

Kanye didn't know Trump's policies: Kim
 Reality TV personality Kim Kardashian West, who feels her rapper-husband Kanye West is "very misunderstood", says he liked US president Donald Trump's personality but was unaware of his policies. | P13

THE DAILY tribune

Taylor heroics in vain as Bangladesh level series **16** SPORTS

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Yemeni govt backs UN peace talks

Hodeida, Yemen

Yemen's president has supported a UN push for fresh talks to end almost four years of fighting in his war-torn country.

An uneasy calm held in flashpoint Hodeida yesterday for the third consecutive day after nearly two weeks of intense fighting between Iran-backed Huthi rebels, and a government alliance led by Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

For five months, the alliance has fought intermittently to drive the Huthis from the city, home to a port that is the entry point of all imports to Yemen.

Shops and schools near frontlines re-opened Thursday and some families began to venture back out, as men in military fatigues could be seen hauling grenade launchers across the city on motorcycles.

Both the UAE, which has US-trained troops on the ground in Yemen, and Yemen's President Abedrabbo Mansour Hadi have backed UN efforts to host negotiations with rebels in Sweden by year's end.

Hadi on Wednesday backed the UN-proposed talks, but vowed to "liberate" Hodeida "whether through peace or war," according to the official Saba news agency.

Multiple rounds of attempted talks between the government alliance and Huthis have failed previously, most recently in September, when the rebels refused to fly to Geneva for planned UN-hosted negotiations.



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Kuwait halts flights as torrential rains lash region

AFP | Kuwait City, Kuwait

Kuwait yesterday halted flights at its international airport after heavy rains flooded the Gulf state's capital, diverting incoming flights to neighbouring countries not affected by deadly storms.

"Rains overnight Wednesday submerged main passages at the airport, resulting in diverting several incoming flights to Dubai, Bahrain and Dammam airports," said the head of Kuwait's civil aviation, Sheikh Salman al-Sabah.

All departing flights were cancelled, Sheikh Salman said.

Life in the desert emirate came to a standstill in the past two days because of heavy rains, estimated by the national meteorological department at 96 mm (3.78 inches) -- almost equal to the country's average annual rainfall.

The deluge has flooded bridge



Residents of Kuwait City use newspapers to shield themselves as they walk in a street during heavy rainfall

es and main roads and damaged buildings in residential areas.

A stateless man drowned on

Saturday as he tried to rescue his family from their flooded home in Kuwait.

The Kuwaiti government ordered public offices and schools shut on Wednesday and Thurs-

day as authorities stood on high alert and urged people to stay at home.

Torrential rains have swept across the region, with Jordan hit the worst. At least 13 people have died in flash floods in the kingdom.

Saudi Arabia's civil defence said yesterday it rescued 46 people from a bus after they had become stranded by floods in the city of Hafer al-Batin, near the Kuwaiti border.

Kuwaiti parliament on Wednesday held an urgent session in which the government was accused of failing to take measures to protect civilians and infrastructure.

It ordered a committee to investigate who is responsible.

The government last week sacked two top public works ministry officials. Public Works Minister Hussam al-Roumi submitted his resignation over the issue.

Head of negotiating team ordered the killing: Saudi

Saudi Public Prosecutor called for death penalty to five people who confessed to the murder of Khashoggi

● A total of 21 people are in custody in connection with the killing

● Murder was reportedly planned on September 29

● Requested Turkey to provide the kingdom with evidence

TDI, Al Arabiya

Five people who confessed to the murder of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi at the Saudi consulate in Turkey face the death penalty, said Saudi Public Prosecutor saying that the head of a team tasked with convincing Jamal Khashoggi to return to Saudi ordered the killing.

During a press conference in the Saudi capital Riyadh, the Public Prosecution's spokesperson explained that the team failed to persuade Khashoggi to return home, after which the head of the negotiation team concluded that it would not be possible to transfer the victim by force to the safe location in case the negotiations with him to return failed.

Investigators found that the head of the negotiation team



The details were revealed by Saudi Public Prosecution's spokesperson

formed by the former Deputy President of the General Intelligence Presidency has ordered the killing of the journalist on October 2, in the kingdom's consulate in Istanbul.

The prosecutor has requested the death penalty for the five who "are charged with ordering and committing the crime and for the appropriate sentences for the other indicted individuals," an official statement published by state news agency SPA said.

It said a total of 21 people are in custody in connection with the killing, 11 of whom have been indicted.

The statement by Al Arabia, however, said that the names of those indicted cannot be disclosed as it is against the system of criminal procedure

The murder was reportedly planned on September 29 after

disabling the surveillance cameras at the consulate.

Khashoggi, the spokesperson said, was murdered and dismembered following a physical altercation and the dismembered body was handed over to a local collaborator.

A sketch of this collaborator has been created for handing over to the Turkish authorities.

The spokesperson also said that the suspects gave an untruthful report to the former deputy intelligence chief, and denied killing Khashoggi in the beginning.

The individual who wore the victim's clothes and disposed of the victim's belongings in a trash, including his watch and glasses, has also been identified.

The prosecution spokesperson said that Saudi Arabia has asked Turkey to provide the

Bahrain backs Saudi in Khashoggi case

TDI | Manama

Bahrain yesterday strongly reiterated its supportive stance towards Saudi Arabia in Jamal Khashoggi case, while categorically rejecting all attempts to politicise or exploit the case.

The Kingdom, in a statement, said it supports all measures taken by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Public Prosecutor of Saudi Arabia to hold accountable and punish all those involved.

Rejecting all attempts to politicise or exploit the case, Bahrain said it rebuffs all attempts to harm the interests of Saudi Arabia, violate its sovereignty, security and stability, as well as attempts to divide the nation.

The statement calling Saudi as the foundation of regional and international stability and peace also reassured its "vital and strategic role in achieving sustainable development, prosperity and stability in the region and beyond."

kingdom with the evidence and voice recordings relating to the case, but are still waiting.

"A team was created to convince Khashoggi to return to Saudi Arabia by order from the former deputy intelligence chief," the spokesperson said adding that the 15-member team included three groups for negotiations, intelligence and logistics.

"The leader of the mission suggested to the former Deputy President of the General Intelligence Presidency to assign a former colleague to head the negotiation group for his previ-

ous relationship with the victim. This former colleague was assigned at the time to work with a former Advisor."

The former advisor is banned from travelling and is under investigation.

It also stated that the prosecution does not respond to rumours and leaks from Turkish media.

The Public Prosecutor has also requested the Turkish authorities to sign a special co-operation mechanism specific to this case in order to receive any findings from their investigation.