

The first ballet “Ballet Comique de la Reine,” commissioned by Catherine de Medici, is staged in Paris

Napoleon Bonaparte arrives on the island of St. Helena to begin his exile



Millions nationwide protest against the war on Vietnam Moratorium Day in the US

Nelson Mandela and South African President F. W. de Klerk are awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

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With the ceasefire in effect, the people of Gaza & Israel are beginning to glimpse the fragile hope of calm after months of devastation. The @UN & partners are rapidly scaling up operations, reaching communities in areas that were cut off for months, delivering life-saving assistance.

@antonioguterres

02



Happy to have welcomed President Khurelsukh and held extensive talks with him in Delhi today. His visit comes at a time when India and Mongolia are marking 70 years of diplomatic ties and a decade of our Strategic Partnership. We agreed to keep working together to further amplify the voice of the Global South and boost global prosperity. Sectors that featured prominently in our talks include energy, skill development, IT, critical minerals, rare earths, agriculture and more.

@narendramodi

03



Welcome to freedom @jdanielferrer After years of repression, torture, and abuses from the Cuban regime, Ferrer and his family are in the United States.

SecRubio

04



Health is a human right — and if countries truly believe in it, they can make progress towards achieving #HealthForAll, no matter their economic status.

@DrTedros

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

Madagascar military unit **seizes** power

The 51-year-old president had refused to step down

● The impeachment passed with 130 votes in favour

AFP | Antananarivo, Madagascar

An elite military unit said yesterday it had taken power in Madagascar after the national assembly voted to impeach President Andry Rajoelina for desertion of duty. The 51-year-old president had refused growing demands

to step down, going into hiding after weeks of anti-government street demonstrations in the island nation.

“We have taken power,” Colonel Michael Randrianirina, head of the CAPSAT military unit, told AFP after reading out a statement at a government building in the capital.

The unit will set up a committee composed of officers from the army, gendarmerie and national police, he said.

CAPSAT played a major role in the 2009 coup that first brought Rajoelina to power.

“Perhaps in time it will in-

clude senior civilian advisers. It is this committee that will carry out the work of the presidency,” Randrianirina said in his statement.

“At the same time, after a few days, we will set up a civilian government,” he said.

The announcement came minutes after the lower house of parliament voted to impeach Rajoelina in a session dismissed by the presidency as “devoid of any legal basis”.

Just hours earlier, Rajoelina had dissolved the national assembly by decree to block the session.

We support U.S. President Trump’s efforts to bring peace: PM Modi after hostages freed from Gaza

● India said supports U.S. President Donald Trump’s “sincere efforts”

TDT | agencies

With all 20 remaining living hostages returning to Israel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday (October 13, 2025) welcomed their

release and said India supports U.S. President Donald Trump’s “sincere efforts” to bring peace to the region.

Hamas released the hostages after two years in captivity as part of the first phase of U.S. President Trump’s Gaza peace plan.

Israel-Hamas ceasefire updates on October 13, 2025

“We welcome the release of all hostages after over two years of captivity,” Mr. Modi said on ‘X’.

“Their freedom stands as a tribute to the courage of their families, the unwavering peace efforts of President Trump and the strong resolve of Prime Minister Netanyahu,” he said.

“We support President Trump’s sincere efforts to bring peace to the region,” Mr. Modi added.

Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh represented PM Modi at the summit.

Israel identifies hostage bodies, returns 45 Palestinian dead

● Hamas is still holding the bodies of 24 hostages

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

The Israeli military said yesterday that the remains of four deceased hostages returned by Hamas have been identified, including those

of a Nepalese student. Separately, a Gaza hospital said it has received the bodies of 45 Palestinians that had been handed back by Israel, also as part of US President Donald Trump’s plan to end the Gaza war.

In a statement, the Israeli military named two of the victims as Guy Iluz, an Israeli national, and Bipin Joshi, an agriculture student from Nepal.

The names of the other two

hostages have not yet been released at the request of their families, the statement added.

Iluz, who was 26 at the time of the attack, had been attending the Nova music festival when Hamas launched their assault on October 7, 2023.

He reportedly tried to flee the site in a jeep and later hid in a tree, from where he made his last contact with his parents before being captured and taken to the Gaza Strip.

Wed by app: Abu Dhabi launches virtual marriage for all

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Couples from anywhere in the world can now get married using the Abu Dhabi government’s app without even setting foot in the emirate, the head of the project told AFP yesterday.

The United Arab Emirates experimented with allowing online ceremonies for people living in the country during the Covid-19 pandemic.

But the new version has a much wider aim, according to Mohamed Al Askar, who heads the Abu Dhabi government’s TAMM application.

“It’s open to everyone. Whoever wants to get married in Abu Dhabi, regardless of their nationality, can get the service

online,” he told AFP during Dubai-based technology fair Gitex.

“People can go online, they can do the whole transaction without the need to go to any physical place. We are among the first to do that.”

For 800 dirhams (\$218), users can complete online forms, submit all the necessary documents, book someone to officiate and even organise a virtual ceremony in as little as 24 hours, he said.

The service is available to Emirati citizens and foreign residents, but also to non-residents, who will need a lawyer or other representative in the country.

The UAE is the only Gulf country that allows non-religious marriages, although the

right is reserved for foreigners.

The marriage feature was added to the newest version of the TAMM application, which allows residents of the emirate to access more than 1,000 government services online.



The idea of online marriage is still in its infancy, with Ukraine launching a service last year allowing couples separated by war to tie the knot using its government app.

BY INVITATION

A Thousand Stories, One Palestine



JUMANA HAMU - PALESTINIAN IN THE UK, LIVING BETWEEN THE ECHO OF HOME AND THE SILENCE OF EXILE

Lately, I’ve been feeling a mix of emotions I can barely describe. Pain, sadness, anger, and a deep sense of helplessness. I keep losing hope and then forcing myself to find it again, because without hope, we stop seeing the possibility of change. But it’s hard. Watching what’s happening makes me question my own worth, like I’m somehow less human in a world that decides whose suffering matters.

And yet, behind all that pain, there is love.

Because everything I feel, every bit of heartbreak and anger, comes from how deeply I love this land. I love Palestine, even though I’ve never been there. I love its people, its strength, its soil, and its spirit. I love a homeland I’ve only ever known through stories, photos, and memories passed down to me like treasures.

My grandfather was only thirteen when he fled Yaffa in 1948. Out of seventy-three people who escaped, only three survived. He built a life in exile, and that’s where I was born, a Palestinian refugee who has never walked her homeland but feels it living inside her. I’ve never seen an olive sprout from a tree in my Palestine, yet I can still feel its roots growing inside me. That’s the power of belonging. It finds you, even when the world tries to erase you.

But my story is only one among millions. Every Palestinian has their own story. Those in Gaza living under siege, the ones in the West Bank surrounded by walls, the ones in the 1948 lands who live as strangers in their own home, and the ones like me, scattered across the world, holding onto an identity built from memory and love. Together, we are branches of the same olive tree, separated by borders but growing from the same soil.

Every ceasefire brings a moment of silence that feels almost sacred. A fragile pause that lets us breathe, grieve, and gather strength again. But it’s never real peace, because the killing doesn’t stop when the bombing does.

Even after the ceasefire, people are still being taken, still being hurt, still being silenced. Saleh AlJafarawi was martyred after the world declared “peace.” His death reminded us that occupation doesn’t rest.

And yet, within that same silence, something powerful grows. Not just hope, but certainty. A knowing that no matter how long it takes, Palestine will be free. It’s not only faith in a future. It’s something I feel deep inside me, a truth rooted in generations before me and carried by those who refuse to give up.

Even from far away, I carry that knowing inside me. I know I will one day step foot on that land, not as a visitor but as someone returning home. I will walk where my grandfather once ran for his life, and I will breathe the air that once carried his prayers. Because this love, this faith, this belonging, it’s stronger than any wall. And as long as we keep loving and telling our stories, Palestine will live on. In us, and one day, in freedom.

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the Daily Tribune)

