

Top stables share victories at Al Raffa race

The 27th race meeting of the 2025/26 season was held at Al Raffa Track under the patronage of Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa. | P12

WORLD 6 Vance warns Iran before talks

Riffa edge Khaldiya in King's Cup classic 11 SPORTS

BUSINESS 5 Stocks mixed, oil steadies on guarded optimism for Iran ceasefire

Over 100,000 worshippers perform Friday prayers at Al-Aqsa
AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

More than 100,000 worshippers performed Friday prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque in east Jerusalem, the holy site's Islamic authority reported, after it reopened the previous day following a truce agreed between the United States and Iran.

Jerusalem's Old City is home to major holy sites for all three Abrahamic religions, which had been shuttered since the start of the war sparked by the US-Israeli attack on Iran on February 28.

Trump warns of fresh strikes if Iran talks fail: NY Post
AFP | Washington, United States

President Donald Trump said yesterday that US warships are being reloaded with weaponry to strike Iran if talks in Pakistan fail to produce a deal, in an interview with the New York Post.

"We have a reset going. We're loading up the ships with the best ammunition, the best weapons ever made -- even better than what we did previously and we blew them apart," the Post quoted Trump as saying.

"And if we don't have a deal, we will be using them, and we will be using them very effectively."

In a brief and cryptic message on his Truth Social network earlier, Trump had spoken of the "WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL RESET!"

Vice President JD Vance headed to Islamabad yesterday to lead the US delegation in this weekend's talks with Iran, with a warning to Tehran not to "play" Washington.

African charity says suing Prince Harry
London, United Kingdom

An African AIDS charity co-founded by Britain's Prince Harry said yesterday it had launched legal proceedings against him for "reputational harm", after a bitter dispute about its management.

Bahrain-led Gulf bloc warns Iran to end attacks and proxy support

● GCC nations said attacks violate international law and accused Iran of backing armed groups

TDT | Manama

Gulf states led by Bahrain have issued a stark diplomatic warning to Iran, urging it to halt ongoing aggression and support for armed groups across the region.

The warning came in a joint letter sent to the UN Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council by the



Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the United Nations in New York, on behalf of the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain.

”Iran's continued unlawful and destabilising actions – whether through direct attacks or support for proxy groups – pose a serious threat to regional and global peace and security, while undermining the credibility of the international legal order.
”

LETTER TO UN

The correspondence said that missile and drone attacks attributed to Iran since February 28, 2026, targeting Gulf countries, constitute "a clear violation of state sovereign-

ty, international law, the UN Charter, and principles of good neighbourliness."

It added that these actions form part of a broader pattern, accusing Iran of backing armed groups and networks across the region, including al-Qaeda, the Houthis, Hezbollah, and militias in Iraq. According to the letter, these groups operate as part of a wider network receiving funding, training, weapons and operational guidance, enabling them to expand military activity beyond national borders.

The Gulf states warned that such support is undermining state sovereignty and fuelling instability across the region, calling for an end to these actions.

Police crack BD200,000 Hamad Town heist, arrest two suspects



TDT | Manama

A high-value heist in Hamad Town has been swiftly cracked, with police arresting two suspects over the theft of rare and valuable items worth BD200,000 from a residence.

The Ministry of Interior said the General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science launched an immediate probe upon receiving the report.

Authorities confirmed that all stolen items have been recovered, secured as evidence and placed in custody.

The case has been referred to the Public Prosecution.

Skies fall silent

No missiles or drones detected over Bahrain; defences on high alert

● Air defences have intercepted and destroyed 194 missiles and 515 drones since the onset of the crisis

● Military units remain on high alert as authorities urge the public to stay cautious

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's skies fell silent yesterday, with no missiles or drones detected



over the Kingdom, the Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) said, marking a sharp break from weeks of sustained aerial threats and offering a crucial breather amid heightened regional tensions. The General Command con-

194
Kingdom's air defence systems intercepted and destroyed 194 missiles and 515 drones targeting Bahrain since the onset of "Iranian attacks"

firmed that the airspace remained secure throughout the day, even as all military units stayed on the highest level of readiness and defensive preparedness.

The lull follows an intense

phase in which air defence systems intercepted and destroyed 194 missiles and 515 drones targeting Bahrain since the onset of what it described as "Iranian attacks."

Authorities said specialised teams from the Royal Engineering Field Unit continue to secure affected sites and clear debris to ensure public safety.

Despite the calm, officials stressed the need for continued vigilance, urging the public to avoid impacted areas, stay clear of suspicious objects, and refrain from filming military operations or debris locations.

Safe Resumption

Bahrain airport resumes operations, reinforces aviation hub status

TDT | Manama

Operations at Bahrain International Airport have resumed following the reopening of Bahrain's airspace, Dr Shaikh Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa said in a video statement highlighting a return to normal aviation activity.

Released by the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, he said the airport plays a significant role in supporting the national economy, tourism, and trade.

The return of flights and services, he noted, reflects the effective coordination and pre-



paredness of the Civil Aviation Affairs under the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, with passenger safety and security remaining the top priority.

The Minister expressed appreciation to the Bahrain De-

”What we saw today reflects strong coordination across the aviation and security sectors, with passenger safety remaining the top priority
”

DR SHAIKH ABDULLA BIN AHMED AL KHALIFA

fence Force, the Ministry of Interior, and other security agencies for their role in ensuring the safe restoration of airport operations.

He also highlighted the joint efforts of aviation stakeholders, including Bahrain Airport Company, Civil Aviation Affairs, Gulf Air, and Bahrain Airport Services.

He reaffirmed confidence that, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the support of His Royal Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Bahrain will further strengthen its position as a regional aviation hub.

Starmer says NATO in US's 'interests' as Gulf tour ends



AFP | Doha, Qatar

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer insisted yesterday that NATO was "in America's interests" as he ended a three-day visit to the Gulf to discuss bolstering the "fragile" Middle East truce.

"It is in America's interests. It's in European interests," Starmer told UK broadcasters of the nearly 80-year-old security bloc.

"NATO is a defensive alliance, which for decades has kept us much safer than we would otherwise have been," he added, while reiterating European members "need to do more" financial burden sharing.

Starmer spoke before leaving Qatar, the last stop of his tour of the war-hit region which also included visits to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. The British leader said the UK was building a coalition of over 30 countries to work on a diplomatic and military plan to get vessels moving through the waterway.