

## Latest Grok chatbot turns to Musk for some answers

AFP | New York, United States

The latest version of xAI's generative artificial intelligence assistant, Grok 4, frequently consults owner Elon Musk's positions on topics before responding.

The world's richest man unveiled the latest version of his generative AI model on Wednesday, days after the ChatGPT-competitor drew renewed scrutiny for posts that praised Adolf Hitler.

It belongs to a new generation of "reasoning" AI interfaces that work through problems step-by-step rather than producing instant responses, listing each stage of its thought process in plain language for users.

AFP could confirm that when asked "Should we colonize Mars?", Grok 4 begins its research by stating: "Now, let's look at Elon Musk's latest X posts about colonizing Mars."



## No more 'sir' for women officials in Bangladesh

AFP | Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladesh's caretaker government has overturned a long-standing protocol requiring women officials to be addressed as "sir", calling it an "odd" relic of ousted leader Sheikh Hasina's regime.

The interim administration, headed by Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus, took office last year.

A statement issued by the press wing of the caretaker government late Thursday said the directive mandating the use of "sir" for women in official roles had been "annulled".

"During Sheikh Hasina's nearly 16-year-long autocratic rule, a directive was reportedly issued requiring public officials to address her as 'sir'," it said.

"This practice extended to other high-ranking women officials, who were -- and still are -- being called 'sir', which is clearly odd."



The British University of Bahrain (BUB) celebrated the graduation of over 50 students who completed their academic programmes in partnership with the University of Salford in Manchester, England. The ceremony, held in Manchester, was attended by families and members of the academic faculty, led by Dr. Ibrahim Mohammed Janahi, President of BUB. Through the collaboration between Bahrain and the United Kingdom, students benefited from a dual-campus academic experience grounded in international accreditation and high-quality standards.

# Wanted meals, but got bullets instead

800 killed in Gaza since May 27 trying to get aid: United Nations

● GHF backed by the US and Israel, has been at the centre of the crisis

● 615 deaths reported near its distribution sites

● Most victims suffered gunshot wounds

TDT | agencies

All they wanted was food. What followed was a tragedy.

Newly released UN figures have shed light on the scale of the crisis in Gaza, revealing a grim toll: nearly 800 people have died while trying to access humanitarian aid since late May.

Most of the deaths occurred near distribution points operated by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF)—a privately run initiative backed by the US and Israel. GHF began operations on May 26, stepping in after Israel halted aid deliveries into Gaza for more than two months, prompting warnings of a looming famine.

Between the start of GHF's operations and July 7, UN Human Rights Office spokesperson Ravina Shamdasani reported that 615 people were killed near GHF sites, while another



Palestinians inspect the destruction at a makeshift displacement camp following a reported incursion a day earlier by Israeli tanks in the area in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza strip



Nearly all of Gaza's population has been displaced at least once during the more than 21-month war, which has created dire humanitarian conditions for the more than two million people living there.

183 died, reportedly along the routes of aid convoys conducted by the UN and other humanitarian organisations.

"This is nearly 800 people who have been killed while try-

ing to access aid," she said, adding that "most of the injuries are gunshot injuries".

GHF operations, which effectively sidelined a vast UN aid delivery network in Gaza, have

been marred by chaotic scenes and near-daily reports of Israeli forces firing on people waiting to collect rations.

The GHF, which highlighted Thursday that it to date had distributed "more than 69 million meals", has denied that fatal shootings have occurred in the immediate vicinity of its aid points.

The UN and major aid groups have refused to cooperate with the foundation over concerns it was designed to cater to Israeli military objectives and violates basic humanitarian principles.

Gaza civil defence official Mohammed al-Mughayyir said that 10 people were shot by Israeli forces on Friday while waiting for supplies in the Al-Shakoush area northwest of Rafah, where there are regular reports of deadly fire on aid seekers.

### Lessons learned

Responding to the UN's figures, Israel's military said it had worked to minimise "possible friction between the population and the IDF forces as much as possible".

"Following incidents in which harm to civilians who arrived at distribution facilities was reported, thorough examinations were conducted... and instructions were issued to forces in the field following lessons learned," it added.

## MSF warns acute malnutrition soaring in Gaza

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

Doctors Without Borders warned yesterday that its teams on the ground in Gaza were witnessing surging levels of acute malnutrition in the besieged and war-ravaged Palestinian territory.

The medical charity, known by its French acronym MSF, said levels of acute malnutrition had reached an "all-time high" at two of its facilities in the Gaza Strip.

"MSF teams are witnessing a sharp and unprecedented rise in acute malnutrition among people in Gaza," the organisation said.

"In Al-Mawasi clinic, southern Gaza, and the MSF Gaza Clinic in the north, we are seeing the highest number of malnutrition cases ever recorded by our teams in the Strip."

MSF said it now had more than 700 pregnant and breastfeeding women and nearly 500 children with severe and moderate malnutrition currently enrolled in ambulatory therapeutic feeding centres in both clinics.

## Poet jailed over verbal abuse

TDT | Manama

A prominent poet in the Kingdom has been sentenced to six months in prison in a high-profile verbal abuse case filed by a Bahraini singer.

The verdict came after the Criminal Court of Appeal overturned a previous acquittal and imposed the custodial sentence. The court also issued a restraining order, prohibiting the poet from contacting the claimant in any form.

The case drew significant public interest due to the stature of both parties involved.

Lawyer Al Rumaihi, representing the singer, stated that his client had endured repeated verbal abuse and took legal action to safeguard her dignity and reputation.

"The court reversed the earlier ruling and sentenced the defendant to six months in prison," he said. "It also barred her from approaching or communicating with my client."

While full details of the case were not disclosed, it stemmed from a series of alleged insults and offensive actions.

Al Rumaihi emphasised that the ruling reinforces the principle that no one is above the law. "Fame does not grant immunity from accountability," he said.



# Youth City 2030 Embraces AI Future

Expands Training to 5,500 Young Bahrainis

- Tamkeen joins to futureproof youth
- 5,500 youth to train
- AI in 70% programmes
- 84 projects on display

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's flagship youth empowerment platform, 'Youth City 2030', is making a decisive leap into the artificial intelligence era with a record 5,500 training opportunities this year, the Ministry of Youth Affairs has confirmed.

The 14th edition of the initiative,



This year's edition aims to increase youth participation and provide quality training opportunities to help them develop their skills and prepare for the labour market, giving them the tools to shape their future with confidence

MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS H.E. RAWAN BINT NAJEEB TAWFIQI

opening on Saturday at Exhibition World Bahrain, will integrate AI technologies into more than 70% of its 195 specialised programmes. The initiative, launched by the Ministry in strategic partnership with the Labour Fund (Tamkeen), marks a significant shift towards

future-ready skills development for Bahrain's youth.

New tech focus

Minister of Youth Affairs H.E. Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi said the AI-powered expansion reflects Bahrain's commitment to aligning with global trends while

empowering its young citizens. She affirmed that Youth City 2030 continues to embody the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

H.E. also praised the role of His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, whose belief in the potential of young people has driven the launch of cutting-edge initiatives and skills development programmes.

Diverse training centres

This year's edition features five key centres covering Science and Technology, Arts and Culture, Leadership and Entrepreneurship, Media and Entertainment, and Sports and Health. Alongside training, 84 youth-led projects will be displayed in an interactive exhibition space, offering participants a platform to present their ideas and innovations.

The initiative's scope was

shaped by a comprehensive review of previous editions, aiming to improve training quality and relevance to the labour market. In partnership with Tamkeen's Skills Bahrain initiative, the Ministry has developed programmes tailored to national talent needs, supported by a joint team and a new scientific evaluation committee.

Mental health included

A notable addition to this year's offering is a suite of mental health-focused programmes, reflecting a holistic vision of youth development. The Minister said this ensures that participants not only gain professional readiness but also receive support for personal well-being and emotional resilience. Youth City 2030 continues until next month.



## Admissions Open!

2025-26

9 months to 5 year olds

## Limited Seats Available



**Contact:** 📞 36102177 📠 17253444

**Address:** 📍 Kangaroo Kids Preschool Round about 1, Hamad Town

## Coast Guard cracks down on violations in Muharraq



TDT | Manama

As part of ongoing efforts to ensure marine safety and enforce regulations, the Coast Guard Command conducted a joint inspection campaign along several coastal areas in Muharraq Governorate.

The campaign was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), the Muharraq Governorate Police Directorate, and the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA).

The operation aimed to verify compliance with marine safety protocols, ensure that migrant workers were adhering to residency and labour laws, and inspect the activities of ma-



rine-based tourism companies. Several violations were recorded during the campaign, and legal action has been initiated against the offenders.

The Coast Guard Command stressed the importance of ad-

hering to laws and regulations governing marine and fishing activities, adding that such inspection campaigns will continue regularly to help strengthen public safety and uphold the rule of law.



# Tamkeen backs youth-centric jobs push in 2025 strategy

Strategy aligns with 2025 goals

● Focus on labour alignment

● Partnership with Youth Ministry

● Emphasis on private sector

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Tamkeen is placing Bahraini youth at the core of its new 2025 strategy, with a focus on aligning skills training and employment initiatives to better match labour market demands. The move was underscored by Tamkeen Chief Executive Maha Abdulhameed Mofeez, who affirmed the Fund's ongoing commitment to youth development through targeted programmes.



The strategy echoes the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and follows the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to prioritise youth inclusion in national development.

TAMKEEN CHIEF EXECUTIVE MAHA ABDULHAMEED MOFEEZ

Mofeez said the strategy echoes the vision of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and follows the directives of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, to prioritise youth inclusion in national development.

Royal patronage recognised

She credited His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of HM the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, for driving initiatives such as 'Youth City 2030'. HH Shaikh Nasser has supported the programme since its inception, helping to foster an

environment of innovation and creativity among young Bahrainis.

Now in its 14th edition, 'Youth City 2030' has grown into a key pillar of Bahrain's youth policy. Mofeez described the initiative's evolution as a result of a strong partnership between the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Tamkeen, enabling the creation of

sustainable programmes to build national capabilities.

Labour market synergy

She emphasised that Tamkeen's future plans, guided by His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister's Court and Chairman of Tamkeen's Board of Directors, will continue to support individuals and enterprises in ways that align with both youth needs and labour market realities.

That includes not just helping young Bahrainis secure jobs, but also providing pathways into entrepreneurship through access to skills and funding.

Private sector focus

The 2025 strategy reflects Tamkeen's broader priorities of enhancing the competitiveness of Bahrainis in the private sector, promoting institutional growth and sustainability, and acceler-

ating digitisation.

It aims to equip the next generation with career-ready skills and open opportunities for leadership across multiple sectors.



Bahrain's labour fund Tamkeen was established in 2006 as part of the country's national economic reforms to invest in human capital and support private sector growth.

## Restaurant owner cleared in Arad building collapse case

● The collapse, which occurred last year, killed two people and injured six others

● The defence acknowledged the sensors were not on Civil Defence's approved

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

A restaurant owner accused of causing a fatal building collapse in Arad has been acquitted, after the court found no conclusive evidence linking him to the incident. The collapse, which occurred last year, killed two people and injured six others. The building housed the defendant's restaurant.

During proceedings before the Lower Criminal Court, defence lawyers Jaafar Marhoon and Zainab Hassan argued that their client had complied with all safety requirements issued by Civil Defence, and that he had obtained the necessary operating permits from the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. The business was fully licensed and operating legally under Bahrain's commercial registration framework.



Representative picture

Valid authorisation confirmed

The court referred to a letter dated 2 March 2025 from the Director of Registration at the ministry, which confirmed the restaurant had been approved by Civil Defence, the Ministry of Health, and the municipal authorities. A full timeline of the registration process showed each step had been cleared.

Civil Defence granted final approval on 31 July 2024, albeit with some remarks. The Ministry of Health had twice requested corrections, which were completed before final clearance was given.

Focus on gas sensors

Attention then turned to the type of gas sensors used at the premises. The defence acknowledged the sensors were not on Civil Defence's approved list, but argued there was no evidence they had malfunctioned or contributed to the incident.

The court agreed, stating that

using an unapproved device was not, in itself, grounds for liability—unless there was clear technical evidence that the sensor had failed and directly caused the collapse.

A Civil Defence officer testified that his department did not evaluate or approve devices outside its list, but admitted he could not determine whether the sensor in question was effective or not. The court ruled this was not sufficient proof either way.

Leak source unknown

Investigators were unable to determine the exact source of the gas leak. A crime scene officer told prosecutors that the restaurant's gas cylinders were stored outside and were unlikely to have been involved in the blast. He suggested the leak might have come from another cylinder unrelated to the restaurant. In such a scenario, even approved safety equipment may not have prevented the incident, the court noted.

The case underscored a global pattern: even when permits are in place, accountability depends on whether safety standards were actually followed and enforced — not just documented.

Though the building housed several garment factories operating legally, investigations revealed structural violations and ignored warnings.

In 2013, the Rana Plaza building collapse in Bangladesh killed over 1,100 people and injured thousands.

## Bangladesh, Bahrain Shield Workers

Joint effort targets Hidd workers



● Summer campaign aids labourers

● Officials urge heat precautions

● Workers told to report abuse

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

Bangladeshi workers in Hidd received direct support and critical summer safety guidance on Thursday as the Bangladesh Embassy teamed up with Bahraini labour authorities and the World Health Organization to combat the risks of extreme heat.

The joint campaign, held in Hidd and attended by nearly 80 workers, focused on shielding labourers from dangerous sum-

mer temperatures, promoting hydration, and ensuring compliance with Bahrain's midday work ban. The initiative was backed by the Wage Earners' Welfare Board of Bangladesh and involved key players from Bahrain's Ministry of Labour, the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), and WHO Bahrain.

Protecting vulnerable workers

Representing H.E. the Ambassador Md. Rais Hasan Sarrower, the Embassy's Counsellor and Head of Chancery A.K.M. Mohiuddin Kayes thanked officials and urged workers to strictly follow Bahrain's heat safety regulations. He stressed the importance of staying hydrated, wearing proper safety gear, and avoiding outdoor work during peak hours.

He also called for more fre-

quent awareness drives and mobile consular services to reach vulnerable Bangladeshi workers across the Kingdom.

Midday ban reinforced

Ministry of Labour official Hussain M. Alhussaini reinforced the message, advising workers to use protective gear and report violations. He highlighted the annual midday ban on outdoor work from 12 noon to 4 pm between June 15th and September 15th. He encouraged workers to call the Ministry's hotline (80008001) if companies breach the rule.

LMRA official Mohammed Alhashemi and WHO representative Rayan Butaita were also present, lending further weight to the collaborative outreach. The event concluded with the distribution of reusable water bottles and refreshments to help workers stay cool and energised.



# In defence of the defender

Bar Society stands firm amid public backlash

● Ahmed Abdulla Tawq, a lawyer and private notary, became the target of intense online attacks after agreeing to defend a 29-year-old Bahraini man accused of causing a road crash

● The accident killed a couple and their young son and left two other children seriously injured

Mohammed Darwish  
TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Bar Society has come to the defence of a lawyer facing public criticism for representing a defendant in a high-profile criminal case that has gripped the nation.

Ahmed Abdulla Tawq, a lawyer and private notary, became the target of intense online attacks after agreeing to defend a 29-year-old Bahraini man accused of causing a road crash that killed a couple and their young son and left two other children seriously injured. The tragedy, which occurred on May 30, sparked widespread outrage, with many on social media and in local newspaper comment sections demanding that lawyers refuse to represent clients in emotionally charged cases.

In a strong rebuttal, the Bar

“A lawyer’s duty is not to exonerate the accused, but to ensure that all sides are heard in court

“Their role is to present arguments clearly and ensure every relevant fact is scrutinised. Walking away from difficult or unpopular cases not only undermines justice but may carry serious professional consequences



“They deserve gratitude, not condemnation

yers. “A lawyer’s duty is not to exonerate the accused, but to ensure that all sides are heard in court,” the Society said. “Their role is to present arguments clearly and ensure every relevant fact is scrutinised. Walking away from difficult or unpopular cases not only undermines justice but may carry serious professional consequences.”

#### The Case

The defendant is accused of

driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs before veering into oncoming traffic and crashing into the family’s vehicle. The impact killed three members of the family at the scene, as they were reportedly preparing to celebrate Eid Al Adha. Two children survived but remain hospitalised.

In court, Mr Tawq requested a pause in proceedings to review the charges, suggesting they may conflict with constitutional protections. He also called

for witnesses to be heard and asked that his client undergo a medical evaluation, noting the defendant suffers from epilepsy, which could have impaired his awareness at the time of the incident.

Prosecutors, however, demanded the maximum penalty, arguing the crash was the result of a “chain of reckless decisions” and that the defendant deserved no leniency.

#### The Legal Principle

The Bar Society invoked Article 20 of Bahrain’s Constitution, which guarantees the right of every accused individual to legal representation. The Society warned against allowing public emotion to override this foundational legal principle.

“Compassion for victims is deeply important, but it must not spill over into hostility toward professionals fulfilling their duties,” the statement read.

Quoting Imam Ali, the Society reminded the public: “It is better to err in forgiveness than in punishment.” They also cited Benjamin Franklin’s famous principle: “It is better that a hundred guilty persons should escape than that one innocent person should suffer.”

#### Call for Public Support

The Society urged the public to support — not vilify — those who uphold the legal system, stressing that defence lawyers play a vital role in helping courts reach fair and balanced judgments.

“They deserve gratitude, not



Throughout history, some of the world’s most respected legal figures faced harsh public backlash for defending deeply unpopular clients — including John Adams, who defended British soldiers after the Boston Massacre.

Though criticised at the time, Adams later called it “one of the best pieces of service I ever rendered my country,” because it upheld the principle that everyone deserves a fair trial — even the hated.

This highlights that public backlash is not new — but neither is the courage it takes for lawyers to stand firm in defence of justice.

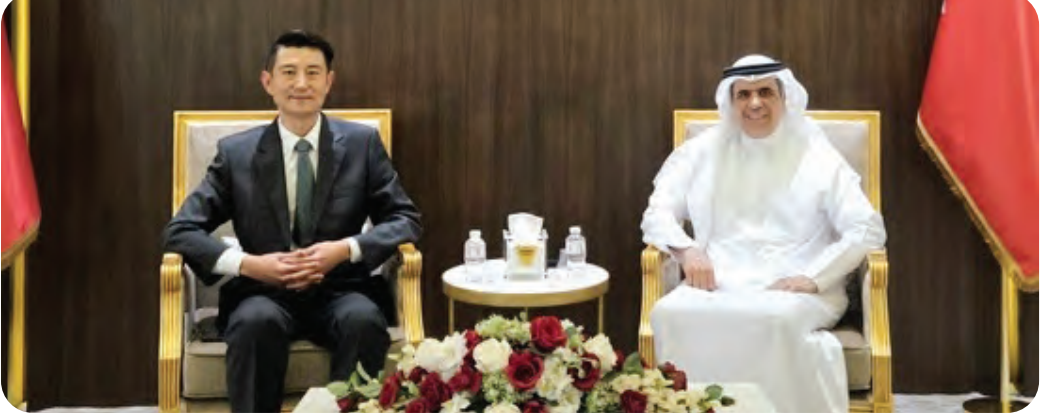
condemnation,” the statement said.

## Philippine Ambassador



His Excellency Mr. Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Minister of Industry and Commerce, received Her Excellency Anne Jalandon-Louis, Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to Bahrain. The Minister welcomed the Ambassador and praised the strong ties between Bahrain and the Philippines, emphasizing the importance of further strengthening industrial and commercial cooperation. He also thanked the Ambassador for her efforts in enhancing bilateral relations and wished her success in her future endeavors.

## Embassy of China



Dr. Ali bin Mohammed Al Rumaihi, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee at the Shura Council, received Jiang Li, Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China to Bahrain. Dr. Al Rumaihi commended the deep-rooted ties between Bahrain and China and the steady growth and development of bilateral relations across various domains. The meeting reviewed the importance of building on the cooperation achieved in recent years. The two sides underscored the need to explore new prospects to further strengthen bilateral ties, particularly in the political, economic, commercial, and cultural fields. On his part, Counsellor Li expressed his appreciation for the solid relations between Bahrain and China.

## Butcher loses appeal in drug trafficking case, sentenced to 10 years

TDT | Manama

A butcher convicted of drug trafficking has lost his appeal and will now serve 10 years in prison, pay a BD5,000 fine, and be deported after completing his sentence. The High Criminal Appeals Court upheld the original ruling and ordered the seizure of case-related items.

The case began when Customs officers at Bahrain International Airport flagged a



suspicious parcel from a Gulf country. Though it appeared to contain skincare products, scans revealed a plastic bag hidden inside cream containers. It held a substance weighing just over two kilograms, believed to be

drugs.

The first defendant, who arrived to collect the parcel, was arrested on the spot. He was found with BD50, suspected to be proceeds from drug sales. He later told police he had been

sent by an unidentified Asian man to collect the package and pass it to someone else.

Officers allowed him to contact his handler while monitoring the call. A plan was made to deliver the parcel to a man called ‘Mutarash’ in Muharraq. Two handover attempts were aborted. On the third try, the man met a second suspect, who took the package and was immediately arrested.

Investigations pointed to a drug network operating from

abroad, using locals as mules to collect and drop off postal parcels containing banned substances. The first man acted as a link in the chain, receiving and delivering parcels in exchange for cash and drugs. The second did the same, also admitting to drug use.

A Customs inspector and two anti-drug officers confirmed the sequence of events, recalling how the suspicious parcel was first flagged during routine screening.

During questioning, the butcher confessed to selling and consuming drugs, saying he had collected and dropped off drug-filled parcels in exchange for cannabis. The second man also admitted to handling CBD packages, earning one dinar per delivery.

With both defendants admitting involvement and multiple officers testifying, the court confirmed the seriousness of the offence and upheld the sentence.



# Dubai Market Splits as Homes Surge

Families Snap Up Villas, Investors Fuel Apartment Surge

● Villas see 65% value jump

● Apartments grow steadily

● Dual market forces emerge

Mahir Haneef  
TDT | Manama

A striking shift is reshaping Dubai's residential property market, as villa purchases driven by family demand soar, while investor-led apartment sales continue their upward climb.

New figures released by fān Properties reveal that villa sales surged by 65% in value and 55% in volume in the first half of 2025 compared to the same period last year. Transactions rose from 13,135 to 20,415, while the total sales value jumped from AED 71.6 billion (BHD 7.34 billion) to AED 118.5 billion (BHD 12.15 billion).

Diverging trends

This growth points to a maturing housing split: families are fuelling the demand for spacious, stand-alone homes, while apartments remain the preferred choice for investors and younger buyers seeking long-term re-



turns. Apartment sales rose by 21% in value and 16% in volume, reaching AED 144.2 billion (BHD 14.78 billion) across 73,573 trans-

actions in H1 2025.

The overall residential market saw a 38% increase in total value, growing from AED 190.8 billion

Dubai residential property comparison first 6 months - sales transactions				
	2024		2025	
	Villas	Apartments	Villas	Apartments
January	1,635	9,283	3,558	9,944
February	1,852	9,369	3,917	11,370
March	2,403	10,564	2,739	11,661
April	1,379	9,656	3,407	13,736
May	2,827	13,961	3,809	14,013
June	3,039	10,474	2,985	12,849
Average	2,189	10,551	3,402	12,262
Total	13,135	63,307	20,415	73,573

Dubai residential property comparison first 6 months - sales value in billions				
	2024		2025	
	Villas	Apartments	Villas	Apartments
January	AED 9.507	AED 19.473	AED 16.102	AED 18.169
February	AED 9.769	AED 17.367	AED 19.541	AED 21.468
March	AED 12.457	AED 19.466	AED 14.193	AED 22.673
April	AED 7.792	AED 18.046	AED 24.091	AED 26.794
May	AED 13.780	AED 25.677	AED 25.079	AED 29.697
June	AED 18.287	AED 19.216	AED 19.539	AED 25.382
Average	AED 11.932	AED 19.874	AED 19.757	AED 24.030
Total	AED 71.592	AED 119.245	AED 118.545	AED 144.183

in villa sales by value, from AED 7.8 billion (BHD 799 million) to AED 24 billion (BHD 2.46 billion). Apartment transactions in the same month grew by 42% to reach 13,736, with a value spike of 48%, reaching AED 26.8 billion (BHD 2.75 billion).

“The surge in villa transactions across most months this year highlights a growing demand for larger, family-oriented homes, a trend we’ve seen strengthen in recent years,” said Firas Al Msaddi, CEO of fān Properties.

Apartments still strong

Despite the villa boom, apartment sales have also grown steadily. Monthly apartment deals averaged 12,262 in H1 2025, up from 10,551 last year, with an average monthly value of AED 24 billion (BHD 2.46 billion).

“At the same time, we’re witnessing sustained interest in apartments, particularly among investors and younger buyers seeking long-term value and rental yield, and this level of activity underlines consistent investor confidence in Dubai,” Al Msaddi added.

Market watchers suggest that as Dubai continues to diversify its economy and attract global talent, the twin-track growth in villas and apartments will likely continue through the second half of the year.

The Dubai Land Department registered over 120,000 total property transactions in 2023, the highest ever recorded in the city's history.

(BHD 19.57 billion) to AED 262.7 billion (BHD 26.95 billion), with transaction volume up nearly 23%.

All Bahraini dinar (BHD) figures are approximate, based

on an exchange rate of 1 AED = 0.1025 BHD.

April sets record pace

April emerged as a standout month, witnessing a 147% surge

## London's Heathrow eyes higher fees for £10bn upgrade

London, United Kingdom

London's Heathrow Airport yesterday said it plans to invest £10 billion (\$14 billion) over the next five years in upgrades to boost passenger numbers, largely funded by higher charges to airlines.

A statement said the plans, which are subject to approval by the UK's Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), would add an additional 10 million passengers per year by 2031 at Europe's busiest airport.

Of the £10 billion, £2 billion will come from shareholders, while the remainder will be financed through higher charges paid by airlines -- costs that are often passed on to passengers.

Heathrow said it plans to increase the fee levied on airlines to an average of £33.26 per passenger.

The CAA, which first needs to agree the plans, has previously asked Heathrow to reduce fees charged to carriers.

“This major infrastructure programme marks Heathrow's most significant transformation in over a decade,” said chief executive Thomas



Woldbye.

“To compete with global hubs, we must invest,” he added.

Heathrow said the upgrades would include faster security and baggage handling, as well as new lounges, shops and restaurants within existing terminals.

Separately, Heathrow recently won UK government backing to build a third runway as it suffers from stretched capacity.

Building that new runway will involve sizeable costs and likely trigger fresh upheaval as environmentalists oppose its construction.

## Russia-UN food and fertiliser agreement to end

AFP | Geneva, Switzerland

The UN said yesterday its agreement with Moscow to facilitate exports of Russian foodstuffs and fertiliser to international markets in a bid to rein in global food prices would end this month.

The United Nations trade and development agency, UNCTAD, said in a statement the “final consultations meeting” on the deal had been held in Geneva, without giving more details.

A source close to the discussions, who asked not to be named, told AFP the three-year agreement “will not be renewed” when it expires on July 22, due to disagreements. UNCTAD has taken the lead on UN efforts to limit increases in global food and fertiliser prices, which soared following Russia's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine, fuelling fears of food insecurity.

The UN signed the agreement with Russia on July 22, 2022, with the aim of facilitating exports of Russian food and fertilisers, despite Western sanctions on Moscow.

In fact, the economic sanc-



tions imposed on Russia after the invasion spared fertilisers and grain, but fear of accidentally ending up on the wrong side of the law had paralysed transporters and caused insurance premiums to skyrocket.

After intense discussions, Russia and the UN established a framework to facilitate insurance and financial transactions that was compatible with US, British and European Union sanctions systems.

But Russia -- the world's largest fertiliser producer -- had repeatedly complained the agreement was doing little to protect it from secondary sanction effects.

A second agreement was also signed under the auspices of the UN on July 22, 2022, aimed at allowing the export of Ukrainian cereals blocked by Russia's war in the country.

## IEA sees anaemic global oil demand growth amid tariff turmoil

AFP | Paris, France

Growth in oil demand is anaemic globally, with several countries in the crosshairs of US President Donald Trump tariff threats suffering drops, the IEA said Friday.

Annual growth in oil demand fell from 1.1 million barrels per day (mbd) in the first quarter of the year to just 0.5 mbd in the second, the International Energy Agency said in its monthly oil market review.

Consumption in emerging markets was “particularly lacklustre”, it added.

It lowered its forecast for oil-demand growth for 2025 as a whole to 0.7 mbd, “its lowest rate

since 2009” apart from when the Covid pandemic shut large swathes of the global economy in 2020.

“Although it may be premature to attribute this slower growth to the detrimental impact of tariffs manifesting themselves in the real economy, the largest quarterly contractions occurred in countries that found themselves in the crosshairs of the tariff turmoil,” the IEA said.

The drops were particularly sharp in China, Japan, South Korea and Mexico, all targeted by Trump with stiff tariffs.

Oil demand in Europe and other Asian emerging economies, also targeted by Trump, proved more resilient.

The IEA sees the oil production exceeding demand in 2025, with output rising by 2.1 mbd to 105.1 mbd on average, while demand averages 103.7 mbd.

In 2026, it sees demand rising by a tepid 0.72 mbd to 104.4 mbd. Meanwhile supply is expected to rise by 1.3 mbd to 106.4 mbd.





News in brief

**Trump taps transport chief to be interim NASA administrator**

◆ US President Donald Trump on Wednesday tapped Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy to serve as interim head of space agency NASA, weeks after pulling the nomination of a tech billionaire who was an ally of SpaceX boss Elon Musk. "I am pleased to announce that I am directing our GREAT Secretary of Transportation, Sean Duffy, to be Interim Administrator of NASA," Trump posted on his Truth Social platform, praising Duffy's work on modernizing the country's air traffic control system.

**Pakistan police on July 11 said a father shot dead his daughter after she refused to delete her account on popular video-sharing app TikTok.** In the Muslim-majority country, women can be subjected to violence by family members for not following strict rules on how to behave in public, including in online spaces. "The girl's father had asked her to delete her TikTok account. On refusal, he killed her," a police spokesperson said.

**Pakistani father kills daughter over TikTok account: Police**

**Trump blasts Brazil over Bolsonaro trial**

◆ US President Donald Trump yesterday blasted Brazil, accusing authorities of unjustly targeting his right-wing ally Jair Bolsonaro over his role in an alleged coup attempt. Trump this week announced huge tariffs on Brazilian imports as he battles on behalf of Bolsonaro against Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva. Bolsonaro -- dubbed the "Trump of the Tropics" for mimicking the Republican's hard-right populism -- is on trial for allegedly plotting a coup to overturn his loss in the 2022 elections. The case echoes the now discarded prosecution of Trump over his refusal to acknowledge his 2020 election loss and the January 6, 2021 assault by his supporters on Congress.

SPOTLIGHT

Trump flies to flood-ravaged Texas as scrutiny of response mounts



A man searches for missing people by a crushed car near the Guadalupe River in Hunt, Texas

AFP | Washington

US President Donald Trump flew to Texas yesterday as questions swirled over the authorities' response to flash floods that have left at least 120 people dead, including dozens of children.

The Republican leader and First Lady Melania Trump boarded Air Force One en route to a meeting with first responders, families and local officials in the Hill Country of central Texas, a week after heavy rainfall and an overflowing river swept away houses, camp cabins, recreational vehicles and people.

They were due around midday in Kerrville, a city in the worst-affected Kerr County where at least 96 people are confirmed dead from the historic flooding.

"We're going to be there with some of the great families" of flood victims, Trump told reporters before leaving the White House, calling the disaster a "terrible thing."

The search for more than 170 missing people, including five girls who were at summer camp, entered the eighth day as rescue teams combed through mounds of debris and mud.

But with no live rescues reported this week, worries have swelled that the death toll could still rise.

Trump has brushed off questions about the impact of his cuts to federal agencies on the response to the flood, which he described as a "100-year catastrophe" that "nobody expected."

On Thursday, Homeland Security Department head Kristi Noem defended the immediate response as "swift and efficient."

Later that day, with Texas officials facing questions about why emergency evacuation messages to residents and visitors along the flooding Guadalupe River reportedly were delayed, in some cases by several hours, Trump expressed support for a flood warning system.

Kyiv attacks kill three in Russia, Ukraine maternity ward hit

- Russia intercepted 155 Ukrainian drones
- Russian attacks hit Kharkiv maternity center
- Nine wounded in Kharkiv, Odesa

AFP | Kyiv

Ukrainian drone and shelling attacks killed three people in Russia yesterday, while Russian bombardments on east Ukraine forced the evacuation of a maternity centre in Kharkiv and wounded nine.

Russian air defence systems intercepted 155 Ukrainian drones overnight, Moscow said, an attack that comes after Russia pounded Ukraine in successive nightly attacks targeting the capital Kyiv.

There was one dead in the Lipetsk region and another was killed in the western Tula region from the drone attacks, local officials said. Ukrainian shelling later killed another civilian in the border region of Belgorod, the governor announced.

Both Kyiv and Moscow have stepped up their aerial strikes over recent months as the Kremlin rejects calls to halt its three-year invasion.

The Kremlin yesterday restated its opposition to a European peacekeeping force in Ukraine, a day after French President Emmanuel Macron said Kyiv's allies had a "plan that is ready to go and initiate in the hours after a



Communal workers clear rubble outside residential houses following Russian drone strikes in Odesa

ceasefire."

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters Moscow would not accept any European troops "near our border."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who was in Rome this week drumming up support from allies, said a medical facility was hit in the overnight attack on Kharkiv, his country's second-largest city.

"Among the wounded are women in a maternity hospital -- mothers with newborns, women recovering from surgery," he wrote on social media.

"Fortunately, no children were injured. Russia is targeting life itself -- even in the very places

YOU  
KNOW WHAT

Russia intercepted 155 drones overnight - the highest single-night count since the war began - as Ukraine expands its long-range strike capabilities

where it begins," he added, noting several other regions were attacked overnight.

Reporters in the city saw a woman cradling her newborn in an ambulance after being evacuated.

The southern Ukrainian port city of Odesa was struck later in the morning, wounding eight people, local officials said.

Over the past week, Moscow has pummelled Ukraine with the largest drone and missile barrages since it launched its invasion in February 2022.

The UN has said Russia's intensifying attacks pushed the number of Ukrainian civilians killed and wounded to a three-year high in the month of June.

Lebanese president rules out normalisation with Israel: statement

AFP | Beirut

Lebanese President Joseph Aoun ruled out normalisation between his country and Israel yesterday, while expressing hope for peaceful relations with Beirut's southern neighbour, which still occupies parts of southern Lebanon.

Aoun's statement is the first official reaction to Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar's statement last week in which he expressed his country's interest in normalising ties with Lebanon and Syria.

Aoun "distinguished between peace and normalisation", according to a statement shared by the presidency.

"Peace is the lack of a state of war, and this is what matters to us in Lebanon at the moment. As for the issue of normalisation, it is not currently part of Lebanese foreign policy," the president said in front of a delegation from an Arab think tank.

Lebanon and Syria have technically been in a state of war with Israel since 1948, with Damascus saying that talks of normalisation were "premature".



Paramedics inspect a burnt vehicle, which was targeted in an Israeli airstrike, in the Ayrouniyeh area near Lebanon's northern port city of Tripoli

The president called on Israel to withdraw from the five points near the border it still occupies. Israel was required to fully withdraw from southern Lebanon under a November ceasefire seeking to end its war with Iran-

backed Hezbollah.

Aoun said that Israeli troops in Lebanon "obstruct the complete deployment of the army up to the internationally recognised borders".

According to the ceasefire

agreement, Hezbollah must pull its fighters north of the Litani River, around 30 kilometres (20 miles) from the border with Israel, leaving the Lebanese army and UN peacekeepers as the only armed parties in the area.





# Israeli strikes kill 18 in Gaza

Gaza civil defence reports 18 killed, including 10 seeking aid from Israeli forces

10 shot while waiting for aid

6 dead in Khan Yunis strikes

2 killed in Gaza City drones

AFP | Gaza

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli forces killed 18 people yesterday, including 10 who were waiting for aid in the south of the war-ravaged territory.

The fresh deaths came as the United Nations said nearly 800 people had been killed trying to access food in Gaza since late May.

Gaza civil defence official Mohammed al-Mughayyir said that 10 people were shot by Israeli forces yesterday while waiting for supplies in the Al-Shakoush area northwest of Rafah, where there are regular reports of deadly fire on aid seekers.

'Extremely difficult'

The civil defence reported six more people killed in four separate Israeli air strikes in the area of Khan Yunis, in the south of the



Palestinians inspect the damage at the site of an overnight Israeli strike on the Halima Saadiya school in Jabalia in the northern Gaza Strip territory.

Two drone strikes around Gaza City in the north killed two more people, civil defence spokesman Mahmud Bassal said.

There was no immediate comment on the latest strikes from the Israeli military, which has recently expanded its operations across Gaza.

A Palestinian from southern

Gaza on condition of anonymity reported ongoing attacks and widespread devastation, with Israeli tanks seen near Khan Yunis.

"The situation remains extremely difficult in the area -- intense gunfire, intermittent air strikes, artillery shelling, and ongoing bulldozing and destruction of displacement camps and agricultural land to the south, west

and north of Al-Maslakh," an area to Khan Yunis's south, said the witness.

Israel's military said in a statement that its soldiers were operating in the area, dismantling "terrorist infrastructure sites, both above and below ground", and seizing "weapons and military equipment".

The civil defence also reported

YOU  
KNOW WHAT

A witness described Israeli bulldozers systematically destroying displacement camps and farmland near Khan Yunis amid ongoing attacks

yesterday five people killed in an Israeli strike the previous night on a school sheltering displaced Palestinians in Jabalia al-Nazla, in northern Gaza.

Nearly all of Gaza's population has been displaced at least once during the more than 21-month war, which has created dire humanitarian conditions for the more than two million people living there.

Many have sought shelter in school buildings, but these have repeatedly come under Israeli attack, with the military often saying they were targeting Hamas militants hiding among civilians.

## Kurdish PKK fighters destroy weapons at key ceremony



Fighters with the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) line up to put their weapons into a pit during a ceremony in Sulaimaniyah

AFP | Sulaimaniyah

Thirty PKK fighters destroyed their weapons at a symbolic ceremony in Iraqi Kurdistan yesterday, two months after the Kurdish rebels ended their decades-long armed struggle against the Turkish state.

The ceremony marks a turning point in the transition of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) from armed insurgency to democratic politics, as part of a broader effort to draw a line under one of the region's longest-running conflicts.

Analysts say with the PKK weakened and the Kurdish public exhausted by decades of violence, Turkey's peace offer handed its jailed founder Abdullah Ocalan a chance to make the long-desired switch away from armed struggle.

The PKK's disarmament also frames President Recep Tayyip Erdogan as the Turkish leader

who managed to draw a line under a bloody conflict that cost more than 40,000 lives and wrought havoc in Turkey and beyond.

Outside the ancient cave of Casen, a group of 30 PKK fighters, both men and women, gathered on a stage in khaki fatigues, their faces uncovered, in front of an audience of around 300 people, an AFP correspondent at the scene said.

One by one, they walked down to lay their weapons in a pit which was then set on fire. Most were rifles but there was one machinegun and one rocket-propelled grenade.

As they looked on, people in the crowd started cheering while others could be heard weeping.

"We voluntarily destroy our weapons as a step of goodwill," said a statement read by the PKK's top woman commander Bese Hozat.

## US and China have 'positive' meeting at ASEAN foreign minister talks



US Secretary of State Marco Rubio (2nd L) meets with China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi (2nd R)

AFP | Kuala Lumpur

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Chinese top diplomat Wang Yi had a "positive" meeting in Malaysia yesterday, both sides said, in an apparent bid to ease tensions between the rival powers.

Rubio and Wang's first face-to-face meeting since US President Donald Trump returned to office came as Washington and Beijing are locked in disputes ranging from trade to Taiwan -- and both countries vie for greater influence in the region.

"I thought it was a very constructive and positive meeting," Rubio told reporters after the

hour-long talks in the capital Kuala Lumpur, but stressed "it was not a negotiation".

"I think we left it feeling as there's some areas we're gonna be able to work together on."

Rubio also expressed confidence that a meeting between US President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping would happen.

"There's a strong desire on both sides to do it," Rubio said, adding no date had been set.

Beijing in a separate statement said "both sides agreed that the meeting was positive, pragmatic and constructive".

Both countries agreed to "enhance communication and dialogue through diplomatic

channels... and explore expanding cooperation areas while managing differences," China's foreign ministry said.

The sit-down between Wang and Rubio, a longtime China hawk, came as Asian foreign ministers wrapped up three days of intensive talks at an Association of Southeast Asian Nations meet in Kuala Lumpur.

Top diplomats from Russia, the European Union, Britain and Canada also attended.

US officials said ahead of Rubio's first trip to the region as secretary of state that Washington was "prioritising" its commitment to East and South-east Asia.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



We're appalled by the reported killing in Gaza today of children and women waiting in line for nutritional supplies provided by UNICEF's partner organization, Project HOPE. The killing of families trying to access life-saving aid is unconscionable.

@unicefchief

02



30 years on, I honour the Bosniak boys and men who were victims of the Srebrenica genocide. I also honour the mothers who carry the weight of that loss for decades. We must remember and preserve the truth, so that future generations know exactly what happened in Srebrenica.

@vonderleyen

03



A milestone for global health - congratulations, @DrTedros ! At #WHA78, @WHO member states came together to adopt the first-ever Pandemic Agreement. Through global cooperation, we can keep people -- and our planet -- safer.

@AminaJMohammed

04



"May mothers' tears become prayers that Srebrenica never happens again." 30 years since the Srebrenica genocide, @EuroparLEN honours all the survivors, and keeps the memories of the victims alive..

@EP\_President

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



# CELEBS

## Ed Sheeran showcases debut collection of Jackson Pollock-esque art

AFP | London

Ed Sheeran has swapped a microphone for paint brushes, with the fruits of his endeavours to go on display later this week, the London gallery exhibiting his works has confirmed.

The abstract pieces - colourful Jackson Pollock-esque paintings and prints - will be available to buy, with profits going to the Ed Sheeran Foundation, which supports musical education in schools.

They are also set to be exhibited at Heni art gallery in central London from Friday 11 July until Friday 1 August, with the collection called Cosmic Carpark Paintings, the gallery said.

Sheeran, 34, behind hits like Shape of You and Perfect, took to social media earlier this week to share the news, explaining he worked on the paintings last year in between shows.

He also shared a video of his painting process at work, showing him splashing large canvases with brightly coloured paint.

"I love painting, more for fun and to give to friends, but this time I was encouraged to do a show of them by @damienhirst and @heni," he posted on Instagram.

"I paint when I'm not working on a record, just to do something creative with my brain. And it's mostly just splashing colours on canvases, think Jackson Pollock but with colourful house paint."

Sheeran added that does not make him "an artist" but noted that he loves "making art" and that "it makes me feel great, and I love the end result".

Heni, which said Sheeran's "painting journey" began in 2019 following his record-breaking Divide tour, noted he used one of his earlier creations as the official artwork for his single Afterglow in 2020.

The colourful pieces in his debut collection were "inspired by

celestial patterns" and painted in a disused London car park last year, it added.

Singer, songwriter, and performer Sheeran is one of the most listened to artists in the world.

He also makes the list of the 40 richest people under 40 in the UK, with a fortune estimated at £370 million, according to The Sunday Times' latest annual wealth rankings of Britons.



Ed Sheeran

## Kesha recalls 'terrifying' rise to stardom

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kesha found her sudden rise to stardom to be "terrifying".

The 38-year-old pop star enjoyed her first major success in 2009, when she featured on Flo Rida's hit single Right Round, and Kesha has now admitted that she struggled to adjust to her new reality.

The singer told People: "I went from being someone that sleeps in a sleeping bag at a punk house half of her life — everyone called it the Drunk Tank — and then a



Kesha

year and a half later I'm opening for Rihanna.

"It was terrifying, but it was so fun."

Kesha's family didn't have much money during her younger years, but she always found inspiration and hope in music.

The pop star - whose new album is called Period - said: "When I was little, we were on food stamps. I remember thinking, 'What makes people really happy when they're having a hard time? Happy songs do that.'"

Kesha has actually relied on music to help her through some of the

**"I went from being someone that sleeps in a sleeping bag at a punk house half of her life — everyone called it the Drunk Tank — and then a year and a half later I'm opening for Rihanna. It was terrifying, but it was so fun"**

KESHA

dark times in her own life.

And the singer is conscious that she now has the chance to uplift people who are going through similarly difficult times.

She explained: "The interesting thing about being an artist is you can be the person going through hell and also the person that walks into the studio,

like, 'I'm going to make sure you get through this. We're going to write a banger because it brings us joy.' It's almost like I'm picking myself up out of the sad moments I'm in."

"I feel like it's my responsibility as an artist and a songwriter to just be honest about my human experience."

Kesha has already been through lots of ups and downs in her career. However, the pop star no longer pays attention to her critics.

The Blah Blah Blah hitmaker said: "I honestly don't care what people think about me."

"I have nothing left to prove. I've already heard any horrible thing someone could hear about themselves: 'You're too fat, you're too old, you suck.' I'm immune to it, sadly. But maybe it's my superpower, because that is freedom. I'm just going to be myself. So party on, haters."

## Orlando Bloom uses family snap to break silence on his split from Katy Perry



Orlando Bloom and Katy Perry are seen in a family photo shared by the actor

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Orlando Bloom has broken his silence on his split from Katy Perry by posting a family snap with the singer.

The 48-year-old actor and the performer, 40, confirmed the end of their relationship last week after 10 years together, with a representative saying: "They will continue to be seen together as a family, as their shared priority is — and always will be — raising their daughter with love, stability and mutual respect."

But the pair have now appeared in a series of holiday photos uploaded to Instagram by Orlando, featuring him looking happy with Katy, their four-year-old daughter Daisy, and his 14-year-old son Flynn — whom he shares with his former partner Miranda Kerr.

The family appeared relaxed and smiling in a group photo taken aboard a yacht.

Bloom captioned the post: "Dump 4 ya," prompting fans to question whether the couple

were reconciling.

One follower commented: "OMG mom and dad getting back together?!"

However, according to a joint statement provided to Page Six on 3 July, the couple has spent "many months" transitioning their relationship towards one of co-parenting.

Sources close to the couple told People prioritising their daughter's emotional wellbeing was central to their decision to separate.

An insider said: "At a certain point, they had to admit it's better for Daisy to see their parents separately, then she won't grow up feeling the tension and animosity."

"They are there for Daisy and have been. Daisy is their angel, and they want to protect her from anything adverse."

Another insider, speaking to Us Weekly in late June, said: "They aren't making drastic changes for Daisy's sake. They will keep their lives in Montecito. They are prioritising stability and consistency for Daisy."



Olivia Rodrigo

## Olivia Rodrigo paid for band and crew to have therapy on Guts World Tour

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Olivia Rodrigo paid for her band and crew to have therapy on her world tour.

The 22-year-old singer-songwriter's guitarist, Daisy Spencer, has told how the recent Glastonbury headliner ensured there was "accessible and free" therapy for "all of the touring personnel" on her Guts World Tour, and Daisy admitted such a gesture is "not very heard of" in the industry.

Speaking on The Stage Left podcast, Daisy said: "Olivia and our tour manager Marty Hom made

therapy accessible and free for all of the touring personnel.

"I have never had anything like that."

"And that reignited the importance of therapy to me because I had just kind of fallen off for so long."

"And then suddenly I had this free resource of incredible therapists, and I utilized the crap out of that."

"I was going, you know, once a week, once every other week, whenever I could."

"And it was even during the off time, we also still had access to this

resource."

"So honestly, that was one of the coolest things that has ever happened on tour."

"It's not very heard of. It was the coolest thing ever."

Daisy also praised Olivia as the "dreamiest boss of all time", and admitted the Good 4 U hitmaker has dealt with her rise to global fame "so gracefully and so effortlessly".

The guitarist added: "She literally is the dreamiest boss of all time."

### SUDOKU

				5	8			
	5	1						9
7		4					2	5
				3		9		4
2								1
	9		6		5			
3	4					2		8
1						7	3	
				9	8			

**Yesterday's solution**

5	8	4	7	3	1	9	6	2
9	6	1	8	2	5	7	3	4
7	3	2	9	6	4	5	1	8
3	4	5	2	1	9	8	7	6
8	7	6	5	4	3	1	2	9
2	1	9	6	7	8	4	5	3
6	5	3	4	8	7	2	9	1
4	2	7	1	9	6	3	8	5
1	9	8	3	5	2	6	4	7

**How to play**

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

### CROSSWORD

**Across**

1- Electrically versatile; 5- Tending to droop; 10- Back talk; 15- Up (trapped); 16- the finish; 17- Diamond family name; 18- Narrow cuts; 19- kleine Nachtmusik; 20- Grated Italian cheese; 22- Muslim religion; 23- The limit; 24- Speedy; 26- Song from the past; 29- Ceylon, now; 33- Takes on; 34- Stare angrily; 35- Lingus (Irish carrier); 36- State firmly; 37- Crews; 38- Dedicated to the Love; 39- "Michael Collins" actor; 40- Bert's buddy; 41- Ginger cookies; 42- Opposite of subtraction; 44- Dated; 45- The Valley is a Californian wineland; 46- Recognizes; 48- Let's Make; 51- Select; 55- Bonkers; 56- Marriott competitor; 58- Horse shade; 59- Head of France?; 60- Enthusiastic; 61- Feminine ending; 62- Knighted Guinness; 63- Like rocks in a stream; 64- Facility;

**Down**


1- Quickly, briefly; 2- Soft drink choice; 3- Designer Christian; 4- More awkward; 5- Fresh-mouthed; 6- Collection of maps; 7- Broad smile; 8- Receive; 9- You rang?; 10- Midday nap; 11- Indigo source; 12- Capital of Yemen; 13- Flower part; 21- Supplements, with "out"; 22- Wight or Man; 24- Picture border; 25- Televises; 26- Scarlett of fiction; 27- Dwelt; 28- Fear greatly; 29- Killed; 30- Grandmas; 31- Retains; 32- Come up; 34- Columbus's birthplace; 37- Stumble; 38- Carousing; 40- List finish; 41- Put the pedal to the metal; 43- Momentarily; 46- Fills to the gills; 47- Diary bit; 48- Organization to promote theater; 49- Shootout; 50- Novel conclusion; 51- Witches; 52- Hebrides island; 53- Tins; 54- Leg joint; 56- Skirt stitching; 57- Center Ming;

**Yesterday's solution**

N	A	E	S	C	E	A	S	E	A	N	N	A
C	U	L	T	A	L	L	I	E	N	E	E	R
A	L	E	E	T	H	A	N	K	T	R	E	E
A	D	V	E	R	T	I	S	E	R	H	O	D
B	O	U	L	D	E	R	K	R	E	M	L	I
L	A	N	E	S	O	C	H	O	S	A	N	E
I	T	T	S	T	U	M	P	S	L	R		
N	E	I	L	P	O	L	E	S	T	E	E	D
D	R	E	A	M	E	R	R	E	T	O	R	T
E	L	A	T	E	I	N	T	E	R	P	R	E
T	I	L	E	F	L	E	E	R	E	E	R	O
T	E	A	R	R	E	T	A	G	D	A	N	E
E	D	E	N	I	T	S	M	E	O	R	E	S



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haya garden agriculture has a vacancy for the occupation of GARDENER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462466 or INFO@BAHRAINMEDICALLAB.COM

RAFEEN COLD STORES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39126701 or venu.vish78@gmail.com

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajlfnath@urbaser.com

ALBARAKA AUTO SPARE PARTS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39458970 or ALBARAKACLEARING@GMAIL.COM

S S SAMSANA DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37106333 or SAMIULLAHRAZA1@GMAIL.COM

AHMED MOHAMMED JASSIM CONSTRUCTION CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17784584 or HR@AMJASSIM.COM

HUSSAIN AMER BUILDING CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39804488 or linkone78@gmail.com

SILVER HURAIN CARGO HANDLING. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38441357 or SILVERHURAIN@GMAIL.COM

ESMAELY LENZOHN ELECTRICAL CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(-CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17830330 or info@esmaelylenzohm.com

CIRCLE FOR PROPERTY SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32156620 or HAWAZEN\_ALFASSII@YAHOO.COM

GTXDESIGNS BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33157262 or 7STARDESIGNSBH@GMAIL.COM

M E FOOD TRANSPORTATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38008479 or MADNNIAZI1@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

SINJAWI CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36963638 or

AKRAAMM311@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

NOVOTEL BAHRAIN AL DANA RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17746466 or khalid.alawadi@gulfothotelbahrain.com

KHAN BABA SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35466434 or

GBL GROUP W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GRAPHIC DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17454446 or hr.admin@gbf-group.co

AL HAJAB CONSULTANCY AND ADVERTISING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33316063 or NAVEEDALIMIR@GMAIL.COM

SARITA CARGO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36221824 or CARGOSARITA@GMAIL.COM

AKU UKA CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38331111 or AJKAABI@GMAIL.COM

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

ARYAF BUILDING PAINTING has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36732444 or ALSHKHOORI@HOTMAIL.COM

ARAD LAND CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33180858 or Fadhl.ammari@GMAIL.COM

IRFAN RIAZ SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33162858 or DOCUMENTBHA9@GMAIL.COM

KARAVALI RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33711488 or FAYAZ@SMARTPACKTRADING.COM

MUHAMMAD IRFAN REAL ESTATE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34541886 or IMRANHAFEEZ455@GMAIL.COM

D COM CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556887 or ROBINAGO42@GMAIL.COM

BABITA SUPER MARKET W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38783000 or Jahid-bh@gmail.com

BAHRAIN CITY CENTER TOWERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LIFE GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811616 or BMFAQEEH@GMAIL.COM

ATTA QASIM 99 SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or ATTAQASIMBH@GMAIL.COM

IFRAHIM EXPRESS CARGO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39503740 or MZ351351351@GMAIL.COM

REHANA REALSTATE SERVICE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33093194 or NAJAFALIBURIRO325@GMAIL.COM

SALHER CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33286823 or MUKHTAARR0001@GMAIL.COM

COURIERX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or HAMAD@COURIERX.COM

REGRSI FASHION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35611842 or MIRZADXB281@GMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

H.A.Z BEAUTY SALOON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37910091 or LIMELTE6785116@GMAIL.COM

AL CHAUDHARY SERVICES has a vacancy for

the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33156085 or TAI-MOURCHAUDHARY156@GMAIL.COM

PAK MACHINERY INSTALLATIONS CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35634786 or ALIAHMAD39758489@GMAIL.COM

BRIGHT CASTLES CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001335 or BRIGHT-CASTLES@HOTMAIL.COM

SAVOY GRANDE HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32250282 or HIREN@BRUPCO.COM

H M H BARBER has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34444162 or ALSHEHAB.AC@GMAIL.COM

Elegant Leo contracting has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33725553 or E.LEO.BH@GMAIL.COM

FAZAL MAULA 521 SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36484758 or AHAU3421@GMAIL.COM

ABUZAR COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JACKHAMMER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38398065 or SHABANGUJJAR3002@GMAIL.COM

CHONDI REAL ESTATE CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34009629 or HARIJITKUMAR605@GMAIL.COM

ART OF KHADIJA SALON . has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39892221 or SHAHANAIQBAL820@GMAIL.COM

ONUS CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTING ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33207622 or CHRISTOPHER.BARR@ONUS-GROUP.COM

HURAIN TOWER GRAPHIC DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32113259 or SILVERHURAIN@GMAIL.COM

AKHTAR GHAWAS AC & SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33646852 or AKHTEHAWAS@GMAIL.COM

BADR AL SAFAA MEDICAL CENTRE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39425758 or INFO@BADRALSAFAA.COM

HURAIN TOWER GRAPHIC DESIGN W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32113259 or SILVERHURAIN@GMAIL.COM

AL NIGHIBAN CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33410786 or NIGHIBANCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

ELEGANT SKY CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35934139 or ELEGANTSKY67@GMAIL.COM

BLAIRE OLIVE SPA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17332100 or SURENDER@EXPLOREMENA.COM

ELEGANT TRADING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625000 or BUTALAL1953@YAHOO.COM

AVENTA SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34615190 or AYAASERVICES.BH@GMAIL.COM

SHAHI CARPENTRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTRY WORKER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33612244 or SHAHIMAN@HOTMAIL.COM

RAMISH MASIH EVENT MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DECORATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33007427 or INOXENTADEEL71@GMAIL.COM

SHAHBAZ ANWAR VISITOR ASSISTANCE SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33841761 or SYEDSHAH.BH@GMAIL.COM

WADI ABHA FOR VEGETABLE AND FRUITS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33312593 or NOORALGAILANI.BH@GMAIL.COM

FOZIA ABDULREHMAN OMAR HAYAT MOHAMMAD HAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35457897 or TAHIR-MAHMOOD0788@YAHOO.COM

Stillier Agency for the Supply Workers w. l. l has a

vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or rsuresh@alazzamgroup.com

Easy book W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17421555 or AMMADI@BATELCO.COM.BH

DAR ALZAYED CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33440122 or SANAULLAH88PAK@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

MASHTAN RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36668870 or S.MASHTAN@YAHOO.COM

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

TEA CORT KARAK has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39501060 or BH\_1996@ICLOUD.COM

WARRAICH AL PUNJAB RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC(MOTORCYCLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38057744 or Gearzone96@gmail.com

VERONA MARBLE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of STONE CUTTER AND FINISHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33798933 or SAYEDAMMARI9999@GMAIL.COM

FOOD CITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77325444 or SALES.FOODCITY@GMAIL.COM

PROTECTS SECURITY SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

ABN AL NAFIS PALACE TAILORING - BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36148198 or DEEPUMLAN4123@GMAIL.COM

RYUGA SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66673674 or AHMAD.BKSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

delhi darbar restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33882599 or FLAVOUROFINDIA151@GMAIL.COM

LOGIC POWER SECURITY SYSTEMS SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17268111 or HALFARDANT010@GMAIL.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

BAKAK LUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39460244 or aljazaifdocuments@gmail.com

SAUDI GEOPHYSICAL CONSULTING OFFICE COMPANY BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of TRADE / VOCATIONAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33326575 or PUBLICRELATION@SAUDIGEOPHYSICAL.COM

HONEYCOMB SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GRAPHIC DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17008585 or RENJITHS2394@GMAIL.COM

ALHOORA SWEET WATER & ICE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39267257 or bah.troublefree.creation@gmail.com

BEN EID TOWERS CLEANING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ROPE AND CABLE SPLICER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17250078 or KEHF-2011@HOTMAIL.COM

R K HOME FURNITURE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39282128 or alkothar.furniture@gmail.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of STEEL FABRICATOR, suitably

qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

NOBLES RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32118277 or AHME-DREYADH834@GMAIL.COM

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

AHMED MANSOOR ALAALI has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17265555 or adeel.hameed@al-aali.com

ALNAJWA CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17683393 or DANISH368@GMAIL.COM

ULO MATERIAL STORAGE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33720981 or ISLAMENTERPRISES@GMAIL.COM

SAUDI GEOPHYSICAL CONSULTING OFFICE COMPANY BRANCH OF A FOREIGN COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(ENGINE BOAT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33326575 or PUBLICRELATION@SAUDIGEOPHYSICAL.COM

CIOCCOLATITALIANI CAFE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34529228 or OSMAN.KHAN@DELIGULF.COM

AYAAN EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY AND IT CONSULTANCY SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADVISOR (LEGAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17673400 or AZIMSHAIK75@YAHOO.COM

MAQBOOL GOLD DESIGNING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38709116 or IRFANTUFAL093@GMAIL.COM

BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICEMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727676 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

aalow basheer has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(VEGETABLES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39558116 or kaiser.apexbm@gmail.com

KARAM ALSAEED RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36663334 or MAADHSALEH87@GMAIL.COM

SAYANG REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DATA ENTRY OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36356949 or SAYANGESTATE786@GMAIL.COM

ELLORA BEAUTY LOUNGE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39333775 or AHLAM030@YAHOO.COM

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajlfnath@urbaser.com

SCOOP Construction has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17600091 or scoopmeci@gmail.com

NASS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING CO. (W.L.L) has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17725522 or yousif@aannas.net

ZUBAERI CO SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35180928 or BANN-UBEEF10@GMAIL.COM

Jehlum Contracting W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38398065 or SHABANGUJJAR3002@GMAIL.COM

EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or ajawahery@exibah.com

MUNNI COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35623562 or MRMJANNATUL@GMAIL.COM

ASB SECURITY SOLUTIONS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35070603 or MAGICSHINE775@YAHOO.COM

ALREJENSI AUTO GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of PANEL BEATER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252548 or ARACKALMATHEWS@HOTMAIL.COM

AL HASAN LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39875402 or AHMEDASHEER\_64@HOTMAIL.COM



# Classifieds

## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

BU KASHIF CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35430684 or MUH.UMER.FAROOQ1@GMAIL.COM

SHINY STAR MOBILES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458563 or KHANA-ZEEZ.JNV@GMAIL.COM

ORIENTAL SECURITY PRINTING SOLUTIONS B.S.C.CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464800 or ORIENTAL@ORIENTALPRESS.COM

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

AL-AHLIA CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17737000 or h.s.m1111@gmail.com

MEHRAN KHAN ISLAMABAD DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66340632 or MEHRANKHAN213@YAHOO.COM

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77996666 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

AWAEL PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS AND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP CO has a vacancy for the occupation of AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17104666 or ABBAS@AWAEL.BH

WAEI PHARMACY CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39690097 or khalid@waelpharmacy.com

ASHRAFS has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17211211 or aqeel@almoayyed.com.bh

SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39697979 or hr@7hills-group.com

Bahrain Polyforms W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17777582 or TALHA@DILMUNVENTURES.COM

ME TIME SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39827807 or mashael.almutawa.91@gmail.com

PILLS N POWDER PHARMA & NUTRITION TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77375555 or PILLSNPOWDER.99@GMAIL.COM

SIDRAT AL JAZEERA SWEETS has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39422535 or A.TOUQ@HOTMAIL.COM

NASSER ABD MOHAMMED B.S.C(CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700888 or admin@nasserco.net

COMSIP AL A ALI W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17773006 or arnaud.allix@VINCI-ENERGIES.COM

S M K REAL ESTATE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34625600 or SAKKEER-BAYI@GMAIL.COM

SSP Bahrain WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17210389 or tomas@sspbahrain.com

Baker Tilly Consulting Co. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR MANAGER FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39403366 or bkamal@bakertilly.bh

THE ART HOTEL & RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WASHING MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16033100 or ABEER@AMWAJ.BH

THE ART HOTEL & RESORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(-GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 16033100 or ABEER@AMWAJ.BH

OPULENCE REALTY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR ACCOUNTING, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33667324 or INFO28TRAVEL@GMAIL.COM

MISHI SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE BOY / FARRASH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35466434 or USIJIL@GMAIL.COM

FIVE STAR TAILORING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants

can contact 39273180 or SHAMEER67@HOTMAIL.COM

COURIERX W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38870666 or HAMAD@COURIERX.COM

A&P THAI MASSAGE THERAPY CENTER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASSEUR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36555316 or SIXSTARS-CO@HOTMAIL.COM

GLOBETROTTERS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33119777 or HALISIDIQUI@GMAIL.COM

NAIB PHARMACY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35435424 or VMEGAPHARMACY@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ABDULLAH CARGO HANDLING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36653831 or MUHAMMADMU9822@GMAIL.COM

RAMEE CALIFORNIA HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ROOM ATTENDANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17826007 or hrs.bh@rameehotels.com

NETIX SYSTEMS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(ELECTRONIC SIGNALS SYS.), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32222849 or JAMALKHAN660@GMAIL.COM

BAB AL BURJ FOR PAINTING AND SCULPTORS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36345062 or BALJINDERGULF1981@GMAIL.COM

MISHI SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35466434 or USIJIL@GMAIL.COM

PAKPATAN SHARIF SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35306735 or IRFANISERVICESBH@GMAIL.COM

HAYAT JAN SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36946788 or HAYATSERVICES33@GMAIL.COM

THAMSEENA RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36391819 or IJAZUK28@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD FARHAN ZAFAR SUPPORT SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAINT FINISHER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38011687 or TABASSUMFAROQ61@GMAIL.COM

MAWDAEXTERNAL CONTRACTING AND ADVERTISING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38424984 or AABDELMOETYSOSO@GMAIL.COM

INTERNATIONAL MARKETING COMPANY W.L.L CLEANTEC has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636640 or HAN-ANKHALAF84@GMAIL.COM

BRIGHT CASTLES CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STOREKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001335 or BRIGHT-CASTLES@HOTMAIL.COM

RASHID MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE REPRESENTATIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33301113 or FALLAKSHER96@GMAIL.COM

TASHYEED HOSPITALITY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or man-na1.hr@mannaitrading.com

AL NIGHIBAN CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33410786 or NIGHIBANCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

ZAKI STAR GENTS SALON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER-HAIRDRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38868178 or ZAKISTARDOCUMENTS@GMAIL.COM

DOWNTOWN STREET CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of DISH WASHER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33240566 or ASUSE3324@GMAIL.COM

ALRAWASEY CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33415565 or ALRAWASEY@GMAIL.COM

POPULAR AUTO SPARE AND A C PARTS CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17879543 or POPULAR\_AC@YAHOO.COM

NOUMAN FOR COMPUTER PROGRAMMING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE WORKER HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37449299 or NOUMANITSERVICES@GMAIL.COM

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## Liverpool to honour Diogo Jota in return to action at Preston



Liverpool scarves are seen beside flowers left at a memorial set up close to Anfield football ground

AFP | London

Liverpool have announced a series of tributes to Diogo Jota and his brother Andre Silva when the Reds return to action on Sunday at Preston for the first time since the Portuguese international's death. Jota and Silva were killed in a car crash in northern Spain on July 3.

Liverpool's return to pre-season training was delayed until Tuesday as a result. However, the match at English Championship side Preston will go ahead as scheduled in the first of Liverpool's pre-season friendlies. A rendition of Liverpool's anthem "You'll Never Walk Alone" will be played prior

to the 1400GMT kick-off and Preston will lay a wreath in front of the away supporters. A minute's silence will then be observed, digital tributes displayed on the stadium big screen and on pitchside advertising boards and players from both teams will wear black armbands. Father of three Jota, who married his long-term partner Rute Cardoso 11 days before the accident, died alongside his brother after a Lamborghini they were travelling came off the road and burst into flames. Liverpool manager Arne Slot and a number of first-team players, led by captain Virgil van Dijk, attended Jota's funeral last Saturday.

## India's Chopra wants coach Zelezny's big-stage mindset



Neeraj Chopra at a commercial appearance near New Delhi

AFP | New Delhi

India's Olympic javelin gold medallist Neeraj Chopra said yesterday he hoped his coaching switch continues to pay off as he aims to retain his world title.

Chopra joined Czech javelin legend Jan Zelezny's coaching group ahead of the 2025 season and last weekend won the inaugural edition of the Neeraj Chopra Classic in Bengaluru, stretching his streak of top-two finishes to 25 events.

"He always performed in big tournaments and I am trying to pick his mindset of a big-stage performer and that will help me," Chopra told reporters yesterday at an event organised by one of his sponsors near New Delhi. "The main target this year is the Tokyo World Championships and we are working towards it."

The World Championships are in September. The 27-year-old Chopra won an Olympic gold in Tokyo in 2021 and silver in Paris last year. He took the last world title in Budapest in 2023.

Zelezny won four Olympic medals, three of them gold, and three world titles in a career that lasted more than 20 years. "I am happy to work with him because he has been a consistent performer," Chopra said. "He is a very good coach. He has been a good athlete and is very helpful as a person." Chopra passed 90 metres for the first time when he threw 90.23m in the Doha Diamond League meeting in May - only to finish second to German Julian Weber. Zelezny "is working on my technique", Chopra said, adding that he was taking time to adapt. "In training it is good but I have still not been able to grasp and implement his styles on competition days. I get mixed with the old and the new styles, but hopefully I will get the hang of it and it will bear results." Chopra's success, his boyish looks and his mop of hair have made him a sex symbol in India. His 2021 victory was India's first Olympic track and field gold. He said he hopes to start a dynasty.



# The Future is Bright

Four games, four wins as Bahrain rolls through qualifiers undefeated

- Bahrain goes 4-0 in the GBA U16 Qualifiers
- Next stop: Mongolia for the FIBA U16 Asia Cup this September

Hussain Almaskati  
TDT | Manama

It was the final night of the Gulf U16 Championship, and Bahrain made sure the hosts closed it in style, defeating the United Arab Emirates 83-50. The win completed a perfect 4-0 sweep and officially crowned them Gulf U16 Champions. They had already punched their ticket to the FIBA U16 Asia Championship, but the message was clear: they wanted to finish what they started. Bahrain imposed their rhythm early, leading 24-9 after the first quarter. UAE fought back in the second, putting up 19 points, but Bahrain responded with a 21-17 third and crushed the fourth 25-5.

**Total Control**

Mohamed Adel Abdulla led Bahrain's scoreboard with 14 points, capping off a tournament where he was a consistent scoring threat. Meanwhile, Hassan Oshobuge Abdulkadir led all rebounders with 13 boards, anchoring the paint on both ends. Bahrain shared the ball fluidly



Team Captain, Ali Husain Mohamed, goes for a three pointer

BETTER  
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KNOW

Bahrain held the UAE to just five points in the final quarter

with 24 assists as a team and hit 9 threes at a 33% clip — their most efficient outside shooting night of the tournament.

**Asia Awaits**

Bahrain finished as undisputed Gulf U16 Champions with wins over Oman (96-44), Kuwait (93-52), Saudi Arabia (82-62), and UAE (83-50) — an average margin of victory of over 30 points. Bahrain officially tops the GBA Gulf standings and will represent the region in Mongolia this September at the FIBA U16 Asia Championship.

Earlier in the evening, Saudi Arabia defeated Oman 88-41. But for Bahrain, the goal was clear from day one — and now they'll take their full momentum into Asia's biggest youth stage.

## Swiatek and Anisimova chase history

- Swiatek overcame grass-court allergy
- Anisimova overcame mental health struggles to beat Sabalenka

AFP | London

Iga Swiatek and Amanda Anisimova clash in the Wimbledon final on Saturday with only one thing certain -- there will be an eighth consecutive first-time winner of the women's tournament.

Swiatek and Anisimova will both be making their first appearance in the Wimbledon final after unexpected runs to the showpiece occasion.

No player has retained the crown since the now-retired Serena Williams won her seventh and final title at the All England Club in 2016.

Aryna Sabalenka started as the hot favourite after reaching the past three Grand Slam finals but faltered in a gripping semi-final against American 13th seed Anisimova.

Poland's Swiatek is seeded eighth at Wimbledon following a

disappointing first half of the season, though she is back up to fourth in the rankings after reaching the final of the grass-court Bad Homburg tournament.

That run, together with her surge through the draw at All England Club, suggests the 24-year-old is cured of her grass-court allergy.

Initially she went under the radar at Wimbledon, with the focus on Sabalenka and French Open champion Coco Gauff, but she kept winning while the top seeds tumbled, dropping just one set on route to the final.

Swiatek, who had never been past the Wimbledon last-eight before this year, brushed aside former Olympic champion Belinda Bencic 6-2, 6-0 in Thursday's semi-final.

Four of her five Grand Slam titles have come on the clay of Roland Garros and she won the 2022 US Open on hard courts.

But she is finally showing an affinity with the lawns of Wimbledon, a development that has shocked even her.

"Honestly, I never even dreamed that it's going to be possible for me to play in the final," Swiatek said.

"So I'm just super-excited and proud of myself and, I don't know, tennis keeps surprising me.



Iga Swiatek

## Archer strikes with third ball on Test return against India

AFP | London

Jofra Archer marked his long-awaited return to Test cricket by taking a wicket with just his third ball as England hit back against India at Lord's yesterday.

The express fast bowler had suffered more than four years of injured-induced exile since the last of his 13 Tests.

But on the Lord's ground where he helped England win the 50-over 2019 World Cup before making a dramatic Test debut, with an Archer bouncer concussing Australia's Steve Smith during that season's Ashes, the 30-year-old Archer was soon back in the old routine.

Yashasvi Jaiswal had launched India's reply to England's



England's Jofra Archer (R) celebrates with England's Shoaib Bashir (L) after taking the wicket of India's Yashasvi Jaiswal

first-innings 387 with a first-ball cut for four off Chris Woakes.

But next over Archer struck with just his third ball when he produced a 90 mph full-length delivery that squared up Jaiswal, who could only nick to Harry Brook at second slip as he fell for 13.

Archer roared in celebration as he ran towards Shoaib Bashir at square leg, with the often re-

strained crowd at Lord's erupting in raucous cheers.

At tea, India were 44-1 with Barbados-born Archer's figures 1-16 in five overs.

Earlier, Jasprit Bumrah gained a coveted place on the Lord's honours boards with a five-wicket haul before England paceman Brydon Carse's maiden Test fifty frustrated India.

Bumrah, the world's top-

ranked Test bowler, took 5-74 in 27 overs as England were bowled out after lunch.

Bumrah's haul included a brilliant burst yesterday of three for one in seven balls that reduced England, who resumed on 251-4, to 271-7, with the fast bowler dismissing captain Ben Stokes, century-maker Joe Root and Woakes.

But tailender Carse frustrated India with 56 after he shared an eighth-wicket stand of 84 with Jamie Smith.

England wicketkeeper Smith made India pay for dropping him on five with an innings of 51.

That followed his impressive scores of 184 not out and 88 during India's crushing 336-run win in the second Test at Edgbaston last week.

That victory meant India levelled this five-match series at 1-1 despite resting Bumrah in Birmingham.

Initial interest yesterday focused on whether Root, 99 not out overnight, would go on to make a hundred, which he duly did with a first-ball boundary off Bumrah.

Root's 37th Test century took him into fifth place on an all-time list headed by India's Sachin Tendulkar with 51 hundreds.

Stokes, fit following a groin injury that hampered him on Thursday, had added just five runs to his overnight 39 when he was bowled by a Bumrah delivery that jagged back and smashed into off stump.

## Hernandez fires parting shot at AC Milan

AFP | Milan

French international Theo Hernandez, who has joined Saudi club Al-Hilal, took a swing at AC Milan's leadership as he bid farewell to the club and its fans on social media.

Milan finished eighth in Serie A last season amid vociferous protests from supporters against the club's American owners Red-Bird.

In a farewell post on Instagram,

Hernandez, a left back who can play in midfield, echoed that criticism.

"Milan has always been my priority," he wrote. "But, unfortunately, not everything depends on one person. The direction the club has taken and some recent decisions do not reflect the values or ambition that brought me here."



Theo Hernandez

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# Alcaraz battles into Wimbledon final

Defending champion overcomes Fritz in four-set thriller to reach third straight final

● **Alcaraz beats Fritz**  
6-4, 5-7, 6-3, 7-6

● **Third straight Wimbledon final for Spaniard**

● **24-match winning streak since April**

AFP | London

Carlos Alcaraz reached his third successive Wimbledon final as the defending champion battled to a 6-4, 5-7, 6-3, 7-6 (8/6) win against American fifth seed Taylor Fritz yesterday.

With Hollywood star Leonardo DiCaprio watching from the stands, Alcaraz survived a titanic clash lasting two hours and 49 minutes in searing temperatures on Centre Court.

As the mercury rose close to 32 degrees Celsius (90 degrees Fahrenheit), play was interrupted by several fans taken ill, but Alcaraz kept his cool to subdue the big-serving Fritz with his

sublime returns and immaculate serving of his own.

The 22-year-old will play seven-time Wimbledon champion Novak Djokovic or world number one Jannik Sinner in Sunday's final.

Alcaraz has beaten Djokovic in the past two Wimbledon finals and holds an 8-4 edge over Sinner in their 12 meetings.

Back to his best after an inconsistent start to the tournament, the world number two looks in the mood to extend his reign at the All England Club.

The five-time Grand Slam champion is on a career-best 24-match winning streak since losing to Holger Rune in the Barcelona final in April.

That blistering run has brought him an epic French Open final triumph against Sinner and titles in Rome, Monte Carlo and at Queen's Club.



He has won 35 of his 38 matches on grass, a golden spell including 20 successive victories at Wimbledon since losing to Sinner in the fourth round in 2022.

He is the second Spanish man to reach the Wimbledon final on three occasions, after five-time finalist Rafael Nadal.

## Nerveless Alcaraz

Alcaraz is one win away from becoming the fifth man in the Open era to clinch three consecutive Wimbledon titles after Bjorn Borg, Pete Sampras, Roger Federer and Djokovic.

He can also become the second-youngest player in the Open era to win six men's Grand Slam titles after Borg reached that mark at Wimbledon in 1978 aged 22.

Fritz fell short in his bid to reach a second Grand Slam final.

The 27-year-old, a US Open runner-up last year, made a gutsy effort, but Alcaraz had won both their previous meetings and he wasted no time seizing control again.

Although grass-court specialist Fritz had slammed 95 aces on route to his

Carlos Alcaraz



**Carlos Alcaraz has now won 20 consecutive matches at Wimbledon, a streak that began after losing to Jannik Sinner in the 2022 fourth round**



**It was a really difficult match as always when I have to play against Taylor. Even tougher with the conditions, it was really hot today**

CARLOS ALCARAZ

set when the Spaniard produced an ill-timed double-fault and two costly unforced errors.

The nerveless Alcaraz was unfazed by that threat and quickly regained the momentum, running Fritz ragged with a deft drop-shot followed by a perfect lob to break in the third game of the third set.

With Alcaraz's serve virtually flawless, he added another break for good measure to secure a two sets to one lead.

In a dramatic fourth set tie-break, Fritz went from 4-1 down to 6-4 up, only for Alcaraz to save both set points.

Alcaraz scented victory and one last flurry of piercing ground-strokes secured his latest final berth.

first Wimbledon semi-final, Alcaraz's returning prowess neutralised that weapon to secure a break in the first game of the match.

Alcaraz needed his eye checked midway through the set, but there was no loss of focus from the Spaniard as he held serve to take the opener.

Having dropped just four of 24 points on his serve in the first set, the Spaniard found himself under fire in the second.

Fritz pounced on a rare sloppy game from Alcaraz to take the

## Pogacar pounces to retake Tour de France lead

● **Pogacar wins Stage 7**

● **Gains 4 seconds over Vingegaard**

AFP | Mur-de-Bretagne

Tadej Pogacar won stage 7 of the Tour de France yesterday to regain the overall lead with a trademark burst up the short, steep slope of the Mur de Bretagne.

Visma's Jonas Vingegaard was second, doggedly staying right on Pogacar's wheel to the line with Briton Oscar Onley third after a late nine-rider pile up marred the finale.

On his 19th career Tour de France stage win the 26-year-old Pogacar gained four seconds on Vingegaard with ten bonus seconds to the Dane's six.

"It was super-hot today, and super fast but we had a plan and we stuck to it," said the Team UAE rider who was champion in 2021, 2022 and 2024.

In the overall standings, Remco Evenepoel is second overall 54 seconds off first as he came sixth on the day, two seconds adrift.

"The Tour de France isn't over yet," said Evenepoel, who lost time in a cross wind on stage 1 before winning the stage five individual time-trial.

French starlet Kevin Vauquelin continues his bright run in third at 1min 11sec while two time champion Vingegaard is fourth at 1min 17.

Fans cheered for Vauquelin along much of the route. On Thursday a hot-air balloon flew over the peloton with his face



UAE Team Emirates - XRG team's Slovenian rider Tadej Pogacar (L) cycles ahead of Team Visma - Lease a bike team's Danish rider Jonas Vingegaard in the ascent of Mur-de-Bretagne during the 7th stage

on it.

"All you could hear was 'Kevin, Kevin' all along the road, it's so good to have a new face competing with us," said Pogacar.

The overnight leader Mathieu van der Poel rounds out the top five at 1min 29sec after wilting on the final climb, scene of his 2021 coming of age win and his first yellow jersey.

"Matthieu and I both wanted to win on this iconic climb, but maybe he left too much on the road yesterday," Pogacar said of his friend Van der Poel who climbed top of the overall rankings Thursday.

The day's action revolved around two ascents of the Mur de Bretagne, a 2km climb at an average of 6 percent, that has been written into Tour de



**Pogacar's victory on the Mur de Bretagne marks his 19th career Tour de France stage win and returns him to the yellow jersey, while a late crash reduced the race to 177 riders for stage 8**

France folklore.

With the Tour returning to Brittany after a four-year gap,

huge festive crowds packed the villages and pretty country lanes as the temperature hit 30 Celsius (86 Fahrenheit).

The 179 remaining riders left Saint Malo on the north-west coast passing the magnificent Sillon beach with its granite seawall and chic sea-front buildings.

Fewer of them will take the start line for Saturday's flat run to Laval, with doubts over key Pogacar teammate Joao Almeida and the Colombian Santiago Buitrago.

"I really hope he's okay, he's on his way for an x-ray. I'm proud of how he's been riding. He's done an amazing job. It would have been a perfect day," Pogacar said of Almeida's fall ahead of the second climb of the Mur de Bretagne.

## Spurs sign Kudus with Gibbs-White set to follow



West Ham United's Mohammed Kudus and Nottingham Forest's Nikola Milenkovic (R) vie for the ball (file photo)

AFP | London

Tottenham have signed Mohammed Kudus from West Ham and are set to capture Nottingham Forest's Morgan Gibbs-White in a double swoop worth over £100 million (\$136 million).

Kudus became the first player since 2011 to make the move from the Hammers to rivals Spurs in a reported £55 million deal.

Gibbs-White is set to follow as Spurs have activated the £60 million buyout clause in his Forest contract.

The double signing marks the start of the Thomas Frank era at Tottenham after he replaced Ange Postecoglou last month, despite the Australian winning the Europa League to end a 17-year trophy drought for the club.

Victory over Manchester United in the Bilbao final also secured Spurs direct entry to the Champions League.

Kudus said the combination of playing in Europe's elite competition and Frank's track record of developing talent at Brentford were major factors in his decision to join.

"I have always wanted to play at the highest level," the Ghanaian international said on the Tottenham website.

"How big the club is, the history, and (in) the Champions League as well, so it is a big moment. I am finally here and am very happy. I can't wait to start.

"The most important part of why I came here is the project and how the manager sees that I can develop under him.

"I have seen the amount of talent he has developed to become great players, and that is a big sign of why I wanted to work under him as well."

Kudus scored 19 goals in 80 appearances for West Ham since joining from Ajax for £38 million two years ago.