

Katy Perry's fashion line under fire

Singer Katy Perry was slammed on social media for designing shoes which resembled 'blackface' imagery. The shoes in question were black 'Rue Face Slip On Loafers' and 'Ora Face Block Heel Sandals', reports hollywoodreporter.com. **P14**

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George Clooney says Meghan being harassed just like Diana **14** CELEBS

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Saudi backs Palestinian Statehood
 Jeddah

King Salman told the Palestinian president yesterday that Saudi Arabia stands by the Palestinian people in establishing their own state with Jerusalem as the capital.

During talks with Mahmoud Abbas in Riyadh, King Salman reaffirmed his support for Palestinian rights, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

Abbas thanked King Salman for Saudi Arabia's constant support for the Palestinian cause.

During the meeting, they also discussed the latest developments in the Palestinian arena.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received at Al Safriya Palace, the director-general of the Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities Dmitry Rogozin, currently on visit to the Kingdom. HM the King hailed solid historic friendship binding the two friendly countries, stressing Bahrain's keenness on expanding cooperation with the Russian Federation, particularly in the field of peaceful space researches, and benefiting from the Russian space strides towards achieving shared interests. HM the King hailed the achievements of Bahrain's National Space Science Agency (NSSA), as well as efforts to develop national competencies towards consolidating the Kingdom's standing the field of space sciences.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa hailed deep-rooted historic relations and long-standing partnership between the Kingdom and the United States of America. He hailed strong decades-long bilateral ties, which are based on mutual trust, respect and joint coordination. This came as he received at Al Sakhir Palace, in the presence of the BDF Commander-in-Chief Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al-Khalifa, Commander of the US Central Command (USCENTCOM) General Joseph Votel.

Top Pentagon official in Iraq
 Baghdad

Acting US Defence Secretary Patrick Shanahan arrived in Baghdad yesterday for an unannounced visit during which he said he would stress the importance of Iraqi sovereignty and broach the issue of the future of US troops there.

President Donald Trump said this month that a US presence was needed to observe Iran, which would overstep the US-led coalition's stated mission in Iraq and Syria of defeating Islamic State.

Mass arrest in Turkey

Govt detains more than 700 over alleged links to coup bid

Forty-five of those arrested were in the capital Ankara, a judicial source, said.

Ankara

Turkish authorities detained 729 people in nationwide raids yesterday over alleged links to a group blamed for a failed coup in 2016, the Ankara public prosecutor's office said.

Officials had sent to authorities in 75 provinces the names of 1,112 people under investigation over suspected ties to US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen and his movement, it said.



Soldiers involved in the 2016 coup surrender on a bridge over the Bosphorus.

Gulen is accused of ordering the attempted putsch, a claim he strongly denies.

Forty-five of those arrested were in the capital Ankara, a judicial source, who did not wish to be named, told AFP.

"We do not know whether the provincial authorities detained or summoned all of the individuals whose names were given," the source added.

The Ankara public prosecutor's office, which leads the

1,112 people are under investigation over suspected ties to US-based preacher Fethullah Gulen and his movement in Turkey.

it describes as the Gulen group's "virus"-like infiltration of key institutions, including the police.

Members of the movement are accused of cheating on entry exams to gain access to important public bodies.

Turkish Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu said Sunday that authorities "were planning a big operation" against the movement.

"Devils wouldn't even conduct the tricks that they did," Soylu said, adding that Turkey would "finish them off in this country."

There have been regular raids across Turkey in recent weeks against alleged members of the movement, despite criticism from human rights defenders and Ankara's Western allies over the scale of the crackdown.

coup investigation, said 130 people on the list of suspects were deputy police chiefs still on active duty.

They are suspected of having obtained questions before sitting the 2010 exam to become inspectors, it added in a statement.

Turkish officials defend the crackdown by pointing to what

CHANGING CLASSROOMS

Unconventional schools defy educational protocols

Dubai

Unconventional schooling models including classrooms with no teachers or walls are defying the conventions of education, the World Government Summit was told yesterday.

A Bali school founded by Canadian entrepreneurs John and Cynthia Hardy are conducting lessons in classrooms made entirely of bamboo, utilising the impact of nature and environment in the

students' education.

"Green School is like no other. It has no walls, and the children are happy. This provides an incredible environment for growth," John Hardy said, adding how "giving children freedom from boundaries teaches them to solve problems and think critically in ways we had never imagined possible."

Another school with an unconventional model is Ecole 42 in Paris, where



Students at the Green School in Bali.

students work in "a building with no supervision."

"Learning by rote is dangerous and makes you stupid. Information is freely available on the internet. What we need in today's world is the ability to create new stuff out of this knowledge by working together," said founder Nicolas Sadirac who initially designed the program for poor children and school dropouts.

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