

Al Merisi crowned Amateur Open champion

Bahrain national team golfer ends three-day competition with one-over-par final round score to finish seven shots clear of closest challenger to clinch title **P12**

WORLD **6** NASA's asteroid hunter Lucy soars into sky with diamonds

THE DAILY **tribune**



Britney Spears says she wishes she 'lived in another country'

7 CELEBS

BUSINESS **5** Bahrain pavilion at GITEX opens today

Last update - 9:00 pm | 16 October 2021

Individuals vaccinated

(First dose)

1 1 7 0 5 4 6

(Second dose)

1 1 3 2 8 5 5

(Booster dose)

3 9 6 7 0 4



The vaccination status on the "BeAware" application will automatically change to the **Yellow** Shield for those eligible for a booster shot.



Taliban pledge to step up security

Reuters | Kabul

Taliban authorities pledged to step up security at mosques as hundreds of people gathered yesterday to bury the victims of the second Islamic State suicide attack on worshippers in a week.

Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack on the Fatima mosque in Kandahar that saw a group of suicide bombers shoot their way into the mosque before blowing themselves up among the worshippers during Friday prayers.

A health official said the casualty toll from the attack stood at 41 dead and 70 wounded but could rise further. "Some of the wounded are in a critical condition and we are trying to transfer them to Kabul," he said.

On Saturday, large crowds gathered to bury the white-shrouded victims in a mass grave in the southern city of Kandahar.

The head of Kandahar police said units would be assigned to protect the mosques which have so far been guarded by local volunteer forces with special permission to carry weapons.

A digital step to cashless future

The Central Bank of Bahrain introduces Bahrain Electronic Cheque System

● e-Cheques will come into force on Tuesday

● e-Cheque users retain all the functions and legal rights of traditional cheques

● Allows companies to have multiple persons authorised to sign cheques

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's transformation to a cashless society received a major impetus yesterday from the Central Bank of Bahrain in the form of electronic cheques or e-Cheque



services. The top bank introduced its e-Cheque service - an electronic counterpart of a paper cheque-making cheque writing and deposit processes online.

The move represents a breakthrough towards the transformation of Bahrain into a cashless society.

e-Cheque will come into force starting this Tuesday.

People could use it for making a payment for any transaction that a paper cheque can cover. Also, understand that the same laws that apply to paper cheques also protects e-Cheques.

Most importantly, the cost associated with issuing an electronic cheque is notably lower than those associated with paper cheques.

Experts point out that a tradi-

tional cheque may cost as much as \$1 to issue, while an electronic check costs \$0.10. Further, there are multiple levels of authentication to help ensure the proper routing of funds.

"This milestone achievement reflects the ongoing commitment of the CBB in providing the latest technologies in the industry and encourages the progression towards a cashless society that has access to all electronic payment solutions available," said Hesa Abdulla Al Sada, Executive Director of Banking Operations at CBB.

e-Cheque users, CBB statement said, will enjoy "special benefits" of paperless payment experience in their day-to-day business in addition to retaining all the functions and legalities of traditional cheques.

(Continued on page 3)

US offers payments, relocation to family of Afghans killed in botched drone attack

Reuters

The Pentagon has offered unspecified condolence payments to the family of 10 civilians who were killed in a botched US drone attack in Afghanistan in August during the final days before American troops withdrew from the country.

The US Defence Department said it made a commitment that included offering "ex-gratia condolence payments", in addition to working with the US State Department in support of the family members who were interested in relocation to the United States.

The drone strike in Kabul killed as many as 10 civilians, including seven children. The Pentagon had said earlier that the Aug. 29 strike targeted an Islamic State suicide bomber who posed an imminent threat to US-led troops at the airport as they completed the last stages of their withdrawal from Afghanistan.

However, reports had emerged almost immediately that the drone strike in a neighbourhood west of Kabul's Hamid Karzai International Airport had killed civilians including children. Video from the scene showed the wreckage of a car strewn around the courtyard of a building.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED **6687979**

ACTIVE CASES **626**

DEATHS **1391**

DISCHARGED **274013**

NEW CASES **55**

CRITICAL **3**

210 fils (includes VAT)



YOU KNOW WHAT

An electronic cheque is a form of payment made via the internet that is designed to perform the same function as a conventional paper cheque.

Electronic cheques also come with a lower risk of the associated funds being stolen, as there is no tangible item to intercept.

One of the more frequently used versions of the electronic cheque is the direct deposit system offered by many employers. It is an electronic method of sending an employee's wages directly into the employee's bank account

History @ auction

Darwin family microscope to be sold at auction

Reuters | London

A microscope Charles Darwin gave his son Leonard and which has remained in the family for nearly 200 years is headed for auction in December, and is expected to fetch up to \$480,000.

The instrument was designed by Charles Gould for the firm



Cary around 1825 and is one of six surviving microscopes associated with the British naturalist, according to auction house Christie's. The date of its manufacture coincides with the time when Darwin was studying zoophytes, organisms such as coral and sea anemone.

"It is just incredibly spine-

ting to look through this and see the microscopic world that Darwin would have seen in the 1820s and 30s," James Hyslop, Head of Department, Scientific Instruments, Globes & Natural History, at Christie's, said.

"Later in his life in 1858, there's a wonderful letter that he writes to his eldest son saying

young Lenny was dissecting at his microscope and he said 'Oh Papa, I should be so glad of this for my whole life'. It's wonderful to have that family connexion of Charles Darwin just before he becomes internationally famous." Darwin published his ground-breaking work "On the Origin of Species" in 1859.