

IMMAF president praises Shaikh Khalid and Bahrain

Flyweight contender Hussain Ayyad will be carrying the flag of Bahrain at BRAVE CF 29 as he takes on Latvia's Matis Zaharovs on November 15th in front of his own crowd.
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Billionaires' wealth falls for first time since 2015

THE DAILY **tribune**



Hilary Duff declares she is not secretly married

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WORLD

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Sharif seeks permission to travel abroad

Congratulatory cables sent
 Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has exchanged cables of congratulations with leaders of Arab and Islamic states on Prophet Mohammed (PBUH)'s Birthday Anniversary.

HM the King extended to them wishes of good health and happiness and further progress and prosperity to their countries, wishing the Arab and Muslim nations many happy returns of the occasion.

HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister exchanged cables of congratulations with the leaders of Arab and Islamic states marking the occasion.

Pompeo blasts Russia, Putin
 Berlin

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has warned of the dangers posed by Russia and called on Nato to grow and confront "the challenges of today".

On a visit to Berlin, Mr Pompeo said methods used by Russia to suppress its own people would be "horrifyingly familiar" to East Germans. And he accused Russia of invading its neighbours and crushing dissent.

He laughed off comments from French President Emmanuel Macron, who said recently that Nato was "brain dead".

But Mr Pompeo told reporters: "Seventy years on... it needs to grow and change. It needs to confront the realities of today and the challenges of today."



02 Egypt ties 'at all time high'

03 GCC man in the dock for bid to murder son-in-law

04 Dental surgeon suspended for six months over 'medical error'

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Iraq crisis worsens

Iraq protests dig in for third week; 12 more killed



Demonstrators clash with riot police during the ongoing anti-government protests in Baghdad.

● **In Baghdad, six people died facing off against security forces Thursday, a medical source told AFP.**

● **Iraq's top cleric urged security forces to avoid using excessive force to quell weeks of anti-government unrest.**

Baghdad

Anti-government protests in Iraq entered their third week on Friday amid fresh bloodshed, but leaders appeared to have closed rank around the country's embattled premier.

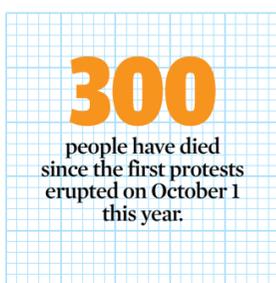
More than a dozen demonstrators had died in the capital Baghdad and the southern port city of Basra within 24 hours, medical sources told AFP on Friday.

That pushed the death toll since the first protests erupted on October 1 closer to 300, according to an AFP tally kept as officials have stopped providing updated figures.

In Basra, seven protesters were killed in confrontations on Thursday and early Friday, with security forces trying to reopen roads blocked by sit-ins, medical sources said.

For a week, protesters have cut access to Basra's Umm Qasr port, which brings in most of Iraq's food and medical imports.

In Baghdad, six people died facing off against security forces Thursday, a medical source told AFP.



Despite the violence, thousands again flocked to the capital's main protest camp in Tahrir (Liberation) Square on Friday, including members of Iraq's influential tribes.

"We sacrificed the blood of our tribe's sons," said one tribe member who had traveled from the southern city of Nasiriyah.

"We won't stop until the government resigns."

Meanwhile, Iraq's top Shiite Muslim cleric urged security forces on Friday to avoid using excessive force to quell weeks of anti-government unrest as authorities grapple with the country's biggest crisis in years.

Grand Ayatollah Ali Al Sistani, who only speaks on politics in times of crisis and wields enormous influence over public opinion in Shiite-majority Iraq, held security forces accountable for any violent escalation and urged the government to respond as quickly as possible to demonstrators' demands.

"The biggest responsibility is on the security forces," a representative of Sistani said in a sermon after Friday prayers in the holy city of Kerbala.

"They must avoid using excessive force with peaceful protesters."

Iran claims to have shot down drone near Arabian Gulf
 Tehran

Iran's air defence force has shot down an "unknown" drone in the country's south-west, the official IRNA news agency reported on Friday.

The agency said that Iranian forces hit the drone in the early morning at Mahshahr, a port in the oil-rich Khuzestan province and on the Arabian Gulf.

The report did not say whether the drone was a military or commercially available device, said the Associated Press.

Provincial governor Gholamreza Shariati told IRNA that the drone belonged to a "foreign" country and that parts of the drone had been recovered in a nearby lagoon.

He said the drone had violated Iran's airspace.



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KHUZESTAN PROVINCE

Joseph Dempsey, Research Associate for Defence and Military Analysis at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, geo-located footage of the supposed drone and said it did appear consistent with report of a Surface-to-Air Missile launch from Mahshahr.

But after slowing and analysing the clip he said: "However, I suspect Iran state media footage actually shows SAM failing after launch - cutting off before possible ground impact."

US Central Command said on Friday that reports that a US drone had been shot down over Iran were "incorrect".

Centcom said on Twitter that all American equipment had been accounted for.

MORE PROTESTS

Lebanon pupils skip school for third day to demand change

Beirut

Thousands of high school students across Lebanon skipped classes yesterday for a third day in a row to carry on the flame of the country's anti-graft movement.

Lebanon has since October 17 been gripped by massive cross-sectarian protests demanding a complete revamping of a political system they say is corrupt and inept.

With youth unemployment running at over 30 per cent, school students have joined en masse since Wednesday de-



Student protesters wave their national flags and shout slogans, as they protest against the government in front of the education ministry in Beirut.

manding a better country so they don't have to emigrate.

Across Lebanon, students protested outside state institutions and banks including in the southern city of Saida, Tripoli in the north and the east's Baalbek.

What started as a spontaneous and leaderless movement has become more organised in recent days, with protesters targeting institutions viewed as particularly inefficient or corrupt.

Early Friday, dozens of activists and retired army officers for the first time briefly closed down the entrance to Beirut's port.