coffee shops," Hallaq said.

The art form is said to be centuries old, long before the war that has killed 360,000 people and displaced millions from their homes.

Some say Karakoz and Eiwaz are typical Syrians from Damascus, while others say they are in fact originally Turkish.

Since the United Nations cultural agency UNESCO classified his art as "in need of urgent safeguarding", Hallaq said things are looking up for his art and its two stars.

"I thought I would have to bury them" away, he said. But now "a bright future awaits them in Syria. I will tour with them all over the country."

# business

## CBB announces open banking rules

TDT | Manama

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) yesterday issued the final rules on “open banking” aimed at facilitating a variety of innovative services for bank customers in the Kingdom.

The rules, Khalid Hamad, Executive Director of Banking Supervision at the CBB said, will have a significant positive impact on the quality of services offered and give Kingdom’s financial sector a competitive edge in the Middle East.”

Open banking services en-

tail the provision of two broad categories of services. The first is “account information service” which provides customers with access to all bank account information in an aggregated manner through a single platform, whereas the second category is “payment initiation service” which allows licensed third parties to initiate payments on behalf of customers while allowing seamless transfers between different customer accounts through a mobile-based application.

## Barnier issues warning over British Brexit vote

Brussels, Belgium

EU negotiator Michel Barnier said yesterday that British lawmakers will have their country’s future in their hands when they vote next week on the Brexit deal struck with Brussels.

British MPs look set in the December 11 vote to reject the accord struck by Prime Minister Theresa May, but Barnier issued a blunt rebuff to Brexit supporters pressing to renegotiate, saying the deal on the table was “the only and best agreement possible”.

Barnier, who led two years of talks on the divorce for the

EU side, told a committee of regional representatives in Brussels that approval of the withdrawal agreement by the British and European parliaments was “the basis for everything”.

“If there is no treaty, there is no transition period, nor is there the basis of trust with the British that we need to build the future relationship,” Barnier said.

“Now is the moment for everyone to take their responsibilities. The British lawmakers will vote on this text and on the future relation in the next few days. It is a vote on which the future of their country depends.”

# China to ‘immediately’ implement truce deal

● Truce measures will be implemented within 90 days

● White House has said China agreed to purchase a “very substantial” amount of agricultural, energy, industrial and other products

AFP | Beijing, China

China said yesterday it would “immediately” implement measures agreed under a trade war truce with the United States -- and was confident it could reach a deal within 90 days.

The commerce ministry’s remarks came days after US President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed to give negotiators 90 days to resolve their trade spat.

Few details have been made public about what the two sides will negotiate, a lack of clarity that has unsettled stock markets.

“China will immediately implement the consensus both sides already reached on agri-



US President Donald Trump, and Chinese President Xi Jinping pose at the Forbidden City in Beijing



The ultimate goal for the 90 days of talks is to remove all the increased tariffs

GAO FENG

COMMERCE MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

cultural products, energy, autos and other specific items,” commerce ministry spokesman Gao Feng said at a regular press

As part of the truce, Trump agreed to hold off on plans to raise the tariffs on \$200 billion in Chinese imports to 25 percent beginning January 1, leaving them at the current 10 percent rate.

The White House has said China agreed to purchase a “very substantial” amount of agricultural, energy, industrial and other products to reduce the yawning trade gap. It also would begin buying products from US farmers “immediately”.

The two sides will also negotiate “structural changes” to forced technology transfer, intellectual property protection, cyber intrusions and cyber theft, services and agriculture, according to the White House.

For its part, China has said it will import more US products to reduce its trade surplus, but no dollar amount has been publicly discussed.

Trump added China would roll back tariffs of 40 percent on cars. It was unclear if Gao was referring to the tariffs in his remarks to reporters.

Gao’s briefing came hours after the trade detente risked being rattled by the arrest in Canada of a top executive from Chinese telecom giant Huawei at the request of the United States.

briefing. The two sides will also discuss intellectual property protection, technology cooperation, market access and balanced trade, and “work hard to reach a consensus”, Gao said.

“Teams from both sides are in contact and cooperating well, we are fully confident that we can reach an agreement in the coming 90 days,” Gao said, without providing more specific details about what actions China will take.

“The ultimate goal for the 90 days of talks is to remove all the increased tariffs,” Gao said.

## US trade deficit hits 10-yr high on record imports

Washington, United States

The US trade deficit hit a 10-year high in October as Americans used a stronger dollar to snap up record imports, the government reported yesterday.

The result showed the trade gap has continued to swell despite the punitive tariffs imposed this year on allies and adversaries alike by US President Donald Trump, who has focused intently on the subject with the goal of reducing the deficit.

And that is likely to subtract from growth in the final quarter of 2018, economists say.

Amid Trump’s high-stakes trade war with Beijing, the total trade gap rose 1.7 percent to \$55.5 billion, driven by all-time high imports, according to the Commerce Department.

The deficit in goods trade with China likewise continued to expand, rising two percent to \$38 billion, seasonally adjusted, as key exports like soybeans fell.

Without seasonal adjust-

ments, the US-China trade gap hit an all-time record of \$43.1 billion.

**Drag on growth**

Americans bought more medications and imported autos while also taking more vacations, benefiting from the stronger US currency.

Travel by Americans rose by \$200 million, driving up US services imports to a record \$46.9 billion.

The deficit in goods also was the highest on record at more than \$78 billion, as US imports of goods and services hit a record high as well, rising 1.5 percent to \$266.5 billion.

Auto imports -- another subject on which Trump is battling the European Union -- likewise hit the highest level ever, at \$31.8 billion.

From January to October, the total trade deficit rose more than 11 percent compared to the same period last year, and the gap in September was \$555 million bigger than initially reported.



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdullhussain Mirza receiving Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Arab Shipbuilding and Repair Yard Company (ASRY) Sheikh Duajj bin Salman Al Khalifa, its Chief Executive Officer Andrew Shaw and Senior Projects Manager Sauvir Sarkar. The two sides reviewed the close relationship between ASRY and the Electricity and Water Authority, particularly in relation to solar energy.



Alatheer Consulting - The joint venture of “AJMS” the pinnacle Management & Tax Consultancy firm from UAE, delivered a remarkable VAT awareness session to the “Medical & Health Sector”, at Al Ayam Media Centre. Many of the related industry sector heads and professionals attended the session. Partner Mirza Al Marzooq addressed the audience and introduced the VAT compliance effects in general. AJMS TAX Expert Hemant Mundra, Partner Ramprasad, and CEO Abhishek Jajoo shared their Professional expertise in “medical & health sector”. Yash Kishore, Business Manager from “Tally Solutions”, “Green FX” the IT solutions Partner, represented by their Directors Hisham Abdualaal & Sivas Vettath, presented their latest technology based Clinic and Hospital Solutions.

# On an oil vessel, life is work, privacy a luxury

*At 36, Elgar Ferreira, from Angola, is responsible for ensuring safety standards are upheld on a vessel that is like a floating tower of Babel with 23 nationalities on board.*

**AFP** | On board the Kaombo Norte, Angola

**M**oored in the endless South Atlantic Ocean far off the coast of Angola, the "Kaombo Norte" oil-extraction vessel is a deeply impressive sight -- 330 metres (1083 feet) long, with a tower 110 metres high sending a burning flame into the sky.

But inside, daily life on the ship is a different matter, with a crew of about 100 sharing narrow passages and confined spaces, living for weeks at a stretch in close quarters 24 hours a day.

The ship, owned by the French Total oil company, is an oil tanker converted into a FPSO (floating production, storage and offloading) vessel, pumping oil from deep under the seabed into its vast holds before collection -- a major innovation for the industry.

Typical among the crew is 30-year-old unmarried engineer Benoit Tanguy, who shares a low-ceiling office with a colleague during the day.

At night, he squeezes into a small cabin that has the rare luxury of a sea view, but which he must share with three colleagues.

Tanguy doesn't complain, saying with a laugh: "We have little privacy. But because we are always surrounded by people, it sometimes helps to spend a few moments on your own."

"We are caught up in work, so the days pass very quickly," said

**”**  
The amount of energy under our feet is huge. The slightest incident can escalate into a disaster

A CREW MEMBER

Tanguy, who always dreamt of a life at sea.

"When I joined Total, it was exactly to work offshore," he said, explaining he spent two years on an oil platform off Abu Dhabi before taking a posting on the "Kaombo Norte".

His job is to ensure that the ship, located 250 kilometres (155 miles) northwest of the seaside capital Luanda, draws in oil at exactly the right rate from nearly 2,000 metres under its hull.

**'Of course I miss friends'**

For four weeks in a row, seven days a week, he analyses data, looking out for the slightest error or problem.

Then he leaves the ship via a helicopter shuttle to the shore and catches a plane home to Brittany for four weeks of vacation.

The Kaombo oil project -- which will pump 230,000 barrels a day when two ships are fully operational next year -- is still in its early phase, and Tanguy said he never gets bored even thousands of miles away from his family.

"In the current stage of development, the word 'monotony'

does not even exist -- there is always something to do. Of course I miss friends and sport, but I live well," he said.

Eyes glued to his computer screen, his neighbour nods in agreement.

At 54, Christophe Marx is a veteran of offshore life.

He has spent 10 years off Angola or Nigeria working for a French subcontractor and says he has found a balance between his work at sea and his family life in the south of France.

"Whenever I have returned to a more normal life, with a weekly work rhythm, I realised that I was missing life at sea," he said, even if a month away at sea does sometimes mean missing family events back home.

"The best part (of the four-week on, four-week off way of working) is the month of real holiday, among my family, away from work. The worst is the month during which we are far apart," he said.

"You can be sure that it is always when the washing machine or the car breaks down."

Aboard the "Kaombo Norte", leisure time is scarce and the maze of corridors and offices quickly becomes claustrophobic.

One temptation is to go outside on deck to breathe in some sea air, but the climate is far from refreshing.

The equatorial air is heavy and moist, the smell is saturated with fumes and there is a constant din of engines, pumps and machines.

**A dangerous workplace**

Helmets, goggles, gloves and safety shoes are compulsory in such a dangerous work environment. The ship holds up to two

million barrels of highly flammable crude in its hold.

"The amount of energy under our feet is huge," said one crew member. "The slightest incident can escalate into a disaster."

At 36, Elgar Ferreira, from Angola, is responsible for ensuring safety standards are upheld on a vessel that is like a floating tower of Babel with 23 nationalities on board.

"One of the difficulties is that we have different cultures... different ways of seeing things," he said, "I spend a lot of time explaining."

The Portuguese chef, Carlos Macedo, plays an essential role in boosting camaraderie among the crew by producing a daily menu of culinary treats.

"One captain told me that my job was one of the most important on board," he said.

"When he finishes his day, the sailor needs a clean room, a tidy bed and a good dinner. My goal is to satisfy all my customers, without exception".

And as for women on board -- there are a handful.

"Here everyone is kind and helpful so it's quite easy," said Franca Sabattini, a 38-year-old Italian engineer.

"I say to all my colleagues: if you think that offshore is not for women, look at me: I'm here and I'm happy."

But the struggle for a settled family life is one issue that worries Tanguy.

"It's going to be four years that I am off-shore and then I would like a more sedentary life," he said.

"The other day we went round the table in the canteen, almost all were divorced."



A view of the Kaombo Norte, an oil tanker converted into a FPSO vessel



A worker works with a hose on the Kaombo Norte, an oil tanker converted into a FPSO vessel (Floating Production Storage and Offloading),



A fire-fighting team go through a drill on the Kaombo Norte



French engineer Benoit Tanguy shows off his cabin on the Kaombo Norte



A view of the Kaombo Norte, a Floating Production Storage and Offloading vessel (FPSO), a project operated by Total, the French multinational oil company

## France to introduce digital tax if no EU deal

Paris, France

France will forge ahead with its own tax on digital giants in 2019 if the EU fails to agree on how to get the likes of Google and Facebook to pay more tax in Europe, Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said Thursday.

Le Maire told France 2 television he would give himself "until March" to reach a deal with other EU members on a digital tax, nicknamed the GAFA tax after Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon.

If the talks fail, "we will do it at the national level in 2019: we will tax digital giants if European states do not take their responsibilities," he said.

The measure, set to come into force in 2021 if a global plan has not been agreed by then, would chiefly target Google and Facebook, which dominate the online advertising market in Europe.

## Cuba scraps some private sector restrictions

La Habana, Cuba

Havana on Wednesday announced it was scrapping some tough new restrictions on the private sector that had been set to take effect at the end of this week and had caused concerns among entrepreneurs.

Speaking on national television, Labour Minister Margarita Gonzalez said the government recognised that 20 new rules, first published in the island's official gazette in July, had led to some unease among business owners and some of them would be revised.

The most controversial rule, which would have allowed only one business license per person and per location, is among those that have been dropped.

The latest issue was uncov-

## US detains Huawei's chief financial officer over suspected Iran sanctions violations

Meng was arrested in the western city of Vancouver on December 1

US is seeking her extradition

Huawei said it was unaware of any wrongdoing by Meng

AFP | Beijing, China

China reacted furiously yesterday after a top executive and daughter of the founder of Chinese telecom giant Huawei

# OPEC plans output cuts



Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih (C) speaks to journalists as he attends the 175th OPEC Conference of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in Vienna

AFP | Vienna, Austria

OPEC members and other oil-producing countries mulled cuts in output yesterday to prop up plunging prices, amid repeated calls by US President Donald Trump that they keep the taps open.

"We're looking for a sufficient cut to balance the market, equally distributed between countries," Saudi oil minister Khalid al-Falih told reporters ahead of an OPEC meeting in the Austrian capital.

Oil ministers from 20 or so countries are in Vienna for two days of meetings -- first, the 15

members of OPEC, then a wider group including countries outside the cartel -- to discuss how to counter the tumble in prices over the past two months.

**"We don't need permission from anyone to cut. The US is not in a position to tell us what to do"**

KHALID AL-FALIH  
SAUDI OIL MINISTER

On Wednesday, Trump took to Twitter to urge producers to keep pumping.

Saudi minister al-Falih pointedly said Washington should back off.

"We don't need permission from anyone to cut," he said.

The US "is not in a position to tell us what to do," he added.

At the end of 2016, OPEC's regular members joined forces with other countries -- most notably Russia -- to scale back output in a bid to reduce a glut that was weighing on prices.

OPEC daily output stood at 32.99 million barrels in October, according to the International Energy Agency.

## New inspection scandal for Nissan

Tokyo, Japan

Nissan plans to conduct another recall owing to "improper" tests on new vehicles, a newspaper said yesterday, dealing a fresh blow to the Japanese car giant following the shock arrest of former chairman Carlos Ghosn.

The latest issue was uncov-

ered after transport ministry officials conducted on-site inspections at Nissan's major assembly plants, the Nikkei business daily said.

Several employees admitted they carried out "improper" tests on brake and other systems before shipment, the newspaper said, without spec-

ifying how many cars were affected.

Nissan plans to make an announcement on the case later this month and is considering recalling any vehicles improperly tested, it added.

Immediate confirmation of the report was not available.

## Electric driverless truck on public road

Graphic News

Swedish autonomous vehicle start-up Einride and German logistics group DB Schenker are set to gain regulatory approval, allowing an all-electric, driverless truck to carry freight on a public road.

The two groups said the permit would be a world first, enabling the commercial operation of a battery-powered truck to operate without a driver, following a pilot phase in operation since early November.

Einride and DB Schenker each said they expected to gain the permit by January.

The battery-electric T-pod can provide emission-free transportation at a cost that's competitive with conventional diesel trucks, Einride claims.

The T-pod, designed to carry up to 15 standard European pallets, is about 7 metres long and weighs 20 tonnes at full capacity. Its battery capacity

is 200 kilowatt hours, enabling a range of about 200km on a single charge.

In Sweden, Einride is developing a T-pod route with charging infrastructure between Gothenburg and Helsingborg, cities separated by about 200km. Einride aims to have 200 T-pods operating on that route by 2020.

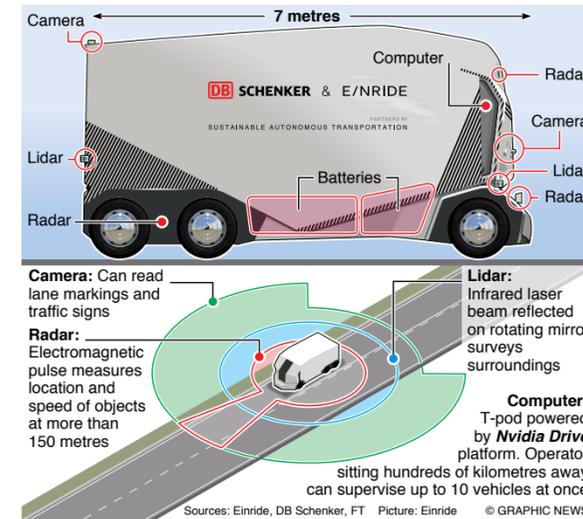
The Stockholm-based company described the T-pod's self-driving capabilities as Level 4 autonomy, meaning the vehicle can handle all aspects of driving under certain conditions without the need for a driver to intervene. The T-pod uses lidar and radar sensors and a machine vision system to track its surroundings.

Einride plans to begin operating with one remote driver per vehicle on the road, but over time, the company aims to expand that ratio until each remote driver is overseeing about 10 vehicles.



Einride, which is operating pilot project in Jonkoping, hopes fleet of 200 T-Pods will connect cities of Gothenburg and Helsingborg, 200km apart, by 2020

**T-POD SPECIFICATIONS**  
Top speed: 85km/hr  
Cargo capacity: 15 standard pallets  
Weight with full cargo: 20 tonnes  
Battery capacity: 200kWh  
Range on single charge: 200km



Camera: Can read lane markings and traffic signs  
Radar: Electromagnetic pulse measures location and speed of objects at more than 150 metres  
Lidar: Infrared laser beam reflected on rotating mirror surveys surroundings  
Computer: T-pod powered by Nvidia Drive platform. Operator sitting hundreds of kilometres away can supervise up to 10 vehicles at once  
Sources: Einride, DB Schenker, FT Picture: Einride © GRAPHIC NEWS

# China furious at Huawei executive's arrest in Canada

## US detains Huawei's chief financial officer over suspected Iran sanctions violations

Meng was arrested in the western city of Vancouver on December 1

US is seeking her extradition

Huawei said it was unaware of any wrongdoing by Meng

AFP | Beijing, China

China reacted furiously yesterday after a top executive and daughter of the founder of Chinese telecom giant Huawei



Woman uses her mobile phone in front of a Huawei logo at Beijing International Consumer Electronics Expo in Beijing.

was arrested in Canada following a US extradition request, threatening to rattle a trade war truce with the United States.

The detention of Meng Wanzhou, Huawei's chief financial officer, comes after American authorities reportedly launched

an investigation into suspected Iran sanctions violations by Huawei, which was already under scrutiny by US intelligence officials who deemed the company a national security threat.

The arrest stirred tensions just as the United States and Chi-

na agreed to a ceasefire in their trade spat while negotiators seek a deal within three months.

"We have made solemn representations to Canada and the US, demanding that both parties immediately clarify the reasons for the detention, and immediately release the detainee to protect the person's legal rights"

GENG SHUANG  
CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

immediately release the detainee to protect the person's legal rights," Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang told a regular press briefing in Beijing.

Meng was arrested in the western city of Vancouver on December 1, Canada's ministry of justice said in a statement on Wednesday, prompting China's embassy to say it had "seriously harmed the human rights of the victim".

The ministry said the US is seeking her extradition and she faces a bail hearing on Friday, adding it could not provide further details due to a publication ban that was sought by Meng, whose father, Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei, is a former Chinese People's Liberation Army engineer.

Huawei, which overtook Apple as the world's number two smartphone maker this year, said it was unaware of any wrongdo-

ing by Meng and was provided "very little information" about the charges.

"Huawei complies with all applicable laws and regulations where it operates, including applicable export control and sanction laws and regulations of the UN, US and EU," the company said in a statement.

The *Wall Street Journal* reported in April that the US Department of Justice had opened an investigation into suspected violations of Iran sanctions by Huawei.

The *New York Times* said the company had been subpoenaed by the US Commerce and Treasury Departments over alleged violations of Iran and North Korea sanctions.

The arrest occurred on the same day that US President Donald Trump and Xi struck the trade war truce at a summit in Argentina.

# SHOW

## Sandra Oh, Andy Samberg named as Golden Globe hosts



Sandra Oh and Andy Samberg

Reuters | Los Angeles

Canadian actress Sandra Oh and U.S. comedian Andy Samberg will co-host the 2019 Golden Globe Awards in January, organizers said.

The two celebrities will be first-time hosts for the Golden Globes, which honor both television and film. Nominations for the awards was announced yesterday and the televised ceremony on NBC will take place in Beverly Hills, California, on Jan. 6.

The Golden Globes, chosen by members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, are the first major ceremony in Hollywood's awards season culminating with the Oscars on Feb. 24.

Oh is best known for her former role in the long-running television hospital drama "Grey's Anatomy," and is now starring in BBC America's acclaimed murder-mystery "Killing Eve."

# Cardi B splits with husband

Reuters | Los Angeles

Rapper Cardi B announced on Wednesday she is seeking a divorce from her husband Offset after just over a year of marriage, saying "I guess we just grew out of love."

In an Instagram video, the "Bodak Yellow" singer, one of the biggest names in the music industry this year, said although she and Offset were good friends and business partners, "things just haven't been working out between us for a long time."

Cardi B, 26, and Offset, 26, a member of rap trio Migos, married secretly in September 2017 and had a child in July.

"It's nobody fault. I guess we just grew out of love but we are not together anymore. I don't know. It might take time to get a divorce and I'm going to always have a lot of love for him because he is my daughter's father," she said.

She captioned the video, "There you go ... peace and love." Offset responded to her Instagram post with the comment, "Y'all won."

Cardi B has reached success in the past year with hit singles "I Like It," "Girls Like You," with Maroon 5, and the Bruno Mars collaboration



Offset and Cardi B Divorce

"Finesse."

The singer's brand of female empowerment and sexuality won three American Music Awards and three MTV Video Music awards earlier this year. She is expected to figure highly in Grammy nominations to be announced on Friday.

Fame has also brought run-ins with the law. On Monday, a New York judge threatened to issue an arrest warrant after she failed to appear in court on an assault charge over a strip club fight in August.

In September, Cardi B was pictured leaving a party in New York with a large bump on her head after throwing a shoe at rival rapper Nicki Minaj.

## MISSING PETS



**ROCKY** - Male, 3 yrs, mostly white w black/brown spots, slightly chubby, green eyes, escaped kitchen window of apartment, not wearing collar or ID tag, Janabiya (next to Mercado Mall), 24/11/18. 33762576 or 39964764



**AGNES** - Female, 5 mos, white/ginger (one spot heart shaped), spayed, needs second injection, disappeared from garden, stray found at Financial Harbour 3 wks ago (seemed very settled in), Sar (Sar Central Compound), 1/12/18. 33364644



**MISHRI** - Male Persian/Turkish mix, 2 yrs, neutered, long hair, all white w light brown eyes, responds to name, trained to come when call "food time", not wearing collar or ID tag, never goes outside, might have fallen out open window, Isa Town (Rd 1331, Block 813), 30/11/18, REWARD for safe return. 39662578



**SIMBA** - Male Persian, 3 yrs, INDOOR ONLY cat, neutered, microchipped, long hair (orange/yellow), not wearing collar or ID tag, nanny left kitchen door open, Hamad Town (Roundabout 9), 26/6/18. 39944472



**TOBY** - Male, 2 yrs, black and brown tabby, not wearing collar or ID tag, went outside compound wall, Hajiyath, 9/11/18. 37746468



**LILO** - Female Siamese, 11 yrs, 3 toes on back right paw, spayed/microchipped, disappeared from courtyard, not wearing collar or ID tag, Saar (near Ahlia School/Al Bistaki mosque/Dilmun Club/Sar Cinema), 3/11/18, BD50 REWARD for safe return. 36665130

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, **KAMLESH KUMAR SAINI** Father of **DEEMPAL KUMARI**, holder of Indian passport No. **L5309411**, issued at Jaipur on 09/12/2013, permanent resident of **VILL-JHARDA WALI DHANI, PO-BIROL, THE-NAWALGARH, JHUNJHUNU, RAJASTHAN, INDIA**, (full postal address in India to be given) and presently residing at **FLAT NO. 21, BUILDING NO. 430, ROAD NO. 507, BLOCK NO. 305, MANAMA, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**, (full postal address in Bahrain) do hereby change my daughter name as (given name) **DEEMPAL KUMARI** (surname) **SAINI**, objection(s), if and may be forwarded to Embassy of India, P. O. BOX 26106, AL-SEEF, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

I, **KAMLESH KUMAR SAINI**, Father of **VATSALYA**, holder of Indian passport No. **L 5309404**, issued at Jaipur on 09/12/2013, permanent resident of **VILL-JHARDA WALI DHANI, PO-BIROL, VIA - NAWALGARH, JHUNJHUNU, PIN: 333304, RAJASTHAN, INDIA**, (full postal address in India to be given) and presently residing at **FLAT NO. 21, BUILDING NO. 430, ROAD NO. 507, BLOCK NO. 305, MANAMA, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA**, (full postal address in Bahrain) do hereby change my son name as (given name) **VATSALYA** (surname) **SAINI**, objection(s), if and may be forwarded to Embassy of India, P. O. BOX 26106, AL-SEEF, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA

### MORTAL ENGINES

(PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/THRILLER) NEW  
 @HUGO WEAVING, HERA HILMAR, ROBERT SHEEHAN

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT (ATMOS): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

DAILY AT (VIP): 12.30 + 3.00 + 5.30 + 8.00 + 10.30 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT (IMAX 2D): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

DAILY AT: (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

DAILY AT (ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN

DAILY AT (VIP I): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)

SEEF (I) DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM THURS/FRI

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

### THE POSSESSION OF HANNAH

#### GRACE

(18+) (THRILLER/HORROR) NEW

@SHAY MITCHELL, STANA KATIC, LOUIS HERTHUM

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 12.15 + 4.45 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SAAR DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + (11.30 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

#### GREEN BOOK

(PG-15) (COMEDY/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY) NEW

@VIGGO MORTENSEN, MAHERSHALA ALI, LINDA CARDELLINI

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 4.00 + 9.00 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 3.15 + 8.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 5.00 + 10.30 PM

#### BEN IS BACK

(15+) (DRAMA) NEW

@JULIA ROBERTS, LUCAS HEDGES, COURTNEY B. VANCE

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 1.45 + 6.30 + 11.15 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 9.00 + (11.15 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 12.00 + 4.45 + 9.30 PM

#### KEDARNATH

(PG-15) (HINDI/DRAMA/ROMANTIC) NEW

@SUSHANT SINGH RAJPUT, SARA ALI KHAN, NITISH BHARADWAJ

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

#### FAHRENHEIT 11/9

(15+) (DOCUMENTARY) NEW

@DAVIUD HOGG, MICHAEL MOORE, ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 3.15 + 8.15 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 1.00 + 5.15 + 9.30 PM

#### WHITNEY

(15+) (DOCUMENTARY/MUSICAL/BIOGRAPHY) NEW

@WHITNEY HOUSTON, BOBBY BROWN, CISSY HOUSTON

DAILY AT: 12.45 + 5.45 + 10.45 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM

#### CATS

(G) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY) NEW

@LI YUFENG, YANG WEI, ZHOU HUAJIAN, ZHANG WEI

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 10.30 AM + 12.15 + 2.00 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 +

3.30 PM

#### ROBOT 2.0

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER/SCI-FICTION/DRAMA)

@RAJINIKANTH, AKSHAY KUMAR, AMY JACKSON

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT (HINDI): 11.30 AM + 5.00 + 10.30 PM

DAILY AT (3D) (TAMIL): 10.30 AM + 1.15 + 4.15 + 7.15 + 10.15 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT (3D) (HINDI): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM

DAILY AT (3D) (TAMIL): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT (3D) (HINDI): 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM

DAILY AT (3D) (TAMIL): 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

SEEF (I) DAILY AT (HINDI): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 4.00 + 7.00 + 10.00 PM

DAILY AT (TAMIL): 10.30 AM + 4.30 + 10.30 PM

DAILY AT (TELUGU): 1.30 + 7.30 PM

#### AL HAMRA

DAILY AT (TELUGU): 12.00 + 3.00 PM

DAILY AT (TAMIL): 6.00 + 9.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT (3D) (HINDI): 2.00 + 7.30 + 11.00 PM

#### CREED II

(PG-13) (DRAMA/ACTION/SPORT)

@TESSA THOMPSON, MICHAEL B. JORDAN, SYLVESTER STALLONE

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN

SAAR DAILY AT: 12.30 + 5.45 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

#### RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET

(PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)

@JOHN C. REILLY, SARAH SILVARMAN, GAL GADOT

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 3.45 + 6.00 + 8.15 + 10.30 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

SAAR DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 PM

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 PM

#### ROBIN HOOD

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)

@TARON EGERTON, EVE HEWSON, JAMIE FOXX

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 2.30 + 8.00 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

#### INSTANT FAMILY

(PG-15) (COMEDY)

@MARK WAHLBERG, ROSE BYRNER, OCTAVIA SPENCER

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 3.30 + 8.30 PM

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

DAILY AT (VIP II): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 1.30 + 6.30 + 11.30 PM

WADI AL SAIL DAILY AT: 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM

#### BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY

(15+) (MUSICAL/DRAMA/BIOGRAPHY)

@RAMI MALEK, LUCY BOYNTON, GWILYM LEE

OASIS JUFFAIR DAILY AT: 2.15 + 6.45 PM

#### JOHNNY ENGLISH

#### STRIKES AGAIN

(PG) (COMEDY/ACTION/ADVENTURE)

@ROWAN ATKINSON, OLGA KURYLENKO, EMMA THOMPSON

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 3.15 + 7.15 + 11.15 PM

#### HUNTER KILLER

(PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER)

@GERARD BUTLER, GARY OLDMAN, COMMON

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM

#### WIDOWS

(15+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA)

@VIOLA DAVIS, MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ, ELIZABETH DEBICKI

DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM

#### 16-FANTASTIC BEASTS:

#### THE CRIMES OF GRINDELWALD

(PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE/FANTASY)

@EDDIE REDMAYNE, KATHERINE WATERSTON, DAN FOGLE

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

#### VENOM

(PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)

@TOM HARDY, MICHELLE WILLIAMS, RIZ AHMED

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

#### NIGHT SCHOOL

(PG-15) (COMEDY)

@KEVIN HART, TIFFANY HADDISH, ROB RIGGLE

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 12.15 + 4.30 + 8.45 PM

#### EL BADLASH

(PG-13) (ARABIC/COMEDY)

@TAMER HOSNY, AKRAM HOSNI, MAJED EL MASRY, AMINA KHALIL

CITYCENTRE DAILY AT: 2.30 + 6.45 + 11.00 PM

#### COLETTE

(18+) (CRIME/THRILLER/DRAMA) NEW

@KEIRA KNIGHTLEY, ELEANOR TOMLISON, DOMINIC WEST

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM

#### BERNIE THE DOLPHIN

(PG) (ADVENTURE/FAMILY) NEW

@LOLA SULTAN, LOGAN ALLEN

SEEF (II) DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 PM

#### WEDY ATKALAM

(PG) (ARABIC/KUWAITI/COMEDY/DRAMA) NEW

@KHALID AL-BURAIKI, LAILA ABDULLAH, JASIM AL-NABHAN

SE

# SPORTS

## sports

### BIC all set for non-stop action at Speed Weekend



Action from MRF Challenge (file photo)

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) is all set to host Speed Weekend today and tomorrow in Sakhir.

The meeting is set to be an action-packed event with a whopping six championships lining up on the grid.

These include the headlining Porsche BWT GT3 Cup Challenge Middle East, the MRF Challenge, the BIC 2,000cc Challenge, the Bahrain Motorcycle Racing (BMR) 600, the Bahrain Super Sport Championship (BSSP) 125 and the Bahrain Superbike Championship (BSBK).

Bahrain is set to be well represented in Speed Weekend.

Two of the kingdom's bright-

est young motor racing talents are set to fly the Bahrain flag in the Porsche GT3 Cup.

Shaikh Isa bin Abdulla Al Khalifa and Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa will be both driving Team Bahrain cars as they compete in the championship's ProAm category.

Shaikh Isa and Shaikh Ali are among a grid of 16 drivers competing in the meeting, which is a part of the landmark 10th season of the Porsche one-make series.

There are several other top names in the ProAm class, including Team Sweden ace Magnus Oehman and Christoffer Bergstroem, and Jesse Van Kuijk from the Netherlands, to name a few.

# Ironman Kicksoff

● Ironkids and Irongirls contests will be held today

● Main race will be held tomorrow

TDT | Manama

The activities of the Middle East Ironman 70.3 Championship Bahrain, hosted by the Kingdom this weekend under the patronage of HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, were launched yesterday.

On the occasion, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa explained that the Middle East Ironman 70.3 Championship Bahrain, annually held in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has become a much anticipated sports event that attracts thousands of triathletes and sports enthusiasts.

The Representative of HM the King for Charity and Youth Affairs, President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olym-



Participants take part in Ironman competition (file photo)

#### Championship Programme

**Friday December 7:** Ironkids (running), Irongirls (5km run) and Iron Aquathlon (running and swimming) contests.

**Saturday December 8:** 1.9km swimming race at Bahrain Bay Beach. 90km cycling race starting from Bahrain Bay, going through Bahrain Financial Harbour, Bahrain International Circuit, Al Areen Wildlife Park and Reserve and finishing at the Gulf of Bahrain. Final stage is the 21.1 run.

pic Committee said that the children's contests, IronKids and IronGirls, taking place today as part of the activities of the championship, is expected to witness strong competition between the young triathletes, adding that the big number of registered participants (1,000 boys and girls) serves the goals of promoting sports and healthy lifestyle among children.

HH Shaikh Nasser praised the members of the organising committee of the championship, ap-

preciating their hard work and dedication to ensure the success of the international event. He also welcomed the visiting participants and wished good luck to them and the local racers.

HH Shaikh Nasser also expressed his gratitude and appreciation to HRH the Crown Prince for patronising the championship, reflecting HRH's support and concern about the Bahraini sports movement.

#### Bahrain Team Ready

Members of the Royal Bahrain Team have continued their training in preparation for the big race tomorrow. Team members include Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa, Ali Abdulaziz Janahi, Mohammed Isa Al Ghais and Hamad Al Muraisi.

Team members have been training during the past period under direct supervision and support of the leader, HH Shaikh Nasser. They said they have participated in a series of international championships this year and that they are qualified to achieve advanced results in the race. The members thanked HH Shaikh Nasser for his endless encouragement and support.

## Female participation for IronMan 70.3 increases by 50pc

TDT | Manama

#### Supriya Reginald

IronMan 70.3 saw a 50 per cent increase in female participation, it was learned during the press conference held yesterday in the presence of the organizing committee heads, representatives of the sponsoring companies and members of Bahrain Endurance 13 Team and Bahrain National Triathlon Team.

Speaking to Tribune, Amal Al Murbati, CEO of Faalyat, the organizing company of the championship, stated that the fourth edition of IronMan has seen an immense increase in female participation.

"This year we have a lot of women as compared to before, we have seen a 50pc increase in participation which is incredible. Even the IronGirl which is a side event has received tremendous participation. In the past few years, there wasn't as much participation from women. This shows that more women are in-



From Left- David Plese, Kristian Blumenfeld, Holly Lawrence, Terenzo Bozzone, Amal Al Murbati, Mohammed Jamsheer, Sameera Al Bitar and Hussien Abdul Majid Mohammed

involved, not necessarily in the triathlon but moving toward a healthier lifestyle and taking physical activities more seriously," said Al Murbati.

Among the athletes present at the press conference, Bahrain's own Samira Al Bitar, a 2-time Olympic swimmer expressed her appreciation toward the female participants.

"It is wonderful that we have

a lot of Bahraini female athletes that are participating in the race for the first time, it is very exciting to see that they are getting into the sport. It is a very difficult race, this is my second time and it pleases me to see all these women training together and embarking on this journey together. I'm very excited to see how they perform and I hope this inspires the younger genera-

tion to start into sports and leading a healthy lifestyle. Hopefully, we see more and more women joining this race in the years to come," stated Al Bitar.

Avenues have been chosen as the venue for IronMan 70.3 for its welcoming and scenic representation of Bahrain.

"The venue is new for the fourth edition, this year we have chosen the Avenues Park.



Participation for Iron Kids has increased tremendously with nearly 900 participants for the fourth edition

The place is wonderful; it shows most of the iconic buildings in the country. The run will cover a lot of the sceneries in the country. The commencement and the finish line will be at the Avenues. We have received very positive feedback from the participants so far," revealed Al Murbati.

Apart from the milestone in female participation, Ironman 70.3 has also witnessed a large participation from children.

"We have introduced some side events, including the aquathlon for the kids between

the age group of five to 14 year, which include swimming and running. We are truly surprised by the major amount of registration we received," stated Al Murbati.

As the number of children participants reached nearly 900, concerns regarding safety and protection of the children motivated the organizers to be fully equipped for handling them.

"The number of participants places a challenge on us because kids are not easy to manage, especially during the race. We are very equipped for this, we have our IronMan team coming from Germany as well as other countries to support us and we are ready for the race," stated Al Murbati.

The itinerary for the race will include Ironkids (running), Irongirls (5km run) and Iron Aquathlon (running and swimming) for the 7th of December and 1.9km swimming race, 90km cycling race and finally the 21.1 run on 8th December.



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Gladiator House, Overall Champions of the Annual Sports Day of Bahrain Indian School celebrate their victory yesterday. Ali Khamis, the finalist and the Sixth fastest man over 400mtr at the Rio Olympics & Gold medalist at Asian Games, was the chief guest during the event

# Liverpool close on City, Arsenal held by United

Man Utd fight back again but Arsenal extend unbeaten run in four-goal thriller

● **Liverpool hot on City's heels after James Milner sparks fightback at Burnley**

● **Raul Jimenez and Jota give Wolves comeback win over Chelsea**

● **Spurs show new Southampton manager size of his task**

AFP | London

Liverpool closed back to within two points of Premier League leaders Manchester City by coming from behind to beat Burnley 3-1 as Manchester United and Arsenal shared the spoils in a thrilling 2-2 draw at Old Trafford.

Wolves also overturned an early deficit to inflict just Chelsea's second defeat of the season in a 2-1 win at Molineux, allowing Tottenham to move back up to third with a comfortable 3-1 win over Southampton.

Chelsea and Arsenal are now tied on 31 points in fourth, still eight clear of United in eighth.

Given the relentless pace being set by City at the top of the table, Liverpool couldn't af-



Jesse Lingard scores the equaliser for Manchester United

ford any slip ups at Turf Moor despite Jurgen Klopp making seven changes with Mohamed Salah and Roberto Firmino left on the bench and Sadio Mane missing through injury.

Their firepower was badly missed as Liverpool laboured in the first-half and went behind early in the second.

A huge error by £67 million (\$75 million) goalkeeper Alisson Becker for Burnley's shock opener when Jack Cork bundled home after the Brazilian fumbled in the wet conditions.

However, the visitors quickly rallied to stretch their unbeaten

start to the league season to 15 games.

James Milner levelled just after the hour mark and then turned provider for Firmino to turn the game around just three minutes after coming on as a substitute before Xherdan Shaqiri sealed the three points late on.

"The character we showed after going behind, to come back in that fashion is what we expect from this team," said Milner.

Arsenal stretched their unbeaten run to 20 games, but failed to take advantage of two gifts from the hosts as Unit-

ed's winless run in the Premier League extended to four matches.

Amid an underperforming side this season, goalkeeper David de Gea has remained in almost impeccable form, but the Spaniard spilled Shkodran Mustafi's header over the line to hand Arsenal the lead 26 minutes in.

Four minutes later the hosts levelled when Anthony Martial turned home Ander Herrera's cross after Bernd Leno saved Marcos Rojo's cross.

Wolves registered their first win in seven games despite



**Arsenal threw away the lead twice against a combative Manchester United on a night that will be remembered for David de Gea's first-half howler**

going behind to Ruben Loftus-Cheek's 18th minute opener for Chelsea.

Spurs took advantage of Chelsea and Arsenal dropping points to move back up to third with a comfortable 3-1 win over Southampton, whose new manager Ralph Hasenhuttl watched on from the stands at Wembley.

Harry Kane turned home Christian Eriksen's cross to give Tottenham a half-time lead before Lucas Moura and Son Heung-min scored twice in four minutes after the break to bounce back from a painful North London derby defeat to Arsenal on Sunday.

Fulham edged to within a point of safety despite blowing the lead in a 1-1 draw with Leicester.

## Registration underway for Sports Day

TDT | Manama

Registration is now underway for all government ministries, government authorities and the private sector wishing to organize their respective events at the 2019 Bahrain Sports Day by submitting their entries on [www.sportsday.bh](http://www.sportsday.bh), the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) announced yesterday.

The third edition of the Bahrain Sports Day, scheduled for February 12, 2019 is brought up by the BOC.

The Board of Directors of BOC has recently approved the official date of the Bahrain Sports Day at its meeting held recently under the chairmanship of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, representative of His Majesty the King for charity and youth affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports.

Ministries, nation authorities, in addition to companies and institutions wishing to have their own sports programmes, as well as those willing to support the event, can submit their information on the official website. Citizens and expats are also welcome to be part of the event.

## BOC congratulates Sports Minister

TDT | Manama

Supreme Council for Youth and Sports assistant secretary general and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) secretary general Abdulrahman Askar congratulated recently-appointed Youth and Sports Affairs Minister Ayman Tawfiq Almoayyed.

Almoayyed was named new minister of the Youth and Sports Affairs Ministry following His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's issuance of Royal Decree (61), forming the cabinet.

Askar expressed confidence in Almoayyed's ability to improve the youth and sports sectors in Bahrain.

Askar also stressed Al Moayyed's capability to fulfill the visions and aspirations of the leadership and Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, and BOC president.

## BTC organises Open Tennis Day

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Tennis Club has announced that it is organising the Bahrain-France Friendship Open Tennis Day today from 3 pm to 6 pm at the Club premises in Juffair.

BTC has invited all French tennis players to participate the event which is being held under the patronage of Cecile Longe, French Ambassador.

## Public Weigh-ins for Brave 19 to be held at Sun City Resort

TDT | Manama

Brave Combat Federation will host the public weigh-ins at 06:00 PM on 7th December at the Valley of the Waves Sun City Resort in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Sun City Resort is the official hospitality and venue partner for Brave Combat Federation. Fighters will face off for the final time ahead of the fight night taking place on 8th December.



Brave 19 marks the second time the global initiative from

the Kingdom of Bahrain is hosting an event in the Continent of Africa.

Bahrain's Brave CF is credited for hosting the first ever global mixed martial arts event in Africa. Brave 14 held in Tangier, Morocco marked the first event for the continent of Africa by a global Mixed Martial Arts organization.

Brave 19 will be held on December 8th, at the Sun City Resort, in South Africa.

## Brave athletes support KHK Boxing Initiative

TDT | Manama

Jarrah Al Selawe, Welterweight world champion at Brave Combat Federation praised the upcoming initiative of KHK Boxing under the leadership of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Mixed Martial Arts have flourished in the region and across the world due to the impact of the initiatives of KHK MMA and Brave Combat Federation. KHK Boxing will aim to develop the sport of boxing starting with a nationwide initiative in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

Al Selawe expressed that the project to develop Boxing will



Jarrah Al Selawe

have far-reaching impact beyond Bahrain allowing the sport to grow as well as will improve the skills of Mixed Martial Arts

ists in the region, who will benefit from added training.

"The leadership of HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa is transforming the sports initiatives not only in the Kingdom of Bahrain but across the world. Today we are witnessing a global mixed martial arts organization hosting the second event in Africa while the traditional organizations haven't even achieved to host a single event in the continent of Africa. By bringing boxing under the banner of KHK Sports this only means further expansion and development for the sport", said Jarrah Al Selawe, Welterweight World Champion at Brave Combat Federation.

## Brave CF World Champ featured in Deen Show



Abdul Kareem Al-Selwady with his title

TDT | Manama

Abdul Kareem Al-Selwady, who became the first athlete from Palestine to be crowned as a lightweight world champion in the sport of Mixed Martial Arts, was invited to The Deen Show following his win at Brave 18 held during the Brave International Combat Week 2018 in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The Deen Show is one among the most popular shows for the Muslim World produced in the United States of America and having a followership of around 4.75 million. The show hosts interviews with prominent members of the Islamic community around the world including athletes, artists, businessmen discussing contemporary topics.

Abdul Kareem Al-Selwady captured the lightweight

world championship after his dominant TKO victory over Lucas Mineiro. After the first round, Mineiro was taken out of the arena in a stretcher as Al-Selwady was celebrating his first world championship title in Mixed Martial Arts.

The show aims to educate, clear misconceptions and share the true message of Islam without any political, cultural or nationalistic prejudices and corruption.

The Deen Show is viewed internationally on many satellite and cable stations all over the world from Islam Channel, Iqra Tv, Huda Tv, Guide Us Tv, Cantv and more.

Ever since its inception in 2006, The Deen Show has been working on clearing up misconceptions about Islam and at the same time delivering the message of the "Purpose of life" in a fun and exciting way.

# Pujara rescues India

*Gutsy Pujara ton keeps India in fight after another tepid batting display*

● **Cheteshwar Pujara scored his 16th Test hundred as he waged a lone battle for India on the opening day of the Adelaide Test vs Australia**

● **Ashwin added 62 runs for the seventh wicket with Pujara before falling to Cummins**

AFP | Adelaide, Australia

Cheteshwar Pujara scored a gritty 123 in punishing conditions to claw India back into the opening Test in Adelaide yesterday after Australia seized early control with some blistering bowling.

Nathan Lyon, Pat Cummins, Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc all grabbed two wickets each as temperatures topped 36 Celsius (96.8 Fahrenheit) and the tourists wilted to 250-9 at stumps on day one.

The experienced Pujara faced 246 balls in his gutsy knock -- passing 5,000 Test runs for his 16th Test century -- as the wickets tumbled around him, including superstar captain Virat Kohli for three.

At the end of a day characterised by poor shot selection, Pujara went for a quick single on the second last ball and was removed in a brilliant run-out by a diving Cummins.

Batting after Kohli won the toss, the visitors crumbled in a disastrous morning session under a pace barrage before digging in later in the day with Pujara and Ravi Ashwin (25 off 76 balls) staging a fightback as the bowlers tired.



Indian cricketer Khaleel Ahmed (2R) celebrates with teammates after dismissing West Indies cricketer Shai Hope (not pictured)

In their first home Test since the ball-tampering scandal in March, Australia took four wickets before lunch with the batsmen guilty of playing at deliveries they would have been better off leaving alone.

Australian bowling coach David Saker said it was a premeditated plan for the quicks to pitch it up and lure India's batsmen into false shots.

"We got the wickets the way we thought we might get the wickets," he told the Seven Network.



**In the course of his innings, Cheteshwar Pujara reached 5000 Test runs**

India first innings	
M. Vijay c Paine b Starc	11
KL. Rahul c Finch b Hazlewood	2
C. Pujara run out (Cummins)	123
V. Kohli c Khawaja b Cummins	3
A. Rahane c Handscomb b Hazlewood	13
R. Sharma c Harris b Lyon	37
R. Pant c Paine b Lyon	25
R. Ashwin c Handscomb b Cummins	25
I. Sharma b Starc	4
M. Shami not out	6
Extras (lb1)	1
Total (9 wickets, 87.5 overs)	250
To bat: Jasprit Bumrah	
Fall of wickets: 1-3 (Rahul), 2-15 (Vijay), 3-19 (Kohli), 4-41 (Rahane), 5-86 (Sharma), 6-127 (Pant), 7-189 (Ashwin), 8-210 (Sharma), 9-250 (Pujara)	
Bowling: Starc 19-4-63-2, Hazlewood 19.5-3-52-2, Cummins 19-3-49-2, Lyon 28-2-83-2, Head 2-1-2-0	
Australia: Marcus Harris, Aaron Finch, Usman Khawaja, Shaun Marsh, Travis Head, Peter Handscomb, Tim Paine (capt), Josh Hazlewood, Pat Cummins, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Starc	

mins delivery as he attempted a drive, out after facing only 16 balls.

It was stunning one-handed take by Khawaja, whose preparations were upset by the shock arrest of his brother this week for allegedly framing a love-rival with a fake terror plot.

The dismissal of Kohli, who has scored five centuries in his two previous Test tours of Australia and rates Adelaide his favourite overseas ground, sparked wild celebrations.

Vice captain Ajinkya Rahane and Pujara worked to steady the ship.

But after returning from a break, Hazlewood enticed Rahane into a drive and he edged to Handscomb in the slips for 13.

## Williamson, Nicholls put Kiwis in control

AFP | Galle, Sri Lanka

Record-breaking Yasir Shah had to share the day's honours with New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson yesterday as the third and final Test heads towards a gripping final day in Abu Dhabi.

The early part of the morning belonged to Yasir who collected the one wicket he needed to become the fastest man to reach 200 wickets in Test cricket.

The rest of the day, however, belonged to Williamson who played a masterly innings, and was 139 not out as the Kiwis reached 272-4 by the close.

Williamson had great support from Henry Nicholls who made 90 not out during an unbroken fifth wicket partnership of 212 that has given New Zealand a lead of 198 with six wickets remaining.

With the series tied at 1-1, the final day of this last Test promises to be fascinating with both sides capable of winning.

The day began in high anticipation with New Zealand re-



New Zealand captain Kane Williamson plays a shot

suming at 26-2 and Yasir taking the ball to bowl the third over.

He needed just one wicket to break a record set 82 years ago by the great Australian leg-spinner Clarrie Grimmett who had needed 36 Tests to reach the milestone of 200 Test wickets.

When Yasir trapped night-watchman Will Somerville leg before for four with his 13th delivery of the day, he reached the 200-wicket mark in just his 33rd Test.

"Ever since I knew this record it became my dream to take fastest 200 wickets and it came true today," said Yasir, who still

hopes Pakistan can pull off a win.

"The wicket is slow but it is turning from the patches. We want to bowl them and try to go for the chase. That is what we are going to try as there is still one full day left in the match."

Pakistan had hopes of an emphatic win once Shaheen Shah Afridi had Ross Taylor caught hooking for 22 with the total at 60-4.

But they were undone by Williamson's masterclass and an innings from Nicholls that grew in confidence but, like his partner, enjoyed a touch of luck.

New Zealand 1st innings 274 (K. Williamson 89, BJ Watling 77 not out; Bilal Asif 5-65, Yasir Shah 3-75)	
Pakistan 1st innings 348 (Azhar Ali 134, Asad Shafiq 104; W. Somerville 4-75)	
New Zealand 2nd innings (overnight 26-2)	
J. Raval lbw b Shaheen	0
T. Latham c Sohail b Yasir	10
K. Williamson not out	139
W. Somerville lbw b Yasir	4
R. Taylor c Asif b Shaheen	22
H. Nicholls not out	90
Extras: (b5, lb 1, nb 1)	7
Total: (for four wkts; 104 overs)	272

## Real Madrid complete 10-1 aggregate thrashing of Melilla

Reuters | Madrid

Real Madrid trounced third division side Melilla 6-1 in a Copa del Rey round of 32 second leg yesterday, completing a 10-1 aggregate scoreline to ease into the last 16 of the competition.

Madrid went into halftime with a three-goal lead after Marco Asensio scored twice in three minutes and debutant Javi Sanchez also got on the scoresheet late in the half.

Spain midfielder Isco extended the advantage three minutes into the second half, scoring for the first time since September in his first start under new coach Santiago Solari, while Brazilian Vinicius Jr. hit goal number five.

Solari had made 10 changes from the team that beat Valencia 2-0 in La Liga on Saturday but was still able to field

# 10

changes were made from the team that beat Valencia 2-0 in La Liga on Saturday

four Spain internationals and three-time Champions League winning goalkeeper Keylor Navas.

Melilla, a tiny Spanish autonomous enclave in north Africa, managed to give their travelling supporters something to celebrate when striker Yacine Qasmi smashed a penalty beyond Navas in the 81st minute.

Isco restored Madrid's five-goal advantage with his second goal of the game.



Isco of Real Madrid (22) celebrates after scoring his team's fourth goal with team mates

# 200

Test wickets were taken by Pakistan's Yasir Shah becoming the fastest player to achieve the record