

WHATSAPP

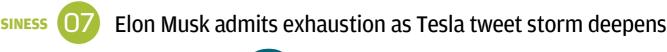
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Tributes pour in forAretha Franklin

Tributes have poured in for the beloved and iconic singer Aretha Franklin from friends, musicians, politicians and fans after the legendary "Queen of Soul" died aged 76. P16





Scarlett becomes world's highest paid actress

Chinese bombers likely training for US strikes

Imran Khan to begin premier's innings on tough political pitch

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Islamabad

elected national assembly voted in favor of Imran Khan to take the country's most powerful position as its new Prime Minister crushing his opponent Shahbaz Sharif yesterday.

Khan, chief of Pakistan Tehreeke-Insaaf (PTI) received an impres-

(PML-N) received 96 seats.

by the speaker of the house ruption charges.



Imran Khan was picked by Pakistan lawmakers in the National Assembly as the Prime Minister.

sive 176 seats in the 342 seat rattled lawmakers of PML-N lower house of parliament. His sparking a loud protest against rival Sharif, younger brother of Khan's victory as unacceptable imprisoned ex-Premier Nawaz repeatedly chanting "Prime Sharif and president of Paki- Minister Nawaz Sharif" who stan Muslim League - Nawaz was judicially ousted from the premiership last year and is The result announcement serving time in prison on cor-

In the eye of the storm



Bahraini yoga expert Fatima Al Mansoori with members of a family whose house got collapsed in a landslide as she she visited the flood-hit areas in the Indian state of Kerala. The death toll in the flood-hit state has jumped to 385. The death toll from 10 days of floods in the state nearly trebled in the last 24 hours. Over three lakh people are living in relief camps across the state and a red alert was sounded in all 14 Kerala districts. All three wings of the armed forces have been pressed into action for a massive rescue operation.

Saudi pledges \$100m to stabilise north Syria Riyadh

🗬 audi Arabia has con-Itributed \$100 million to help reconstruct areas of north-eastern Syria former-

ly held by Daesh. The Kingdom said the contribution would go toward a campaign by the Global Coalition to Defeat IS to "stabilise" the former Daesh bastion and help ensure the militants cannot re-emerge as a threat.

The United States, which leads the coalition, expressed its thanks and appreciation to Riyadh.

"This significant contribution is critical to stabilization and early recovery efforts," a State Department spokeswoman said.

Saudi services to pilgrims lauded

Fun day for diffabled students aboard HMS Ledbury

Court renews detention of 14 terrorist cell members



Iran under more pressure

Washington strategy aims to change Tehran's behaviour through diplomatic and economic pressures

The group will be headed by Brian Hook as the State **Department's Special** Representative for Iran.

The US has laid out a long list of activities it demands Tehran changes, including halting support for the Syrian government and the Lebanese Hizbollah movement.

Washington

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo.



For nearly 40 years the regime in Tehran has been responsible for a torrent of violence and destabilising behaviour against the United States, our allies, our partners and indeed the Iranian people themselves.

POMPEO

new high-level team to focus US Washington's "maximum pressure" Representative for Iran. and international efforts to in- strategy to change Tehran's behaviour,

The group will be headed by Brian port from US allies for Washington's gime's behaviour," Hook said.

Hook, currently director of policy Americans. crease diplomatic and economic including potentially sanctioning other planning at the State Department, was pressure on Iran was announced by US countries which trade with the country. in charge of the failed effort to get sup- global effort to change the Iranian re-

decision in May to pull out of the Iran

"For nearly 40 years the regime in Tehran has been responsible for a torrent of violence and destabilising behaviour against the United States, our allies, our partners and indeed the Iranian people themselves," said Pompeo.

"Our hope is that one day soon we can reach a new agreement with Iran. But we must see major changes in the regime's behaviour both inside and outside its borders."

The US has laid out a long list of activities it demands Tehran changes, including halting support for the Syrian government and the Lebanese Hizbollah The Iran Action Group will drive Hook as the State Department's Special movement, shutting down its nuclear development program, and freeing detained

"This team is committed to a strong

LIFE FROM LITTER

Fisherman battles poverty with plastic-bottle boat

tith hundreds of empty plastic bottles collected from the shores of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip, fisherman Muath Abu Zeid has turned litter into a floating source of income.

The Palestinian father-of-four used glue and old nets to bind the bottles into a small fishing boat that he hopes will help him support his family.

Simple but effective, the 700-bottle craft is capable of carrying up to eight people out to sea, according to its 35-yearold skipper.



Palestinian fisherman Muath Abu Zeid, second from left, whose boat is made of 700 empty plastic bottles.

the top serves as a seat, allowing enough to go fishing. Abu Zeid to row a few hundred

A broad slab of wood lashed to meters out from shore — far

It takes him about eight hours

to pull in between five and seven kg of sardines, mullet and other small fish with his rod.

He sells his catch to passersby on the nearby corniche, making between 20 and 40 shekels (\$5-\$11) a day. Muath's two younger brothers

Mohammed, 23, and Ashraf, 20 – accompany him on his daily excursions. Neither were able to find work elsewhere.

"I'm a house painter but be-I'm unemployed," said skipper Muath, a descendent of refugees from a village near Jaffa in present-day Israel.

"So this boat has been a life- Bank figures.

unemployment in Gaza, according to World Bank.

saver for me and my family."

Under a crippling Israeli cause of the difficult situation blockade for more than a decade, Gaza suffers 44 per cent unemployment, rising to a "staggering" 60pc amongst the young, according to 2017 World