

Bottas triumphs in Japan

Valtteri Bottas jumped from third to first with an electric start to win the Japanese Grand Prix yesterday ahead of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel and the Finn's Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton. **P16**

Turkey is testing Nato alliances in its pursuit of the Kurds

THE DAILY **tribune**

Tom Cruise's son makes rare public appearance alongside dad

China's Xi warns attempts to divide China

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Kurds in deal with Syria army Damascus

The Kurds in Syria say the Syrian government has agreed to send its army to the northern border to try to halt Turkey's offensive against them.

Syrian state media earlier reported that government forces had been deployed to the north.

It follows the US decision to pull all its remaining troops from the area over the "untenable" situation there.

The Turkish assault, launched last week, is aimed at forcing Kurdish forces from along the border area.

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● His Majesty told the lawmakers that it was a source of pleasure and pride to open the second session of the assembly in its fifth legislative term.

Manama

His Majesty has directed the lawmakers to channel all efforts in one direction so that the Kingdom would achieve self-reliance in many areas including food production.

This came as His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa patronised yesterday, in the presence of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, the second session of the fifth Legislative Term of the Shura and Representatives

Call for self-reliance

His Majesty opens second session of Fifth Legislative Term



His Majesty addresses lawmakers in the presence of HRH the Crown Prince, Ms Zainal and Mr Al Saleh.

councils.

HM King Hamad was welcomed by the Speaker of the Council of Representatives, Fawzia Zainal, and Shura Council Chairman, Ali Saleh Al Saleh, on arrival at the Isa Cultural Centre, accompanied by a constellation of police cavalry.

His Majesty told the lawmakers

that it was a source of pleasure and pride to open the second session of the assembly in its fifth legislative term.

"On this auspicious day, we congratulate everyone on the centenary of our country's development across various fields, as evidenced by both human tes-

timonies and material indicators. These developments, part of our overall modernisation programme, underline the authenticity of the founding of the Bahraini State over two centuries ago, led by pioneers whose accomplishments we stand before today with the utmost apprecia-

tion and respect."

His Majesty highlighted that economy remains a top priority when it comes to implementing new policies. "Bahrain continues to pay close attention to the oil and gas sector in light of the major discoveries announced recently, and we have directed that the pace of development of such projects to be accelerated.

"The launch of a series of major development projects, including the largest expansion of the Bapco refinery, the expansion of Banagas, the opening of the liquefied gas terminal, Alba's Line 6 project, and the operation of the new pipeline with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, will serve a major boost for the economy."


ROLEX
 OYSTER PERPETUAL DATEJUST 41
Modern Art Studio
 Rolex Boutique - Bahrain City Centre



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday visited the majlis of Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa in Riffa. HM the King offered condolences to Interior Minister General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Shaikh Daij bin Salman Al Khalifa, brothers and sons of late Shaikh Abdulla bin Salman bin Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa. The brothers and sons of the deceased expressed deepest thanks to HM the King on his good and noble feelings and heartfelt condolences. They prayed to Allah the Almighty to protect HM the King, bless him with abundant health and happiness to continue leading the Kingdom of Bahrain to achieve more progress and prosperity.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, yesterday received in his office at the Ministry's General Court Dr Abdulla Ahmed Al Madani, who gifted the Minister a copy of his book. During the meeting, the Minister welcomed Dr Abdullah, hailing his distinct research and studies that enrich the Gulf and Arab cultural scene. He also noted his great efforts in writing this outstanding encyclopaedic book, which highlights the lives of many Gulf figures who played an important role in the transformations process in the region during the past decades and those who have influential contributions in various political, economic, social and cultural fields, wishing him further success.



Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, has held talks with his Egyptian counterpart, Sameh Hassan Shoukry. During the meeting, the two ministers stressed the importance of the Extraordinary Session of the Council of the Arab League at the Ministerial-Level to come up with a unified Arab position regarding the military attack of the Turkish Republic on the northeast of the Syrian Arab Republic, and the need for continued consultation and coordination in order to strengthen joint Arab action frameworks and consolidate peace and security in the region.



The Public Prosecution's Special Investigation Unit yesterday organised a conference under the theme "Protecting Human Rights in the Criminal Justice System". The two-day event, held in co-operation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), aims to cast light on the national efforts to promote human rights in light of international standards. Attorney General Dr Ali Al Buainain said the conference is an opportunity to shed light on the Kingdom's efforts to foster human rights in its legislative and institutional system. He added human rights, which are guaranteed by the law and constitution, are the basis of the legitimacy of the state's action towards the community and individuals.



The Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) yesterday organised a specialised officers military session's graduation ceremony at one of the BDF units in the presence of Major-General Ghanim Ibrahim Al Fadhala, Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Operations. The event included a brief presentation about the session stages of training including theoretical and applied subjects. The Assistant Chief-of-Staff delivered the graduation certificates to the graduates and prizes to high achievers.

Manama

Information Affairs Minister, Bahrain Institute of Political Development (BIPD) Board of Trustees' Chairman Ali Al Romaihi praised the keynote royal speech which was delivered by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at the opening of the second session of the 5th legislative term.

The minister described the royal address as a modern and comprehensive vision for reform, sustainable development and knowledge-based society, to pursue the national march within the separation between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

He stressed co-operation between the three constitutionally-vested branches of government to upgrade national

legislations, enforce the state of law and institutions, guarantee justice, respect human rights and public liberties.

He commended the military and security agencies which assume their national duties with utmost dedication to defend national security and stability, protect development and reform strides.

He hailed royal directives which, he said, represent a roadmap to attain more development achievements, under the

Royal address emphasises the vision to pursue national march



“The royal address is a modern and comprehensive vision for reform, sustainable development and knowledge-based society.**”**

MR AL ROMAIHI

Government Action Plan (GAP), Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, with the

support of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, on the basis of sustainable development, justice and competitiveness and in accordance with the 2030 Bahrain Economic Vision, by keeping abreast of technological and scientific strides, attracting investments to digitalise economy, achieving food security, which will have a positive impact on diversifying the sources

of revenues and the improvement of citizens' standards of living.

The minister underscored the importance of the keynote address in defining national priorities, highlighting Bahrain's standing as a global model that lays the foundations for a modern civil state, consolidates peaceful co-existence between religions, cultures and civilisations, in a civilised, peaceful and secure society.

He lauded the royal keynote address which laid the foundations for a sound and wise foreign policy that respects international legitimacy, advocates regional and global security, stability and peace, which represent the cornerstone for the attainment of sustainable economic growth, prosperity and human welfare.

Commander-in-Chief chairs Military Pensions Supreme Council meeting

Manama

The Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa chaired the Military Pensions Supreme Council meeting yesterday in the presence of National Guard President His Highness General Shaikh Mohammed bin Isa Al Khalifa, Finance and National Economy Minister Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, National Security Agency President Lt-General Adel bin Khalifa Al Fahdel, BDF Chief-of-Staff Lt-General Dhiyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, and Interior Ministry Undersecretary Shaikh Nasser bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa.



The Commander-in-Chief chairs the meeting.

The council discussed general policy accomplishments and management of the Military Pensions Fund including

administrative, technical rules and regulations.

The council also discussed investment plans regarding man-

agement and investment of the military fund moneys.

It also considered general policies of the military pensions fund.

The BDF Commander-in-Chief praised the efforts of the members and general director of the Military Pension Fund.

He urged to continue offering ideas and visions in this field that will ensure the sustainability and development of the military pension fund, preservation of the retirees moneys and setting regulations and laws capable of achievement of such matters and to achieve more benefits.

Assistant Chief-of-Staff for Human Resources Major-General Shaikh Ali bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Chief of Military Judiciary and Cassation Court president Major-General Dr Yusef Rashid Flaifel, Director of Finance Major-General Ibrahim Abdullah Al Mahmoud, and General Director of the Military Pension Fund Brigadier Adel Isa Alzayani, were also present.

TDI | Manama

The Parliamentarians yesterday overwhelmingly welcomed the speech delivered by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa marking the opening of the second session of the fifth legislative term.

Hailing the speech of His Majesty, Second Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives Ali Ahmed Zayed said the House will expedite the passing of legislations and laws related to welfare programmes meant for citizens.

"The speech delivered by His Majesty during the opening session will serve a roadmap for the authorities to stabilise the progress in the implementation of development measures.

"I urge all parliamentarians to communicate frequently with the citizens so that we could easily find solutions to all problems faced by them. We have a big role to play in the future of the citizens and their children."

MP Bassem Al Maliki affirmed that His Majesty speech represents the strong support offered to the executive and legislative authorities by the leadership in the interest of the citizens and nations.

Mr Al Maliki said the speech was comprehensive and clear as it covered all aspects of economic development and secu-

His Majesty speech 'represents roadmap towards development'

Lawmakers hail His Majesty's support to the legislature and executive

rity issues.

He stressed that the directives put forward by His Majesty including the transformation into a digital economy, diversifying sources of income and achieving food self-sufficiency are visions that everyone must work to achieve.

Mr Al Maliki praised the King's clear support for the legislative authority in building the rule of law and fulfilling the aspirations of citizens and the role played by the legislative authority in protecting the rule of law and issuing legislations that protect citizens and national gains.

Mr Al Maliki pointed out that the House of Representatives will work in the new session to continue to preserve the gains of citizens and strengthen the role of the citizen in the economic work.

MP Mohammed Buhamood said that His Majesty's speech

<p>”</p>  <p>I urge all parliamentarians to communicate frequently with the citizens so that we could easily find solutions to all the problems faced by them.</p> <p>MR ALI ZAYED</p>	<p>”</p>  <p>His Majesty speech represents the strong support offered to the executive and legislative authorities by the leadership in the interest of people.</p> <p>MR AL MALIKI</p>	<p>”</p>  <p>The House of Representatives should continue boosting its role with an aim to maintain and build on the living and economic gains of citizens.</p> <p>MR BUHAMOOD</p>
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at the opening of the second session of the fifth legislative chapter represents a vision and

a roadmap for the executive authority to develop the legislative authority.

Mr Buhamood said the speech was comprehensive, stressing the importance of economic re-

covery and diversifying sources of income, which will undoubtedly reflect directly on the citizens' welfare.

The lawmaker pointed out that His Majesty's support for the wise government led by HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and First Deputy Prime Minister Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, will lead to the implementation of Economic Vision 2030.

He said that His Majesty's praise for the armed forces and the defensive and security readiness they have achieved confirm their high efficiency and spirit in preserving the country's gains and maintaining security and stability.

Mr Buhamood noted that the House of Representatives will work in this role to continue to maintain and build on the living and economic gains of the citizens.

NIHR participates in Arab Anti-torture Conference

Cairo

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) has participated in the "Anti-torture Legislations and Mechanisms in Arab countries" international conference, held in the Egyptian capital Cairo.

In his paper at the event, Dr Malallah Al Hammadi, member of the NIHR commissioners board, outlined the NIHR's role in the protection of human rights and future aspirations in the Kingdom.

He cited the importance of mutual



Dr Al Hammadi speaking at the conference.

efforts to ensure legislative, administrative and judicial measures are taken to implement the provisions of the relevant agreements.

The conference brought together representatives of governmental, legislative and parliamentary bodies, national human rights institutions, civic organisations and experts from 18 Arab countries, in addition to the UN Human Rights High Commission, regional offices, Arab, African and European diplomatic missions.



The tasks of the (NIHR) focus on the promotion, development and protection of human rights, in addition to striving to consolidate the relevant values and awareness of such values.

AUB participates in 'Our kids R Gold 6' Campaign



Ahli United Bank (AUB) hosted a number of kids with cancer patients along with their parents in the lobby of its headquarters in Seef. Their efforts were a part of "Our kids are Gold 6", a campaign which is a part of Smile Initiative, organised by the Future Society for Youth to provide psychosocial support to kids with cancer and their families. The bank organised a series of events for Smile's little heroes, which included games and competitions. Many awards were distributed throughout the events in order to bring joy to their hearts, draw a smile on their faces and help them overcome the difficult stages of their disease. AUB also organised an awareness lecture for its staff members on childhood cancer symptoms and prevention. A few key points were mentioned throughout the lecture, like encouraging children to eat healthy food and protecting them from polluted environments, smoking, etc.

Academy launches initial version of International Diplomats Programme

Kingdom's diplomatic strides highlighted at first session

Manama

The first version of the International Diplomats Programme opening ceremony took place at Bahrain Fort, Manama.

The programme hosts a number of international diplomats from around the world in the Kingdom by the Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies in a move to enhance international co-operation between the Kingdom and the world.

During the ceremony, the Executive Director of the Mohammed bin Mubarak Al Khalifa Academy for Diplomatic Studies, Dr Shaikha Muneera Khalifa Alkhalifa, expressed her thanks and appreciation to His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, and to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, for following up on the details of the programme and devoting all that would support its implementation and transform it from an idea into a reality,



Dr Shaikha Muneera speaks at the session.

praising the programme of the Office of the First Deputy Prime Minister and its central role in preparing national cadres, who are now participating in the renaissance of the Kingdom and developing its work mechanisms in a tangible way.

Dr Shaikha Muneera Khalifa Alkhalifa said that the programme aims primarily to demonstrate the value and status of the Kingdom of Bahrain on the world map, by inviting a num-

ber of international diplomats nominated by their Ministries of Foreign Affairs who are interested in the affairs and history of the region, pointing out that the programme won first place in the Government Innovation Competition (Fikra), which is a great honour and responsibility in delivering an integrated programme that strengthens the Kingdom's growing partnerships with countries around the world and continues to position it-

“The programme is characterised by reviewing the work, projects and objectives of the Kingdom at all levels related to politics, economy, culture and environment.”

DR SHAIKHA MUNEERA

self as a thriving civilisation model in the region.

She noted that the programme is characterised by reviewing the work, projects and objectives of the Kingdom at all levels related to politics, economy, culture and environment, through a wide range of workshops, lectures and field visits to the most important institutions in the Kingdom, in addition to meeting senior officials to learn more about Bahrain's experiences in various fields in order to consolidate the Kingdom's vision and its future achievements and objectives.

She explained that the over-

all context of the programme is not as promotional as it is an introduction about the nature of life in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and how it was able to assume its high and prestigious ranks at all levels during simple historical periods, as the Kingdom has achieved many achievements since joining the United Nations full membership in 1971, it has continued to achieve its goals in the region and to consolidate its position in the region in support of international security and stability, and its keenness to continue to achieve its development visions, and tireless efforts to reach the ranks of the countries of the world well deserved, indicating that the program will run for two weeks for country representatives.

She also pointed out that this is the first programme with an international character the Academy has worked on, and they are keen to devote the Academy's diplomatic and cultural role to all nations, as an extension of the Kingdom's historic role in fruitful cooperation and vital partnership with its brothers and friends around the world.

Bahrain backs King Salman's directives

Manama

Bahrain has stated its full support of the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud and the Crown Prince, Deputy Premier and Minister of Defence of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman Al Saud on receiving additional reinforcements of troops and defence equipment in the framework of the joint action between Saudi Arabia and the United States of America.

The Kingdom of Bahrain affirms that this strategic step reflects the continuous and tireless efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as a pillar of security and stability for the countries and people of the region, a statement issued by the Foreign Ministry said.

It also reflects the keenness of the United States of America to maintain peace and address all challenges and threats in order to preserve the sovereignty and independence of the countries of the region and to ensure their peoples the means of progress and prosperity, the statement pointed out.

The Kingdom of Bahrain reiterates its firm and strong support for all initiatives and efforts of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, appreciating the commitment of the friendly United States to co-operate with its allies in the region to ensure security, stability and peace, the statement added.

Expert warns over 'excess use of social media networks'

TDI | Manama

A Bahraini social media consultant has heavily warned against the excessive use of social media as a means of communication.

She also revealed that the lenient way in which people store and share their personal and professional data can make them easy targets for cybercriminals.

During a workshop which addressed the cyber-security risks that are faced by Bahraini companies which utilise social media to promote their businesses, Eman Allawi stated that: "We often find that a single account is accessed through multiple de-

vices and by multiple employees, including the founder himself.

"The passwords and usernames of such accounts are usually handled carelessly."

Ms Allawi explained that "We must emphasise the urgent need to give more focus to cybersecurity in relation to social media".

"It is more important than ever, considering the fact that companies are further utilising social media to promote their services and products.

"Market research, maintaining and building relationships with customers, and E-commerce are some of the ways that companies have repurposed social media."

Social media networks are ex-

“We must emphasise the urgent need to give more focus to cybersecurity in relation to social media.”

MS ALLAWI

posed to the dangers and consequences of data leakage partly due to the prevalence of cyber attacks.

Hackers were able to steal millions of users' information through these attacks, which generally cause \$400 billion in annual losses to businesses

around the world.

However, Ms Allawi stressed that this should not prevent the commercial sector and companies in Bahrain, small and medium-sized companies especially, from investing in the great potential provided by social networks in the development of business.

"These methods remain very effective, low cost and highly feasible, provided that they are used by professionals who can provide the necessary protection required for company accounts on social networks such as Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and others," she said.

During the workshop, Ms Allawi presented an explanation on how to develop a scientific and practical strategy for the investment and management of social networks by companies and institutions.

This included many effective strategies for content creation, including images, video, text and infographics, along with the ideal times to publish content to get the best reach.

She further explained the best methods for getting real interactions, the mechanism to promptly respond to followers and the importance of periodically measuring the return on investment of social networking sites.

Edamah signs a BD4.5m financing agreement with KHCB for Salmaniya car park development

TDI | Manama

Bahrain Real Estate Investment Company (Edamah), the real-estate arm of the sovereign wealth fund of the Kingdom of Bahrain, has signed an agreement with Khaleeji Commercial Bank (KHCB) to finance Edamah's Salmaniya Medical Complex multi-story car park development for an amount of BD 4.5 million.

The signing ceremony, which took place on Thursday 10th October 2019, was attended by Amin Alarrayed, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Edamah and Sattam Algosabi, CEO of KHCB.

This agreement is a major project milestone following the appointment of Alghanah Group as the main contractor.

The project is set to be completed by the year 2020. Work on the project began as of 15th September 2019, with mobilisation already completed at the site.



Executive members of Edamah and KHCB.

Excavation works for the foundations are currently in progress.

Commenting on signing the agreement, Amin Alarrayed, CEO of Edamah, said, "We are extremely pleased to sign this financing agreement with KHCB.

This is a key project as part of the pipeline of several strategic projects we have been developing in 2019, which comes in line with Edamah's continued efforts to elevate the infrastructure in the Kingdom and deliver projects

that serve its citizens."

Sattam Algosabi, CEO of KHCB, said, "We are delighted to partner with Edamah for the financing of the Salmaniya Car Park Development, which is a vital project that will help facilitate citizens'

access to medical services."

"This reiterates our keenness to enter into strategic partnerships, in addition to supporting our government's direction towards the development of the Kingdom."

This project is a reflection of Edamah's strategic plans to reduce congestion around the Salmaniya Medical Complex, as the building will provide approximately 600 parking spaces for staff and patients alike, as well as enrich the service facilities as a whole by setting it up on vital areas where such projects are increasingly needed.

In addition, the building, which occupies a strategic point northeast of the Complex over a wide area of 5,700 sqm and is surrounded by two major streets, will improve the smoothness of traffic and provide crucial access to emergency centres.

All in pursuit of increasing the operational performance of Salmaniya Medical Complex and ensuring the integration of its medical services, making the project an integral part of the sustainable development process around the region.

WORLD
world

China's Xi warns attempts to divide China

● Nepal's Oli told Xi that the country will oppose any "anti-China activities" on its soil

● Xi, the first Chinese president to visit Nepal in 22 years

Reuters | Beijing

Chinese President Xi Jinping warned yesterday that any attempt to divide China will be crushed, as Beijing faces political challenges in months-long protests in Hong Kong and US criticism over its treatment of Muslim minority groups.

"Anyone attempting to split China in any part of the country will end in crushed bodies and shattered bones," he told Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli in a meeting on Sunday, according to China's state broadcaster CCTV.

"And any external forces backing such attempts dividing China will be deemed by the Chinese people as pipe-dreaming!" he was quoted as saying.

Xi, the first Chinese president to visit Nepal in 22 years, arrived in Nepal on Saturday on a state visit. Both sides are expected to sign a deal expanding a railway link between the Himalayan nation and Tibet.

Nepal's Oli told Xi that the country will oppose any "anti-China activities" on its soil, CCTV reported.

China, which is trying to de-escalate a protracted trade



Nepal's President Bidhya Devi Bhandari shakes hands with China's President Xi Jinping during a welcome ceremony at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Nepal

“Anyone attempting to split China in any part of the country will end in crushed bodies and shattered bones

XI JINPING

war with the United States, has seen its political authority tested by increasingly violent protests in Hong Kong against what is seen as Beijing's tightening grip on the Chinese-ruled city.

Police in Hong Kong have used rubber bullets, tear gas and water cannons against pro-democracy demonstrators in the former British colony, which has been plunged into its worst political crisis in decades.

US president Donald Trump had said it would be difficult to negotiate with China if anything "bad" happens in Chinese authorities' handling of the Hong Kong protests.

Trump said he discussed the issue of Hong Kong with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He on Saturday during their latest round of talks. Both sides reached a "phase-one deal" that has raised optimism for a broader agree-

Multiple arrests as "flashmob" protests hit pro-Beijing targets

Hong Kong

Riot police clashed with anti-government protesters across Hong Kong yesterday as masked activists vandalised businesses deemed sympathetic to Beijing in another weekend of chaos in the financial hub.

Rallies erupted in multiple neighbourhoods, with some protesters blocking roads, sabotaging train tracks, and trashing pro-China businesses.

Police said an officer was taken to hospital after his neck was slashed. Local television networks also broadcast footage of a man beaten bloody by protesters after they found a baton in his bag and suspected him of being an undercover officer.

Police have increasingly posed as protesters, scoring some tactical successes and sparking widespread paranoia among frontline demonstrators.

During cat-and-mouse encounters on Sunday officers made dozens of arrests, but there were fewer protesters than have taken to the streets more recently during the four-

month long protest movement.

Washington last week also blacklisted 28 Chinese companies over Beijing's treatment



A four-metre statue known as "Lady Liberty" is placed by pro-democracy protesters on the top of Lion Rock, a Hong Kong landmark



Police clear barricades left by protesters. Clashes between police and activists were less intense than at the start of October when the city was virtually shut down

month long protest movement.

Online forums used to organise the largely leaderless

of predominantly Muslim ethnic minorities. China has faced growing international condemnation for what it calls re-education and training centers in the remote western region of Xinjiang. Activists say they are

mass detention camps holding more than 1 million ethnic Uighurs and other Muslims. Before arriving in Nepal, Xi was in India for talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

movement advertised yesterday as a "blossom everywhere" day, encouraging activists to gather in malls across the city.

mass detention camps holding more than 1 million ethnic Uighurs and other Muslims.

Before arriving in Nepal, Xi was in India for talks with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Xi Jinping promises Nepal \$493 million aid, development

● 3.5 billion RMB (\$493 million) of aid between 2020-2022

● Nepali and Chinese officials signed at least 15 agreements

● Feasibility study to construct a tunnel from China's Kerung to Kathmandu

Kathmandu

China and Nepal hailed the "beginning of a new era" in relations yesterday as President Xi Jinping ended his visit with promises of a railway and tunnel connecting the two countries.

Xi announced 3.5 billion RMB (\$493 million) of aid between 2020-2022 "to uplift the living standard of Nepali people" during talks with President Bidhya Devi Bhandari, an official said.

Kathmandu has also sought closer ties and much-needed energy and infrastructure investments from Beijing.

In a joint statement the two countries said Xi's visit "marked the beginning of a new era in



Chinese President Xi Jinping, left, and Nepalese Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli greet during their bilateral meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal

“We will develop a multi-dimensional trans-Himalayan connectivity network and help Nepal to realise its dream to transform itself from a landlocked country to land-linked country

XI JINPING

Nepal-China relations and served as an important milestone in the history of friendly cooperation".

During the visit Nepali and Chinese officials signed at least 15 agreements, including a feasibility study for a cross-border railway project that would give Beijing access to the south through Nepal's open border with India.

"We will develop a multi-dimensional trans-Himalayan connectivity network and help Nepal to realise its dream to transform itself from a landlocked country to land-linked



China has intensified its presence in Nepal in recent years, pumping millions of dollars into projects ranging from roads to hydropower plants

country," Xi said in his address during a banquet on Saturday evening.

They also undertook to carry out another feasibility study to construct a tunnel from China's Kerung to Kathmandu and to repair existing highways, as well as to strengthen hydropower, security, trade and education links.

Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli's foreign affairs adviser Rajan Bhattarai said Xi showed "China is ready to help Nepal

with (an) open heart on its goal of development and prosperity, (helping with) infrastructure development and enhancing connectivity".

Nepali Times editor Kunda Dixit said the key test would be if China's deals help boost the impoverished nation's economy.

"The big test of whether or not Xi's visit will benefit Nepal is if these infrastructure projects will help Nepal become more self-re-

liant and use access to China to sell our goods, not increase our dependence," he said.

China has intensified its presence in Nepal in recent years, pumping millions of dollars into projects ranging from roads to hydropower plants.

In 2017, Nepal signed up to China's Belt and Road initiative, a vast global infrastructure programme, which includes the building or upgrading of highways and airports in the country.

IS relatives flee en masse from Syrian camp

● **Attack in northern Syria against Kurdish forces widened to target the town of Suluk**

● **Turkey's stated objective is to set up a "safe zone" inside Syria**

Reuters | Beirut/Istanbul

Women affiliated with Islamic State and their children fled en masse from a camp where they were being held in northern Syria yesterday after shelling by Turkish forces in a five-day-old offensive, the region's Kurdish-led administration said.

Turkey's cross-border attack in northern Syria against Kurdish forces widened to target the town of Suluk which was hit by Ankara's Syrian rebel allies. There were conflicting accounts on the outcome of the fighting.

Turkey is facing threats of possible sanctions from the United States unless it calls off the incursion. Two of its NATO allies, Germany and France, have said they are halting weapons exports to Turkey. The Arab League has denounced the operation.

Ankara launched the assault against the Kurdish YPG militia after U.S. President Donald Trump withdrew some U.S. troops from the border region. Ankara says the YPG is a terrorist group aligned with Kurdish militants waging an insurgency in Turkey.

Turkey's stated objective is to set up a "safe zone" inside Syria to resettle many of the 3.6 million Syrian war refugees it has been hosting. President Tayyip Erdogan has threatened to send them to Eu-



An elderly man is evacuated from a building in the Turkish border town of Akcakale after it was hit by a rocket reportedly fired from Syria



In the latest criticism, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told Erdogan the offensive may worsen the humanitarian situation and undermine progress toward weakening Islamic State, urging an end to the operation.

rope if the EU does not back his assault.

But the Turkish incursion has raised international alarm over large-scale displacements of civilians and, amidst the upheaval, the possibility of Islamic State militants escaping from prisons run by the Kurdish-led authorities.

The Kurdish-led forces have been the main regional ally of the United States against Islamic State in Syria.

The region's Kurdish-led administration said in a statement that 785 IS-affiliated foreigners had fled the camp at Ain Issa.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, citing sources in the camp, said around 100 people had escaped.

In apparent refer-

ence to Turkish-backed rebels, the Kurdish-led administration said "mercenaries" attacked the camp where "Daesh elements" - a reference to Islamic State - in turn attacked camp guards and opened the gates.

The Kurdish-led Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) hold swathes of territory that was once part of Islamic State's "caliphate". The SDF has been keeping thousands of IS jihadists in jail and tens of thousands of their family members in camps.

SDF official Marvan Qamishlo told Reuters there were not have enough guards for the camp, which is north of Raqqa and about 30 km (20 miles) south of the Turkish border.

"The guarding is very weak

now," he said, adding there were now just 60-70 security personnel at the camp compared with a normal level of no less than 700 in the camp of 12,000 people.

Turkish-led advance

Along the front lines, Turkish forces and Syrian rebels entered Suluk, some 10 km (6 miles) from Turkey's border, the Observatory said yesterday.

Turkey's state-owned Anadolu news agency said the rebels seized complete control of Suluk. But the SDF's Qamishlo said SDF forces had repelled the attack and were still in control.

Suluk is southeast of the Syrian border town of Tel Abyad, one of the two main targets in the incursion, which was bombarded by Turkish howitzers on Sunday afternoon, a witness in the neighboring Turkish town of Akcakale said.

Machinegun fire resounded around the Syrian frontier town of Ras al Ain, 120 km (75 miles) to the east of Tel Abyad, while Turkish artillery continued to target the area, a Reuters reporter across the border in Turkey's Ceylanpinar said.

Turkish-backed Syrian rebels, known as the National Army,

advanced into Ras al Ain on Saturday but by Sunday there were still conflicting reports on which side was prevailing in the town.

The Syrian Observatory said the SDF, in which the YPG comprises the main fighting element, had recovered "almost full control" of Ras al Ain after a counter-attack.

A spokesman for the National Army denied this, saying its forces were still in the positions they took on Saturday.

130,000 displaced

More than 130,000 people have been displaced from rural areas around Tel Abyad and Ras al Ain as a result of the fighting, the United Nations said on Sunday.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said OCHA and other relief agencies estimated up to 400,000 civilians in the Syrian conflict zone may require aid and protection in the coming period.

Erdogan has dismissed the growing international condemnation of the military operation, saying Turkey "will not stop it, no matter what anyone says".



Aid groups warn of a new humanitarian crisis in Syria's eight-year civil war as 100,000 civilians fleeing the Turkish offensive seek relief



Smoke rises from town of Tel Abyad, as seen from village of Yabisa, near the Turkish-Syrian border, Syria

Cargo ship runs aground in Corsican reserve

Ajaccio | France

A 90-metre (295-foot) cargo ship ran aground yesterday in a pristine marine reserve in the Strait of Bonifacio off the French Mediterranean island of Corsica, but no oil appears to have been spilled, maritime police said.

The Rhodanus, transporting 2,650 tonnes of steel coils and seven crew, ran into trouble in the Mouths of Bonifacio nature reserve in the early morning hours after missing an opening in the strait, the authority said in a statement.

The captain "did not turn in time and headed straight for the coast despite repeated calls" for nearly an hour from traffic controllers in Corsica and nearby Sardinia, it said.

The ship got lodged in sand without tilting, and does not appear to have shed any oil, according to the statement. But an-



The Rhodanus, transporting 2,650 tonnes of steel coils and seven crew, ran into trouble in the Mouths of Bonifacio nature reserve

ti-pollution measures are being deployed as a precaution.

"The ship is stuck in the middle of the islands of the Natural Reserve of the Mouths of Bon-

ifacio in a protected area that is environmentally very sensitive," the reserve's director Jean-Michel Culioli said at the scene. "It (the ship) should never

have been there. We remain vigilant," he added.

The reserve, stretching over 80,000 hectares, is the largest in mainland France, a scuba di-



The ship is stuck in the middle of the islands of the Natural Reserve of the Mouths of Bonifacio in a protected area that is environmentally very sensitive

JEAN-MICHEL CULIOLI
THE RESERVE'S DIRECTOR

vers' paradise with several small islands in the strait separating French Corsica from Italian Sardinia.

The authorities have prohibited any ships or other nautical activities in a one-kilometre (0.6-mile) radius of the stranded ship.

Bangladesh indicts 8 for 2015 killing of publisher

AP | Dhaka, Bangladesh

A court in Bangladesh's capital yesterday indicted eight suspected Islamist militants tied to a banned group over the 2015 killing of a man who published books on secularism and atheism.

Anti-Terrorism Special Tribunal Judge Majibur Rahman read out the charges to six of the suspects, who pleaded not guilty. Another two remained fugitives, but the judge issued arrest warrants for them.

In October 2015, suspected militants hacked Faisal Abedin Deepan of the Jagriti Prokashoni publishing house. On the same day, another publisher, Ahmed Rashid Tutul, survived an attack in Dhaka.

Japan sends in troops after typhoon kills 30

Reuters | Tokyo

Japan sent tens of thousands of troops and rescue workers yesterday to save stranded residents and fight floods caused by one of the worst typhoons to hit the country in recent history.

At least 30 people were killed in the typhoon that left vast sections of towns under water, public broadcaster NHK said. Another 15 were missing and 177 injured by Typhoon Hagibis, which paralyzed Tokyo on Saturday and dumped record levels of rain around Japan. About 100,000 homes were left without power.

Rescue efforts were hindered after more than 20 rivers in central and northeastern Japan burst their banks and dozens more overflowed although their banks were still in tact, NHK said, adding that flooding rivers could cause more damage.

Evacuation centers filled with residents, while some people perished as they sought shelter, NHK said, adding a 77-year-old woman fell about 40 meters to her death during an airlift.

Some of the worst damage hit the central Japanese city of Nagano, where the Chikuma River inundated swaths of land and forced military helicopters to airlift people from homes.

Kiyokazu Shimokawa, 71, speaking at an evacuation center, said he had waited all night with his wife and mother until they were finally rescued around 3 p.m. (0600 GMT) on Sunday.

"I made the mistake of figuring that as long as we were on the second floor of the house, we'd be fine," he told Reuters. "When we realized that maybe we should evacuate, it was too late - the water rose very quickly."

Rie Hasegawa, a woman in her 30s, said she never imagined her landlocked town would be inundated. "The force of the water was incredible. It was dark,



A local resident is rescued by Japanese Self-Defence Forces soldiers from area flooded by Abukuma river



An aerial view shows residential areas flooded by the Chikuma river, central Japan



Japanese Defence-force soldiers rescuing local residents in Miyagi prefecture



Hagibis, which means "speed" in the Philippine language Tagalog, made landfall on Japan's main island of Honshu on Saturday evening and headed out to sea early yesterday, leaving behind cloudless skies and high temperatures across the country

frightening, and I thought this might be the end," she said.

Typhoon Hagibis, which means "speed" in the Philippine language Tagalog, made landfall on Japan's main island

of Honshu on Saturday evening and headed out to sea early yesterday.

Help promised

The storm sank a Panama-reg-

istered cargo ship that had anchored near Tokyo. The sunken ship was located early on Sunday. A newspaper reported that at least five of the 12 crew were dead and three were missing.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held an emergency ministerial meeting and sent the minister in charge of disaster management to affected areas. The government also set up a task force to deal with the damage.

"The government will do everything in its power to cooperate with relevant agencies and operators working to restore services as soon as possible," the prime minister said.

In Fukushima, north of the capital, Tokyo Electric Power Co reported irregular readings from sensors monitoring water in its Fukushima Daiichi nuclear

plant overnight. The plant was crippled by a 2011 earthquake and tsunami.

Landing restrictions at Tokyo's Narita and Haneda airports were lifted but more than 800 flights were canceled for the day, NHK said. Some Shinkansen bullet train services to the worst-hit areas were also disrupted.

The Rugby World Cup match between Namibia and Canada scheduled for Sunday in Kamaishi, northeastern Japan, was canceled, but the Japan-Scotland match in Yokohama, south of Tokyo, went ahead. Japan won their clash.

Media mogul, academic face off as Tunisians choose president

AFP | Tunis

Tunisians voted yesterday in a presidential runoff pitting a conservative academic against a media magnate fresh out of jail, reflecting a shift in the country's political landscape.

The political newcomers swept aside the old guard in the first round, highlighting voter anger over a stagnant economy, joblessness and poor public services.

"There is a lot of unemployment, so we need a president who works hard for the economy," said Ibdissime Adaili, who cast her ballot in the capital Tunis.

Adding controversy and suspense to the contest, presidential contender Nabil Karoui only walked free on Wednesday, having spent more than a month behind bars on suspicion of money-laundering.

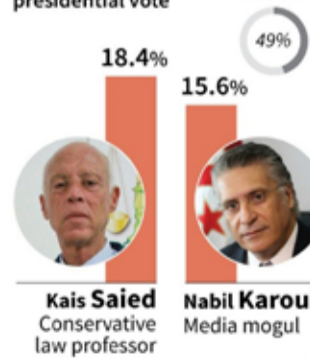
The poll, Tunisia's second free presidential election since the 2011 revolt, follows the death of president Beji Caid Essebsi in July.

Exit polls are expected on Sunday evening and official results by Tuesday.

In one polling station, voters said they were divided between

Tunisian election

Results of 1st-round presidential vote



"the one who will apply the law" and the one "who helps the poor," referring to a charity television show that boosted Karoui's popularity.

"Today is a chance to recover our Tunisia, the modern Tunisia that is for women... not the Tunisia that frightens us," said Karoui after casting his vote in Tunis.

Some Tunisians organised car-sharing and free transport for students who have to travel far to their hometowns to cast their ballots.

"I am doing it out of love for my country. I support the one who embodies hope for Tunisia," said taxi driver Bakri who was offering free rides to Saied



Tunisians are voting in their second free presidential election since the 2011 revolt

supporters between Tunis and the coastal city of Nabeul.

At the Ban Alouia terminal in Tunis, 35-year-old Reda joined the crowds to catch a bus to his hometown of Kabylie, 450 kilometres (280 miles) away.

"It is important to vote... it is a duty. The two candidates are very different. One could help the country advance, the other sink it," he said.

The runoff outcome remains uncertain, with a ban on opinion polls, but Karoui received

a boost with his newly formed party, Qalb Tounes (Heart of Tunisia), coming second in legislative elections a week earlier.

Saied topped the first round in the presidential election, held on September 15, with 18.4 percent of votes, while Karoui followed with 15.6 percent.

Nearly half of eligible voters cast their ballots in that round.

Officials said turnout in the runoff was 17.8 percent by noon, higher than at the same time during the first round.



Presidential contender Nabil Karoui only walked free days before the vote having spent more than a month behind bars on suspicion of money-laundering



Presidential candidate Kais Saied called on Tunisians to cast their vote "in complete freedom"

Turkey is testing Nato alliances in its pursuit of the Kurds

Ankara seems ready to incur international penalties in a crisis that has amalgamated the 70-year-old institution's most crippling challenges

DAMIEN MCELROY

As thousands of Britain's Kurdish community gather for a mass protest today in central London, an assembly of Nato officials will be convening within earshot of their march.

Pro-Kurdish protesters uniting under the umbrella #RiseUp4Rojava are determined to highlight the plight of Kurds in Syria as Turkey advances across the border to carve out a so-called safe zone, where it plans to send the majority of its 3.6 million Syrian refugees.

Some of Nato's most crippling challenges have amalgamated in one crisis. How to handle Turkey is now a make-or-break issue for the alliance.

London's weekend meeting is being held in advance of a 70th anniversary Nato summit in the British capital in December. A cloud hangs over the celebrations for the 29-country alliance. Attempts to mark a record of impressive cohesion throughout its history seem moot.

The challenges have shifted so much throughout that time – yet Nato has somehow endured. Indeed, Turkey's role in Nato has long been the subject of commentary and questioning. In recent months these debates have increased markedly. The Syrian operation has moved the conundrum to a whole new phase.

The think tank Carnegie Europe has described Turkey as a functional ally within Nato. The chief attributes are its crucial geostrategic location and its large armed forces,



US President Donald Trump with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Washington DC in 2017.

which made a powerful contribution to missions in the Balkans and Afghanistan.

Turkey's neighbourhood raises a thicket of issues for Nato that openly conflict with the core interests of the alliance.

European countries dominate Nato's membership. At least one – Sweden – has responded to the Syrian offensive by suspending arms

exports to Turkey.

Britain, France, Germany, Belgium and Poland issued a statement on Thursday that made clear their fears that Turkey was about to violate international law on forcing refugee returns. It cautioned against engineering demographic change in that part of Syria and said they would boycott any situation that resulted from the Turkish

action if these were the out-

Among European diplomats there is serious discussion of potential sanctions on Turkey. Fear the resurgence of ISIS as a result of the weakening and dispersal of Syrian Democratic Forces has Europe on high alert. The death of 100,000 people since the offensive began and Turkey's refusal to unleash a new migrant crisis

The nightmares of the dead, the weeping and

KAREEM SHAHEEN

The nightmares don't come often – perhaps once every month or two. In them, I find myself in the midst of a terror-stricken wave of humanity, fleeing the scene of a suicide bombing or an impending assault by faceless men.

When I started working as a journalist, I was based in Abu Dhabi. Then, after a subsequent two-year stint in Europe, I returned to the Middle East to work as a reporter in Lebanon. I arrived in June 2013, just in time for a wave of suicide bombings in Beirut and clashes between the army and fundamentalist groups in Sidon, as well as inter-communal fighting between Sunnis and Alawites in Tripoli. The violence was linked to the war in Syria, which spilled over into multi-confessional Lebanon as the conflict took on sectarian overtones.

I covered so many of these violent incidents that, with the dark sense of humour journalists so often develop to cope with the trauma they regularly cover, a colleague once joked that I was the suicide bombing correspondent of the paper where I worked. I covered many stories of beauty, hope and resilience as well. But the images that lodged in my mind, the ones that stayed with me, were often the bloodier ones.

There was the twin suicide bombing in southern Beirut in February 2014, in which eight people were killed and more than 120 injured. One of the explosive-laden vehicles used in

the attack blew up next to an orphanage. I remember the children there, all of whom miraculously survived, marching out of the orphanage in tears, still wearing face paint.

I remember the human remains and streaks of blood on the pavement next to a cafe in an Alawite neighbourhood in Tripoli that had been hit the previous night in a double suicide attack. A grandfather, Abu Ali Issa, had tackled the second bomber, sacrificing his life to save dozens of civilians who had gathered to help those wounded in the first attack. As women on balconies simultaneously wept, ululated and tossed rice at the funeral processions, a man embraced me around my waist, then walked away – I think to make sure that I, a stranger, did not have explosives strapped to my body.

I remember rushing to the scene of the car bombing that killed the former economy minister Mohammed Chatah in 2013. The row of trees closest to the burnt-out husk of his car had been stripped of leaves. The row of trees leading away from the site of the assassination were still a verdant green.

My own human experience is a collection of memories, some faded like old photographs in an album buried in the back of an attic. Others resurface with greater clarity, in high definition. Often, those images are of death.

I have now left the Middle East and resettled in Canada. When I scroll back through old photos of our life in the region to find



A series of bombings rocked Beirut shortly after the author arrived in 2013.

snapshots that were taken with my wife, our friends and our cats, they are interspersed with pic-

tures of the dead, the weeping, the wounded and the bombed, from Aleppo to Eastern Ghouta.

A lot of colleagues in the field, friends, family and Syrians have come to know over the years

As a journalist covering war zones in the Middle East, I know I am lucky to escape with only bad dreams

2012

Felix Baumgartner successfully jumps to Earth from a balloon in the stratosphere.



2014

The Serbia vs. Albania UEFA qualifying match is canceled after 42 minutes due to several incidents on and off the pitch. Albania is eventually awarded a win.

2015

A **suicide bomb attack** in Pakistan kills at least seven people and injures 13 others.

2017

A massive truck bombing in **Somalia** kills 358 people and injures more than 400 others.



US President Donald Trump is under fire for appearing to green light the operation and for abandoning the Kurds despite issuing threats to Turkey.

calate before the situation became irreparable.

US President Donald Trump is under fire for appearing to green light the operation and for abandoning the Kurds. Even he has issued threats to Turkey. The president tweeted that he could deploy the military against his Nato ally, destroy its economy with sanctions or mediate between the Turks and Kurds. US treasury officials were ordered to draw up punishing sanctions but these will not be implemented until the White House says so.

The conflagration comes just weeks after Turkey turned to Russia to provide the S-400 air defence system. With its coastline on the Black Sea, Turkey is also on the frontline of the competition between powers on the fringes of Europe.

It is another flashpoint where there has been a clunking blow to

the cohesion of the alliance.

Nato constantly faces questions over its *raison d'être*. A member of Nato's parliamentary assembly recently recounted the difficulty of explaining to schoolchildren just what Nato is and how it safeguards their future. Explaining the relationship with Turkey certainly cannot be condensed into simple terms.

It is undeniable that the Turkish campaign brings Nato into a new relationship with the Middle East.

For decades, the alliance has held the region at arm's length from its inner circle. It has been willing to offer dialogue, training initiatives and conferences but these remain limited tangible interactions. The post-9/11 involvement of Nato in Afghanistan has turned out to be a self-contained operation, in part because the US always chose to lead by itself rather than working primarily through alliance structures.

A policy of cautious engagement with the Middle East was made possible by Turkey acting as both a member of the alliance and a buffer. Now the western alliance has an open dispute inside the borders of an Arab state. There is a difference with the earlier examples of Iraq and Libya. Turkey regards it as a matter of domestic security and appears ready to incur international penalties to pursue its goals.

The Europeans are set on a track to deter Turkey. Much of Washington is gearing up for battle too. Once again, the very purpose of Nato is on the line as the venerable institution turns 70.

comes. hit at the Europeans' greatest vulnerability.

The US Pentagon has also conceded that Turkey has put it in a "tough situation" with its actions. Mark Esper, the defence secretary, told a briefing last week that the US opposes and was "greatly disappointed" by the Turkish action. He said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan needed to de-es-

and the wounded still haunt me



I think my son saved me, though. He is now five months old. As I rock him back to sleep, enveloped by night, I can almost feel the cynicism melting away, the emotional armour unraveling with every smile he proffers.

only bad dreams. I feel extremely self-conscious, even guilty, about sharing my nightmares and writing these words. It is a luxury, a privilege, to be removed far enough from tragedy to be able to reflect.

Often I was asked, after a particularly awful story, how I was taking care of myself. I would brush off the questions with a joke but I struggled with crippling anxiety and burnout. Perhaps depression as well – I don't know because I never bothered to go to a therapist or to get diagnosed. Partly, I didn't see it as a major problem. I was high-functioning and this came with the territory of the work I did. What kind of journalist complains about his mental health when people are dying from sieges and barrel bombs, when paramedics are killed doing their duty, when children are suffocating to death by poison gas, and people risk their lives in choppy Mediterranean waters to

escape certain death and totalitarian states?

But I realised I needed help when the stories stopped coming to me.

The biggest culture shock I had when we moved to Canada was the fact that the last eight years there had been relatively normal for citizens, compared to the lives of those in the Middle East. The mundanity of the problems I now faced from day to day struck me as almost frivolous, a betrayal even, of the people whose stories I had helped tell.

I could no longer empathise with other forms of suffering. I felt I no longer knew how to tell other stories, stories of different kinds of heroism, of the struggle to lead dignified lives, to put food on the table, to raise children and turn them into decent adults, to fight against systemic injustice and discrimination, to combat environmental devastation.

I knew I needed help, that something was broken, when I realised that I could no longer tell stories. Or, perhaps, that I no longer wanted to.

I never did ask for help, because we always muddle through these things, never quite putting them back together.

I think my son saved me, though. He is now five months old. As I rock him back to sleep, enveloped by night, I can almost feel the cynicism melting away, the emotional armour unraveling with every smile he proffers. My mind is slowly rousing from slumber. Maybe it's time to tell a new story.



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



Very smart not to be involved in the intense fighting along the Turkish Border, for a change. Those that mistakenly got us into the Middle East Wars are still pushing to fight. They have no idea what a bad decision they have made. Why are they not asking for a Declaration of War?

@realDonaldTrump

02



Around 100 wives and children of #ISIS family members have escaped from a Kurdish-run camp in Ain Issa amid the chaos of Turkish offensive, according to @syriahr. Kurds warn the West that resurgent jihadists "will come knocking on your doors" if Turkey's attack is not stopped.

@rafsanchez

03



Well done @IamSanjuSamson on a double hundred in a domestic one-day game!!! This man is bursting at seams with talent and talent must meet opportunity very soon @BCCI @StarSportsIndia #VijayHazareTrophy #VijayHazare

@GautamGambhir

04



Since yesterday, many of you have been asking - what is it that I was carrying in my hands when I went plogging at a beach in Mamallapuram. It is an acupuncture roller that I often use. I have found it to be very helpful.

@narendramodi

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

First step in personal data protection



SRIKANT RANGANATHAN

The appointment of the Ministry of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments to monitor and regulate compliance with Bahrain's Personal Data Protection Law (PDPL) finally puts to bed the suspense on who would take on the role of regulatory watchdog for this law, which came into effect on 1 August, 2019.

The move to introduce a strong privacy and monitoring framework will significantly strengthen Bahrain's efforts to be at the forefront of digital adoption and growth through initiatives like its cloud first policy, the open banking framework, the digital sandbox and eKYC (and many others). A stable, secure and reliable data privacy platform will give people sharing their information more comfort.

The law provides residents and entities in Bahrain with a means and mechanism to ensure the privacy of the data they share with various service providers. Some direct outcomes of the law include restrictions on direct marketing activities, sharing of information and the retention of information beyond acceptable timelines. Providing a framework that clearly defines scenarios, where use of personal data will be considered an invasion of privacy, the PDPL creates

The appointment of the PDPA is only a first step in the ongoing campaign for data protection.



any authority. Any entity or person that acquires and processes data - either directly or through a network - now will be held accountable for how that data is processed.

Compliance with the law means entities and people need to define, implement and monitor technical and organisational controls to protect the personal (and sensitive) data that they manage. A closer analysis of the law suggests that organisations in Bahrain should already have implemented these controls and be protecting the data they hold. In fact, rather than increasing controls, the law clarifies responsibilities, protecting data owners. In the future, it should be easier and quicker to assign responsibility and accountability for privacy violations. Interestingly, in Europe, organisations have been able to prove that they had implemented privacy controls required by the GDPR and so were not liable even where data leaks or privacy violations occurred.

The appointment of the PDPA is only a first step in the ongoing campaign for data protection. While it is right to look to the authority to provide oversight, adoption of the spirit of the law by all stakeholders should usher in an era of better transparency, trust and sharing all round.

(Srikanth Ranganathan is a senior director at Keypoint where he leads the IT consulting function.)

business

Alba posts record quarterly production, sales volume

TDT | Manama

Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) yesterday announced recording a double-digit growth in its third-quarter sales and production volume, which, according to the company, is also its highest-ever quarterly production and sales volume.

Sales volume jumped 51 per cent to 376,025 metric tonnes (mt) from 248,970 mt for the same period in 2018.



Alba's ACEO, Ali Al Baqali

Production topped 385,396 mt in Q3, up by 53pc YoY, versus 251,472 mt in Q3 2018.

"With the double-digit growth in our Production and Sales' Volume, we are set for a strong finish to 2019. This year is proving to be transformational for Alba as we will produce 1,350,000 mt for the first time in history and deliver Line 6 into commercial operations," said acting CEO Ali Al Baqali.

For the nine months of 2019, Sales' volume was 945,067 mt, up by 26pc, compared to 750,202 mt for the same period in 2018.

Production rose by 26pc YoY to finish at 963,830 mt for the nine months of 2019 versus 762,952 mt for the same period in 2018.

Alba will release its Third Quarter and Nine-Month 2019 Financial Results on 27 October 2019.

Putin says Trump not to blame for lack of improvement in Russia-US ties

Reuters | Moscow



Trump, Putin (file)

Moscow is not blaming US President Donald Trump for failing to improve US-Russian relations, a pledge he had made during his election campaign, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in an interview with Arab broadcasters.

"We know that, including during his previous election campaign, he spoke in favour of a normalisation (of US-Russian relations), but unfortunately it has not happened yet," Putin told Al Arabiya, Sky News Arabia and RT Arabic.

"But we have no claims because we see what's going on in U.S. domestic politics," he

said, according to a transcript published on the Kremlin's website on Sunday.

Putin said the "internal political agenda" was not allowing Trump to take steps aimed at a drastic improvement of bilateral relations, adding Moscow would in any case work with any U.S. administration to the extent that Washington itself wants.

Citi names Christoph Geidner Consumer Business Head

TDT | Manama

Citi Bahrain has appointed Christoph Geidner as the Consumer Business Head for Bahrain.

Christoph is not new to Citi, his last role in 2015 was Head of Alliances and New Business for Citi EMEA Cards based in London. He originally joined Citi in 2008 in London as Consumer Management Associate and progressed into several roles. Christoph re-joins Citi from Commercial Bank International (CBI) in UAE, where he was heading Credit/Debit Cards, Loans and the Emerging Affluent Customer Segment.

Usman Ahmed, Head of Citi for Bahrain, Kuwait and Qatar said: "Under Christoph's leadership of Citi Bahrain's Consumer Bank, we look forward to driving sustainable growth



Christoph Geidner

of the business and ensuring an exceptional experience for our clients".

Citi currently offers full scale corporate and investment banking services in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Tunisia, Morocco and Algeria.

Scientists endorse mass civil disobedience to force climate action

Reuters | London

Almost 400 scientists have endorsed a civil disobedience campaign aimed at forcing governments to take rapid action to tackle climate change, warning that failure could inflict "incalculable human suffering."

In a joint declaration, climate scientists, physicists, biologists, engineers and oth-

ers from at least 20 countries broke with the caution traditionally associated with academia to side with peaceful protesters courting arrest from Amsterdam to Melbourne.

The declaration was coordinated by a group of scientists who support Extinction Rebellion, a civil disobedience campaign that formed in Britain a year ago. w

BAC rolls out new ICT software



Officials during a ceremony marking the launch of Oracle Soar, a programme designed to help businesses migrate applications to the cloud

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) has become first in the Kingdom to implement Oracle Soar, a programme designed to help businesses migrate applications to the cloud.

The deal, BAC said, will support its transition to Oracle Fusion, a suite of new software applications that will improve efficiency and automate key business processes.

To mark the occasion, BAC held a ceremony attended by top management, including Chief Executive Officer Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, Oracle management, and key users.

Al Binfalah, Vice President



The future of the financial industry revolves around Fintech, and the Kingdom continues to demonstrate its aptitude in this area with the public and private sectors working proactively to adapt to the latest innovations

MOHAMED YOUSIF AL BINFALAH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

of Information and Communications Technology, Najwa Abdulrahim; Vice President of Human Resources, Hind Mahmood, Vice President of Finance, Krishnan Manjapara and Acting Manager of Procurement, Khalid Al Haddad received certificates of appreciation for helping to ensure the successful delivery of the project.

Al Binfalah said: "Adapting to this cloud-based solution will play a key role in standardising and streamlining the Company's human capital management, procurement, finance, consolidation and reporting processes while offering a modern user experience for Gulf Air Group

Holding (GFG), BAC, Hala Bahrain, Bahrain Jet Fuel Company, and Gulf Handling Company."

Oracle Fusion is now the sole tool for all BAC employees to submit requests, eliminating the need for paperwork, and streamlining the approval process.

Oracle Soar helps users shift to the cloud with time and cost reductions of up to 30 per cent. It also provides faster time to value, reduced risk, and increased transparency.

Earlier this year, BAC migrated its server to Amazon Web Services, positioning it alongside a growing number of Bahrain government entities shifting to the cloud platform.

Egypt discovers archaeological industrial zone in Luxor

Reuters | Luxor, Egypt

Egypt has unveiled two archaeological discoveries in Luxor including an industrial zone at the southern city's West Valley, also known as the Valley of the Monkeys.

Egyptian archaeologists have discovered 30 workshops in the industrial area, the Ministry of Antiquities said in a statement. The area is "composed of houses for storage and the cleaning of the funerary furniture with many potteries dated to Dynasty



The team had been working in the Valley of the Monkeys

18," the excavation team's leader, Zahi Hawass, said in the statement.

The team had been working in the Valley of the Monkeys, which is located at Luxor's western bank of the Nile, since 2017.

The manufacturing area contains a deep cut and a water storage tank that had been used by workers, the statement said. Between them the archaeologists have found a scarab ring, hundreds of inlay beads and golden objects that were used



Archaeologists have found a scarab ring

to decorate royal coffins and some inlays known as the wings

of Horus.

The team also discovered a tomb in Luxor's East Valley, also known as the Valley of Kings, where it found "the tools that the ancient Egyptians used to construct a royal tomb," Hawass said. The East Valley contains famous royal tombs.

The discoveries are the latest in a series of major findings of ancient relics that Egypt hopes will revive a tourist business that has been hit by political instability.

Saudi opens new logistics zone in Jeddah

● Al Khomra zone extends over 2.3 million square meters in Jeddah

● Available to investors via a leasing model

● Investment in the logistics zone in al-Khomra and other ports will total 7 billion

Reuters | Riyadh

Saudi Arabia launched yesterday a new logistics zone open to private investors in the Red Sea port city of Jeddah, as part of a wider industrial initiative to diversify the economy away from oil and create jobs for Saudis.


The al Khomra zone - which will support activities around shipping, freight distribution and transport of goods - extends over 2.3 million square meters in Jeddah, home to one of the kingdom's largest ports.

As the biggest logistics zone in the country, it hopes to turn Saudi Arabia into a global logistics hub and create 10,000 direct jobs, said Minister of Transport Nabeel al-Amudi.

It is part of the broader National Industrial Development and Logistics Program (NIDLP), which aims to create 1.6 million jobs and attract investments worth 1.6 trillion riyals (\$427 billion) over the next decade. Of that, 135 billion riyals is earmarked for investment in the

As the biggest logistics zone in the country, it hopes to turn Saudi Arabia into a global logistics hub and create 10,000 direct jobs

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT NABEEL AL-AMUDI





Representative picture. Courtesy of Arab news

logistics sector.

Under its ambitious reform strategy, the kingdom plans to

have the private sector operate much of its transport infrastructure, including airports and

sea ports, with the government keeping a role as regulator.

Details of what the govern-



Over a decade ago, Saudi government spent \$30 billion to build six economic cities across the kingdom to diversify the economy, create jobs for young Saudis and attract foreign investment. After decades of spending on development projects, the government has made attracting greater foreign investment a cornerstone of its Vision 2030 plan

ty) Saad bin Abdulaziz Alkhalb described Al Khomra as a major leap for the logistics sector in Saudi Arabia. He added that the new logistics zone is expected to open up new investment and business opportunities and promote strategic partnerships with the private sector that will further contribute towards the development of the maritime trade and enhance the quality of operational and logistics procedures and services.

He also reiterated the significance of Al Khomra Logistics Zone due to its proximity to international trade routes, its strategic location in the southern governorate of Jeddah and close to Jeddah Islamic Port making it a global logistics platform and a major hub connecting the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Alkhalb added that Al Khomra is characterized by its highly efficient roads network connecting Jeddah Islamic Port, King Abdulaziz International Airport and the upcoming Saudi Land-bridge Project, along other various main roads in the Kingdom

Al-Khomra joins other logistics zones in the kingdom - the King Abdullah Economic City north of Jeddah has its own port and offers logistics investments and NEOM, a mega project announced in 2017, has plans for a logistics zone.

Al Khomra's location along the Red Sea coast, a major passageway for more than 13% of global maritime trade, will make it a vital hub on the Silk Road maritime trade route launched within the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

ment plans to offer investors in al-Khomra were not disclosed, but the Saudi Ports Authority said the zone would offer opportunities to investors on a lease basis.

"Investment in the logistics zone in al-Khomra and other ports will total 7 billion Saudi riyals," said Saad al-Khalb, president of the Saudi Ports Authority, without giving further details.

Commenting on this remarkable milestone, President of Mawani (Saudi Ports Authori-

Gulf stock markets mostly rise

● Bank shares slip on Saudi market

● Arabtec jumps on Trojan merger plan

● Lender CIB leads losses in Egyptian blue chips

Reuters

Saudi Arabian stocks fell yesterday led by banks, while most Gulf markets gained, mirroring Friday's surge in global peers after talks between the United States and China progressed towards a resolution of their trade war.

Saudi Arabia's index retreated 0.8 per cent. The kingdom's largest lender National Commercial Bank and Riyad Bank dropped 2.4pc and 2.3pc, respectively, ahead of company earnings season starting this week.

The banking stocks also fell as the Saudi central bank said yesterday that financial institutions in Saudi Arabia should hire Saudi nationals for leading positions and, if they hire foreigners, they will have to explain the reason to the regulator.

The Saudi bourse's main index has fallen in eight of nine sessions this month, leaving it down 2.5pc year to date. It had gained more than 20pc in the first four months of 2019 in the



Traders on the floor of Saudi Stock market (Courtesy of Amazons)

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▼ 0.8pc to 7,631 pts
ABU DHABI	▲ 0.3pc to 5,088 pts
DUBAI	▲ 0.5pc to 2,824 pts
QATAR	▲ 0.6pc to 10,285 pts
EGYPT	▼ 0.6pc to 14,220 pts
BAHRAIN	▼ 0.2pc to 1,520 pts
OMAN	■ at 4,012 pts
KUWAIT	▲ 0.2pc to 6,226 pts

run up to joining the MSCI and FTSE emerging-market indexes, which helped attract billions of dollars from passive funds.

However, escalating trade tensions, volatile oil prices and

growing geopolitical risks have hit the market since then and kept active emerging market funds from investing in the kingdom.

But gains in banking stocks boosted the Qatar index which rose 0.6pc with Masraf Al Rayan up 1.4pc, and Qatar National Bank adding a further 0.3pc to the previous session's gain after posting an increase in nine-month net profit.

Dubai's main share index was up 0.5pc, led by a 2 pc rise in blue-chip developer Emaar Properties.

Contractor Arabtec Holding surged 8.9pc after hiring an adviser on a potential merger with

jan Holding, Reuters reported citing sources.

In Abu Dhabi, the index edged up 0.3pc. International Holding Company climbed 8.8pc and Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank rose 0.8pc.

Outside the Gulf, Egypt's blue-chip index was down 0.6pc with market heavyweight Commercial International Bank declining 1pc.

However, steel makers Ezz Steel and Egyptian Iron And Steel both closed up 2.2pc and 1.4pc respectively, buoyed by Egypt imposing temporary import fees of 16pc on iron billets and 25pc on steel rebar for three years, a move designed to boost local production.

Significant work to do, but Brexit still possible: Johnson



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson (file)

Reuters | London

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson told his cabinet yesterday a last-minute Brexit deal was still possible but there was significant work to be done to reach one, as intensive talks with the European Union entered their most critical stage.

In a pivotal week that could decide the future of Brexit and the fate of the world's fifth largest economy, Johnson is trying to strike an exit deal with the EU to allow an orderly split with its biggest trading partner on Oct. 31.

But Johnson must navigate the complexities of EU politics to clinch a deal at an Oct. 17-18 EU summit and then try to convince a deeply divided British parliament on Oct. 19 to ratify any agreement.

If he succeeds, Britain will leave the bloc on Oct. 31 with arrangements to minimise disruption at borders and

preserve the complex supply chains that underpin swathes of the economy.

If he fails, Britain faces an uncertain future - lawmakers will begin a battle to delay Brexit that could end up being decided in the courts, while Johnson will fight for a no-deal exit at the end of the month to ensure his political survival.

British and EU negotiators are working through the weekend to see if they can turn the latest proposals into a deal that works for both sides.

EU Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier was updating the remaining 27 member states in Brussels on Sunday afternoon.

"Expect him just to say that talks will need to go on," one EU diplomat said, adding that another update for the national envoys will come at a ministerial meeting in Luxembourg on Tuesday, just two days before the make-or-break summit.

Internet, a perfect formula for the dark side

50 years after internet conception, dark side stirs fear

As the University of California at Los Angeles marks the anniversary, Kleinrock is opening a new lab devoted to all things related to the internet -- particularly mitigating some of its unintended consequences on the internet which is now used by some four billion people worldwide



Leonard Kleinrock poses beside the first Interface Message Processor (IMP) in the lab where the first internet message was sent, at the University of California Los Angeles

AFP | San Francisco

On October 29, 1969, professor Leonard Kleinrock and a team at the University of California at Los Angeles got a computer to "talk" to a machine in what is now known as Silicon Valley.

The event gave birth to a network that later became known as the internet -- hailed at first as a boon to equality and enlightenment, but with a dark side that has emerged as well.

As UCLA marks the anniversary, Kleinrock is opening a new lab devoted to all things related to the internet -- particularly mitigating some of its unintended consequences on the internet which is now used by some four billion people worldwide.

"To some point it democratizes everyone," Kleinrock said. "But it is also a perfect formula for the dark side, as we have



The internet has grown to connect billions of users around the world, as seen in this Facebook map from 2010, but has also allowed malicious actors to operate on a wide scale



Computer scientists who created the system that became the internet say they did not foresee some of the ills that it would create

learned."

So much is shouted online that moderate voices are drowned out and extreme viewpoints are amplified, spewing hate, misinformation and abuse, he contended.

"As engineers, we were not thinking in terms of nasty behaviour," said Kleinrock, 85.

"I totally missed the social networking side. I was thinking about people talking to computers or computers talking to computers, not people talking to people."

The new Connection Lab will welcome research on topics including machine learning, social networking, blockchain and the internet of things, with an eye toward thwarting online evils.

Kleinrock expressed particular interest in using blockchain

technology to attach reputations to people or things online to provide a gauge of who or what to trust.

For example, someone reading an online restaurant review would be able to see how reliable that author's posts have been.

"It is a network of reputation that is constantly up to date," Kleinrock said.

"The challenge is how to do that in an ethical and responsible fashion; anonymity is a two-edged sword, of course."

Businesses being bad

He blamed many of the internet's ills on businesses hawking things that are outdated or unneeded, violating privacy to increase profit.

Instead of clever lone hackers that vexed the internet in its ear-

ly days, bad actors now include nation states, organised crime and powerful corporations "doing big, bad things," Kleinrock lamented.

"We were not the social scientists that we should have been," Kleinrock said of the internet's early days.

He regretted a lack of foresight to build into the very foundation of the internet tools for better authenticating users and data files.

"It wouldn't have avoided the dark side, but it would have ameliorated it," he said.

He remained optimistic about the internet's woes being solved with encryption, blockchain or other innovations.

"I do still worry. I think everyone is feeling the impact of this very dark side of the internet that has bubbled up," Kleinrock said.

"I still feel that the benefits are far more significant; I wouldn't turn off the internet if I could."

What kind of beast?

In the early days, US telecom colossus AT&T ran the lines connecting the computers for ARPANET, a project backed with money from a research arm of the US military.

A key to getting computers to exchange data was breaking digitized information into packets fired between machines with no wasting of time, according to Kleinrock.

A grad student began typing "LOG" to log into the distant computer, which crashed after getting the "O."

"So, the first message was 'Lo' as in 'Lo and behold,'" Kleinrock recounted. "We couldn't have a better, more succinct first message."

Kleinrock's team logged in on the second try, sending digital data packets between computers on the ARPANET because funding came from the US Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) established in 1958.

Credit for creating the internet is a topic of debate, since there are a series of key moments in its evolution including arrival of protocols for how data is routed, and creation of the World Wide Web system of online pages.

The name "internet" is a shortening of the "internetworking" allowed when one computer network could collaborate with another, according to Marc Weber, curatorial director at the Computer History Museum in Silicon Valley.

"The billion dollar question is, what kind of beast has the internet become?" Weber asked.

"It has become the default main way for humans to communicate, and that is not small."

While marking its 50th anniversary, the internet as we know it is a "rowdy teenager" in the eyes of Internet Society chief technology officer Olaf Kolkman.

"The internet has done more good than harm," Kolkman said.

"The biggest challenge we have in front of us is that while we cope with big problems enabled by global connectivity that we don't throw the baby out with the bath water."



The scientist who sent the first message on the forerunner to the internet says that the benefits have been greater than the harms it has created

Now genetically modified cotton is human food source

Reuters | Washington

US regulators have given the green light for genetically modified cotton to be used for human consumption, paving the way for a protein-packed new food source - edible cottonseed that tastes a bit like chickpeas - that its developers said could help tackle global malnutrition.

The Food and Drug Administration's decision on the cotton plant developed by Texas A&M University scientists means it is allowed as food for people and all types of animals.

Texas A&M AgriLife Research plant biotechnologist Keerti Rathore said the scientists are holding discussions with companies and hope to have the plant commercially available within



Genetically modified cotton plants with an edible cottonseed trait are seen growing near Belvidere, North Carolina

about five years. Rathore said the team also will explore seeking regulatory approval in other countries starting with Mexico.

"Yes, we are fully aware of the resistance to GMOs in many countries, but I remain hopeful that counties who are desperate for food will adopt this technology," Rathore added.

Cotton is grown in more than 80 countries, with its fibre used to make textiles and cottonseed currently used among other purposes to feed animals such as cattle and sheep that have multiple stomach chambers. Ordinary cottonseed is unfit for humans and many animals to eat because it contains high levels of gossypol, a toxic chemical.

Rathore's team used so-called RNAi, or RNA interference, tech-

nology to "silence" a gene, virtually eliminating gossypol from the cottonseed. Gossypol was left at natural levels in the rest of the plant because it guards against insects and disease.

"With adoption of this technology, cotton becomes a dual-purpose crop. It requires no additional effort on the part of farmers or inputs or land for cultivation. So, it will make cotton farming more sustainable," Rathore said.

The genetic modification does not affect the plant's fiber for use in textiles.

The US Agriculture Department last year lifted the regulatory prohibition on cultivation by farmers of the modified cotton plant ahead of the FDA decision on human consumption.

"Cottonseed can be consumed in many ways. We will continue to crush it to extract oil (usable for cooking). However, now the leftover meal with its high protein content can be used as a protein supplement in tortilla, bread and baked goods. The seed kernels can be roasted and eaten as snack or as peanut butter type of spread or in protein bars," Rathore said.

"To me it tastes like chickpea. Imagine hummus without any other ingredients added to it," Rathore added.

Many of the world's cotton-producing countries, particularly in Asia and Africa, have populations that face malnutrition that could be addressed with the new plant, Rathore said.

SHOW

GEMINI MAN (PG-15)ACTION

OASIS JUFFAIR :11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 3.00 + 5.30 + 8.00 + 10.30 PM + (12.30 MN + 1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE (ATMOS): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I): 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 10.45 AM + 11.15 AM + 12.45 + 1.15 + 1.45 + 3.15 + 3.45 + 4.15 + 5.45 + 6.15 + 6.45 + 8.15 + 8.45 + 9.15 + 10.45 + 11.15 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 SAAR: 11.00 AM + 12.30 + 1.30 + 3.00 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + (10.30 PM + 11.30 PM THURS./FRI)

WILL SMITH, MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD, CLIVE OWEN

JEXI (15+) (COMEDY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.00 AM + 3.15 + 7.30 + 11.45 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 1.45 + 6.30 + (11.15 PM THURS./FRI)

ROSE BYRNE, ALEXANDRA SHIPP, ADAM DEVINE

THE SKY IS PINK (PG-15)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE : 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SAAR: 11.00 AM + 3.45 + 8.30 PM

ZAIRA WASIM, PRIYANKA CHOPRA, FARHAN AKHTAR

CORPORATE ANIMALS (18+)

SEEF (II): 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

DEMI MOORE, ED HELMS, JESSICA WILLIAMS

SALMA'S BIG WISH (PG)

OASIS JUFFAIR: (KIDS CINEMA): 3.00 + 9.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 PM
 CRISTINA MALIZIA, JOSEPH HERNANDEZ, LUIS DUBUC

JOKER (15+)(THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA)

OASIS JUFFAIR :11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 11.15 + 12.00 + 1.00 + 2.00 + 2.45 + 3.45 + 4.45 + 5.30 + 6.30 + 7.30 + 8.15 + 9.15 + 10.15 + 11.00 PM + 12.00 MN + (12.30 MN + 1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (II): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II): (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 11.30 + 1.00 + 2.00 + 3.30 + 4.30 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 8.30 + 9.30 + 11.00 PM + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SAAR: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 8.30 + (11.00 PM THURS/FRI)

JOAQUIN PHOENIX, ZAZIE BEETZ, ROBERT DE NIRO

WAR (PG-15)(HINDI/ACTION/THRILLER/CRIME)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.15 AM + 2.15 + 5.15 + 8.15 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM + (12.30 MN. THURS./FRI.)
 SEEF (I): 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM
 HRITHIK ROSHAN, TIGER SHROFF, VAANI KAPOOR



BORN A KING (PG)(DRAMA/HISTORY/BIOGRAPHY)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 1.00 + 5.15 + 9.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE :12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 1.30 + 3.45 + 6.00 + 8.15 + 10.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM

ABDULLAH ALI, RAWKAN BINBELLA, ED SKREIN

RAMBO: LAST BLOOD (15+)(ACTION/CRIME/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE : 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM

SYLVESTER STALLONE, PAZ VEGA, SERGIO PERIS-MENCHETA

ABOMINABLE (PG)(ANIMATION)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) :1.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE:11.00 AM + 1.15 + 3.30 + 5.45 + 8.00 + 10.15 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.15 AM + 1.30 + 3.45 + 6.00 + 8.15 + 10.30 PM

CHLOE BENNET, TENZING NORGYA TRAINOR, ALBERT TSAI

ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE :11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 2.00 + 6.30 + 11.00 PM

GERARD BUTLER, MORGAN FREEMAN, JADA PINKETT SMITH

A SHAUN THE SHEEP MOVIE: FARMAGEDDON (G)

OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA) : 11.00 AM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 3.30 + 8.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM

JUSTIN FLETCHER, JOHN SPARKES, KATE HARBOUR

FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (PG-15)

SEEF (II): 1.45 + 6.45 + 11.45 PM

DWAYNE JOHNSON, JASON STATHAM, IDRIS ELBA

KHAYAL MAATA (PG)(COMEDY/DRAMA)

CITY CENTRE :2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

AHMAD HELMY, MINNA SHALABI, HASSAN HOSNEY

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD (PG)

CITY CENTRE: 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

ISABELA MONER, Q'ORIANKA KILCHER, BENICIO DEL TORO

THE LION KING (PG)(ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)

CITY CENTRE: 1.00 + 5.30 + 10.00 PM

DONALD GLOVER, SETH ROGEN, CHIWETEL EJIOFOR

TOY STORY 4 (G)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE)

CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 4.30 + 9.30 PM

TOM HANKS, TIM ALLEN, JOAN CUSACK

SYE RAA NARASIMHA REDDY (PG-15)

OASIS JUFFAIR (TELUGU): 11.00 AM + 5.00 + 11.00 PM
 AL HAMRA: (TELUGU): 3.00 PM

CHIRANJEEVI, AMITABH BACHCHAN, VIJAY SETHUPATHI

ASURAN (PG-15)(TAMIL)

OASIS JUFFAIR : 2.15 + 8.15 PM

DHANUSH, MANJU WARRIER, BALAJI SAKTHIVEL



ADHYA RATHRI (PG-13)

OASIS JUFFAIR :10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 1.30 + 6.30 + 11.30 PM
 AL HAMRA: 12.00 NOON + 9.00 PM

BIJU MENON, AJU VARGHESE, ANASWARA



PETROMAX (PG-13)(TAMIL)

STARTING FROM THURSDAY 7.00 PM ONWARDS
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.30 PM

TAMANNAAH BHATIA, YOGI BABU, MUNISHKANTH

MANOHARAM (PG)(MALAYALAM)

OASIS JUFFAIR :1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (I): 11.00 AM + 4.00 + 9.00 PM
 AL HAMRA: 6.00 PM + (12.00 MN THURS/FRI.)

VINEETH SREENIVASAN, INDRANS, DEEPAK

ARUVAM (PG-15)(TAMIL)

STARTING FROM THURSDAY 7.00 PM ONWARDS
 SEEF (I): 1.00 + 6.00 + 11.00 PM

SIDDHARTH, CATHERINE TRESA



MOVIE REVIEW

'The Sky Is Pink' is neither melodramatic nor overtly subtle

Shonali Bose weaves a narrative that is neither overdramatic nor overtly subtle with Priyanka Chopra and Farhan Akhtar in film

● Zaira Wasim's Aisha adds life even in death

● Rohit Saraf stands strong, despite being surrounded by stars

The Sky Is Pink is a 2019 Indian Hindi-language biographical film directed by Shonali Bose and co-produced by Siddharth Roy Kapur, Ronnie Screwvala and Priyanka Chopra under the banner of RSVP Movies, Roy Kapur Films and Purple Pebble Pictures. Starring Chopra, Farhan Akhtar, Zaira Wasim and Rohit Saraf, the film sees Chopra's return after a three-year break from Bollywood.

It is also being dubbed into English in certain areas of India, UK, USA and Canada by Sammy John Heaney.

Based on the love story of a couple spanning 25 years, the story is told through the lens of their spunky teenage daughter – Aisha Chaudhary, who was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis.

It premiered at the 44th Toronto International Film Festival on 13 September 2019, and was theatrically released worldwide on 11 October as



A screen grab from the movie 'The Sky Is Pink'

per Mr. DYNAMIC'S Abi. Sreeparna Sengupta of The Times of India gave the film three and half stars out of five, praising the performances of Chopra, Akhtar and Wasim, she noted that the film scored high on the emotional quotient. She opined that though the film was lengthy and screenplay needed more focus, 'the emotional arc' and the

'stellar performances' kept the interest going. Concluding, she wrote, "The Sky is Pink is definitely a stirring watch as your heart goes out to the Chaudhary family and their zest for making every moment count, despite the trying times they go through."

Priyanka Sinha Jha of CNN-News18, praising Chopra, Akhtar and Wasim

for their performances, rates the film with three and half stars out of five. She praised Bose for her direction and writing and noted that she brings casualness to dramatic situations, devoid of tear-jerking melodrama. Concluding, she opined, "The real hero in this instance, however, would have to be the zany uplifting story and to that effect,



Shonali Bose's film stars Zaira Wasim as a terminally ill teen and Priyanka Chopra Jonas and Farhan Akhtar as her parents

with The Sky is Pink, Bose delivers a fitting salutation to life."

Writing for NDTV Saibal Chatterjee, rated the film with three and half stars out of five. He felt that Chopra had given a starry edge to the special film. Describing some poignant moments from the film, he praised the Bose for direction and writing. Chatterjee in conclusion wrote, The Sky Is Pink is of a hue that sets it apart from Bose's earlier films, but the director is acutely conscious of the colours she is working with here and uses the shades to deliver a pathos-filled but warm-hearted picture that does not lose sight of its primary purpose. Unmissable."

celebs



Liam Hemsworth



Maddison Brown

Liam Hemsworth, Maddison Brown in love

Ryan Reynolds serenades Hugh Jackman with cheeky b'day song
Los Angeles

Hollywood star Ryan Reynolds sang a high-pitched cheeky birthday song for Australian actor Hugh Jackman, who celebrated his 51st birthday. Taking to his social media, Jackman wrote: "At first I thought - Ugh, now I have to actually apologize. But then," alongside a clip of Reynolds, reports daily-mail.co.uk.

"Hello Hugh, I was just going to wish you a happy birthday... And then I saw what you said, and in a word... hurtful, enjoy the show.. Hugh Jackman," Reynolds said in the video.

The "Deadpool" star then began to start singing Happy Birthday.

Reynolds took to his own Instagram account to wish Jackman a cheeky birthday message, putting a cake sticker over the Wolverine's star's face.

Jackman hit back re-posting the birthday snap with an animation of Judge Judy Sheindlin rolling her eyes on top of Reynold's face.

Joaquin Phoenix reportedly hits paramedics' truck
Los Angeles

"Joker" star Joaquin Phoenix reportedly hit a Los Angeles Fire Department vehicle in West Hollywood.

Phoenix took too narrow a turn and his car struck the unoccupied truck on Tuesday afternoon, according to TMZ, reports pagesix.com.

Phoenix pulled over and located the paramedics and explained to them what happened.

They called the police, who arrived and took a damage report. Everyone reportedly exchanged insurance information and went about their days.

According to TMZ, Phoenix's car suffered the brunt of the damage to its right front quarter panel, while the emergency vehicle only had a minor scratch on the bumper.

Phoenix wasn't ticketed. Reached for comment, the Los Angeles Police Department said they were busy handling the wildfires and evacuations and hadn't received information on Phoenix's accident.

Rose McGowan snubbed by family over WhatsApp
Los Angeles



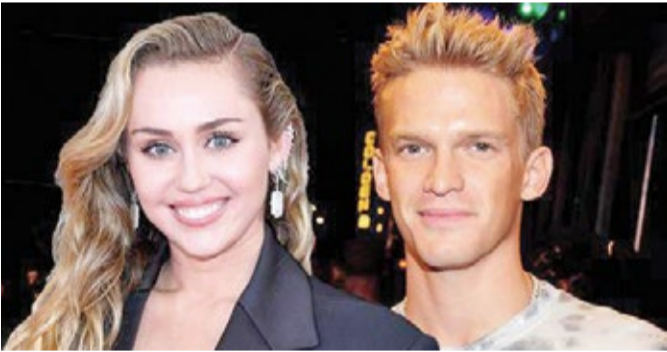
Rose McGowan

Actress Rose McGowan's "rude" family have snubbed her from a WhatsApp group chat but she admitted she isn't "really a phone person".

The "Charmed" actress's relatives all swap gossip in the messaging service but she's been left out for years - though she said that could be because she isn't a "phone person".

"I don't do WhatsApp groups - I found out my whole family is in one except for me. So rude! It's been going on for years. It's probably because I'm not really a phone person or because I have a weird family," McGowan told Grazia magazine, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

Cody Simpson, Miley enjoy breakfast outing with mother Tish Cyrus
Los Angeles



Miley Cyrus and Cody Simpson

Miley Cyrus and Cody Simpson breakfasted with the singer's mother Tish Cyrus on Saturday. "Miley and Cody went to Acirloom Bakery for breakfast," an eyewitness shared with E! News.

While Tish was already at the meet-up point, the 'Slide Away' singer and Simpson went together, the witness added. Not only this, but they seemed like "old time friends".

"They seemed really at ease. Miley and Cody seem like old-time friends, very comfortable. In fact, they all appeared to have a good ole time, because the eyewitness pointed out that the trio left "around noon," the source shared.

Earlier this week, the 26-year-old singer addressed Cody as her "BF" in one of her Instagram stories she after getting a visit

from him. Meanwhile, Simpson too has not been shy about discussing their relationship.

"We just have a ball and that's the most important part of a relationship," the 22-year-old singer told Us Weekly and other reporters at the Tiffany and Co. Men's Collections Launch recently.

He added their romance is not a "crazy sudden thing" as they have been friends for a long time.

"It hasn't been a really crazy sudden thing is we've been friends for so long that when we sort of found each other again in a space where ... We both met back in the day when we were partying a lot. We had a lot of fun then ... but now we've found each other in a space where we're not partying, working real hard and just like to keep things healthy," he said.

Tom Cruise's son makes rare public appearance alongside dad
London

Hollywood star Tom Cruise and his former wife Nicole Kidman's son Connor Cruise stepped out with his father here during a rare public sighting.

On Saturday, the 57-year-old actor and his son were spotted heading to a private helicopter in London. Once inside the chopper, Tom,



Connor Cruise and Tom Cruise

who learned how to fly a helicopter for his role in the "Mission: Impos-

sible" franchise, was seen showing Connor, 24, some aviation basics, reports people.com.

For their outing, Tom wore a hooded navy sweatshirt and jeans as he waved to onlookers, while Connor matched his dad's casual look in sunglasses, a black sweatshirt and jeans.

Los Angeles

After separating from pop singer Miley Cyrus, actor Liam Hemsworth has found his new lady love, Maddison Brown.

Liam and Maddison were spotted on the streets of New York recently, reports Metro newspaper.

A lot of pictures are doing the rounds on the internet in which

they can be seen kissing and hugging each other.

Brown is best known for playing Kirby Anders on the "Dynasty" reboot, and also had a role in "Strangerland" opposite Nicole Kidman.

On August 10, Miley issued a statement announcing her split with Liam through a public statement issued through her office.

It read: "Liam and Miley have agreed to separate at this time. Ever-evolving, changing as partners and individuals, they have decided this is what's best while they both focus on themselves and careers. They still remain dedicated parents to all of their animals they share while lovingly taking this time apart. Please respect their process and privacy."

Kylie Jenner can't wait to have more babies
Los Angeles

Kylie Jenner

Kylie Jenner who is happy raising a child wants "more babies" even after she and partner Travis Scott called it quits.

The beauty mogul on Friday conducted a Q & A session with fans on Instagram where in response to a user's question wrote, "I can't wait to have more babies."

However, she added that she isn't "ready just yet."

Jenner's wish of having more children comes as no surprise as earlier a source close to the star revealed to Us Weekly that she "wanted to have a second baby" but Scott "did not."

"They are very, very in love, but she's 22, and her whole life is Stormi and her business and her family. She's not wanting to be a normal rapper's wife," the source said.

The insider continued "they have different lifestyles."

The duo earlier this month, announced that they are taking a break from their two-year relationship.

However, a source told E! News recently that although the two are "still separated", but they have already started having "conversations about getting back together."



Ayushmann: I'm not so much of a materialistic person
Los Angeles



Ayushmann

Actor Ayushmann Khurrana says he would like to keep scripts of his films Vicky Donor and Andhadhun in a locker and preserve them.

Asked if given a locker system what are the things he would like to keep secured, Ayushmann said he would like to secure his collection of expensive watches, passport and documents of his house in the locker.

He added: "I am not so much of a materialistic person, but I would keep scripts of Vicky Donor and Andhadhun in the locker and preserve them or gifts from my wife which she gave me during our early years."

The actor, who was shooting an ad for Godrej home lockers added: "I have always done out-of-the-box work and what might not have worked for others, became my USP in terms of choosing scripts."

Ayushmann said that Vicky Donor and Andhadhun has been some of the rare unconventional films that people still remember and like to watch.

"I will always remain thankful to the people associated with the film for life. Hence without a second thought, these script is something I would love to treasure in the locker", says Ayushmann.

SPORTS
sports

Medvedev secures Shanghai title

● **Ruthless Daniil Medvedev crushed Alexander Zverev to win Shanghai Masters**

● **Medvedev won his fourth title of the year**

AFP | Shanghai

Daniil Medvedev conceded that he had been “invincible” after he won his fourth title of a spectacular year with a thumping 6-4, 6-1 victory over Alexander Zverev in the Shanghai Masters final yesterday.

Victory for the 23-year-old Russian, contesting a sixth final in a row, was more evidence that he is the prime contender to join the “Big Three” of Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer.

The US Open finalist is also able to say that he has finally beaten the German Zverev, another young contender at 22, at the fifth attempt.

This was an emphatic statement from the world number four, needing just 74 minutes to seal the crown and failing to drop a set all week.

“I can say that here I looked invincible this week, since I am the winner,” said Medvedev, who was planning to catch a 1:00am flight to Moscow and could play there this week.

“This week, yes, I probably was invincible, but for the coming weeks I’m not sure.

“Here this week there were definitely some matches that, let’s say, lose the set and we don’t know how it would have gone.”



Daniil Medvedev of Russia in action during the Men's Singles final match against Alexander Zverev of Germany



Victory in the Shanghai Masters final for Daniil Medvedev was more evidence that he is the prime contender to join the ‘Big Three’

Medvedev said that he is a better player than he was at the start of the year, but has really sparkled since the summer.

Starting with Washington, DC, in July, the Russian has reached six finals on the spin -- including the US Open -- winning three of them.

Asked in what respect he has improved, Medvedev, who now threatens to usurp Federer at three in the world, said: “I think it’s everything together, some-

thing clicked in my game in the US, I don’t know why.

“I think it’s the hard work I’ve been doing, but I started to understand even more about my game, my serve, my volley, my everything, what I have to do when.

“At crucial moments I know what I have to do and how I have to play.”

Zverev, long touted as the best of the new generation of men’s tennis stars, was error-prone, but had no complaints.

“As I said yesterday, you are probably the best player in the world right now,” the world number six told Medvedev.

“How you are playing is unbelievable.”

Medvedev made a fast start, winning his service game and then breaking Zverev’s for an early 2-0 lead.

Under a closed stadium roof because of rain in Shanghai, Zverev was suffocating, down 3-0 after 11 minutes.

But the German sent down an ace to finally get a foothold in the match and then broke back for 3-2.

Italy clinch Euro 2020 berth

Italy back among the elite as they qualify for Euro 2020

● **King penalty denies Spain in dramatic Norway draw**

AFP | Rome

Italy became the second team to qualify for Euro 2020 after a 2-0 win over Greece on Saturday, while three-time champions Spain edged closer to the finals despite conceding a stoppage-time equaliser away to Norway.

Chelsea midfielder Jorginho dispatched a second-half penalty as Italy, wearing green kits for just the second time in history, registered a seventh straight win in Group J.

The Azzurri, who failed to qualify for the 2018 World Cup, added a second in Rome on 78 minutes through a deflected

strike from Juventus forward Federico Bernardeschi.

Roberto Mancini’s side joined Belgium in the draw for next year’s finals, where Italy will play their first two group games at the Stadio Olimpico.

“We managed to create a team in a short period of time. It wasn’t easy but you have to thank the players, who have quickly developed an understanding between themselves,” said Mancini, who took over as Italy coach 18 months ago.

“It’s a team with character that fights and plays with the ball but one that must also improve. Now we have a year to try and get better.

“We have a lot of work but we’re not very far from the best European teams. I’m happy and proud to have helped the national team come through a tough patch.”

Spain dropped their first

points in Group F as Joshua King converted a 94th-minute spot-kick to rescue a 1-1 draw for Norway following a foul by goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga on Omar Elabdellaoui.

Sergio Ramos broke the Spanish international appearances record as he won his 168th cap in Oslo to overtake Iker Casillas.

The visitors led when Saul Niguez slammed home from 20 yards moments after half-time but Spain were denied a seventh win in a row as King’s equaliser kept Norway in the running.

“It’s a real pain to lose points in the final seconds. It’s complicated to play against a team who knew that if they lost they were pretty much out,” said Spain captain Ramos.

Norway last qualified for a major tournament at the 2000 European Championship and are fourth in the group, four points adrift of neighbours Sweden with three games to play.

Sebastian Larsson netted two spot-kicks as Sweden cruised to a 4-0 rout of Malta to reclaim second place behind Spain. Marcus Danielson broke the deadlock on 11 minutes in Ta’ Qali and home skipper Andrei Agius also scored an own goal.

Romania remain a point behind Sweden following a 3-0 win in the Faroe Islands secured by second-half goals from George Puscas, Ionut Mitrita and Claudiu Keseru.

Kasper Schmeichel produced a series of excellent saves as Denmark defeated Switzerland 1-0 to climb level with the Republic of Ireland in Group D.

Leicester City goalkeeper Schmeichel pulled off superb stops to deny Granit Xhaka, Admir Mehmedi and Ricardo Rodriguez before Yussuf Poulsen grabbed an 84th-minute winner for Denmark in Copenhagen.



Jorginho of Italy scores a goal from the penalty spot

Shaikh Nasser expresses pride in Endurance 13’s results at Kona

TDI | Manama

Representative of HM the King for Charity Work and Youth Affairs and Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports Affairs, HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, has expressed pride in the historic win achieved by Bahrain Endurance 13’s Jan Frodeno, who clinched the Ironman World Championship at 2019 Kona Ironman World Championships.

The win is the third for Jan Frodeno, who broke the record after clocking 7:51:13.

In the 3.8-km swimming race, Jan Frodeno and his team mate, Alistair Brownlee, finished behind Josh Amberger, who finished first by 47:28 seconds.

In the 180-km bike race, Frodeno and Brownlee were among the first five, clocking 04:16:02 and 04:19:58 respectively.

In the marathon, Jan Fro-



Bahrain Endurance 13’s Jan Frodeno celebrates his victory

deno came first with 02:42:43, breaking the existing record.

Meanwhile, Daniela Ryf failed to defend her title after coming 13th in the race.

Ryf who was a favourite, said that she had suffered from health problems days before the championship.

Teenage star Gauff wins first WTA title

AFP | Linz, Austria

Teenage prodigy Coco Gauff won her first WTA title yesterday following a 6-3, 1-6, 6-2 victory over Jelena Ostapenko in the final in Linz that saw her hold her first trophy aloft aged 15.

Gauff, who only entered the field as a lucky loser after failing to qualify, completed a dream week in Linz in front of a supportive crowd to become the youngest player to win a WTA event since Czech Nicole Pietrangola, who triumphed in Vancouver and Tashkent two months apart in 2004.

“I’ll remember this day for the rest of my life,” the delighted Gauff said after receiving a minutes-long standing ovation from 3,000 spectators.

“I had an amazing week and I hope to be back in the future.”

“I’m still overwhelmed, it’s shocking and crazy to say I’ve won my first WTA title,” she added.

“This tournament was defi-

nately not even on the calendar for me at the start of the season.

“I didn’t think I’d have a chance to get in - now I’m the champion.”

Gauff will shoot up from 110 in the rankings into the 80s, according to WTA calculations, after becoming the youngest American to earn a WTA trophy since Jennifer Capriati at Toronto in 1991.

The hype surrounding the youngster has grown this year after solid performances this summer at both Wimbledon and

“I’ll remember this day for the rest of my life. I had an amazing week and I hope to be back in the future”

COCO GAUFF



Coco Gauff celebrates with the trophy

the US Open, where she was defeated in the third round by defending champion Naomi Osaka, and her displays in Linz have enthralled tennis fans.

Gauff had to make a recovery in the final after sweeping the opening set but losing serve three times in the second as 2017 Roland Garros winner Os-

tapenko levelled.

“She started hitting the ball fast and coming up with winners,” Gauff said. “There was not much I could do.”

But the American came alive in the third set, going up two breaks before her opponent managed to save a pair of match points while trailing 5-1.

Belgium beat Kazakhstan to maintain 100 pc record



Michy Batshuayi forward of Belgium celebrates scoring a goal

Reuters | Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan

Belgium kept up their 100 percent record in Euro 2020 qualifiers, as Roberto Martinez's side, who have already booked their spot at the tournament finals, scored a goal in each half to beat hosts Kazakhstan 2-0 yesterday.

Michy Batshuayi and Thomas Meunier found the net at the Astana Arena as leaders Belgium registered an eighth straight win in Group I.

The top-ranked Belgians were the first team to book a place in next year's 24-team final tournament when they trounced San Marino 9-0 at home on Thursday.

Batshuayi opened the scoring in the 21st minute with an easy back-post finish after Dennis Praet's curled pass around the back of the home defence.

The second goal came from a sumptuous crossfield pass from captain Eden Hazard, hit from just inside the Ka-

30
goals have been scored by Belgium while conceding just one on their way to winning all eight of their qualifying matches

zakhstan half, over to Meunier, who was steaming down the right wing.

His first touch was sublime and his finish inch-perfect to double the score after 53 minutes.

It was the 30th goal of the qualifying campaign for Belgium, who have conceded only one.

Dries Mertens had a chance to make it 3-0 but headed over the top after 65 minutes before providing a square pass just minutes later that a stretching Batshuayi could only steer wide of goal.

Kazakhstan stayed in fourth place in the group with seven points from eight games.

Bottas triumphs in Japan

Valtteri Bottas has sealed a sixth consecutive constructors' world championship for Mercedes

● Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel holds off Lewis Hamilton for second

● Bottas now only man who can catch Hamilton for drivers' title

AFP | Suzuka

Valtteri Bottas jumped from third to first with an electric start to win the Japanese Grand Prix yesterday ahead of Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel and the Finn's Mercedes teammate Lewis Hamilton.

Charles Leclerc finished sixth in the second Ferrari, and with only Bottas now able to overtake Hamilton in the standings, that means Mercedes clinched an unprecedented sixth successive drivers'-constructors' world championship double.

"I'm happy, very happy," said the flying Finn Bottas, who ended a six-month wait for his third victory of 2019 after winning the season-opener in Australia and the Azerbaijan race in April.

"Starting third isn't easy. I had a really nice start, managed to get the lead and then the pace was super good, I could really control the race," he added.

"I'm really proud to be part of the team. A sixth title is really impressive."

"Firstly congratulations to the team," said Hamilton, who now leads the drivers' standings by 64 points from Bottas. "That's the main point. I just wanted to bring home good points for the team."

Ferrari had enjoyed a front row lock-out in a rare morning qualifying session caused by Typhoon Hagibis but their race unravelled right at the start.

Vettel twitched before the lights went out and his hesitation enabled the fast starting



Valtteri Bottas celebrates victory in the Japan F1 Grand Prix

Bottas to leapfrog from third into the lead.

"It was my mistake," admitted Vettel. "It was worse than a poor start, it was a really poor start. With the lack of pace today, second place today was probably the maximum."

Max Verstappen enjoyed a bullet start from fifth in the Red Bull and was overtaking Leclerc on the outside of turn two when the Monegasque drove into the flying Dutchman, causing him to spin.

"He just drove into the side of my car," complained an unhappy Verstappen, who retired on lap 15.

Leclerc's front wing was damaged and he was forced to pit for a new nose at the start of lap four.

'What do I have to do'

Vettel was left sandwiched between the two Mercedes and made the first strategic move when he dived in the pits for a new set of soft tyres on lap 17.



The day had been dubbed "Super Sunday" with qualifying and the race taking place back-to-back because of the track having been safely locked down Saturday as Typhoon Hagibis roared past

Bottas followed on the next lap.

Hamilton was now in the lead and Mercedes tried to leave him out on a one-stop strategy. But on lap 22 Hamilton reported his front tyres were "dead" and was brought in.

Hamilton began to close on Vettel who pitted for his final change to medium tyres on lap

32, rejoining in third.

Bottas took on fresh soft tyres five laps later leaving Hamilton again in the lead.

"Tell me what I have to do to win this race," pleaded Hamilton over team radio, convinced his tyres would not last the distance.

He came in again on lap 43, allowing Vettel back into second, but proceeded to close the gap by setting a new lap record on lap 45.

Hamilton swarmed all over Vettel towards the end but was unable to get past and make it a Mercedes one-two.

Earlier Vettel had produced a perfect lap in the delayed qualifying session to outqualify his teammate for the first time in 10 races.

The day had been dubbed "Super Sunday" with qualifying and the race taking place back-to-back because of the track having been safely locked down Saturday as Typhoon Hagibis roared past.

Neymar limps off as Brazil draw with Nigeria

AFP | Singapore

Neymar's return to Champions League action may be delayed after the Paris Saint-Germain forward limped off after just 12 minutes of Brazil's friendly against Nigeria yesterday.

The 27-year-old, who played the full 90 minutes against Senegal on Thursday, clutched his hamstring after eight minutes and was replaced by Philippe Coutinho shortly after.

Neymar, who was playing his 101st international, is now a doubt for PSG's Champions League meeting with Club Brugge on October 22. He has missed the first two rounds because of a UEFA suspension.

He was injured while on national duty back in June when he hurt an ankle in a friendly against Qatar. It ruled him out of the Copa America which Brazil went on to win.

India record 11th-straight Test series win

AFP | Pune

Umesh Yadav led an inspired bowling display as India thrashed South Africa by an innings and 137 runs in the second Test to clinch a record 11th-straight series triumph at home yesterday.

The tourists were dismissed for 189 after following-on in the final session of day four in Pune, as India took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series.

Vernon Philander, who made 37, and Keshav Maharaj, who scored 22, put up a brief resistance during their 56-run eighth-wicket stand, but Yadav broke through with the wicket of Philander.

He took his third wicket after sending back Kagiso Rabada for four and spinner Ravindra Jadeja trapped Maharaj lbw to wrap up the game as India went past Australia's 10-series wins on home turf. Jadeja returned figures of 3-52.

The win also consolidated India's number-one position in the world Test championship with



India's players celebrate their innings victory

200 points.

Skipper Virat Kohli set up the win with his unbeaten 254 -- a record seventh double-century for the star batsman -- in India's 601 for five declared.

Ravichandran Ashwin struck twice in the morning session after the tourists started their

second innings trailing by 326.

Ashwin had du Plessis -- who promoted himself to number four in the batting order -- caught behind for five with wicketkeeper Wriddhiman Saha holding on to a juggling catch.

The off-spinner soon got opening batsman Dean Elgar

caught for 48 as South Africa slipped further.

Paceman Ishant Sharma struck with his second ball of the day to trap Aiden Markram lbw for nought.

Markram had a long discussion with Elgar over whether to review the on-field call but

walked, only for the replays to suggest the ball would have gone over the stumps.

The Proteas were dismissed for 275 at the end of day three in response to India's 601-5 declared, 127 short of the follow-on.

South Africa put up some resistance in their first innings with Maharaj, who made 72, and Philander, 44 not out, putting on 109 runs for the ninth wicket to frustrate the Indian bowlers.

Ashwin broke the stand with Maharaj's wicket and then got last man Rabada to return figures of 4-69.

The match will also be remembered for his Kohli's marathon knock as he surpassed Don Bradman's tally of 6,996 runs.

Kohli, who now has 7,054 runs from 81 Tests, put together crucial partnerships including a 225-run fifth-wicket stand with Jadeja, who made 91, to extend India's dominance.

Opener Mayank Agarwal also contributed with a century.

The two teams now head to Ranchi for the final match starting October 19.