

Bahrain strike gold in cycling athletics

Cyclist Ahmed Madan and Kingdom's 4x400m Mixed Relay team each capture gold to bring Bahrain medal tally to 15 in fifth Islamic Solidarity Games in Konya, Turkey | P16

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THE DAILY **tribune**

Katy Perry issues public apology to Kim Kardashian

13 CELEBS

BUSINESS 10 ABG H1 profit jumps 86% to US\$85m



Executive Committee meeting



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday chaired the 432nd Government Executive Committee meeting. HRH Prince Salman discussed a proposal to upskill Bahraini citizens working in the ICT sector and developments on the National Genome Project and the Afforestation Plan.

Armed man tried to breach FBI building in Cincinnati
Reuters

Police were locked in a standoff yesterday with an armed man who tried to breach the FBI building in Cincinnati, Ohio, earlier in the day before fleeing and exchanging gunfire with officers, authorities said.

The incident began at about 9:15 a.m. (1315 GMT) when the suspect unsuccessfully tried to enter the FBI's visitor screening facility. He then fled the area in a white vehicle, heading northbound on Interstate 71, the FBI said.

About 20 minutes later, a state trooper spotted the vehicle in nearby Warren County. A chase ensued as the suspect fired his weapon. The vehicle eventually came to a stop and gunfire was exchanged between the suspect and police officers, he said. No police were injured, Dennis said.

Frozen funds spark 6hr hostage drama

Armed man takes six people hostage at Lebanese bank, gets partial payout

- Demands access to \$200,000 in his frozen bank account
- Siege ended after partial access to account

TDT | Agencies



A hostage situation in a Beirut, Lebanon, bank ended yesterday after authorities agreed to grant a Lebanese gunman partial access to his frozen funds in exchange for releasing all six hostages.

Bassam al-Sheikh Hussein, 42, entered the Federal Bank of Lebanon branch in the Hamra neighbourhood of west Beirut with a firearm just before noon yesterday, Reuters quoting a security source said.

"He demanded access to around \$200,000 he had in his bank account. When the employee refused the request, he began screaming that his relatives were in the hospital. Then he pulled out the gun," the source said.

A man who security sources said is armed and holding hostages while demanding the return of his bank deposits, is seen through the door of the Federal Bank of Lebanon in Hamra, Lebanon.

The hostage situation ended after six hours when the bank agreed to give the man around \$30,000, his sister and the head of a local banking association told local media.

It was not immediately clear if the terms of the settlement included any criminal charges.

Some bank customers managed to flee before he shut the doors on the rest, said the source.

At least one elderly man was released from the bank because of his age and government negotiators were deployed to begin talks with the hostage taker, the interior ministry said.

The remaining six hostages comprised one customer and five bank employees, including bank manager Hassan Halawi, who spoke to Reuters by phone within the branch.

"I'm in my office. He (the hostage taker) gets agitated, then calms down, then gets agitated again," Halawi said by phone before he was released.

Lebanese media station Al-Jadeed said at least two shots had been fired. The Lebanese Red Cross said they had deployed an ambulance to the scene.

During the hostage situation, a crowd gathered outside the bank, many of them chanting, "Down with the rule of the banks!"



Since Lebanon's financial crisis took hold in 2019, Lebanese banks have limited withdrawals of hard currency for most depositors during the country's three-year financial meltdown, which has left more than three-quarters of the population struggling. Banks say they make exceptions for humanitarian cases including hospital care but are rarely implemented.

UK-UAE coordination on Ukraine important, Johnson says
Reuters | London

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has told UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan on a call that cooperation between the two countries on Ukraine and regional stability was "hugely important for the world", Johnson's spokesperson said.

"The Prime Minister praised the Crown Prince's success in bringing prosperity to both the UAE and the Gulf more generally," the Downing Street spokesperson said on Thursday.

Airline luggage lag foils Israeli drug smuggling bid
Reuters | Jerusalem

The global backlog in airline baggage loading has had a silver lining for Israeli police, who discovered a drug haul hidden in a suitcase that was X-rayed after it arrived a day late and went unclaimed.

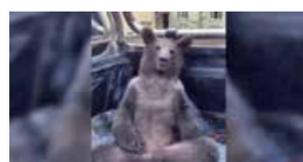
The tinfoil-wrapped 7 kg (15 lb) of amphetamines worth some \$600,000 were in a false bottom of the bag, which police allowed to be sent from Ben Gurion Airport to the Jerusalem address its owner had listed in his lost-and-found complaint, Kan TV said.

High on 'mad honey'

Disoriented bear cub rescued in northwest Turkey

Reuters | Istanbul

A disoriented brown bear cub, believed to have been intoxicated after eating an excessive amount of "mad honey", was



rescued in northwestern Turkey's Duzce province yesterday. Footage showed the bear wobbling and whining as she sat belly-up in the back of a pick-up truck, after people rescued the

visibly-debilitated animal from the forest. Mad honey, or "deli bal" in Turkish, is a type of rhododendron honey that can have hallucinogenic effects. The bear was

brought to a vet, where she was receiving treatment and would likely be released into the wild in the coming days, local authorities said, adding that she was in good condition.



Chinese FM slams Pelosi's visit to Taiwan

Wang says this is a serious violation of the commitments made by the U.S. side and a serious violation of China's sovereignty.

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi has commented on U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to China's Taiwan region, saying it will only make the international community more aware of the United States' hegemonic bullying and strengthen the consensus of adhering to the one-China policy.

Wang made the comments during his recent contacts with foreign ministers of Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Nepal.

Emphasizing that Pelosi's visit to Taiwan has been proved to be a sheer political provocation, Wang said this is a serious violation of the commitments

made by the U.S. side and a serious violation of China's sovereignty.

"China will, of course, take necessary and resolute countermeasures to safeguard its sovereignty and territorial integrity, uphold the basic norms governing international relations on non-interference in other countries' internal affairs and truly maintain peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait," Wang said.

Calling the visit a complete political farce, he said Pelosi's performance will only make the Chinese people more united and resolute in advancing the great cause of national reunification.

Wang warned against three dangerous trends as the situation



Wang Yi, Foreign Minister

develops. He said that, firstly, it is necessary to be prepared for the United States gathering some accomplices to pour fuel on the fire, enhancing regional military deployments, further escalating the situation and attempting to create a new and bigger crisis.

Secondly, said Wang, we must be wary of "Taiwan independence" forces misjudging the situation, continuing to collude with external forces, and heading further along the path of splitting the country.

Thirdly, he said we must be wary of politicians in some countries ignoring right and wrong, getting caught up in the hype and following suit for political

gain. This will seriously undermine the political foundation for relations between China and these countries, and will seriously undermine the UN Charter and the post-World War II international system.

"We are willing to, together with friends from all countries who love peace and uphold justice, resolutely oppose all words and deeds that interfere in China's internal affairs and resist all risky moves that undermine peace across the Taiwan Strait, and jointly safeguard the one-China principle, defend the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and safeguard regional stability and world peace," Wang said.

Safeguarding National Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity is Totally Understandable and Reasonable

Anwaer Habib Allah,
Chinese Ambassador

Recently, the United States and some of its allies have criticized China's countermeasures against the visit of the US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan, claiming with disdain that China's activities in and around the Taiwan Strait are a significant escalation in its efforts to change the status quo and they are provocative and irresponsible. I would like to stress that the US's and some Western countries' mischaracterization of those events does not cover up one obvious fact: it is the US that is seeking to change the status quo in the Taiwan Strait and causing the situation to escalate; it is the US that has made wanton provocations; and it is the US that has acted irresponsibly.

Every cause has its effect. The context and the events that led to the tensions in the Taiwan Strait are crystal-clear. The US is the unprovoked provocateur and creator of the crisis. The US has long used Taiwan to contain China: it constantly distorts, obscures and hollows out the one-China principle, steps up its official exchanges with Taiwan, and emboldens "Taiwan independence" separatist activities. Nancy Pelosi herself pushed these moves to a climax: In total disregard of the firm opposition

and repeated representations of the Chinese side and actually with the connivance and arrangement of the US government, she went ahead with the visit to China's Taiwan region. This reckless move seriously undermined China's sovereignty, seriously interfered in China's internal affairs, seriously violated the commitments made by the US side, and seriously jeopardized peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait.

China has acted in legitimate self-defense only after the US made this egregious provocation. The host of measures China is taking and will take are necessary, timely countermeasures that are defensive in nature which have gone through serious consideration and careful assessment, and they're aimed at protecting China's sovereignty and security. They are consistent with international law and domestic laws. They are a warning to the provocateurs and also aimed at protecting regional stability and peace in the Taiwan Strait. On such an issue concerning China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, China's countermeasures are justified, necessary and proportionate, and there is nothing excessive about them.

China's legitimate measures have won broad support from the international community including Bahrain. More than 170 countries in the world have voiced their strong support for China to uphold its sovereignty and the one-China principle. They overwhelmingly outnumber the US

and its few supporters. If the US acts wantonly and arbitrarily on the Taiwan question, neither the Chinese people, nor people elsewhere in the world will say yes to this.

The Chinese people are always peace-loving. Since modern times, the Chinese people had suffered from the aggression of foreign powers and the ravages of wars, who more deeply understand the cruelty of war and the value of peace. To this day, China still suffers from the crude interference in its internal affairs by the US and some of its partners, which undermines China's sovereignty and security. However, today's world is not the world over 120 years ago. Today's China is not the old China over 120 years ago. The days when "the Western aggressors could take over one country only by setting up some cannons on the Eastern coast" are long gone. No country has the right to singlehandedly handle international affairs, control others' destiny and monopolize development edges, still less should it lord oneself over all others or seeking hegemony and bullying. The Time have its own direction, and the world has its own axioms. The Chinese people will never allow foreign powers to bully, oppress or enslave us. The position of the Chinese government and people on the Taiwan question is consistent, and it is the unchanging and firm will of over 1.4 billion Chinese people to resolutely safeguard national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

White paper on Taiwan question to pool strength for national reunification, rejuvenation

A white paper, titled "The Taiwan Question and China's Reunification in the New Era," will give a significant boost to efforts to pool strength for national reunification and rejuvenation.

The white paper, published by the Taiwan Affairs Office of the State Council and the State Council Information Office on Wednesday, comprehensively elaborates on the position, principles and policies of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese government on advancing and realizing national reunification in the new era.

It bears great significance in strengthening the trend of opposing "Taiwan independence" and advancing national reunification, resolutely curbing separatist activities and interference from external forces, and firmly safeguarding national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Resolving the Taiwan question and realizing China's complete reunification is a shared aspiration of all the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation. The CPC, the Chinese government, and the Chinese people have striven for decades to achieve this goal.

Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC in 2012, the CPC and the Chinese government have adopted new and innovative measures in relation to Taiwan. They have continued to chart the course of cross-

Straits relations, safeguard peace and stability across the Taiwan Straits, and promote progress towards national reunification.

The achievements in advancing the peaceful development of cross-Straits relations and peaceful national reunification in the new era have once again demonstrated that the CPC has always been the backbone of the Chinese nation, exercising strong leadership in realizing national rejuvenation and reunification.

However, in recent years the Taiwan authorities, led by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP), have redoubled their efforts to divide the country, and some external forces have tried to exploit Taiwan to contain China, prevent China from achieving complete reunification, and halt the process of national rejuvenation.

The actions of the DPP authorities in advocating "Taiwan independence" have resulted in tensions in cross-Straits relations, endangering peace and stability in the Taiwan Straits. They are obstacles that must be eliminated in the process of advancing peaceful reunification.

External interference is another obstacle to China's reunification. Still lost in delusions of hegemony and trapped in a Cold War mindset, some forces in the United States insist on perceiving and portraying China as a major strategic adversary and a serious long-term threat. They do their utmost to undermine and

pressurize China, exploiting Taiwan as a convenient tool.

It is the sacred right of every sovereign state to safeguard national unity and territorial integrity. It goes without saying that the Chinese government is entitled to take all measures necessary to settle the Taiwan question and achieve national reunification, free of external interference.

China is firmly committed to peaceful development. At the same time, it will not flinch in the face of external interference, nor will it tolerate any infringement upon its sovereignty, security and development interests. Relying on external forces will achieve nothing for Taiwan's separatists, and using Taiwan to contain China is doomed to fail. "We will work with the greatest sincerity and exert our utmost efforts to achieve peaceful reunification," the white paper says. "But we will not renounce the use of force," it adds, stressing that the use of force would be the last resort taken under compelling circumstances.

National reunification is an essential step toward national rejuvenation. The future of Taiwan lies in China's reunification, and the wellbeing of the people of Taiwan hinges on the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation, an endeavor that bears on the future and destiny of the people on both sides of the Taiwan Straits.



General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior, yesterday praised the heads of community centres and members of Husseinya processions, officers, non-commissioned officers and servicemen for their commitment and cooperation in the successful organisation of this year's Ashura season. Chief of Public Security Chief, governors, and top security officials were present at the meeting that thanked HM King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for facilitating all requirements. Shaikh Rashid thanked the governors for constant communication and field visits during the season.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, received yesterday, Dr. Eric Trager, Professional Staff Member of the US Senate's Armed Services Committee. They discussed the historical relations between Bahrain and the United States of America, as well as their mutual commitment to continued joint coordination to achieve common interests.

The fatberg under our streets

Works Ministry takes legal actions against 70 for feeding sewer with fatty substances

● Cafeterias, restaurants and kitchen units mostly blamed for violations

TDT | Manama

Many of us, it seems, are unaware of the extensive sewer system running beneath the streets of Bahrain.

By any chance, if you are one among them, know that these systems are instrumental in clearing our sewage and keeping our lives smoothly over the years.

However, modern society seems to ignore this and is flushing the drains with fats, grease, oil and other umpteen things that we shouldn't be doing.

The result: all of them congeal together to form, what experts call, a fatberg.

What do they do?

They block drains, break pipes, and cause localised flooding.

Went it happens, lives go awry. Authorities here say they are



Representative picture

fighting this menace here in the Kingdom too.

They have also pinpointed the troublemakers.

Works Ministry says cafeterias, restaurants and kitchen units are greatly responsible for feeding the fatbergs choking the sewers in the Kingdom.

This issue vexes public works officials and costs tax-payers thousands of dinars.

Eateries in the Kingdom, a Works Ministry report says, are

contributing to the clogging by failing to instal grease traps and other control measures.

"This means that fat, oil and grease from such places are finding their way directly into the network's pipes and drains, destroying it."

"During the first half of the year, the ministry detected and took legal actions against 70 such violators," the report said.

Judicial control officers at the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Af-

fairs and Endowments detected the violations.

Of the 70 violations recorded, 60 were for feeding the net-

work with prohibited materials, six for unlicensed connections, three for working without a permit and one for unauthorised discharge.

The judicial control officers served notices to all violators after inspecting the site.

Officers also met the people responsible for the action and asked them to correct them within a prescribed time.

In this regard, the Works Ministry stressed the importance of awareness campaigns on the proper use of control mechanisms and their significant impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of wastewater transportation and treatment process.

The works ministry said it had involved the Ministry of Trade and Industry in issuing and renewing commercial registrations to ensure compliance, especially where fat traps are a must.



What does the law say?

Law No. 33 of 2006 aims at regulating sewage disposal and surface water drainage to protect the environment against pollution. Article 7 deals with precautions to be taken by the licensee to prevent damages to the environment and public health.

The law also states that it is illegal to link drainages to public sewage facilities without obtaining a licence and throw, dispose or allow discharge of materials that could damage the network.

The ministry says it's also illegal to feed public sewage networks with discolouring materials, petroleum, alcohol, calcium carbide, yeast, highly acidic or alkaline substances, industrial detergents, cyanide and sulphide compounds, tar, oils, greases and similar substances.



Turning fatberg into biodiesel



Yes, you heard it right. People had also found ways to turn these monstrous mounds of grease into valuable and green biofuel. The method works like this: FOG [fats, oils and greases, the building blocks of fatbergs] are heated to between 90 and 110 degrees Celsius, and then hydrogen peroxide is added to break down organic matter and release fatty acids. Bacteria are then used to break down the fatty acids, producing methane.



'Call for your furniture' continues success

Southern Municipality collects 160 tonnes of used furniture in H1, 2022

TDT | Manama

An initiative launched to discourage people from throwing away unwanted furniture in random places continues to reap remarkable success in the Southern governorate, with them collecting over 160 tonnes of used furniture in the first half of this year.

It just doesn't end there! The "Call for your furniture" initiative, born out of necessity in 2020, till now, has collected over 1,210 tonnes of used furniture, for which officials made 484 house visits.

Earlier, municipal officials and cleaning workers were in a constant struggle to dispose of furniture thrown out by res-



idents in vehicles designed to remove household wastes.

That is also solved now. The project also arms workers with

specially designed vehicles to transport large objects.

Most importantly, it has killed the practice of throwing un-

wanted furniture in open spaces, streets and near garbage containers.

Southern Municipality said officials visited 61 houses in the first half of this year from the 1st of January to the 31st of June.

The Municipal Council and the Urbaser Cleaning Company are backing the initiative.

How does it work?

Once the municipality gets a call, officials will visit the caller with a specially designed truck to transport the furniture.

Furniture thus collected will be either dismantled or repurposed.

The municipality decided to launch the initiative following complaints by cleaning company workers, who struggled to transport extra-large materials dumped on the streets.

Who to call?

Now, if a citizen wants to dispose of some unused furniture, all needed is to contact officials on the number 80070000.

The service focuses mainly elderly, people of determination and special cases.

Officials collect furniture on Sundays and Thursdays.

The ministry said they would roll out the initiative to more people residing in the southern regions and expand collection days from two to five days a week.



Health Minister, Dr. Jaleela bin Al-Sayed Jawad Hassan, yesterday held talks with French Ambassador, Jerome Cauchard and discussed ways to bolster cooperation in the health sector. The minister stressed the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation in health, particularly in light of the memoranda of understanding signed between the two sides.



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs yesterday hosted the second round of bilateral consultations between Bahrain and Singapore, headed by Dr. Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs, and Ing Tek Hen, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Singapore for the Pacific and Southeast Asia Region. The meeting mulled ways of enhancing cooperation and exchanging experiences in political, economic, commercial, investment, tourism, environmental, technical and cultural fields to activate the memorandum of understanding signed in 2014 and complement the outcomes of the first round of consultations held in Singapore in 2014, 2016. Dr. Sheikh Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Political Affairs, praised Bahrain's strong ties with Singapore. The two sides also affirmed their keenness to continue regular consultation in addition to coordinating diplomatic positions regarding regional issues.

Bahraini-UAE joint anti-terror drill



A delegation from the National Guard at the Bahrain Defence Force has participated in the preparatory meeting of the Bahraini-UAE joint anti-terror drill (Jelmoud 3), to be conducted under the command of the Presidential Guard at the UAE Defence Ministry. The two sides reviewed the ongoing preparations and ways to enhance coordination during the upcoming joint military exercise, set to be held in the kingdom in the coming period.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani, received yesterday, the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Anwaer. They discussed the ongoing cooperation between Bahrain and China, in addition to issues of common interest in regional and international arenas.

LMRA, NPRA inspection campaign: several arrested

TDI | Manama

Bahraini authorities yesterday arrested several workers during an inspection campaign to ensure compliance with residency and labour laws in the Kingdom.

The Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs organised the campaign with the Capital Governorate Police Directorate and the Labour Market Regulatory Authority.

Brigadier Abdulrahman Al-Dosari, Assistant Undersecretary for Exits, Search and Follow-up, said NPRA would intensify the joint inspections in the coming days



to combat illegal employment. "We will visit commercial establishments in all governorates," he said, calling on

general public to report complaints regarding irregular employment to the authority.

Plea for help on social media; ministry intervenes, transfers patient to SMC

TDI | Manama

A message seeking medical help that went viral on social media sparked some quick government action yesterday.

Responding to the plea, the Ministry of Health intervened quickly and mobilised Primary Health care centres and government hospitals to take care of the issue.

The ministry said it transferred the patient to the Salmaniya Medical Complex in coordination with Primary Health care centres and government



hospitals.

"The authorities contacted the family and took their consent to move the patient to a hospital," a statement said.

"We send an ambulance to transport the patient to the Salmaniya Medical Complex, where he was examined and

subjected to comprehensive medical evaluation," the ministry said.

The statement said the ministry is committed to providing all means of healthcare to the community and best care in partnership with government healthcare facilities.

Al Baraka Group (B.S.C.) (formerly Al Baraka Banking Group B.S.C.) CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION As at 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	(Reviewed) 30 June 2022	(Audited) 31 December 2021	(Audited) 1 January 2021
	US\$ '000	US\$ '000 (restated)	US\$ '000 (restated)
ASSETS			
Cash and balances with banks	5,342,823	5,681,353	5,156,577
Receivables	10,475,152	10,975,647	11,937,952
Mudaraba and Musharaka financing	2,058,519	3,493,107	2,698,516
Ijarah Muntahia Bittamleek	2,094,752	2,018,800	1,747,627
Investments	4,970,100	4,495,469	5,098,597
Property and equipment	483,566	524,111	468,919
Other assets	586,847	604,888	759,466
TOTAL ASSETS	26,011,759	27,793,375	27,867,654
LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNTHOLDERS AND EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
Customer current and other accounts	6,966,784	7,579,275	7,344,227
Due to banks	808,078	1,253,451	1,600,555
Long term financing	329,676	286,833	319,364
Other liabilities	1,158,394	1,114,895	1,270,981
Total liabilities	9,262,932	10,234,454	10,535,127
EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNTHOLDERS			
Financial institutions	658,295	744,793	538,321
Non-financial institutions and individuals	14,063,465	14,813,540	14,624,227
Total equity of investment accountholders	14,721,760	15,558,333	15,162,548
EQUITY			
Share capital	1,242,879	1,242,879	1,242,879
Treasury shares	(14,923)	(15,655)	(17,462)
Share premium	16,062	16,619	18,084
Reserves	194,051	196,539	183,121
Cumulative changes in fair value	55,011	55,736	32,940
Foreign currency translation reserve	(1,052,908)	(940,728)	(800,489)
Retained earnings	469,621	402,874	350,296
Equity attributable to parent's shareholders	909,793	958,264	1,009,369
Perpetual tier 1 capital	400,000	400,000	400,000
Equity attributable to parent's shareholders and Sukuk holders	1,309,793	1,358,264	1,409,369
Non-controlling interests	717,274	642,324	760,610
TOTAL EQUITY	2,027,067	2,000,588	2,169,979
TOTAL LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNTHOLDERS AND EQUITY	26,011,759	27,793,375	27,867,654

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME For the three months and six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	30 June 2022	30 June 2021	30 June 2022	30 June 2021
	US\$ '000	US\$ '000 (Restated)	US\$ '000	US\$ '000 (Restated)
INCOME				
Net income from jointly financed contracts and investments	333,023	317,117	663,526	635,939
Return on equity of investment accountholders before Group's share as a Mudarib	(271,662)	(261,727)	(545,690)	(526,125)
Group's share as a Mudarib	88,478	85,256	185,112	172,895
Return on equity of investment accountholders	(183,184)	(176,471)	(360,578)	(353,230)
Group's share of income from equity of investment accountholders (as a Mudarib and Rabalmal)	149,839	140,646	302,948	282,709
Mudarib share for managing off-balance sheet equity of investment accountholders	7,554	5,898	9,661	6,043
Net income from self financed contracts and investments	138,917	32,331	229,202	83,412
Fees and commission income	39,253	39,727	79,953	80,772
Other operating income	26,774	32,953	62,338	26,295
	362,337	251,555	684,102	479,231
Profit on long term financing	(8,451)	(6,084)	(14,998)	(13,805)
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	353,886	245,471	669,104	465,426
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Staff expenses	64,655	76,524	133,757	146,976
Depreciation and amortisation	14,126	17,074	28,854	36,362
Other operating expenses	47,827	43,439	96,702	86,279
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	126,608	137,037	259,313	269,617
NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD BEFORE NET ALLOWANCE FOR EXPECTED CREDIT LOSSES / IMPAIRMENT AND TAXATION	227,278	108,434	409,791	195,809
Net allowance for expected credit losses / impairment	(121,761)	(57,257)	(206,078)	(82,666)
NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD BEFORE TAXATION	105,517	51,177	203,713	113,143
Taxation	(31,075)	(18,461)	(66,235)	(41,494)
NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	74,442	32,716	137,478	71,649
Attributable to:				
Equity holders of the parent	45,106	19,978	84,638	45,563
Non-controlling interest	29,334	12,738	52,840	26,086
	74,442	32,716	137,478	71,649
Basic and diluted earnings per share - US cents				
	2.42	0.35	5.68	2.46

CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Equity attributable to parent's shareholders and Sukuk holders	Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	US\$ '000	US\$ '000	US\$ '000
At 1 January 2022	1,387,370	670,757	2,058,127
Restatement	(29,106)	(28,433)	(57,539)
Restated balance as of 1 January 2022	1,358,264	642,324	2,000,588
Net movement in treasury shares	175	-	175
Net movement in other reserves	(2,488)	(2,873)	(5,361)
Net movement in cumulative changes in fair values	(725)	(314)	(1,039)
Foreign currency translations	(112,180)	(75,019)	(187,199)
Net income for the period	84,638	52,840	137,478
Dividends of subsidiaries	-	(31,913)	(31,913)
Allocation of Zakah	(347)	-	(347)
Profit distribution on perpetual tier 1 capital	(15,750)	-	(15,750)
Movement related to subsidiaries' tier 1 capital	(2,622)	(5,628)	(8,250)
Effect of change in ownership	828	-	828
Net movement in non-controlling interests	-	137,857	137,857
At 30 June 2022	1,309,793	717,274	2,027,067
At 1 January 2021	1,423,569	798,825	2,222,394
Restatement	(14,200)	(38,215)	(52,415)
Restated balance as of 1 January 2021	1,409,369	760,610	2,169,979
Net movement in treasury shares	(122)	-	(122)
Net movement in other reserves	725	801	1,526
Net movement in cumulative changes in fair values	3,095	847	3,942
Foreign currency translations	(74,572)	(55,558)	(130,130)
Net income for the period	45,563	26,086	71,649
Dividends of subsidiaries	-	(17,969)	(17,969)
Allocation of Zakah	(1,015)	-	(1,015)
Profit distribution on perpetual tier 1 capital	(15,750)	-	(15,750)
Movement related to subsidiaries' tier 1 capital	3,603	(6,353)	(2,750)
Net movement in non-controlling interests	-	(42)	(42)
At 30 June 2021 (Restated)	1,370,896	708,422	2,079,318

CONDENSED INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Six months ended	
	30 June 2022	30 June 2021
	US\$ '000	US\$ '000 (restated)
Net cash from (used in) operating activities	472,054	(583,023)
Net cash (used in) from investing activities	(348,311)	670,524
Net cash from financing activities	122,093	62,502
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(187,199)	(130,130)
NET CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	58,637	19,873
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January (restated)	2,706,115	2,537,206
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 30 June	2,764,752	2,557,079

Abdullah Saleh Kamel
Chairman

Houssein Ben Haj Amor
Acting Group Chief Executive Officer

The above Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, have been extracted from the Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements reviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers-BAHRAIN. These statements are available in full detail on the web site indicated below.

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Al Baraka Group B.S.C.
Al Baraka Headquarters - Bahrain Bay
P.O. BOX 1882, Manama - Kingdom of Bahrain, C.R. 48915-1
(Licensed as an Investment Business Firm - Category 1)

3 continents

16 countries

659 branches



Hilton Hotel Bahrain opened its doors to the public in a grand ceremony on Wednesday. The event was attended by diplomats, business leaders and key government officials. The evening started with a presentation about the hotel followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by the hotel owner, Salim Al Mannai, Hilton Bahrain's General Manager, Tamer Farouk along with their honorary guests. One of the highlights of the event was a fashion show centred on partnerships with artists like Samar Busheri, the First Female Bahraini Graffiti artist who painted the runway and local fashion designers like Affinity by Batool, White Linen Abaya, Al Zain Abaya and K&R House of Fashion, to celebrate local artists embracing modernism and still keeping their Bahraini roots.

NASS CORPORATION BSC



CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2022			CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the six months ended 30 June 2022				CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the six months ended 30 June 2022			
Bahraini Dinars '000			Bahraini Dinars '000				Bahraini Dinars '000			
	30 June 2022 (reviewed)	31 December 2021 (audited)	Six months ended 30 June		Three months ended 30 June		Six months ended 30 June 2022 (reviewed)		Six months ended 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	
			2022 (reviewed)	2021 (reviewed)	2022 (reviewed)	2021 (reviewed)				
ASSETS										
Property, plant and equipment	24,807	25,675								
Right-of-use assets	4,311	5,301								
Equity accounted investees	972	1,017								
Total non-current assets	30,090	31,993								
Inventories	8,341	7,569								
Trade and other receivables	50,553	51,228								
Contract assets	21,173	22,692								
Due from related parties	2,049	1,201								
Deposits with banks	352	1,070								
Cash and bank balances	12,579	16,579								
Total current assets	95,047	100,339								
Total assets	125,137	132,332								
EQUITY										
Share capital	22,000	22,000								
Treasury shares	(1,597)	(1,597)								
Statutory reserve	8,767	8,767								
Retained earnings	7,293	6,737								
Donations and charity reserve	42	48								
Equity attributable to owners of the Company	36,505	35,955								
Non-controlling interest	1,712	1,843								
Total equity	38,217	37,798								
Liabilities										
Lease liabilities	3,511	4,024								
Bank loans	4,643	6,032								
Employee benefits	7,210	7,047								
Total non-current liabilities	15,364	17,103								
Trade and other payables	31,590	33,726								
Lease liabilities	1,083	1,499								
Contract liabilities	8,771	12,724								
Employee benefits	3,276	3,631								
Due to related parties	7,328	8,150								
Bills payable	5,097	2,041								
Bank loans	3,112	2,695								
Bank overdrafts	11,299	12,965								
Total current liabilities	71,556	77,431								
Total liabilities	86,920	94,534								
Total equity and liabilities	125,137	132,332								
Revenue			62,044	43,889	30,791	21,566				
Cost of sales			(56,350)	(41,861)	(28,004)	(20,641)				
Gross profit			5,694	2,028	2,787	925				
Other operating income, net			425	601	169	275				
Government assistance			-	222	-	222				
General and administrative expenses			(4,891)	(5,506)	(2,361)	(2,805)				
Impairment allowance on trade and other receivables and contract assets, net			(148)	(4,534)	(253)	(4,480)				
Finance income			41	32	19	25				
Finance costs			(546)	(559)	(276)	(272)				
Share of (loss)/ profit of equity-accounted investees, net			(45)	7	(19)	(8)				
Profit/ (loss) for the period			530	(7,709)	66	(6,118)				
Other comprehensive income			-	-	-	-				
Total comprehensive income for the period			530	(7,709)	66	(6,118)				
Attributable to:										
Shareholders of the Company			556	(7,798)	88	(6,136)				
Non-controlling interest			(26)	89	(22)	18				
Earnings per share			2.59	(36.26)	0.41	(28.53)				
Basic earnings per share (Fils)										
Cash flows from operating activities										
Profit/ (loss) for the period before non-controlling interest			530	(7,709)	66	(6,118)				
Adjustments for:										
Depreciation on property, plant and equipment			2,019	2,709						
Depreciation on right-of-use assets			828	957						
Charge/ (reversal) for impairment of trade and other receivables, net			165	(408)						
(Reversal)/ charge for impairment of contract assets			(64)	4,844						
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment			(241)	(426)						
Share of loss/(profit) from equity accounted investments, net			45	(7)						
Employee benefits			1,442	1,796						
Changes in:										
Inventories			(772)	(190)						
Trade and other receivables			510	13,972						
Contract assets			1,583	347						
Due from related parties			(848)	666						
Trade and other payables			(2,338)	(7,319)						
Contract liabilities			(3,953)	(385)						
Employee benefits paid			(1,634)	(1,940)						
Due to related parties			(822)	(1,020)						
Bills payable			3,056	238						
Net cash (used in)/ generated from operating activities			(494)	6,125						
Cash flows from investing activities										
Purchase of property, plant and equipment			(1,165)	(1,920)						
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment			255	489						
Dividend from equity accounted investee			-	540						
Movement on deposits with banks			718	(402)						
Maturity proceeds of other assets			-	283						
Net cash used in investing activities			(192)	(1,010)						
Cash flows from financing activities										
Proceeds from bank loans			420	405						
Repayment of bank loans			(1,392)	(1,143)						
Payment of lease liabilities			(592)	(912)						
Dividends paid to non-controlling shareholders			(78)	(319)						
Donations paid			(6)	(8)						
Net cash used in financing activities			(1,648)	(1,977)						
Net (decrease)/ increase in cash and cash equivalents			(2,334)	3,138						
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January			3,614	(4,954)						
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June			1,280	(1,816)						
Represented by:										
Cash and bank balances			10,070	7,716						
Short term bank deposits maturing within 90 days			2,509	3,606						
Bank overdrafts			(11,299)	(13,138)						
Total			1,280	(1,816)						

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the six months ended 30 June 2022								
Bahraini Dinars '000								
2022 (reviewed)	Attributable to shareholders of the company						Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	Share capital	Treasury shares	Statutory reserve	Retained earnings	Donations and charity reserve	Total		
At 1 January 2022	22,000	(1,597)	8,767	6,737	48	35,955	1,843	37,798
Profit/ (loss) and total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	556	-	556	(26)	530
Dividend declared for 2021	-	-	-	-	-	-	(105)	(105)
Utilization of donation and charity reserve	-	-	-	-	(6)	(6)	-	(6)
At 30 June 2022	22,000	(1,597)	8,767	7,293	42	36,505	1,712	38,217

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the six months ended 30 June 2021								
Bahraini Dinars '000								
2021 (reviewed)	Attributable to shareholders of the Company						Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	Share capital	Treasury shares	Statutory reserve	Retained earnings	Donations and charity reserve	Total		
At 1 January 2021	22,000	(1,597)	8,767	24,701	56	53,927	2,379	56,306
(Loss)/ profit and total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	(7,798)	-	(7,798)	89	(7,709)
Dividend declared for 2020	-	-	-	-	-	-	(718)	(718)
Utilization of donation and charity reserve	-	-	-	-	(8)	(8)	-	(8)
At 30 June 2021	22,000	(1,597)	8,767	16,903	48	46,121	1,750	47,871

Date : 11 August 2022

The above statements have been extracted from the condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2022 which has been reviewed by KPMG Fakhro.

The condensed consolidated interim financial information was approved by the Board of Directors on 11 August 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Sameer Abdulla Nass
Chairman

Sami Abdulla Nass
Deputy Chairman

Police arrest two for insulting religious symbols

TDT | Manama

Posting videos insulting religious signs on social media platforms, including Tik Tok, landed two people in the dock.

One of the suspects, police said, is a 17-year-old person.

Police arrested them following an investigation into a report from the Cybercrime department on social posts insulting religion.



The Public Prosecution said it identified the suspects soon and took them into custody.

During interrogation, cops said both the suspects confessed to their crimes.

“The suspects confessed to publicly insulting religious symbols and misusing telecom devices.”

Representative picture

The Prosecution ordered one of the suspects to the Minor Criminal Court for trial.

Prosecutors referred the other suspect to the Correctional Justice Courts after presenting him to a social worker to prepare a report on him.

The Head of the Family and Child Prosecution affirmed that Bahrain guarantees freedom of opinion and expression. “However, one should exercise such

rights in a manner that does not undermine the sanctity of religion and should not provoke and sow divisions in society.”

“However, in this case, what happened is contrary to that policy.”

“Their acts were meant to cause tensions and are thus criminal in conduct.”

“They deserve the penalty proposed by the law,” said the official.

Bahrain a beacon of religious freedom: Justice Minister



Justice minister during the meeting with Jaffari Endowments Council and heads of ma'atams (community centres) and Hussainiyas from various governorates.

TDT | Manama

Bahrain has been and will remain a beacon of religious freedom, guaranteeing the exercise of religious rites for all, said Justice and Islamic Affairs Minister, Nawaf bin Mohammed Al-Maawda.

The minister was addressing a meeting with the Jaffari Endowments Council and heads of ma'atams (community centres)

and Hussainiyas from various governorates.

The minister also commended the efforts of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for the smooth organisation of the Ashura Commemoration.

Chairman of the Jaffari Endowments Council, Yousif bin Saleh Al-Saleh, thanked HM

the King and HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for their constant care and respect for all religious occasions, particularly Ashura.

Al-Saleh also commended the efforts exerted by the Ministry of Interior to ensure security and protect national achievements, as well as those of the Justice Ministry to take care of houses of worship and various religious rituals.



Defence Affairs Minister Lieutenant-General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi received Member of the Senate Armed Forces Committee in the United States, Eric Treger. The minister reviewed the existing cooperation relations.

Education Minister renews private schools' registration



TDT | Manama

Education Minister Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi announced renewing the registration of a number of privately-owned educational institutions.

Registrations of Alia School, New Generation School, Al Fajr School and Al Rawabi Intermediate-Secondary School were renewed for a three-year term. The renewal is in line with article 9 of Decree-law 25 of 1998 on private educational and training institutions, which stipulates commitment to the authorised capacity.



The Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF)'s Secretary-General Dr Mustafa Al Sayed received the CEO of APM Terminals Bahrain, Maureen Bannerman. Dr Al Sayed gave an overview of RHF's history, the number of orphans and widows sponsored by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the groups benefiting from the RHF, and the types of care provided to them. He highlighted the projects implemented by the RHF in other countries

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)			
	30 June 2022 (reviewed)	31 December 2021 (audited)	30 June 2021 (reviewed)
ASSETS			
Cash and bank balances	100,560	59,055	129,056
Investments	301,810	424,970	393,189
Accrued income	2,035	2,148	4,321
Insurance receivables	8,001	29,141	39,301
Insurance deposits	20,144	21,728	22,487
Deferred policy acquisition costs	60	365	1,436
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions	9,722	38,516	44,862
Other assets	8,899	21,422	15,908
Investment property	4,548	4,622	4,550
Property and equipment	11,643	11,725	11,789
TOTAL ASSETS	467,422	613,692	666,899
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
LIABILITIES			
Technical provisions	151,359	255,778	301,012
Insurance payables	26,963	49,863	69,391
Other liabilities	22,708	29,093	29,889
TOTAL LIABILITIES	201,030	334,734	397,272
EQUITY			
Attributable to shareholders of parent company			
Share capital	220,000	220,000	220,000
Treasury stock	(14,793)	(14,793)	(14,793)
Reserves	42,473	55,198	55,431
Retained earnings (accumulated losses)	6,241	5,738	(8,056)
Non-controlling interests	253,921	266,143	252,582
TOTAL EQUITY	266,392	278,958	269,627
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	467,422	613,692	666,899

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)					
	For the three months ended 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the three months ended 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year ended 31 December 2021 (audited)
Earned premiums	328	3,800	1,487	9,397	13,800
Claims and related provisions	4,744	659	10,146	(954)	14,961
Policy acquisition costs	(330)	(971)	(14)	(1,107)	(2,468)
Investment income attributable to insurance funds	399	1,501	(895)	3,310	4,269
Operating expenses	(1,439)	(1,643)	(2,704)	(3,759)	(6,845)
Underwriting result	3,702	3,346	8,020	6,687	23,717
Investment income attributable to shareholders' funds	437	1,455	(1,134)	2,667	5,339
Operating expenses - non underwriting activities	(984)	(806)	(1,860)	(1,837)	(4,148)
Other income	591	2,440	1,466	2,732	3,467
Other expenses and provisions	(1,041)	254	(1,225)	(2,043)	(3,964)
Profit for the period	2,705	6,689	5,257	8,196	24,411
Attributable to:					
Non-controlling interests	(2)	(28)	(89)	(28)	346
Shareholders of parent company	2,707	6,717	5,346	8,224	24,065
Earnings per share attributable to shareholders (basic and diluted):	1.4	3.4	2.7	4.2	12.1

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)					
	For the three months ended 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the three months ended 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year ended 31 December 2021 (audited)
Profit for the period	2,705	6,689	5,257	8,196	24,411
Other comprehensive income					
Items that will be reclassified to profit or loss:					
Changes on fair value of available for sale investments	(5,825)	1,724	(4,923)	665	(1,627)
Transfers for recognition of gains on disposal of available for sale investments	(1,081)	(1,200)	(367)	(2,219)	(2,515)
Transfers for impairment loss recognised on available for sale investments	615	299	2,420	558	862
Other comprehensive income for the period	(6,291)	823	(12,870)	(996)	(3,280)
Total comprehensive income for the period	(3,586)	7,512	(7,613)	7,200	21,131
Attributable to:					
Non-controlling interests	(59)	20	(344)	(21)	349
Shareholders of parent company	(3,527)	7,492	(7,269)	7,221	20,782
Total comprehensive income for the period	(3,586)	7,512	(7,613)	7,200	21,131

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)						
	Share capital	Treasury stock	Reserves	Retained earnings (accumulated losses)	Non-controlling interests	Total equity (reviewed)
Balances at 31 December 2021	220,000	(14,793)	55,198	5,738	12,815	278,958
Net profit for the period	-	-	-	5,346	(89)	5,257
Changes on fair value of available for sale investments	-	-	(14,689)	-	(234)	(14,923)
Transfers for recognition of gains on disposal of available for sale investments	-	-	(346)	-	(21)	(367)
Transfers for impairment loss recognised on available for sale investments	-	-	2,420	-	-	2,420
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(12,615)	5,346	(344)	(7,613)
Dividends declared	-	-	-	(4,953)	-	(4,953)
Transfer of net depreciation on revalued property	-	-	(110)	110	-	-
Balances at 30 June 2022	220,000	(14,793)	55,198	5,738	12,815	278,958
Balances at 31 December 2020	220,000	(14,793)	56,296	(16,142)	17,066	262,427
Net profit for the year	-	-	-	24,065	346	24,411
Changes on fair value of available for sale investments	-	-	(1,614)	-	(13)	(1,627)
Transfers for recognition of (gains) losses on disposal of available for sale investments	-	-	(2,521)	-	3	(2,518)
Transfers for impairment loss recognised on available for sale investments	-	-	852	-	10	862
Operating expenses for the year	-	-	(3,283)	24,065	349	21,131
Transfer of net depreciation on revalued property	-	-	(222)	222	-	-
Transfer to (from) non-distributable reserves	-	-	2,407	(2,407)	-	-
Subsidiary's capital reduction	-	-	-	-	(4,600)	(4,600)
Balances at 31 December 2021	220,000	(14,793)	55,198	5,738	12,815	278,958
Balances at 31 December 2020	220,000	(14,793)	56,296	(16,142)	17,066	262,427
Net profit (loss) for the period	-	-	-	8,224	(28)	8,196
Changes on fair value of available for sale investments	-	-	658	-	7	665
Transfers for recognition of gains on disposal of available for sale investments	-	-	(2,209)	-	(10)	(2,219)
Transfers for impairment loss recognised on available for sale investments	-	-	545	-	10	555
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(1,003)	8,224	(21)	7,200
Transfer of net depreciation on revalued property	-	-	(110)	110	-	-
Transfer to (from) non-distributable reserves	-	-	248	(248)	-	-
Balances at 30 June 2021	220,000	(14,793)	55,431	(8,056)	17,045	269,627

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2022 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)					
	For the three months ended 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the three months ended 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2022 (reviewed)	For the financial year-to-date 30 June 2021 (reviewed)	For the financial year ended 31 December 2021 (audited)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES					
Premiums received	17,005	19,976	17,005	19,976	28,613
Reinsurance premiums paid	(63,465)	(5,888)	(63,465)	(5,888)	(21,947)
Claims and acquisition costs paid	(42,655)	(96,034)	(42,655)	(96,034)	(147,660)
Reinsurance receipts in respect of claims	27,362	34,433	27,362	34,433	72,762
Investment income	17	49	17	49	43
Interest received	564	722	564	722	1,872
Operating expenses paid	(5,383)	(5,410)	(5,383)	(5,410)	(11,716)
Other (expenses) income, net	(1,685)	(4,365)	(1,685)	(4,365)	(3,319)
Insurance deposits received (paid), net	1,572	(1,775)	1,572	(1,775)	102
Net cash used in operating activities	(65,698)	(58,922)	(65,698)	(58,922)	(81,250)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES					
Maturity/sale of investments	133,771	70,424	133,771	70,424	115,744
Purchase of investments	(31,022)	(10,380)	(31,022)	(10,380)	(82,173)
Term deposits with bank	32	(5,001)	32	(5,001)	18,473
Interest received	3,511	4,060	3,511	4,060	7,398
Investment income	47	1,955	47	1,955	2,572
Collateralised cash deposits	6,850	21,423	6,850	21,423	10,750
Purchase of property and equipment	(33)	(2)	(33)	(2)	(5)
Purchase of intangible assets	(17)	-	(17)	-	9
Sale of associate / subsidiary	-	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	113,139	82,479	113,139	82,479	62,889
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES					
Dividends paid	(4,953)	-	(4,953)	-	-
Dividend received from associate	49	-	49	-	-
Subsidiary's capital reduction - minority interests	-	-	-	-	(4,600)
Net cash used in financing activities	(4,904)	-	(4,904)	-	(4,600)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	42,537	23,557	42,537	23,557	(22,961)
Effect of exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents	-	(2)	-	(2)	(11)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	40,464	63,436	40,464	63,436	63,436
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	82,001	86,991	82,001	86,991	40,464
Term deposits with bank	18,559	42,065	18,559	42,065	18,591
Cash and bank balances, end of period	100,560	129,056	100,560	129,056	59,056

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 11 August 2022 and signed on its behalf by:
Saeed Mohammed AlBahar Chairman
Ahmed Saeed AlMahri Director
Samuel Verghese Acting Chief Executive Officer

The above condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been extracted from the condensed consolidated interim financial statements reviewed by KPMG Fakhro. The reviewed condensed consolidated interim financial statements are available on Arig's website www.arig.net

FINANCIAL RESULTS

30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Reviewed 30 June 2022 BD 000	Audited 31 December 2021 BD 000
ASSETS		
Cash and balances with banks and Central Bank of Bahrain	70,976	113,407
Due from banks	102,082	98,015
Financing contracts	1,004,693	1,057,975
Investments in equity	6,023	7,071
Investments in sukuk	330,729	355,042
Receivables and other assets	143,884	203,500
Premises, equipment and right of use assets	3,592	4,272
TOTAL ASSETS	1,661,979	1,839,282
LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS AND OWNERS' EQUITY		
LIABILITIES		
Customers' current accounts	138,486	137,769
Due to banks	682	4,433
Due to non-banks	186,959	348,455
Other liabilities	23,244	19,063
TOTAL LIABILITIES	349,371	509,720
EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS - QUASI EQUITY		
Banks	260,669	201,051
Non-banks and individuals	875,781	944,433
TOTAL EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS - QUASI EQUITY	1,136,450	1,145,484
OWNERS' EQUITY		
Equity attributable to shareholders of the Parent		
Share capital	132,519	132,519
Statutory reserve	27,942	27,942
Fair value through equity reserve	1,064	1,850
Proposed dividend	-	21,767
Retained earnings	14,633	-
TOTAL OWNERS' EQUITY	176,158	184,078
TOTAL LIABILITIES, EQUITY OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS AND OWNERS' EQUITY	1,661,979	1,839,282
OFF-BALANCE SHEET		
EQUITY OF RESTRICTED INVESTMENT ACCOUNT HOLDERS	124,650	136,710
ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT	674,230	660,739
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS	65,220	59,224

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME

For the six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Three months ended 30 June		Six months ended 30 June	
	2022 BD 000	2021 BD 000	2022 BD 000	2021 BD 000
Income from financing contracts	14,421	14,801	29,240	29,262
Income from sukuk	3,603	3,433	7,263	7,132
Income from investments	825	534	1,408	900
Income from due from banks	541	237	821	482
Share of loss from associate	-	(95)	-	(232)
OPERATING INCOME	19,390	18,910	38,732	37,544
Return on equity of investment account holders (wakala)	(4,733)	(3,776)	(9,226)	(7,638)
Return on equity of investment account holders (mudaraba) before Group's share as mudarib	(2,424)	(2,666)	(4,794)	(5,166)
Group's share as mudarib	2,095	2,257	4,139	4,365
Return on equity of investment account holders (mudaraba) after Group's share as mudarib	(329)	(409)	(655)	(801)
Profit on due to banks and non-banks	(1,046)	(2,500)	(2,370)	(5,486)
NET OPERATING INCOME	13,282	12,225	26,481	23,619
Staff costs	3,269	3,225	6,353	6,206
Depreciation and amortisation	368	479	694	965
Allowance for impairment and credit losses - net	(530)	763	(130)	1,631
Other expenses	2,645	2,180	4,931	4,295
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	5,752	6,647	11,848	13,097
NET INCOME FOR THE PERIOD	7,530	5,578	14,633	10,522
Attributable to:				
Shareholders of the Parent	7,530	5,579	14,633	10,524
Non-controlling shareholders	-	(1)	-	(2)
	7,530	5,578	14,633	10,522

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2022 BD 000	2021 BD 000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income for the period	14,633	10,522
Adjustments for:		
Allowance for impairment and credit losses - net (excluding recovery from written off accounts)	(110)	1,655
Depreciation	694	965
Share of loss from associate	-	232
Foreign exchange gain	(333)	(244)
Sukuk premium amortisation	620	734
Operating income before changes in operating assets and liabilities	15,504	13,864
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Mandatory reserve with Central Bank of Bahrain	831	(2,481)
Due from banks	(57,959)	(1,234)
Financing contracts	53,124	(63,349)
Receivables and other assets	38,365	5,614
Customers' current accounts	717	6,065
Due to banks	(3,751)	(97,771)
Due to non-banks	(161,496)	37,734
Other liabilities	4,816	3,538
Net cash flows used in operating activities	(109,849)	(98,020)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from disposal of investments	-	550
Disposal of investment in sukuk - net	23,694	14,743
Purchase of premises and equipment - net	(14)	(46)
Net cash flows from investing activities	23,680	15,247
FINANCING ACTIVITY		
Net movement in equity of investment account holders	(9,034)	45,597
Payments of obligation in relation to right-of-use assets	(288)	(607)
Net cash flows (used in) from financing activities	(9,322)	44,990
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(95,491)	(37,783)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	178,285	155,774
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 30 JUNE	82,794	117,991

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN OWNERS' EQUITY

For the six months ended 30 June 2022 (Reviewed)

	Attributable to shareholders of the Parent					Total	Non-controlling shareholders	Total owners' equity
	Share capital	Statutory reserve	Fair value through equity reserve	Retained earnings	Proposed dividend			
	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000	BD 000
Balance at 1 January 2022	132,519	27,942	1,850	-	21,767	184,078	-	184,078
Net income for the period	-	-	-	14,633	-	14,633	-	14,633
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(484)	-	-	(484)	-	(484)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(484)	14,633	-	14,149	-	14,149
Dividend	-	-	-	-	(21,767)	(21,767)	-	(21,767)
Transfer from fair value through equity reserve	-	-	(302)	-	-	(302)	-	(302)
Balance at 30 June 2022	132,519	27,942	1,064	14,633	-	176,158	-	176,158
Balance at 1 January 2021	132,519	25,640	1,018	311	-	159,488	7,741	167,229
Net income for the period	-	-	-	10,524	-	10,524	(2)	10,522
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	1,135	-	-	1,135	-	1,135
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	1,135	10,524	-	11,659	(2)	11,657
Net movement in share of non-controlling shareholders	-	-	-	-	-	-	695	695
Balance at 30 June 2021	132,519	25,640	2,153	10,835	-	171,147	8,434	179,581

These statements have been extracted from the interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2022, reviewed by EY. These interim condensed consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 4 August 2022. Kuwait Finance House (Bahrain) B.S.C.(c) is licensed by CBB as an Islamic retail bank.

Hamad Abdulmohsen AlMarzouq
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Abdulhakeem Yaqoub Alkhayyat
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

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Licensed as an Islamic Retail Bank by the Central Bank of Bahrain



News in brief

Taiwan holds military drill after China repeats threats



Taiwan's army held another live-fire drill yesterday after Beijing ended its largest-ever military exercises around the island, as it repeated threats to bring the self-ruled democracy under its control. Beijing has raged at a trip to Taiwan last week by US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi -- the highest-ranking elected American official to visit in decades --

staging days of air and sea drills around the island that raised tensions to their highest level in years. Taiwan has accused China of using the Pelosi visit as an excuse to kickstart drills that would allow it to rehearse for an invasion.

Troops in Cameroon's Northwest Region have "summarily killed" at least 10 people in a crackdown against anglophone separatists, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said yesterday.

Cameroon troops 'summarily killed' 10 in crackdown: HRW



Its report is the latest in a string of allegations by rights monitors in the battle between security forces and English-speaking militants demanding home rule in francophone-majority Cameroon. "Cameroonian soldiers summarily killed at least 10 people and carried out a series of other abuses between April 24 and June 12, during counter-insurgency operations in the Northwest Region," HRW said.

Sweden agrees to extradite man to Turkey in wake of NATO deal

Sweden's government has decided to extradite a man to Turkey

Turkey wanted for fraud, it said yesterday, the first case since Turkey demanded a number of people extradited in return for allowing Stockholm to formally apply for NATO membership. NATO ally Turkey lifted its veto over Finland and Sweden's bid to join the Western alliance in June after weeks of tense negotiations where Ankara accused the two Nordic countries of harbouring what Turkey says are militants of the banned Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK). As part of the deal, Turkey submitted a list of people it wanted Sweden to extradite, but has since expressed frustration over the lack of progress. The man, in his 30s, would be the first known case of an extradition to Turkey since the deal was struck

A prominent Taliban cleric, Sheikh Rahimullah Haqqani, was killed in an attack in Kabul yesterday, according to an intelligence official.

Taliban cleric killed in blast in Kabul

Abdul Rahman, the head of intelligence for the district in the Afghan capital where the blast took place, confirmed the death. The attack took place in a religious seminary in the Afghan capital when a man who had previously lost his leg had detonated explosives hidden in a plastic artificial leg. It was not immediately clear who was behind the blast.

Freetown in shock after dozens killed in Sierra Leone protests

Dozens died in anti-government protests in Sierra Leone

Leone, police and other sources said yesterday, sharply raising the death toll from the previous day's clashes as shocked citizens stayed mostly behind closed doors in the capital Freetown. Six police officers and at least 21 civilians were killed, the sources said, as hundreds took to the streets in frustration at economic hardship and a perceived failure by the government to cushion the impact of rising prices.

San Francisco metro system hires bird of prey to scare pigeons away



A hawk is seen at San Francisco metro station

Reuters | San Francisco

Metro system riders in California's San Francisco Bay Area may have noticed a new station guard in recent months.

A 5-year-old Harris's hawk named Pac-Man has taken up the perch at El Cerrito del Norte station, where he's on the look out - not for fare evaders, but pigeons.

Ricky Ortiz, a falconer with Falcon Force and Pac-Man's handler, began patrolling with the bird at the station this summer, contracting with the Bay Area Rapid Transit system, or BART, to keep the pigeons at bay and protect commuters from pigeon poop.

The team patrols three days a week, starting their day at the bottom level entrance before scoping out the platforms, scaring away any pigeons who are resting on a ledge or on the interior scaffolding of the station.

So far Ortiz has noticed a big difference.

"There was probably less than half of the pigeons here after the week of us flying," he said.

Ortiz tries to keep Pac-Man from feasting on the pigeons or local rodents, instead giving him snacks throughout the day to keep his feathery friend happy on the job.

Satellite pictures at Russian air base

Satellite images show three craters, eight destroyed planes; Ukraine says Russian air strikes double from last week

Ukraine says Russian air strikes double from last week

Reuters | Kyiv

Satellite pictures released yesterday showed devastation at a Russian air base in Crimea, hit in an attack that suggested Kyiv may have obtained new long-range strike capability with potential to change the course of the war.

Pictures released by independent satellite firm Planet Labs showed three near-identical craters where buildings at Russia's Saki air base had been struck with apparent precision. The base, on the southwest coast of Crimea, had suffered extensive fire damage with the burnt-out husks of at least eight destroyed warplanes clearly visible.

Russia has denied aircraft were damaged and said explosions seen at the base on Tuesday were accidental.

Ukraine has not publicly claimed responsibility for the attack or said exactly how it was carried out.

"Officially, we are not confirming or denying anything; there are numerous scenarios for what might have happened... bearing in mind that there were several epicentres of explosions at exactly the same time," Ukrainian presidential adviser Mykhailo Podolyak told Reuters in a message.



A satellite image shows destroyed Saky air base in Crimea

Officially, we are not confirming or denying anything; there are numerous scenarios for what might have happened... bearing in mind that there were several epicentres of explosions at exactly the same time

UKRAINIAN PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER MYKHAILO PODOLYAK

Western military experts said the scale of the damage and the apparent precision of the strike suggested a powerful new capability with potentially important implications.

Russia, which seized and annexed Crimea in 2014, uses the

peninsula as the base for its Black Sea fleet and as the main supply route for its invasion forces occupying southern Ukraine, where Kyiv is planning a counter-offensive in coming weeks.

"I'm not an intel analyst, but it doesn't look good," Mark Hertling, a former commander of U.S. ground forces in Europe, wrote on Twitter, linking to an image of the devastation at the Russian base.

"I am. It's very good," tweeted back his fellow retired four-star American general, Michael Hayden, former head of the CIA and National Security Agency.

The Institute for the Study of War think tank said Ukrainian officials were framing the Crimea strike as "the start of Ukraine's counteroffensive in the south, suggesting that the Ukrainian military expects intense fighting

COVID-19: Countries worst affected

Country	Total cases	Total deaths
1 USA	94,348,507	1,060,755
2 India	44,206,996	526,879
3 France	34,169,281	152,990
4 Brazil	34,096,935	680,852
5 Germany	31,439,645	145,394
6 UK	23,420,826	186,087
7 Italy	21,428,602	173,701
8 S. Korea	20,983,169	25,441
9 Russia	18,796,472	382,954
10 Turkey	16,295,817	99,678
11 Japan	14,861,375	34,323
12 Spain	13,280,557	111,339
13 Vietnam	11,353,573	43,095
14 Australia	9,737,319	12,655

Global tally: 592,730,282

Deaths: 6,447,249

Recovered: 564,628,529

New cases: +621,011

New deaths: +1,205

Figures as of closing

Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	811,642	+130	9,265	+1	798,381	3,996
UAE	1,002,306	+861	2,339	+1	981,065	18,902
Kuwait	655,854		2,562		652,250	1,042
Oman	397,231		4,260		384,669	8,302
Qatar	417,390	+754	681		410,744	5,965

Wildfires rage, farmers struggle as another heatwave bakes western Europe

Reuters | Paris

Wildfires tore through parts of France, Spain and Portugal yesterday as heatwaves baked Europe and the head of the European Space Agency urged immediate action to fight climate change.

More than 1,000 firefighters, backed by water-bombing planes, battled for a third day a "monster" blaze that has forced thousands from their homes and scorched thousands of hectares of forest in France's southwestern Gironde region.

With a dangerous cocktail of blistering temperatures, tinder-box conditions and wind fanning the flames, President Emmanuel Macron said several European Union nations were deploying reinforcements to help beat back the blaze.

"It's an ogre, a monster," said Gregory Allione from the French firefighters body FNSPF said.

Heatwaves, floods and crumbling glaciers in recent weeks have heightened concerns over climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather across the globe.



flames consume trees at a forest fire in Saint Magne, south of Bordeaux, south western France

The head of the European Space Agency, Josef Aschbacher, said rising land temperatures and shrinking rivers as measured from space left no doubt about the toll on agriculture and other industries from climate change.

ESA's Copernicus Sentinel-3 satellite series has measured "extreme" land surface temperatures of more than 45C (113F) in Britain, 50C in France and 60C in Spain in recent weeks.

"It's pretty bad. We have seen extremes that have not been observed before," Aschbacher said.

Climate change risks

With successive heatwaves baking Europe this summer, bringing record temperatures and unprecedented droughts, renewed focus has been placed on climate change risks to farming, industry and livelihoods.

Severe drought is set to slash the European Union's maize harvest by 15%, dropping it to a 15-year low, just as Europeans contend with higher food prices as a result of lower-than-normal grain exports from Russia and Ukraine.

YOU KNOW WHAT

Heatwaves, floods and crumbling glaciers in recent weeks have heightened concerns over climate change and the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather across the globe

Swiss army helicopters have been drafted in to airlift water to thirsty cows, pigs and goats sweltering under a fierce sun in the country's Alpine meadows.

In France, suffering its harshest drought on record, trucks are delivering water to dozens of villages where taps have run dry, nuclear power stations have received waivers to keep pumping hot discharge water into rivers, and farmers warn a shortage of fodder may lead to milk shortages.

1121

Battle of Didgori: the Georgian army under King David the Builder wins a decisive victory over the famous Seljuk commander Ilghazi

1851

American inventor Isaac Singer patents the sewing machine



1908

Henry Ford's company builds the first Model T car

1981

IBM introduces its first Personal Computer (PC & PC-DOS version 1.0)

Show devastation base in Crimea

Line silent on how strike was carried out



People stand next to a residential house destroyed by a Russian missile strike in the settlement of Kushuhum targets on land.

New phase

After weeks in which the tempo of fighting had subsided somewhat, a Ukrainian general said Russia had doubled its air strikes on Ukrainian positions since last week.

"The enemy's planes and helicopters avoid flying into the range of our air defences, and therefore the accuracy of these strikes is low," Brigadier General Oleksiy Hromov told a news conference.

But he added that the intensity of Russian airborne activity in the south had reduced after the destruction at the Crimean base.

"As a result of the specified actions, the intensity of use of aviation on the southern front has somewhat decreased," he said.

Recent days have seen battles in the east in Pisky, a town on the outskirts of separatist-held

Donetsk city. The Russian-backed separatists claimed to have captured it; Ukraine denied it had fallen. Reuters could not verify either account.

Ukraine drove Russian forces back from the capital Kyiv in March and from the outskirts of the second-largest city Kharkiv in May. Russia then captured territory in the east in huge battles that killed thousands of troops on both sides in June.

Since then front lines have been largely static, but Kyiv says it is preparing a big push to recapture the southern Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, the main slice of territory captured since the Feb. 24 invasion that Moscow still holds.

Russia has reinforced those regions, but its defence depends on supply lines to stock forces accustomed to firing thousands of shells a day.

Brazilian woman arrested for stealing mother's artwork



Officers show artist Tarsila do Amaral's painting titled "Sol Poente" after it was seized during a police operation

Reuters | Rio de Janeiro

Brazilian authorities arrested a late art collector's daughter Wednesday for allegedly orchestrating a scam in which a supposed psychic moved into her octogenarian mother's home and stole millions, police and media reports said.

The woman from Rio de Janeiro is accused of deceiving and extorting her 82-year-old mother out of paintings, jewels and cash valued at a total 725 million reais (\$145 million) in a months-long scheme, police told AFP.

The 16 paintings stolen by the woman and five alleged accomplices -- three of whom were also arrested -- included works by Brazilian masters Tarsila do Amaral and Emiliano Di Cavalcanti, local media reports said.

The arrested woman is reportedly the daughter of Jean Boghici, a famed Brazilian art collector who died in 2015.

Her mother, Boghici's widow and heir to his collection, was allegedly tricked into believing her daughter was sick, and then persuaded to hire a woman with supposed healing powers to administer a "spiritual treatment," according to news site G1.

The scam began in 2020 when Genevieve was approached by a supposed psychic with prophecies of her daughter's imminent death. The victim was then taken to several more psychics who police say used personal information provided by her daughter to scam her distraught mother into transferring money to pay for "spiritual treatment"

The mother paid some \$970,000 from January to February 2020, but became suspicious and stopped the payments.

The "psychic" and her accomplices then allegedly threatened and attacked the widow, isolating her at home for nearly a year as they stole her artworks and jewels.

The stolen paintings included "O Sono" and "Sol Poente" by Do Amaral, a master of Brazilian Modernism.

The latter, a famed 1929 oil painting, was found under one suspect's bed, according to G1.

Kim Jong Un's sister warns Seoul of 'retaliation' over Covid



Kim Yo Jong
AFP | Seoul

The powerful sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un accused the South of causing a Covid outbreak in the country and warned of "retaliation", as Pyongyang declared "victory" over its outbreak, state media said yesterday.

North Korea has previously said that "alien things" near the border with the South caused the Covid outbreak in the isolated country, a claim that Seoul has rejected.

Despite a ban that took effect in 2021, South Korean activists have for years flown balloons containing propaganda leaflets and US dollars over the border, which Pyongyang has long protested against.

Blinken says he raised 'Hotel Rwanda' hero's detention with Rwandan leader

Reuters | Kigali

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Wednesday he had raised with Rwanda's president U.S. concerns over the jailing of Paul Rusesabagina, portrayed in the film "Hotel Rwanda" sheltering hundreds of people during the 1994 genocide.

Rusesabagina, 67, a US permanent resident, was sentenced last September to 25 years in prison over eight terrorism charges tied to an organization opposed to President Paul Kagame's rule.

Rwanda's foreign minister Vincent Biruta said he was convicted lawfully, but Rusesabagina has denied all the charges and refused to take part in a trial that he and his supporters have called a political sham. The United States in May determined he had been wrongfully detained.

Rusesabagina, who was feted around the world after being portrayed by actor Don Cheadle in 2004's "Hotel Rwanda," is a vocal critic of Kagame. He is being held in a Rwandan prison.

Speaking at a joint press conference with Biruta in the capi-



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, left, meets with Rwandan President Paul Kagame

tal Kigali, Blinken said Washington had been clear about its concerns related to Rusesabagina's trial and conviction, particularly what he described as "the lack of fair trial guarantees."

"We continue to urge the government to address concerns about the legal protections afforded to him and his case and establish safeguards to prevent similar outcomes in the future," Blinken said.

Blinken said he had discussed Rusesabagina's case with Kagame in his meeting earlier yesterday but declined to say how Kagame responded.

Biruta pushed back on Blinken's comments.

"He was arrested. He was tried and convicted along with 20 others, 20 other accomplices for serious crimes ... And this was done lawfully under both the Rwandan and international laws. Therefore, Rwanda will continue to abide by our laws and the decisions made by our judiciary," Biruta said.

Rusesabagina has acknowledged having a leadership role in the Rwanda Movement for Democratic Change (MRCD), but denied responsibility for attacks carried out by its armed

We continue to urge the government to address concerns about the legal protections afforded to him and his case and establish safeguards to prevent similar outcomes in the future

ANTONY BLINKEN

wing, the National Liberation Front (FLN). The trial judges said the two groups were indistinguishable.

Rusesabagina's family, and the families of other Americans and US permanent residents also jailed abroad, have asked US President Joe Biden to intervene to secure the release of their loved ones.

Washington's "wrongfully detained" designation means the responsibility for Rusesabagina's case will be transferred from the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs to the office of the Special Envoy for Hostage Affairs, effectively raising the issue's political profile.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Attended the oath-taking ceremony of Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar Ji. I congratulate him on becoming India's Vice President and wish him the very best for a fruitful tenure. @jdhankhar1 @VPsecretariat

@narendramodi

02



Investments in the CHIPS and Science Law will create more than 1 million construction jobs alone over the next 6 years building semiconductor factories in America.

@POTUS

03



I know people are worried about the difficult winter ahead, which is why we are providing support - including a £400 energy bill discount for all households. This morning I urged electricity companies to continue working on ways to help with the cost of living.

@BorisJohnson

04



The monetary policy cycle is now increasingly synchronized around the world. The pace of tightening is accelerating in several countries, particularly in advanced economies, in terms of both frequency and magnitude of rate hikes.

@GitaGopinath

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

ABG H1 profit jumps 86% to US\$85m



“Our new strategic approach towards our investments and our swift decision making have contributed to our solid results for this quarter. Currently, we are finalising implementation of the last internal organisational steps related to the conversion of our licence to a Category 1 Investment Firm licence, and we look forward in the coming period to a more efficient and resourceful Group structure that will benefit all stakeholders

ACTING GROUP CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF AL BARAKA GROUP, HOUSSEEM BEN HAJ AMOR



“The global economic operating environment and current geo-political situation in some parts of the world still pose challenges, especially in a number of markets in which we operate. However, our results have been very good so far, and we plan to continue our focus on achieving even better results throughout the Group and its subsidiaries. We also look forward to achieving better efficiencies under our new licence

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ABG, SHAIKH ABDULLAH SALEH KAMEL

TDT | Manama

Al Baraka Group yesterday posted 2022 Q2 and H1 profits that surged from a year ago thanks to contributions from investment and financing income, despite facing headwinds in a number of markets ABG operates.

Net income attributable to shareholders of the parent com-

pany surged 126% to US\$ 45 million from US\$ 20 m in the second quarter of 2021 (restated).

Earnings per share were US\$ 2.42 Cents compared to US\$ 0.35 Cents in the year-ago quarter (restated).

Total net income jumped 128% to US\$ 74 m from US\$ 33 m in the prior-year quarter (restated).

Net operating income rose 110% to US\$ 227 m helped large-

ly by broad-based with contributions from investment and financing income.

During the quarter ended 30 June 2022, the Group reassessed, in terms of the requirements of FAS 23 – Consolidation, its relationship with Al Baraka Bank Syria, in which it holds directly and indirectly 29% of the ordinary share capital. Based on the reassessment, the Group

concluded that it does not have control over the ABS. As a result, the management has restated the comparative figures to correct the consolidation error in the interim condensed financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2022 as prior year restatements.

Semi-Annual Results

Net income attributable to the

shareholders of the Group rose 86% to US\$ 85 m from US\$ 46 m in the prior-year period. (restated).

Earnings per share were US Cents 5.68 compared to US Cents 2.46 a year ago. (restated).

Foreign currency translation has led to a 6% reduction in total assets to reach US\$ 26 billion at the end of June

2022, compared to US\$ 28 bn as of end of December 2021 (restated).

Total operating income grew 44% to US\$ 669 m from US\$ 465 m for the same period in 2021 (restated).

Total net income increased 92% to US\$ 137 m during the first six months of 2022, compared to US\$ 72 m for the same period of 2021 (restated).

Bahrain Flour Mills Company announces Q2 and H1 results

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Flour Mills Company (Al-Matahin) yesterday announced its 2022 quarterly and half-yearly results, which the company said were impacted by a decrease in market valuation of equity investment.

The results were announced in a board meeting chaired by Marwan Khaled Tabbara, Chairman of the Board of Directors. For the second quarter of 2022, Al-Matahin reported a net loss of BD(1,509,857), down by 214%, compared to a net profit of BD1,325,172 in the same quarter a year ago.

The company attributed the decrease in net profit to a decline in market valuation of equity investment.

Quarterly loss per share was fils (61) compared to earnings per share of fils 53 in the year-



Marwan Khaled Tabbara, Chairman of the Board of Directors

ago quarter.

Operating profit increased by 1203% to BD123,639 from BD 9,486 in the prior-year quarter.

Sales rose 15% to BD1,762,214 from BD1,528,270 in the same-quarter a year ago.

H1 results

BFM reported an H1 profit of BD 1,382,021 versus BD 2,436,117

for the same period in 2021.

Earnings per share were fils 56 versus fils 98 for the same period in 2021.

Operating profit was BD 261,802 versus BD 163,683 for the same period in 2021 – an increase of 60%, due to an increase in sales value and improved profitability from retail products.

Sales rose 10% to BD 3,792,157 from BD 3,456,616 a year ago.

Total equity increased by 3% to BD25,180,326 compared with BD 24,438,925 as recorded on 31 December 2021.

The total assets for the period reached BHD 35,473,274 compared to BD 32,338,602 at the end of the same period in 2021, being an increase of 10%.

Oil rises as IEA hikes 2022 demand growth forecast

Reuters

Oil prices rose more than \$2 yesterday after the International Energy Agency raised its oil demand growth forecast for this year as

99.8
Brent crude futures gained \$2.39, or 2.5%, to \$99.79 a barrel by 1348 GMT

demand, citing the economic impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, high inflation and efforts to contain the pandemic.

soaring natural gas prices lead some consumers to switch to oil.

Brent crude futures gained \$2.39, or 2.5%, to \$99.79 a barrel by 1348 GMT, while U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude futures rose \$2.65, or 2.9%, to \$94.58.

“Natural gas and electricity prices have soared to new records, incentivising gas-to-oil switching in some countries,” the Paris-based agency said in its monthly oil report. It raised its outlook for 2022 demand by 380,000 barrels per day (bpd).

By contrast, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on Thursday cut its 2022 forecast for growth in world oil

OPEC expects 2022 oil demand to rise by 3.1 million bpd, down 260,000 bpd from the previous forecast. However, it still sees a higher overall global oil demand figure than the IEA for 2022.

Prices were also boosted by a weakening U.S. dollar, which extended its losses against other major currencies on Thursday after a report showed U.S. inflation was not as hot as anticipated in July, prompting traders to dial back expectations for rate hikes by the Federal Reserve going forward. A rise in U.S. oil inventories last week and the resumption of crude flows on a pipeline supplying central Europe capped further price gains.

El Al CEO sees approval for Saudi-Oman corridor within days

● Approval would save time, money on Asian routes

● Q2 net profit \$100 mln vs loss of \$81 m a year ago

● Revenue up sharply, but still below Q2 in 2019

Reuters | Jerusalem

Permission for El Al Israel Airlines (ELAL.TA) to fly over Oman is expected in “a matter of days”, chief executive Dina Ben-Tal said yesterday, a move that would be a big boost for the flag carrier’s Asian routes.



An Israeli flag carrier El Al Airlines plane is seen on the tarmac as Israel's airport authority announced a pilot programme revealing what passengers leaving Israel should expect as air travel gradually returns to normal after weeks of bare minimum flights due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, at Ben Gurion International Airport, in Lod, near Tel Aviv, Israel

Ben-Tal, speaking to reporters after El Al issued second-quarter results, said the airline had already received approval to fly over Saudi Arabia but also need-

ed to fly over Oman to skirt Iran and save time for journeys to Asia.

El Al and smaller Israeli rival Arkia later said they had applied

for permission to fly over both Saudi Arabia and Oman.

“It’s not just Saudi Arabia. We need the full route to be approved,” Ben-Tal said.

Once fully approved, it would cut about 2-1/2 hours from flights to India and Thailand and save fuel costs. Present routes to those popular destinations bypass Saudi airspace by flying south over the Red Sea around Yemen.

“We are planning to reschedule our network around that new (shorter) route,” Ben-Tal said, adding El Al was also looking into new non-stop routes to destinations such as Australia. “It definitely will have a huge efficiency (benefit) around our network.”

El Al showed a strong improvement in the second quarter

after it was hit hard in earlier periods by the coronavirus pandemic that largely closed Israel's borders to foreigners. Its shares fell 1% in Tel Aviv.

It said it had earned net profit of \$100 million in April-June, versus a loss of \$81 m a year earlier. Excluding a large one-time gain from the sale of its frequent flier club, El Al recorded a \$15 m net loss on a jump in fuel costs.

Revenue rose to \$516 m from \$223 million a year before, although that was still below \$584 m in the second quarter of 2019, before the COVID-19 crisis began. Load factor, a measure of seats filled, rose to 81.5% from 67% last year.

To meet demand on long-haul routes, El Al said it planned to add a 16th Boeing 787 in 2023 while it also began to re-

store older Boeing 777s to the skies.

Saudi Arabia allows Israeli carriers to overfly its territory on flights to and from the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain.



Last month, Saudi Arabia said it would open its airspace to all air carriers. Opening Saudi airspace to flights to and from Israel was a focus of US President Joe Biden's tour last month of the countries, which do not have formal ties.

Higher LME prices lift Alba's profit, declares dividend



Our exhibit profitability was backed by improved product mix towards Value Added Products' Sales and sound cost savings. Despite the logistics challenges in the market, we have been able to deliver another strong quarter by capitalising on higher LME prices and that has allowed us to service our loans and reduce our overall debt profile. We are only as good as our employees; it is thanks to our collective proactiveness in Safety, we have reached a record landmark with topping more than 29 m safe working hours without LTI

ALBA'S CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ALI AL BAQALI



We have had an unmatched financial performance as we set new benchmarks in the last 3 quarters (Q4 2021, Q1 and Q2 2022) and on many fronts. This strong performance has enabled us to distribute an interim dividend of US\$120 m to our shareholders. As we progress into the rest of 2022, we remain committed to building sustainable returns while also delivering further value to our shareholders

CHAIRMAN OF ALBA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS, SHAIKH DAJJ BIN SALMAN BIN DAJJ AL KHALIFA



TDT | Manama

Higher LMR prices and revenues drove Alba's quarterly and half-yearly profit higher, despite partially impacted by higher cost and distribution expenses, the world's largest aluminium smelter w/o China said yesterday.

Alba's board also recommended an interim dividend of BD45,120,000 (US\$120 million), equivalent to Fils 31.88 per share (US\$0.08478 per share)

LME prices were up by 20% YoY in Q2 2022 and 37% YoY in H1 2022 in spite of recording flat growth in sales volume.

Q2 performance

Second quarter profit was BD181.9 million (US\$483.9 m), up by 97% Year-over-Year (YoY), versus a profit of BD92.6 m (US\$246.2 m) for the same pe-

Bahrain, UAE boost ME demand

TDT | Manama

Bahrain and the UAE powered up the demand for Aluminium in the Middle East, which increased 3% YoY, said Alba statement.

Consumption in UAE rose 5% YoY and Bahrain increased 4% YoY.

Supply jumped by 5% in Middle East YoY, led by higher production in UAE (+11% YoY)

The report, however, adds that the economic uncertainty has taken its toll on Global Al-

uminium Industry (-2% YoY)

"Weak economic activity, higher inflation and rising interest rates are hitting all manufacturing industries, and this has affected consumer demand negatively as buyers are forced to cut back on non-essential items," Alba added.

US Aluminium demand continues to be resilient (+7% YoY) supported by a surge in the construction and transport sectors.

Demand in China, Alba said, was impacted by strict pan-

demlockdowns and logistic issues (-6% YoY).

Numerous sectors such as construction, packaging and consumer durables have suffered the most.

In Europe, Alba says the increase in the cost of living has weighed down on consumer spending as the risk of recession increases (-4% YoY).

Europe leads World ex-China output with its production down by 5% YoY as a result of soaring energy prices.

riod in 2021. Earnings per share were Fils 128 versus Fils 65 in Q2 2021.

Total Comprehensive Income stood at BD201.9 m (US\$536.9

m), up 123% from BD90.7 m (US\$241.1 m) in the prior-year quarter.

Gross profit rose 68% to BD208 m (US\$553.2 m) from BD123.7 m

(US\$328.9 m) in the year-ago quarter. Revenue jumped 41% to BD520.4 m (US\$1,384 m) from BD370 m (US\$984 m) in the same quarter a year ago.

Sales' volume topped 742,658 metric tonnes (MT) (almost flat) while Production reached 787,592 MT, up by 1.7% YoY.

H1 results

Profit increased 127% to BD328.7 m (US\$874.3 m) from BD144.8 m (US\$385.1 m) in the year-ago period.

Earnings per share were Fils 232 versus Fils 102 a year ago.

Total Comprehensive Income rose 140% to BD357.9 m (US\$951.8 m) from BD149.1 m (US\$396.5 m) in H1 2021.

Gross Profit was BD386 m (US\$1,026.7 m) versus BD204.2 m (US\$543.0 m) in H1 2021 - up by 89% YoY.

Revenue grew 45% to BD975.3 m (US\$2,593.9 m) from BD672.7 m (US\$1,789 m) in the prior-year period. Safety took a new leap with more than 29 m safe working hours without LTI.

2022 Alba Priorities

Deliver on the newly-launched ESG roadmap in line with Bahrain's Objectives for 'Net Zero Emissions' by 2060

Exceed 2022 Production Target of 1,560,000 MT and deliver on AL HASSALAH savings' target of US\$100 m by 2022-end

Complete the financial closure of PS5 Block 4 and award the Solar Farm Project by Q4 2022

Progress with the pre-feasibility study for Line 7 smelter

LME Price & Inventories

LME-Cash averaged US\$2,882/t in Q2 2022 -- up by 20% YoY [lowest: US\$2,397/t on 30 Jun'22 and highest: US\$3,483/t on 1 Apr'22]

LME inventories hit a record low at c.0.4 m (down by 76% YoY)

Most Gulf bourses in black, Abu Dhabi at record high

Reuters

Major stock markets in the Gulf ended higher yesterday, cheered by strong corporate earnings and softer-than-expected US inflation data which encouraged bets of less aggressive rate hikes from the Federal Reserve.

US consumer prices were unchanged in July compared with June, when they rose a monthly 1.3%. The July result was lower than expectations due to a sharp drop in the cost of petrol, causing markets to reposition on hopes that inflation was peaking.

Abu Dhabi's main share index (.FTFADGI) closed at a record high, gaining 1% to 10,198, boosted by a 3.3% leap in the United Arab Emirates' biggest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB.AD).

Saudi Arabia's benchmark index (.TASI) climbed 0.8%, with Arab National Bank (1080.SE) rising 0.9% and Saudi British



Traders wait at the Bahrain Bourse

Bank (1060.SE) finished 0.5% higher.

Elsewhere, Saudi Electricity Co (5110.SE) gained 0.6%, as the utility firm obtained a \$3 billion international syndicated facility.

The Qatari index (.QSI) advanced 1.3%, as most of the stocks on the index were in positive territory including the Gulf's biggest lender Qatar National Bank (QNBK.QA), which was up 1.7%.

The Qatari stock market recorded a positive performance thanks to solid company earnings and higher natural gas

prices, said Fadi Reyad, market analyst at CAPEX.COM MENA.

"The main index could thus extend its gains under these favourable conditions."

Crude oil prices, a key catalyst for the Gulf's financial markets, rose by more than 1% after the International Energy Agency raised its oil demand growth forecast for this year as soaring gas prices drive some consumers to switch to oil.

Dubai's main share index (.DFMGI) bucked the trend to finish 0.3% lower, hit by a 5.3% slide in Air Arabia (AIRA.DU).

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.8% to 12,5331
ABU DHABI	▲ 1% to 10,299
DUBAI	▼ 0.3% to 3,386
QATAR	▲ 1.3% to 13,744
EGYPT	▲ 0.2% to 9,989
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.9% to 1,898
OMAN	▼ 0.7% to 4,622
KUWAIT	▲ 0.1% to 8,585

The budget airline reported a higher second-quarter net profit but saw a decrease sequentially in earnings.

However, the Dubai index's losses were limited by a 1.2% rise in Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWAA.DU) following a rise in second-quarter earnings.

Outside the Gulf, Egypt's blue-chip index (.EGX30) firmed 0.2%, ending three sessions of losses, with tobacco monopoly Eastern Company (EAST.CA) rising 2.3%.

Dubai ruler becomes second largest investor in developer Emaar

Reuters | Dubai

Emaar Properties (EMAR.EDU) said yesterday it was buying out its joint venture partner in a Dubai real estate development in a 7.5 billion dirham (\$2 bn) deal that will see the Dubai ruler become the developer's second-largest shareholder.

Dubai's Emaar, the emirate's top developer, said in a statement it had reached a deal with Dubai Holding, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's investment vehicle, to buy its stake in their Dubai Creek Harbour joint venture.

The deal would be equally financed in cash and Emaar shares, making Dubai Holding its second-biggest shareholder, Emaar said.

The announcement was made after the stock market had closed. Emaar shares are up 16.5% so far this year to 5.7 dirhams (\$1.55) a share, according to data provider Refinitiv.

It was not immediately clear how many shares Dubai Holding would own. Emaar's current biggest shareholder is the Investment Corporation of Dubai, the emirate's sovereign wealth fund, which owns 24.07% or about 1.97 million shares, according to Refinitiv.



Dubai Creek Harbour, a residential, retail and commercial real estate development, is expected to cover 6 square kilometres once completed, according to its website. Development of the project stalled in 2020 due to the pandemic, though the emirate's real estate market has since rebounded strongly.

Emaar, which built the world's tallest tower, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, said it recorded 3.6 billion dirhams in sales in Dubai Creek Harbour in the first half of the year and 4.2 bn dirhams in all of 2021.

Ruler Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid is also the vice president and prime minister of the United Arab Emirates. Dubai has recently listed shares in state firms with further listings planned as part of an effort to boost activity on its stock market.

FIITJEE students shine in JEE main 2022 exam

● **JEE Advanced is scheduled to be held on 28th August**

TDT | Manama

Quite like previous years, FIITJEE students have excelled in JEE Main 2022 Exam, qualifying themselves for the IIT-JEE Advanced.

Their exam success attained



Andrew James Mathew

special significance as they could only attend the classes in online mode, owing to the pandemic situation.

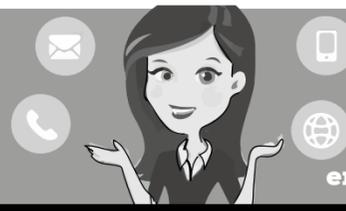
The topper Andrew James Mathew scored 99.3083908 percentile. Other students who qualified are Mridul Bhardwaj, Nihal Varma, Sama Walke, Rujul Wankhede, Laasyasree Kumili and Karthika Suresh. These students are from various programs being offered by FIITJEE.

More than 7.5 lakh students appeared for the JEE Main

2022 Exam, which was held in two sessions. JEE Advanced is scheduled to be held on 28th August. FIITJEE has congratulated all the students and their proud parents and wishes them all the best for JEE Advanced and their bright future.

"These students will also get good ranks under DASA scheme through which students can avail NRI Quota to get admissions in various NITs in India," a statement issued by FIITJEE said.

Classifieds



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CELEBS

Jamie Foxx unveils his pitch to convince Cameron out of acting retirement

IAN S | Los Angeles

Actor Jamie Foxx has successfully convinced Hollywood star Cameron Diaz to return to acting. Diaz last appeared on screen in 2014 movie-musical 'Annie' and had since announced her retirement from acting but is due to return in the upcoming film 'Back In Action' and co-star Jamie said that he just had to explain to her how "fun" the project would be, reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).



The 54-year-old actor told Entertainment Tonight, "Cameron is such an incredible force and she has done so much in this business, We love her."

"Getting her to come on board basically involved asking her, 'Do you wanna have some fun? Just have some fun!' And I think that's what brought her to it."

Back in 2021, the actress said that she had stepped away from the business in order to "manage" different aspects of her life.

She said, "When you do something at a really high level for a long period of time, there are parts of your life that end up being handed off to other people."

Cameron Diaz

"Cameron is such an incredible force and she has done so much in this business, We love her. Getting her to come on board basically involved asking her, 'Do you wanna have some fun? Just have some fun!' And I think that's what brought her to it"

JAMIE FOXX

"For me, I just really wanted to make my life manageable by me," she shared of her decision. "My routine in a day is lit-

erally what I can manage to do by myself. I just went, 'I can't really say who I am to myself.' Which is a hard thing to face up to," she shared. "I felt the need to make myself whole."

It was previously reported that Diaz was feeling "anxious" but "excited" upon her return to the big screen.

Jamie Foxx



Katy Perry issues public apology to Kim Kardashian

IAN S | Los Angeles

Popstar Katy Perry has apologised to reality TV personality Kim Kardashian over a social media post.

The 37-year-old pop singer, who is engaged to Hollywood actor Orlando Bloom and has two-year-old Daisy with him, was playing a game of MASH on TikTok.

In the video, she was randomly assigned a type of house, a type of car, amount of children she would have and her lover. As for the lover, she was de-

termined to be Pete Davidson, 28, who has been dating the 41-year-old reality TV megastar since October 2021, reports [aceshowbiz.com](#).

In the caption of the post, Perry wrote: "No offence @ Kim Kardashian (and Orlando? (shrug emoji)."

'The Kardashians' star seemingly has yet to see Katy's post. The ex-wife of Kanye West, with whom she shares children North, nine, Saint, six, Chicago, four, and three-year-old Psalm, did not appear to respond to the post publicly.

Katy Perry



Dua Lipa becomes Ambassador of Kosovo

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Dua Lipa has been made an Honorary Ambassador of Kosovo.

The 26-year-old pop star - who was born in London to Albanian parents but spent much of her childhood in the Balkan state - took to social media on Sunday where she explained it was an "honour" to be able to represent her home country and promised to use her platform to "make a difference" to the independent nation.

Alongside a photo with President Vjosa Osmani-Sadriu,

she wrote: "I was awarded the title of Honorary Ambassador of Kosovo by our Madama President. It's an honour and a privilege to be able

"It's an honour and a privilege to be able to represent my country all over the world and to continue my work and efforts globally to see that we leave our mark and make a difference"

DUA LIPA

Dua Lipa

to represent my country all over the world and to continue my work and efforts globally to see that we leave our mark and make a difference.

The youth of Kosovo deserves the right to visa liberalization, freedom to travel and to dream big. Thank you. [heart emoji]."

The 'Levitating' hitmaker - who moved to Pristina with her family after Kosovo declared independ-

ence in 2008 before returning to London at the age of 15 to pursue a career in music - was later thanked by the President for "continuing to honour" the country every time she makes a public appearance.

In her own Instagram post, President Osmani-Sadriu wrote: "Today, I gave the title of Honorary Ambassador of the Republic of Kosovo to Dua Lipa, because she continues to honor our country in every step and every appearance. I thanked her, on behalf of all the citizens of the Republic of Kosovo, for everything she has done and is making our voice heard everywhere in the world."



Amanda Seyfried has guilt over love of The Bachelor

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Amanda Seyfried "struggles" with her obsession with 'The Bachelor'.

The 36-year-old actress has been a big fan of the ABC dating competition series but she can't help but feel it more and more guilty when she watches the programme, which has

faced criticism for objectifying the contestants and pitting women against one another.

Speaking on 'The Jess Cagle Show' on Sirius XM, she said: "God, I struggle with it more and more each year. I really do."

Amanda Seyfried



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Lisa Kudrow felt insecure when she filmed with 'Friends' female co-stars

IAN S | Los Angeles

'Friends' star Lisa Kudrow has described the 'jarring' emotion she felt when filming the hit American sitcom alongside co-stars Jennifer Aniston and Courteney Cox.

The 59-year old, who shot to worldwide fame in the mid-1990s for her portrayal of Phoebe Buffay, revealed that her body perception soon changed after she landed the role, reports [mirror.co.uk](#).

Kudrow told the Popcrushed podcast she suffered from body

dysmorphia, adding that she wrongly felt like a 'stick' like her sister and father.

"I didn't see it. I had no waist. I didn't see it at all. I thought I was just really skinny and I could just do whatever," she explained.

"And I would look at pictures and be like, 'Wow, pictures really distort reality'. It wasn't until Friends that I realised that I don't really look like I thought I looked. That's what was so jarring and that's when I was like, 'I've gotta actual-

ly lose weight? I have to diet? Shoot?'"

Asked whether the media had impacted her change in perception, Lisa put it down to 'just seeing herself on the show' and simply seeing how the female trio looked in clothes.

Kudrow said she asked Aniston, who played Rachel Green and Cox, who starred as Monica Gellar to accompany her to various fittings to offer their wisdom. At that point she realised it 'wasn't just about tailoring'.

Lisa Kudrow



SUDOKU

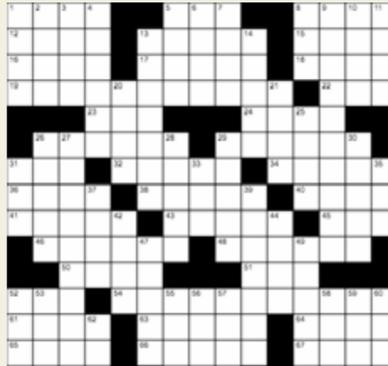
8		3		5	4	7		
	2			3				1
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9	6							4
	8					2		
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Yesterday's solution

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

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- Cougar; 5- Corner key; 8- Spelunking site; 12- Long poem, such as those attributed to Homer; 13- Writer Sinclair; 15- WWII turning point; 16- Univ. recruiting group; 17- Norman Vincent ; 18- Singer Adams; 19- Between teeth; 22- Neither Rep. nor Dem.; 23- Seed of a legume; 24- Soviet news service; 26- Revolve; 29- An archer; 31- Laugh syllable; 32- Satan; 34- Clear-headed; 36- "___ She Lovely?"; 38- Ventured; 40- Open wide; 41- Remains; 43- Brightest star in Cygnus; 45- Proscribe; 46- Current unit; 48- Labyrinthine; 50- Architect Saarinen; 51- Appomattox figure; 52- 252 wine gallons; 54- "Great" Australian landmark; 61- Hammett hound; 63- Less outgoing; 64- "Give that ___ cigar!"; 65- Enlarge, as a hole; 66- Eye drops; 67- Fighting; 68- Christianity, today; 69- Malt beverage; 70- Put aboard;

Down

1- Actress Gilpin; 2- On top of; 3- Baseball glove; 4- Take; 5- Blunted blade; 6- Ollie's partner; 7- Young male horse; 8- Alphabet trio; 9- Capital of Ethiopia; 10- Futile; 11- Watched warily; 13- Modernised; 14- Swell; 20- Went through, as the paper; 21- Rules; 25- Kind of alert; 26- Dreadlocks wearer; 27- Decorative; 28- Skirt; 29- Mix smoothly; 30- Sherpa's home; 31- Part of HRH; 33- Spleen; 35- Stumpy's pal; 37- Class; 39- Traders; 42- Novi Sad native; 44- Ale, e.g.; 47- Way to cook; 49- Pertaining to the skin; 52- Poi source; 53- Employ; 55- Ostrichlike bird; 56- Unit of currency in Iran and Yemen; 57- Able was ___; 58- I could ___ horse!; 59- Geraint's beloved; 60- Kismet; 62- Latin 101 word;

Yesterday's solution

H	O	T	E	A	I	D	E	N	T	H		
U	R	S	A	B	R	A	Z	E	S	O	H	
S	C	A	R	L	A	D	E	N	Y	E	A	
H	A	R	D	H	A	T	K	R	E	M	L	
R	I	T	E	A	L	B						
M	A	T	U	R	E	R	E	G	I	O	N	
S	H	A	M	E	H	A	T	E	L	E	N	
D	O	N	W	E	I	R	D	S	T	Y		
O	R	S	O	R	S	E	I	N	T	E		
S	A	Y	O	N	A	R	A	O	D	E	S	
Z	A	P				A	R	E	A			
D	E	M	I	G	O	D	B	E	A	T	L	
E	B	A	N	N	A	S	A	L	E	I	R	
B	R	A	G	S	L	I	T	S	N	I	T	
T	O	M				I	S	E	E	T	E	S

Serena loses to Bencic in first match of farewell tour

Serena Williams says goodbye to Canada after defeat by Belinda Bencic

● Retiring great falls 6-2, 6-4 in Toronto

AFP | Toronto

Serena Williams, who said this week she will soon call time on her storied tennis career, departed the WTA Toronto Masters for the last time Wednesday with a 6-2, 6-4 loss to Belinda Bencic.

The second-round defeat by Switzerland's reigning Olympic gold medalist was hardly unexpected, with the 40-year-old Williams competing in only her third match of 2022.

Bencic fired eight aces and broke Williams twice in the first set and once in the second, advancing on her first match point after 78 minutes.

But as Bencic herself said in the post-match interview on court: "Tonight is about her."

Williams's farewell on-court interview was threaded with emotion.

"I love playing here, I've always loved playing here," she said, choking up as fans who cheered her throughout the match called out their appreciation.

"I wish I could have played better tonight, but Belinda was playing so well."

Williams, who turns 41 next month, had beaten Spain's Nuria Parrizas Diaz on Monday for her first singles victory since the



Serena Williams leaves the court carrying flowers and waving to fans after her loss to Belinda Bencic

2021 French Open, 14 months ago.

But it sent shockwaves through the sport when she revealed in an essay in Vogue magazine and an Instagram post on Tuesday that "the countdown has begun" to her retirement from the sport.

Williams didn't specify an actual retirement date but is expected to compete next week in Cincinnati before travelling to the US Open, which starts on August 29.

She has lifted the US Open title six times, including her first Grand Slam triumph at the age of 17 in 1999.

"It's been a pretty interesting 24 hours," said Williams, who remains one shy of the all-time record of 24 Grand Slam singles

titles won by Margaret Court.

"Like I said in my article, I'm terrible at goodbyes," she said, her voice breaking.

"But, goodbye," she said, then adding with a laugh "Toronto."

'A joy playing here'

"It's been a joy playing here all of those years."

Bencic said the occasion was "Overwhelming."

Williams's match was preceded by a video tribute played for fans. Before she left the court she was presented with jerseys from the NBA's Toronto Raptors and NHL's Toronto Maple Leafs -- and with a child's version of the same for daughter Olympia.

In explaining that she was "evolving away" from tennis in the Vogue article, Williams said

“It's been a pretty interesting 24 hours ... I'm terrible at goodbyes. But, goodbye Toronto. I always had amazing times here both on and off the court. I'll be coming back just as a visitor to the city but otherwise its been remarkable

SERENA WILLIAMS

she wanted to focus on family life and new business ventures.

Bencic said the occasion was "really overwhelming."

"It definitely felt very special to be on court with her today again," she said "For me it was great, great, opportunity."

Williams's appearance highlighted a day that saw US teenager Coco Gauff -- who says Williams was "the reason why I play tennis" -- overcome 13 double-faults to battle past Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina and into the third round.

Gauff beat Rybakina 6-4, 6-7 (8/10), 7-6 (7/3) while world number one Iga Swiatek -- who beat Gauff in the French Open final this year -- sailed past Australian Ajla Tomljanovic 6-1, 6-2 in 55 minutes.

Swiatek, 21, said she was "pretty sad" that she's never had a chance to play Williams, even if in the American's heyday "I



Williams's match was preceded by a video tribute played for fans. Before she left the court she was presented with jerseys from the NBA's Toronto Raptors and NHL's Toronto Maple Leafs -- and with a child's version of the same for daughter Olympia

would probably be the player that loses in the quarter-final against her."

The Polish player has won six titles this year, and when she lost in the third round at Wimbledon it ended a 37-match unbeaten run.

But she's not sure she will ever scale the kind of heights reached by Williams.

"Being able to kind of do business and tennis at the same time, but also be a mother and play well and do four Grand Slam finals, it's amazing," Swiatek said. "I think nobody is going to repeat that. I would be happy to have that belief that maybe I can do that."

Frankfurt's Kostic arrives in Turin for Juventus medical



Filip Kostic
AFP | Turin

Eintracht Frankfurt winger Filip Kostic arrived in Turin yesterday to finalise a move to Juventus on a three-year deal, the Italian Serie A giants announced.

"Filip Kostic has arrived at Caselle airport for his medical visit at Juve," the club reported.

According to Italian newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport reports, Frankfurt will receive around 15 million euros, which could rise as high as 17 million euros with bonuses, for the 29-year-old Serbian international.

Kostic was crucial in Frankfurt's unlikely run to the Europa League title in 2021-22, which saw him named Europa League player of the season.

The Serbian's performances had led to speculation he may leave Frankfurt in the summer, with Italy the likely destination.

His exit became clear on Tuesday, when it emerged he had not travelled with the team to Helsinki for their UEFA Super Cup clash with Real Madrid.

Frankfurt manager Oliver Glasner has lamented the loss of his star winger who was under contract until 2023, but said he leaves as a "hero".

Andreescu enjoying pushing boundaries again

Reuters | Toronto

Former US Open champion Bianca Andreescu said she has found the joy in competing again, months after the 22-year-old revealed that she was close to quitting the sport over mental health issues.

After returning to the Tour in Stuttgart in April for the first time since her appearance at Indian Wells last October, Andreescu said she was struggling a lot mentally and was no longer enjoying being on court. But she was once again enjoying fighting for victories, Andreescu said after defeating France's Alize Cornet for the first time in three meetings to reach the last 16 of the Canadian Open in Toronto.

"Man, I just enjoy pushing myself a lot. I love challenging myself," the Canadian said. "Before it was kind of a hassle for me to do that. But now I really enjoy it. I love testing my limits."

In 2019, Andreescu won in Indian Wells and the Canadian Open at home before going on to lift her maiden Grand Slam title at the US Open in New York.

She rose to a career-best ranking of fourth the same year but has since struggled



Bianca Andreescu

“Man, I just enjoy pushing myself a lot. I love challenging myself. Before it was kind of a hassle for me to do that. But now I really enjoy it. I love testing my limits

BIANCA ANDREESCU

with injuries, never able to reprise the same form again.

Andreescu, ranked 53rd, has made some tweaks to her routine -- like rising early -- and it has paid dividends.

"I never used to do that, but now I love it. I would say I'm a morning person now. Before I would say I'm a night person," she said after wrapping up a 6-3 4-6 6-3 win late on Wednesday.

Kyrgios beats No. 1 Medvedev at Montreal, Alcaraz and Tsitsipas ousted

AFP | Montreal

Nick Kyrgios rallied to topple world number one Daniil Medvedev at the ATP Montreal Masters on Wednesday as the top three seeds tumbled in the second round.

Australia's Wimbledon finalist beat Medvedev 6-7 (2/7), 6-4, 6-2 to produce his second career upset of a reigning number one after ambushing Rafael Nadal at Wimbledon in 2014.

Unseeded American Tommy Paul also came from a set down to send second-seeded Carlos Alcaraz of Spain packing 6-7 (4/7), 7-6 (9/7), 6-3 while unseeded Briton Jack Draper beat third-seeded Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece 7-5, 7-6 (7/4).

Kyrgios started the landslide. The mercurial Aussie produced his usual on-court antics, complaining about a high bounce, hitting a ball into the stands to draw a warning and bickering with his player box in moments of tension.

But after gathering his formidable resources, the 27-year-old ranked 37th finished off Medvedev in exactly two hours.

"I don't go in looking at the rankings, just the guy in front of me," Kyrgios said. "I had a clean objective today -- play a lot of serve and volley and execute better."

"Hopefully I can keep this rolling and keep on winning"



Nick Kyrgios (AUS) (left) and Daniil Medvedev hug in second round play

Both players were coming off weekend title wins, Kyrgios at the Washington 500 on Sunday and Medvedev at Los Cabos, Mexico, on Saturday.

Kyrgios has won 14 of his last 15 matches to improve to 29-7 for 2022. Medvedev lost for the 11th time in 2022, but by reaching the final at Los Cabos -- where he lifted his first trophy of the season -- he is assured of taking the number one ranking into his US Open title defense later this month.

He was barred from Wimbledon as the tournament excluded Russian and Belarusian players over Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Alcaraz, who like Medvedev enjoyed a first-round bye, fared

no better in his opening match, with the teenager admitting pressure got to him.

Alcaraz came into the event with two prestige Masters 1000 titles from Miami and Madrid and holding a 42-7 record this season.

"It was the first time that I couldn't handle the pressure," Alcaraz said. "I felt the pressure (of being) the number two seed and number four in the world."

"It was the first time that I felt this pressure."

The youngster added: "I had chances, I was a break up in the second set, had chances to win the match."

"He played really good in the tough moments. He played great, and I couldn't show my



Kyrgios has won 14 of his last 15 matches to improve to 29-7 for 2022. Medvedev lost for the 11th time in 2022, but by reaching the final at Los Cabos -- where he lifted his first trophy of the season -- he is assured of taking the number one ranking into his US Open title defense later this month

best."

The 34th-ranked Paul claimed victory on a volley winner after holding off the Spaniard's charge from 5-2 down in the third set.

"It was nice to finish this match at the net," said Paul, who fired 36 winners to Alcaraz's 33. "I did a lot of things well today. "I played a good level of tennis, comfortable tennis."

Tsitsipas completed the hat-trick of losses for the tournament elite.

Santner stars as New Zealand beat West Indies in T20 series opener



Mitchell Santner (L) of New Zealand celebrates the dismissal of Shimron Hetmyer (2nd L) of West Indies

AFP | Kingston



West Indies' season of white ball woe continued on Wednesday when New Zealand completed a 13-run win in the first T20 International of a three-match series at Sabina Park in Jamaica.

Fresh from a successful European sojourn, the Black Caps posted a formidable 185 for five batting first in a rain-interrupted innings before their premier bowlers combined to limit the Caribbean side to 172 for seven in reply.

Since getting the better of Bangladesh 2-0 in a T20I duel, the West Indies have been swept 3-0 by the Bangladeshis and India in successive One-Day International series before going down 4-1 to the Indians in another T20I campaign immediately preceding this assignment.

New Zealand almost paid for a period of complacency towards the end of the match as an explosive unbroken 58-run eighth-wicket partnership between Romario Shepherd (31 not out) and Odean Smith (27 not out) gave the hosts a glimmer of hope after they had crashed to 114 for seven in the 16th over.

But they were left with too much to do as "Man of the Match" Mitchell Santner's haul of three for 19 ripped the heart of the West Indies batting as he claimed the wickets of captain Nicholas Pooran first ball before adding Shim-

It was a bit surprising to see as much spin on this deck. Bowling the right lengths is key against these guys because with the power they possess they can smash you away pretty easily

MITCHELL SANTNER

ron Hetmyer and top-scorer Shamarh Brooks (42) to his list of victims.

"It was a bit surprising to see as much spin on this deck," said the left-arm spinner after receiving the award. "Bowling the right lengths is key against these guys because with the power they possess they can smash you away pretty easily."

New Zealand were set on their way after being put in to bat with an opening stand of 62 between Devon Conway and Martin Guptill. Skipper Kane Williamson's 47 off 33 balls kept the innings rolling along either side of the rain interruption but it was the late impetus from Jimmy Neesham, who belted an unbeaten 33 off just 15 balls with three fours and two sixes, which pushed the tourists to a target which ultimately proved to be just beyond the reach of the bludgeoning Shepherd and Smith.

For Smith the match was a personal triumph as his batting effort followed career-best T20I figures of three for 32.

Bahrain stun Iran in Asian volleyball

Senior men's national team defeat continental giants in four-setter for first win in main round of 2022 AVC Cup for Men in Thailand



Bahrain's Mohamed Abdulla hits a spike against Iran during their match yesterday



Bahrain players congratulate one another after scoring a point against Iran

● **Bahrain defeat Iranian counterparts in four sets for first Pool F win**

● **Nationals keep semi-finals hopes alive, must beat Pakistan today**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain posted a stunning 3-1 (25-16, 25-19, 22-25, 25-18) victory over Iran yesterday in the 2022 Asian Volleyball Confederation (AVC) Cup for Men, being held in Nakhon Pathom, Thailand.

The nationals were the aggressors and took the opening two sets and had a chance to complete a clean sweep of the contest with the scores tied at 22-all in the third. But the Iranians were able to make the necessary plays and extend the

game to a fourth set.

There, the Bahrainis took command and went ahead 10-6 before widening the gap to 20-14. They rode their momentum to the end and soon closed out the victory.

The result earned Bahrain their first win in Pool F of the tournament's main round and kept their hopes of advancing to the semi-finals alive.

They must now win their final game against Pakistan today and

It was a very important step towards our aim of reaching the semi-finals. We used experience and good attacks to beat them. I'm very proud of my team. They followed the staff coaches' instruction and plan

ISSANAYE RAMIRES

Pool F standings

	P	W	L	SW	SL	Pts
China	2	2	0	6	1	6
Bahrain	2	1	1	4	4	3
Iran	2	1	1	4	4	3
Pakistan	2	0	2	1	6	0

hope Iran lose to group leaders China in the other contest.

"It was a very important step towards our aim of reaching the semi-finals," said Bahrain head coach Issanaye Ramires from Brazil.

"We used experience and good attacks to beat them. I'm very proud of my team. They followed the staff coaches' instruction and plan."

Outside hitter Mohamed Abdulla scored a match-high 21 points, including 15 attacks and two aces for Bahrain. Amir Mohammad Golzadeh led Iran with 16 points.

Bahrain's match with Pakistan today is scheduled for a 5am start, Bahrain time. China

and Iran play next, at 8am, Bahrain time.

The other teams competing for a spot in the last four from Pool E are Japan, hosts Thailand, South Korea and Australia. Bahrain are making their debut in the AVC Cup for Men, which is in its seventh edition.

The rest of the team competing in Nakhon Pathom includes setters Mahmood Hasan and Mahmood Alafyah; wing spikers Naser Anan, Mahmood Ahmed and Yusuf Ali; opposites Mohamed Anan and Ali Khamis; middle blockers Abbas Al Khabbaz, Husain Aljeshi, Mohamed Aldawiri and Mohamed Abdulla; and liberos Ayman Haroona and Husain Sultan.

Real Madrid defeat Eintracht Frankfurt to win fifth UEFA Super Cup

AFP | Madrid

Goals from David Alaba and Karim Benzema gave Real Madrid a 2-0 victory over Eintracht Frankfurt and a fifth UEFA Super Cup on Wednesday.

While Frankfurt were dangerous, particularly in the first half, Madrid's experience and individual quality saw them through, as it did so often in their victorious 2021-22 Champions League campaign.

Frankfurt had the best of the early stages, with Madrid keeper Thibaut Courtois forced into a stunning anticipation save when one-on-one with Daichi Kamada in the 14th minute.

Madrid almost got their first, when Benzema released Vinicius to curl past Kevin Trapp in the penalty box, only for Tuta to clear the ball off the line.

With Madrid dominating possession, Frankfurt mounted several counter-attacks until Madrid launched a counter of their own in the 37th minute.



Real Madrid's Karim Benzema lifts the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after winning the European Super Cup

A diving Trapp got his fingertips to a goal-bound shot by Vinicius, pushing the ball out for a corner.

From the ensuing play, Benzema linked with Casemiro just next to the right post.

The Brazilian sucked in several Frankfurt defenders and a

diving Trapp, before heading back to an unmarked Alaba who scored from close range.

After the goal, Madrid stepped it up a gear and should have gone 2-0 up, with Benzema uncharacteristically dragging the ball wide with the goal begging in the 41st minute.

Eintracht were very closed and we found it difficult to find our rhythm, but we did it well then. It's difficult at the beginning of the season to be in top form but we now have won to start the season well

CARLO ANCELOTTI

Vinicius, Benzema connect

Madrid's quality became more obvious in the second half, with Trapp saving a deflected Vinicius shot in the 54th minute and Casemiro hitting the crossbar with 61 minutes gone.

Borussia Dortmund loanee Ansgar Knauff had a chance saved just minutes later, before Vinicius and Benzema combined to put Madrid 2-0 up.

Vinicius skated down the

left before slicing the ball back seemingly unsighted for the Frenchman to hammer home from the edge of the box.

Frankfurt fought hard in the closing stages but Madrid were able to dominate the game to win their fifth Super Cup from

eight attempts.

The clash, in Helsinki's Olympic Stadium, was the first time these two sides had met in a European decider since 1960, when Madrid dismantled Frankfurt 7-3 through four goals to Ferenc Puskas and three to Alfredo di Stefano in the European Cup final.

The match also highlighted the growing gap between the Champions League and Europa League competitions, with Madrid being the ninth Champions League team to win the competition in the past 10 years.



Frankfurt joined Hamburg (1977 and 1983), Dortmund (1997) and Bremen (1992) as losing Super Cup finalists from Germany, with only Bayern Munich (2013 and 2020) having won the show-piece event

4

Super Cups have been won by Carlo Ancelotti becoming the only coach to achieve the feat

Bahrain strike gold in cycling, athletics

Cyclist Ahmed Madan and Kingdom's 4x400m Mixed Relay team each capture gold to bring Bahrain medal tally to 15 in fifth Islamic Solidarity Games in Konya, Turkey

● Bahraini athletes also clinch two silver medals and one bronze medal in women's 5,000m and 200m

● National team in Konya now boast 15 medals won, including seven gold, five silver and three bronze

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's top sportsmen and women continued to ascend up the podium yesterday at the fifth Islamic Solidarity Games in Konya, Turkey, after winning five more medals—including two gold—to bring their four-day



Bahrain's Ahmed Madan celebrates with his gold medal from road cycling's individual time trial



Bahrain's 4x400m Mixed Relay team members, from left, Ali Khamis, Muna Mubarak, Zenab Moussa Ali and Musa Isah celebrate after their win



Bahrain's Ali Khamis encourages teammate Zenab Moussa Ali as he passes her the baton in their relay final yesterday

tally at the multi-sport competition to 15.

Yesterday's haul included gold medals in road cycling and

athletics, as well as two silver medals and one bronze, also in athletics.

Bahraini rider Ahmed Madan headlined yesterday's action with his gold in the men's individual time trial. The 4x400 metres Mixed Relay team of Ali Khamis, Zenab Moussa Ali, Musa Isah and Muna Mubarak then shared in the limelight, taking gold in their event on the track.

The silver medals yesterday were claimed by Bontu Rebitu in the women's 5,000m and Edidiong Odiong in the women's 200m; while the bronze medal was clinched by Ruth Jebet in the same race as Bontu.

The Kingdom's national team competing at the Games have now bagged 15 medals in all, including seven gold, five silver and three bronze. That put Bahrain in sixth overall on the medal table amongst the 57 competing nations at the Games.

Hosts Turkey are currently

in first place with 60 medals, including 26 gold, while Iran are second with 30 medals, including nine gold, and Kazakhstan third with 16 medals, including six gold. Uzbekistan and Azerbaijan are fourth and fifth, respectively, just ahead of Bahrain.

In road cycling yesterday, Madan came away with his impressive achievement after taking the men's individual time trial gold medal.

The young Bahraini rider, who is a member of the Bahrain Victorious professional cycling team and who has made history becoming the first-ever Bahraini to compete on the UCI World Tour, completed the 25-kilometre event in a time of 30 minutes 18.977 seconds.

Fellow-Bahraini Ahmed Naser was also taking part in the time

trial. He placed 10th overall with a time of 31:54.791.

Relay gold

Meanwhile, in athletics, the 4x400m Mixed Relay squad were in a class of their own, taking gold in a time of 3:17.40.

It was the second gold of the Games for Muna, who had also won an individual title in the women's 400m.

In the women's 5,000m, Bontu clinched her silver medal ahead of Ruth; while in the women's 200m, Edidiong won her women's 200m silver medal in 22.27 seconds.

Bontu came away with her second silver medal of the Games after previously finishing as runner-up in the women's 10,000m, while Edidiong's silver

medal added to her gold in the women's 100m. Ruth, meanwhile, had her second bronze medal in Konya after previously winning the same in the women's 10,000m.

Bahrain will be looking to add more medals today when they continue their participation in the various sports.

Also yesterday, Bahrain's Zouhair Aouad qualified for the men's 1,500m final, which will be held today as part of the concluding day of action in the athletics competition.

Elsewhere, Bahrain's athletes in shooting and wrestling were also in action but did not medal.

Bahrain are competing in six sports at this year's Games, including athletics, shooting, judo, cycling, wrestling and weightlifting.

Sterling could not waste peak years at Man City on the bench

AFP | London

Raheem Sterling revealed yesterday that his move to Chelsea came about after growing frustrated at his limited playing time at Manchester City.

Sterling won four Premier League titles over the past five seasons at City, among 10 major trophies during his time in Manchester.

But the England international's game time had been more limited over the past two seasons due to the emergence of Phil Foden and City's £100 million splash on Jack Grealish (\$122 million).

"I just felt my time at City was getting limited on playing time for different reasons," Sterling said at his Chelsea unveiling.

"I couldn't afford to waste that time. So I needed to keep that same level and a fresh challenge.

"It's something that since 17 I'd been a regular starting, so to get to a peak time in my career, not to play regularly is something I wouldn't accept."

Sterling scored 131 goals in 337 appearances for City during seven years at the club.

And it is his goalscoring threat



Raheem Sterling during training at Chelsea

131

goals were scored by Raheem Sterling in 337 appearances for City during seven years at the club

that Chelsea boss Thomas Tuchel is looking to make the most of as the Blues look set to play without a natural striker

this season.

"He (Tuchel) said to me it's my directness, always threatening in behind, not always wanting it in to feet and going in behind," added Sterling on what the German coach wants.

"But most importantly it's how I attack the box, and with the full-backs that we have here he said that's the one thing he wants to see a lot more."

Chelsea banned one fan for life and handed out five more temporary suspensions after Sterling suffered racist abuse

"I just felt my time at City was getting limited on playing time for different reasons. I couldn't afford to waste that time. So I needed to keep that same level and a fresh challenge

RAHEEM STERLING

at Stamford Bridge playing for City in 2019.

However, he said that incident had no impact on his decision on whether to join the club.

"That's the first time I've actually even remembered it," he said when asked about the incident.

"It wasn't anything that played on my mind at all. I can't let abuse from individuals affect my perception of a club."

Sterling will make his home debut at Stamford Bridge on Sunday as Chelsea host Tottenham in a highly-anticipated London derby after both sides got their Premier League seasons off to a winning start last weekend.

Zverev in fight to be fit for US Open

AFP | New York

Germany's world number two Alexander Zverev says he is facing a battle to be fit for the US Open following surgery on torn ankle ligaments at the French Open.

Zverev only returned to the practice court last Sunday after the injury he suffered during his semi-final against Rafael Nadal at Roland Garros in June.

He turned on his ankle during that match, screaming in pain when trailing Nadal 7-6 (10/8), 6-6 after three hours of play.

He left court in a wheelchair, returning shortly after on crutches and in tears to announce his retirement, with Nadal going on to extend his record Grand Slam haul to 22, routing Norway's Casper Ruud in the final.

Speaking in Hamburg at a press conference yesterday the Tokyo Olympic champion Zverev said: "Obviously I am going to try to make it to the US Open even if it's in a very very short time."

Last week Zverev revealed that he suffers from type 1 diabetes, admitting he had strug-



Alexander Zverev of Germany serves the ball during a match (file photo)



Last week Zverev revealed that he suffers from type 1 diabetes, admitting he had struggled to accept his condition and had tried to hide it from the world

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