

WORLD

Rival rallies as HK divisions deepen

- Yesterday's rallies began with thousands of teachers marching through torrential rain
- Ten weeks of demonstrations have plunged the international finance hub into crisis
- Many protesters chanted that they were saving their energy for today's rally

Hong Kong, China

Hong Kong democracy activists kicked off a weekend of fresh rallies yesterday in a major test for the movement following criticism over an airport protest earlier this week -- and as concerns mount over Beijing's next move.

The new marches came as thousands of pro-government supporters -- many waving Chinese flags -- gathered in a park to condemn their opponents and support the police, a stark illustration of the polarisation now coursing through the city.

Ten weeks of demonstrations have plunged the international finance hub into crisis, with



Anti-government protesters attend a rally in the Hung Hom district of Hong Kong



Pro-Beijing supporters wave the China national flag during a rally at Tamar Park

The government has yet to respond to a single demand and has escalated force through the police to suppress the people's voices. If we don't come out, our future, our next generation will face even more suppression

A 25-YEAR-OLD PROTESTER, WHO GAVE HIS FIRST NAME AS MARS

communist-ruled mainland China taking an increasingly hard-line tone, including labelling the more violent protester actions "terrorist-like".

Democracy activists are billing the weekend rallies as a way to show Beijing and the city's unelected leaders that their movement still enjoys broad public support, despite increasingly violent tactics deployed by a minority of hardcore protesters that have cast a shadow.

On Tuesday, protesters blocked passengers from boarding flights at the city's airport and later assaulted two men they accused of being Chinese spies.

The images damaged a movement that until then had largely only targeted the police or government institutions, and prompted some soul-searching among protesters.

China's propaganda apparatus seized on the violence, with state media churning out a deluge of damning articles, pictures and videos.

State media also ran images of military personnel and armoured personnel carriers across the border in Shenzhen, prompting the United States to warn Beijing against sending in troops, which analysts say would be a reputational and economic disaster for China.

Rival rallies

Yesterday's rallies began with thousands of teachers marching through torrential rain in support of the largely youth-led protests.

In the afternoon thousands also marched through Hung Hom and To Kwa Wan, two harbourside districts popular with mainland tourists.

But across the harbour at the pro-Beijing rally, where a giant screen showed recent clashes with police, 60-year-old retiree Irene Man had a very different take as she rounded on democracy protesters.

"Their acts are not human, they have all become monsters. They are rioters, with no reason, no thinking," she said.

As evening fell, some hardcore protesters were facing off with police in the district of Mongkok, where multiple clashes have taken place in recent weeks. They blocked roads and shone laser pens at riot police who made occasional charges but the protesters kept dispersing and reforming.

Billed as a "rational, non-violent" protest, it is being organised by the Civil Human Rights Front, a group that eschews confrontations with police and was the driving force behind record-breaking rallies in June and July that saw hundreds of thousands of people hit the streets.

Downpour paralyses Istanbul
Istanbul, Turkey

Turkey's megacity Istanbul was lashed by a heavy rainstorm on Saturday, killing a homeless man and leaving parts of the historic Grand Bazaar flooded.

A homeless man was found dead at an underpass in the Unkapani district apparently drowned by the flood. Police sealed off the area.

Floods which lasted around two hours also affected the historic Grand Bazaar, one of the world's oldest covered markets.

27 Minors to leave Italy migrant ship: charity
Rome, Italy

Twenty-seven unaccompanied minors have been authorised to leave a migrant rescue vessel in limbo off Italy, the Spanish charity operating the ship said yesterday.

"They will be evacuated by coastguard Lampedusa," Proactive Open Arms tweeted Interior Minister Matteo Salvini reluctantly authorised the disembarkation.

The 106 adults and two accompanied minors must remain on board.

Syria regime strikes kill mother, 6 of her children: monitor



A Syrian carries the body of a child at the site of a reported regime air strike on the village of Deir Sharqi on the eastern outskirts of Maaret al-Numan in Syria's northern province of Idlib

Dayr Sharqi, Syria

Regime air strikes yesterday killed a woman and six of her children in northwest Syria, a war monitor said, a day after Russian bombardment pummeled a nearby displacement camp.

The air strike hit the family's one-story home in the village of Dayr Sharqi in Idlib province, killing everyone inside, said the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

A photographer said he saw a man leaving the site of the blast, carrying the bloody corpse of a young girl, her hair streaked

with blood.

A rescue worker carried the dust covered body of a second child, he added.

The photographer said he also saw the charred remains of a third victim trapped underneath the rubble, as rescue workers tried to retrieve it.

Heightened air raids by the Syrian regime and its ally Moscow on the Idlib region -- the last major opposition bastion in Syria's northwest -- have killed hundreds since the end of April.

The latest air strikes on the village of Dayr Sharqi wounded three other people, the Observatory said.

The attack came a day after Russian air raids killed 15 civilians, including six children in a nearby displacement camp in the town of Hass, according to the war monitor.

Two other children were killed by Syrian regime air strikes in different parts of southern Idlib on Friday, it said.

A French foreign ministry statement released after those attacks condemned "indiscriminate air strikes by the regime and its allies in Idlib".

It specifically mentioned the air strikes on the displacement camp and called "for an immediate cessation of hostilities".



شركة مطار البحرين
bahrain airport company

BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY wishes to invite proposals for the following Public Tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Tender Doc. Fees	Initial Bond	Tender Closing	
				Day/ Date	Time
Appointment of Recruitment Agency for Hala Bahrain	BAC/HR/16/2019	BD 15/- non-refundable	BD 500/-	3rd September 2019	03:00 pm

- Companies with the required experience are kindly requested to collect the appropriate tender Documents at Bahrain Airport Company (Building 124, Road 2403, Muharraq 224 Gulf Air Building 1st Floor Wing B) Procurement Department Tel: 17353385, 17353449 during the following working hours (8:00am – 3:00pm) after payment of tender fees specified above.
- Deposit each Tender Submission in the tender box provided at the Bahrain Airport Company, Procurement Department on the above closing date before 03:00 pm. Along with an initial bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is the lesser, provided that no initial Bond's value shall be less than BD 500/-, in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- Articles of the Decree by Law No. 36 for 2002, regarding the regulation of Government Tenders and Purchases, together with its executive regulations issued in Decree No. 37 for 2002, must be observed www.tenderboard.gov.bh
- The following conditions must also be observed:
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate for the current year, which must include the Tender Subject as one of its activities.
 - Submit their Proposed Minimum Annual Guarantee and Proposed Fee Percentage (according to conditions) as per the criteria outlined.
 - Enclose a copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by Ministry of Labour.
 - All documents submitted as part of the tender (original or copies) must bear the stamp of the bidding Company / Establishment.
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