

show
Lizzie: mythic axe murders get an edgy update
Lizzie is a 2018 American biographical thriller film directed by Craig William Macneill, written by Bryce Kass| **P13**

OPED **8** San Francisco Is Right: Facial Recognition Must Be Put On Hold

THE DAILY tribune

Nadal reaches 50th Masters final **16** **SPORTS**

WORLD **6** People on Mars by 2033...or 2060





SALE

25% TO 75% OFF

City Centre Bahrain Tel: +973 17556002 | Bahrain Mall Tel: +973 17556001 | www.homesrusgroup.com | [TheHomeStore.Bahrain](https://www.facebook.com/TheHomeStore.Bahrain) | [homestore.Bahrain](https://www.instagram.com/homestore.Bahrain)

ahli united bank

Follow us on

[f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [in](#)

@aubbahrain



- 03** Govt mulling new university
- 12** KHCB announces readiness for open banking services

Enhancing public sector delivery vital: HRH CP

TDT | Manama

Enhancing public service delivery is vital to achieving Kingdom's development goals, said HRH the Crown Prince.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander, and First Deputy Prime Minister was visiting the Majlis of the Al Fadhala family, the Majlis of the Al Rumaihi family, the Majlis of the Al Buainain family, officially opened by HRH the Crown Prince, and the Majlis of the Al Kaabi family.

"Bahrain will continue to advance its development efforts in all its sectors," said HRH Prince Salman citing the directives and vision of His Majesty King Ham-



HRH the Crown Prince

ad bin Isa Al Khalifa. Development efforts, Prince Salman said, are underpinned by the principles of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 and desire to promote innovation and excellence across government work streams.

ADMISSIONS FOR NOW OPEN

SY 2019 2020

PRE-SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL

Call Us! 17 598 440 17 598 444

www.amais.edu.bh

amais@amais.edu.bh

"Bahrain has undertaken several initiatives aimed at upholding the highest standards of public service delivery," HRH the Crown Prince said adding: "This would further enhance economic competitiveness and encourage investments."

The Crown Prince also highlighted Bahrain's efforts in improving the infrastructure of service delivery, following the best global practices, which includes simplifying and modernising service delivery procedures.

The Crown Prince reminded the Majlis participants that it is important to further align public sector efficiency with the Kingdom's comprehensive development to reinforce its role as a regulator. For their part, the Majlises hosts and guests expressed their gratitude for HRH the Crown Prince's visit and praised the Kingdom's development progress.

HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman Hamad Al Khalifa and HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa accompanied HRH the Crown Prince to the Majlis visits.



ROLEX

OYSTER PERPETUAL SUBMARINER DATE



Modern Art Studio

Rolex Boutique - Bahrain City Centre

Leave Iran, Iraq ‘immediately’

Bahrain issues travel warning against Iraq, Iran citing regional tension



U.S. Navy, Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class Alexandrina Ross, right, and Aviation Ordnanceman Airman Hunter Musil, left, inspect a bomb on the USS Abraham Lincoln while it sails in the Arabian Sea. (Associated Press)

TDT | Manama

Bahrain has ordered its citizens to “immediately” leave Iraq and Iran for their safety, amid rising tension in the region and the recent escalations and threats against security and stability.

Foreign Ministry made the announcement through BNA yesterday afternoon.

The statement cited “unstable situation in the region and the grave developments and threats that threaten security and stability” for the warning.

The Ministry stressed the need to take the utmost pre-

For assistance, contact:

Bahrain Embassy, Baghdad:
009647814256980

Consulate General of Bahrain, Najaf: **009647728672227**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
0097317227555

cautions and care.

Washington on Wednesday pulled non-emergency staff members from its embassy in the Iraqi capital Baghdad out of apparent concern about perceived threats from neighbouring Iran, to which Iraqi Shia militias are allied. Earlier yesterday, Exxon evacuated its for-

eign staff from an Iraqi oilfield.

In another development, the Federal Aviation Administration of the US has warned US airlines flying over the Gulf to exercise caution “due to heightened military activities and increased political tensions in the region.”

The advisory also covers airspace over the Gulf of Oman.

Increased tensions in the region “present an increasing inadvertent risk to US civil aviation operations due to the potential for miscalculation or misidentification, said the FAA advisory released late Thursday.

The regulator also warned that aircraft flying in the area

could encounter “inadvertent GPS interference and communications jamming, which could occur with little to no warning.”

Washington has deployed an aircraft carrier group and B-52 bombers to the region against what it claims is an imminent threat from Tehran.

The Pentagon’s deployment to the Gulf of a carrier group led by the USS Abraham Lincoln is accompanied by B-52 bombers.

President Donald Trump’s administration has also ordered non-essential diplomatic staff out of Iraq, citing threats from Iranian-backed Iraqi armed groups.

Third phase ID Card distribution begins

Systems and programmes were updated to ensure smoothness and speed of delivery

TDT | Manama

IGA has launched the third phase distribution of Bahrain’s new look ID cards, which got underway earlier this year when it was handed over to newborn baby Sultan during its pilot phase.

In the first phase, which started in January, the ID cards, which includes a bundle of technically advanced features, were limited to Bahraini newborns.

The second phase covered Bahraini citizens who applied online or through fast track lounges in the Isa Town & Muharraq Service Centers. New cards were distributed when requests were made for renewing or replacing lost or damaged ID cards.

Identity Card is the Kingdom’s official identification verification method used by citizens or residents to complete any form of service including governmental, health-related, banking, payment verification, and more.

It is issued for a legally approved fee of BD2 – meaning there are no additional charges.

Start of the third phase was announced by the Chief Executive of Information & eGovernment Authority (IGA) Mohamed Ali AlQaed, which covers all citizens who applied online or booking appointments or personal visits.

The third phase, AlQaed said, launched under the guidance of General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior in line with International Civil Aviation Organization standards (ICAO).

The authority also went



The third phase was launched under the guidance of General Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, the Minister of Interior in line with International Civil Aviation Organization standards (ICAO)

MOHAMED ALI ALQAEED
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF INFORMATION & EGOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

through a series of preparations to overcome the challenges that might arise during the issuance process, AlQaed said.

Several updates were made to the printing management system, Population Registry Central system, the ID Card updating system and the electronic ID Card reader.

The card, authorities said, uses a material resistant to damages and includes finer quality fonts for visibility. It also replaces the Special Needs cards provided by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.



The Sri Lanka Club was relocated to its new premises in Adliya on Thursday, after opening its office in Gudaibiya 35 years ago. The opening ceremony of the new building was held in the presence of Dr A. Saj U. Mendis, Ambassador for Sri Lanka to the Kingdom of Bahrain, over 150 members and other guests.



Experience the true essence of the Holy Month of Ramadan at KOLORS restaurant

The perfect place to break your fast!

Iftar Buffet

from sunset to 22:30 hrs

BD 9.900*

per person

For reservations,

please call 1736 0000 or WhatsApp 366 00 433

*Price is subject to 10% service charge, 5% government levy and 5% VAT



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdhussain Mirza with Japan Bank for International Co-operation (JBIC) Regional Director for Renewable Energy and Natural Resources in the Middle East Masaaki Yamada, who was accompanied by a number of senior officials at the bank. The minister praised the activities and programmes of the bank in promoting sustainable development in the developed countries. Yamada expressed his desire to activate further cooperation between the Center for Sustainable Energy of the Electricity and Water Authority and the bank in areas of mutual interest, especially the benefit of the new JBIC programmes.

BIG STORY

big story

Govt mulling new university

If approved, Bahrain will soon have another top-class university, offering brand new courses that are not currently available in the other universities here, with the participation of the private sector



University of Bahrain. (Courtesy of Wikipedia)

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

The possibilities of a new government university in association with the private sector is being actively considered by the authorities, *Tribune* has learned.

Talks for exploring the possibility of having such a university is being held, an Education Ministry source said.

The new university, if built, will include many new courses and specialisations not currently offered at other public universi-

Some of the top educational institutions in Bahrain

Arabian Gulf University
Bahrain Polytechnic
College of Health Sciences
University of Bahrain

ties in the Kingdom.

Tribune understands that the government will seek a private sector partnership for the project.

The new university, according to officials, is to supplement the efforts of the University of

Bahrain.

“Talks are ongoing to establish a new university in cooperation with the private sector. It will have new academic courses not available in other Bahraini universities at the moment,” an education ministry source said.

Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, the Minister of Education and Chairman of the Higher Education Council, while outlining new plans for Bahrain’s education sector, hinted about private sector participation in the sector during a Parliament session.

Highlighting the higher education sector as a priority, the minister told the Parliament that Bahrain has now reached an advanced stage in the development of the education sector and “will continue to do so”.

The Minister also told the ses-



Investors in the sector choose Bahrain because of how the investors are protected while also protecting the students

DR MAJID BIN ALI AL NUAIMI
MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION
COUNCIL

sion that Bahrain “welcomes investment in this sector” as it is also an integral part of the economy.

While warning violators, the minister told the Parliament that several new “reputed and promising institutions have opened up in Bahrain and are having a positive impact.”

Further highlighting Bahrain’s keenness to attract investments to the sector the minister said: “Investors choose Bahrain because of how they are protected while also protecting the students.”

Recently, the minister made a surprise visit to a school to review preparations for examinations. He interacted with the students and verified the state of the examination centres.

1500 Tawasul complaints in first quarter: Works Ministry

TDT | Manama
Mohammed Zafran

Over 1500 complaints were processed by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning through Tawasul, in the first quarter of this year.

Citizens and residents have been making good use of the e-facility Tawasul, according to the statistics released by the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning.

Undersecretary Municipalities Affairs, Dr Nabil Abu Al Fath, said that citizens and residents have been active on Tawasul service and the ministry has received a total of 1514 complaints through the facility during the first quarter of this year.

He said the e-facility has been useful for the ministry in identifying issues the public faces.

The National Suggestion & Complaint system “Tawasul” is one of the essential eChannels that enable citizens and residents to submit their suggestions and complaints to any gov-



90 per cent of the complaints were dealt with while 10pc were not attended as it fell outside the scope of work of the ministry

DR NABIL ABU AL-FATH
UNDERSECRETARY MUNICIPALITIES AFFAIRS

ernment entity in the Kingdom of Bahrain easily at any time and from anywhere.

Every government entity in Tawasul has assigned a dedicated team to handle the suggestions and complaints according to a pre-set performance indica-

tor and timeframe based on the case category.

“The electronic facility has been useful to the residents as they can quickly send reports of the issue they face,” Dr Nabil Abu Al Fath said.

There were 261 complaints

received from Muharraq, 537 from the northern governorate, 412 from the capital, and the rest from the southern governorate.

“90 per cent of the complaints were dealt with while 10pc were not attended as it fell outside the scope of work of the ministry,”

Dr Al Fath said. Apart from the Works Ministry, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning, other Ministries and government entities such as Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs are also available on Tawasul.



Tawasul App is the mobile version of the National Suggestion & Complaint system which is one of the essential eChannels that enable citizens and residents to submit their suggestions and complaints to any government entity easily at any time and from anywhere. Every government entity in Tawasul has assigned a dedicated team to handle the suggestions and complaints according to a pre-set performance indicator and timeframe based on the case category

DHL Express extends BIA lease

The logistics giant to remain in Bahrain for at least 10 more years

TDT | Manama

Global logistics giant DHL Express yesterday extended its lease agreement with Bahrain International Airport (BIA), making Bahrain the company's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regional hub for another 10 years.

Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) Chief Executive Officer, Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, and DHL Express CEO for the Middle East and North Africa, Nour Suliman, signed the extension of the lease.

The signing was held in the presence of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and BAC Chairman Kamal Ahmed, DHL Express Bahrain Chairman Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa, DHL Express MENA Head of Operations, Bachi Spiga, DHL Express Bahrain HUB General Manager, Ali Aryan, and other officials from BAC and DHL.

The renewal also means DHL will celebrate half a century in Bahrain in the coming decade.

Commenting on the deal, the Minister said the agreement reflects the company's continued confidence in Bahrain, which has served as the regional hub for its operations for 42 years.

"The agreement reinforces the Kingdom's position as a leader in air transportation services and indicates the trust global companies have in the Kingdom. It enhances BIA's reputation as an important aviation hub and maintains our logistics connectivity with the rest of the world. This, in turn, will support the country's sustained economic growth following its Economic



The signing was held in the presence of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and BAC Chairman Kamal Ahmed, DHL Express Bahrain Chairman Shaikh Ahmed bin Ali Al Khalifa, DHL Express MENA Head of Operations, Bachi Spiga, DHL Express Bahrain HUB General Manager, Ali Aryan, and other officials from BAC and DHL



DHL Express operates a total area of 57,000 square metres at BIA with its activities accounting for 56 per cent of the airport's total airfreight operations.

Vision 2030."

The deal will allow DHL to play a significant role in initiatives to turn logistics and air cargo into one of Bahrain's primary industries, in line with the objectives of the Higher Coordinating Committee chaired by His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa.

Suliman, said: "Bahrain's position in the Middle East makes it a focal point for our business and the industry as a whole. It

has a distinctive geographical position and a vision of becoming the logistics centre for the region."

"With the logistics market steadily growing and expanding due to the rise of eCommerce, we too had to expand our business, and with Bahrain's "Business Friendly" approach and excellent infrastructure, it is well established to accommodate that growth."

BIA's infrastructure is currently undergoing a major upgrade through the Airport Modernisation Programme, one

of the most important national projects in the Kingdom's history.

The new Passenger Terminal will increase BIA capacity to 14 million passengers a year and its advanced technology will greatly enhance the efficiency of the services provided to both passengers and companies operating out of the airport. The new facility will also provide opportunities to establish partnerships with logistics companies across the Middle East, opening the Kingdom up to new trade prospects.



The agreement reinforces the Kingdom's position as a leader in air transportation services and indicates the trust global companies have in the Kingdom. It enhances BIA's reputation as an important aviation hub and maintains our logistics connectivity with the rest of the world. This, in turn, will support the country's sustained economic growth following its Economic Vision 2030

KAMAL AHMED

MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BAC CHAIRMAN



Russell Peters to perform in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

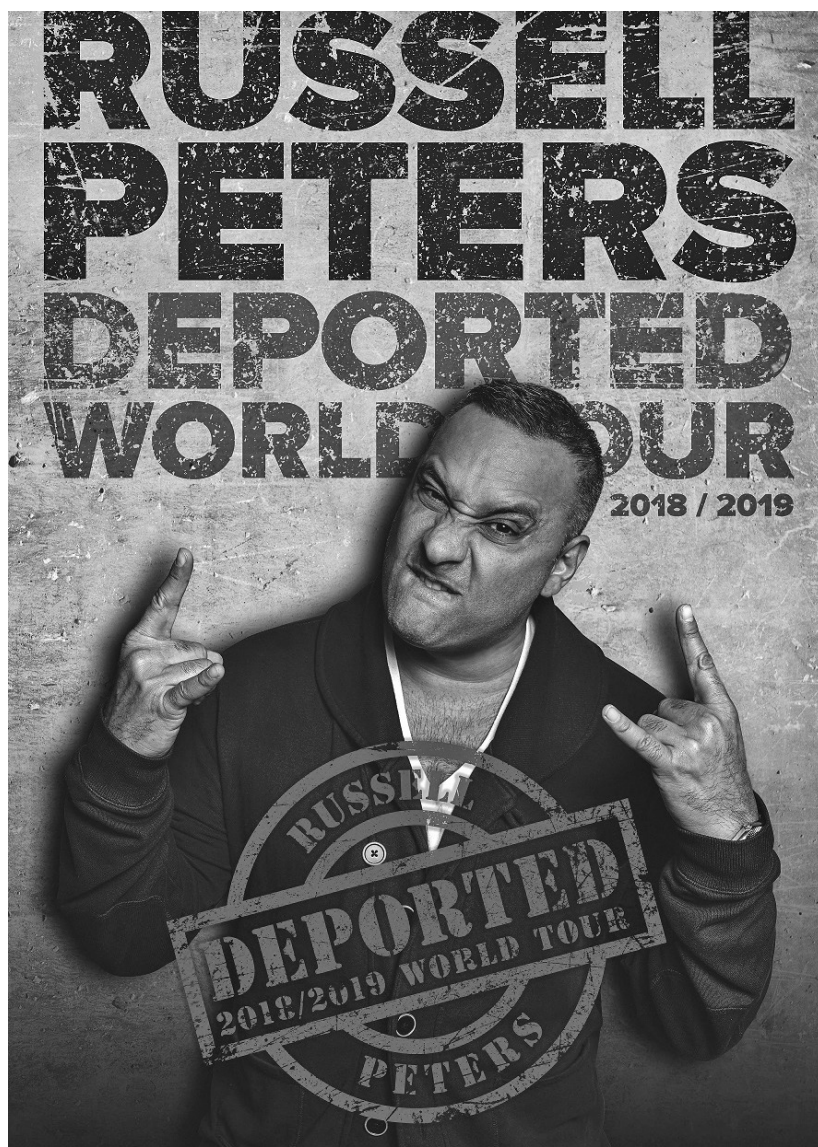
Russell Peters, renowned global stand-up comedian and actor, will perform in Bahrain at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre (BIECC) at Hall 2 on 8 June as a part of his brand new 'Deported' World Tour.

Featuring all-new material, Peters' latest world tour 'Deported' kick-started in Australia and New Zealand back in February 2018. The tour has travelled, ever since, to more than 40 cities across 20 countries and has been seen by over 100,000 fans worldwide.

Speaking on the occasion, Wassim Farhoud, Managing Director of Motivate Events & Media, said: "We are thrilled to be hosting Russell Peters in Bahrain for all the stand-up comedy lovers. The Emmy-winning comic star has a huge fan following in the Kingdom who are eagerly awaiting his stand-up show. Following the announcement of the 'Deported' world tour on our social media channels, we have generated a lot of attention from people of all ages, who are waiting enthusiastically for the show this Eid."

Peters is one of the most sought after comedians in the industry; besides being the first comedian to get a Netflix stand-up special, the comedy legend has received several awards including the Emmy®, Gemini® and Peabody®.

Peters has also appeared in multi-movies.



NOGA's annual electronic report 2018 launched



Oil Minister, Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, launching NOGA's Annual Electronic Report

TDT | Manama

The National Oil and Gas Authority's (NOGA) Annual Electronic Report for the year 2018 was launched yesterday under the patronage of Oil Minister, Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa. The authority also held its Ramadan Ghabga on the occasion in which officials and employees from NOFA, CEOs of oil companies and media personnel attended.

Speaking on the occa-

sion, the Minister extended deepest congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Premier, on the holy month of Ramadan.

The minister also commended the tremendous efforts exerted by the workers in the oil sector. Shaikh Mohammed

highlighted the Kingdom's landmark achievements in the oil and gas sector, citing the oil and gas discoveries and the inauguration of the new oil pipeline between Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, the third gas plant and the Bahrain Liquefied Natural Gas Terminal, among others.

The ceremony also featured the honouring of the local press for the key role it has played in highlighting NOGA's activities and programmes through accurate and specialised coverage and reports.

WORLD

Exxon Mobil pulls foreign staff from Iraq

Reuters | Dubai/Basra

Exxon Mobil has evacuated all of its foreign staff from Iraq's West Qurna 1 oilfield and is flying them out to Dubai, three sources said yesterday.

Production at the oilfield was not affected by the evacuation and work is continuing normally, overseen by Iraqi engineers, Iraqi oil officials said.

"Production is managed by Iraqi engineers anyway, the foreigners are advisers. We have a closed circuit television link with them (foreign staff) and can communicate with them whenever we need," said an official at Iraq's South Oil Company.

Staff were evacuated in several phases late on Friday and early on Saturday, either straight to Dubai or to the main camp



West Qurna oil field is seen in this aerial view, near the city of Basra, 550 kilometres southeast of Baghdad.



Last night 28 employees were evacuated to the airport and the rest were sent to the camp. This morning they were evacuated to the airport and no (foreign) staff remain in the field

A PRIVATE SECURITY COMPANY OFFICIAL

housing foreign oil company employees in Basra province.

Those in the camp were en route to the airport on Saturday morning, the three sources - an employee at a security company

contracted by Exxon, an Iraqi oil official, and a staff member of a foreign oil company - said.

"Last night 28 employees were evacuated to the airport and the rest were sent to the camp. This morning they were evacuated to the airport and no (foreign) staff remain in the field," said a private security company official who oversaw the evacuation.

Days of sabre rattling between Washington and Tehran have heightened tensions in the region amid concerns about a potential US-Iran conflict.

The United States on Wednesday pulled non-emergency staff members from its embassy in the Iraqi capital Baghdad out of apparent concern about perceived threats from neighbouring Iran, to which Iraqi Shia militias are allied.

Bangladesh stops 84 Rohingyas from perilous sea journey

Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

Bangladesh authorities prevented 84 Rohingya refugees from Myanmar from attempting a perilous boat journey to Malaysia, officials said Saturday.

Police in Pekua said 67 Rohingya Muslims from Kutupalong -- the largest refugee settlement in the world -- were stopped as they waited to board a fishing trawler.

They included 31 women and 15 children.

On Saint Martin's, a small Bangladesh island in the Bay of Bengal, the country's coast guard stopped 17 other Rohingyas and five Bangladeshi

traffickers before they could board a rickety fishing boat.

Fayezul Islam Mondol, the regional coast guard commander, said they were acting on a tip off.

About 740,000 Muslim minority Rohingyas have fled Myanmar for Bangladesh since a brutal military crackdown began in August 2017.

They joined another 300,000 Rohingyas already living in overcrowded camps in the Cox's Bazar area following previous bouts of violence.

Thousands of refugees attempt to flee the camps each year in pursuit of better opportunities in countries such as Malaysia and Thailand.

US approves missile sales to S.Korea, Japan

Washington, United States

The United States said Friday it had approved more than \$600 million in sales of air defense missiles to South Korea and Japan as tensions return with North Korea.

The State Department said it had approved 94 SM-2 missiles used by ships against air threats, along with 12 guidance systems for a total cost of \$313.9 million. It separately gave the green light to sell 160 anti-air AMRAAM missiles and related guidance equipment to Japan for \$317 million.

Ex-CIA agent gets 20 years in jail

Washington, United States

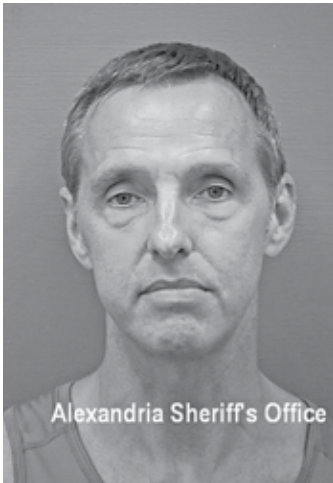
An ex-CIA officer was sentenced to 20 years in prison Friday for spying for China in a case called part of an "alarming trend" in the US intelligence community.

Kevin Mallory, 62, was convicted under the Espionage Act for selling classified US "defense information" to a Chinese intelligence agent for \$25,000 during trips to Shanghai in March and April 2017.

"Your object is to gain information, and my object is to be paid," he told the Chinese agent in a May 5, 2017 message.

The fluent Mandarin speaker had served in the US army, then as a special agent for the security service of the State Department, before becoming a covert case officer for the Central Intelligence Agency.

Mallory is one of several US officials with high-level security clearances arrested and



Kevin Mallory

charged over unsanctioned dealings with Chinese intelligence.

Former Defense Intelligence Agency official Ron Hansen faces 15 years in prison after pleading guilty in March to charges of attempting to sell

classified information to the Chinese.

In April, a former diplomat, Candace Marie Claiborne, pleaded guilty to lying to investigators about money she received from Chinese intelligence agents in exchange for US documents. And in the most significant case, on May 1, former CIA officer Jerry Chun Shing Lee pleaded guilty to spying for China.

Lee, 54, faces a possible life sentence. Arrested in January 2018, he was suspected of having provided Beijing the information it needed to bring down a CIA network of informants in China between 2010 and 2012.

"This case is one in an alarming trend of former US intelligence officers being targeted by China and betraying their country and colleagues," Assistant Attorney General John Demers said of the Mallory case.

Hero dog saves buried baby



Ping Pong, the disabled Thai dog that rescued a baby boy buried by his 15-year-old mother. (Courtesy of Thai television)

Bangkok, Thailand

An attentive dog in northeastern Thailand is being hailed as a hero after finding and saving an infant allegedly buried in a field by his teenage mother, police said Saturday.

The newborn was lying under a layer of dirt near a farm in the Chumpuang district of Nakhon Ratchasima province but was found the same day -- May 15 -- by a curious canine named Ping Pong.

The dog dug around the area and began barking, alerting

his owner a cattle herder, who went to the site.

"I don't think it was long after his mother buried him before the dog found him," case officer Panuvat Udkam said.

He added that the boy was healthy, was recovering in hospital, and was so young he had not been named yet.

The teenage mother was charged with attempted murder and abandonment of children.

Officer Panuvat said the suspect was 15 years old and had tried to dispose of the child be-

cause she was afraid her parents would get angry.

"So after she delivered the baby by herself she buried it," he said.

Local media coverage hailed the achievement and social media users praised Ping Pong's good deed.

A dog is the "best friend" of human beings, a Facebook user commented on the page of media outlet Khaosod English.



The newborn was lying under a layer of dirt near a farm in the Chumpuang district of Nakhon Ratchasima province but was found the same day -- May 15 -- by a curious canine named Ping Pong.

The Finest Option when considering **Special Education** provision

Enroll Now !
Admissions Ongoing

Call Us Today !
☎+973 34490271
☎+973 17598442

School opens in September 2019 for Moderate, Severe and Complex Learning Difficulties

People on Mars by 2033...or 2060

Washington, United States

On December 11, 2017, US President Donald Trump signed a directive ordering NASA to prepare to return astronauts to the Moon “followed by human missions to Mars and other destinations.”

The dates fixed by the space agency are 2024 for the Moon and Mars in 2033, but according to experts and industry insiders, reaching the Red Planet by then is highly improbable barring a Herculean effort on the scale of the Apollo program in the 1960s.

“The Moon is the proving ground for our eventual mission to Mars,” NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine said at a conference this week.

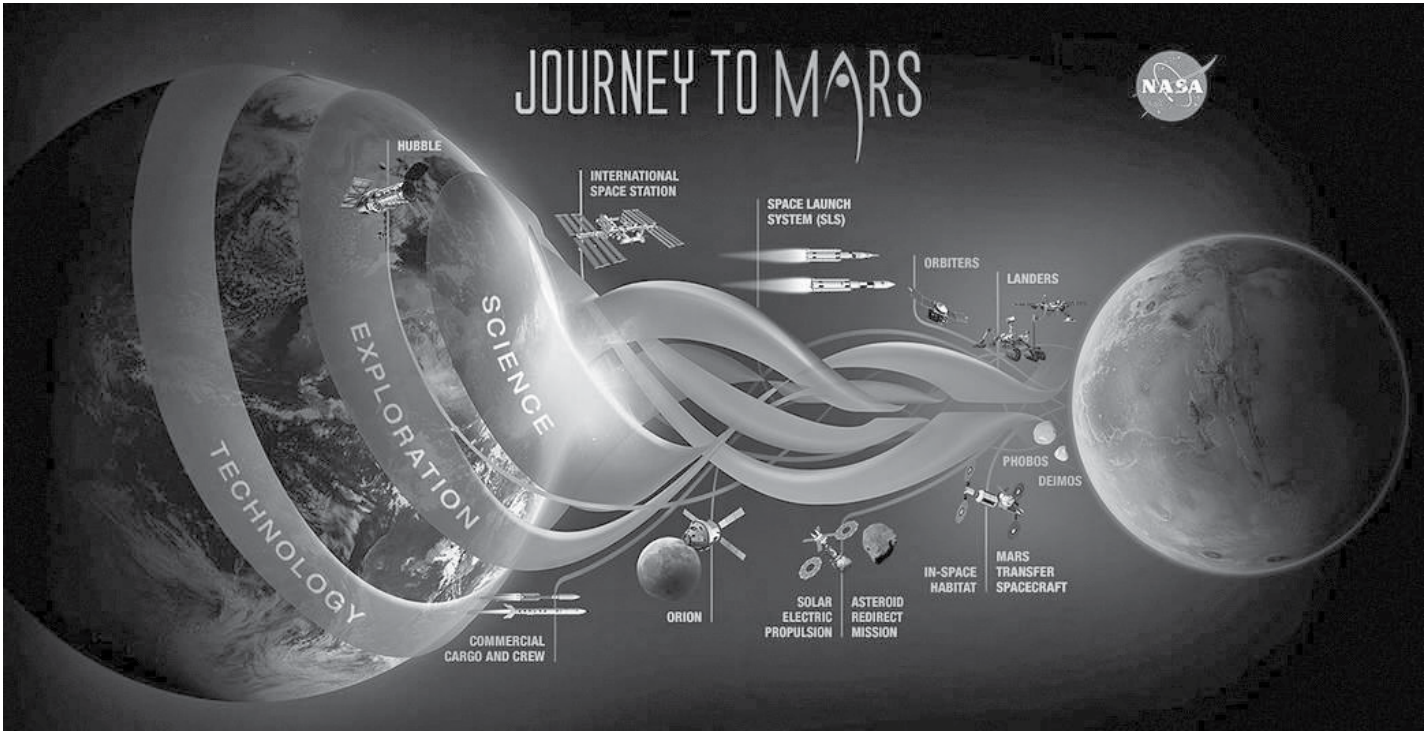
“The Moon is our path to get to Mars in the fastest, safest way possible. That’s why we go to the Moon.”

According to Robert Howard, who heads up the lab developing future space habitats at the legendary Johnson Space Center in Houston, the hurdles aren’t so much technical or scientific as much as a question of budget and political will.

“A lot of people want us to have an Apollo moment, and have a president stand up like Kennedy and say, we’ve got to do it and the entire country comes together,” he said.

“If that happened, I would actually say 2027. But I don’t think that’s going to happen. I think in our current approach, we are going to be lucky to do it by the 2037 date.”

But Howard said if he were to be pessimistic, and assume political



NASA is developing the capabilities needed to send humans to an asteroid by 2025 and Mars in the 2030s (Courtesy of NASA)

dithering lay ahead, “it could be the 2060s.”

Psychological challenges

From the design, manufacture, and testing of the rockets and spaceships required to learning the best way to grow lettuce: all the groundwork remains to be done.

Just getting there will take six months at least, as opposed to three days to the Moon.

The whole mission could take two years, since Mars and the Earth are closet to each other every 26 months, a window that must be taken.

Key tasks include finding a way to shield astronauts from prolonged exposure to solar and cosmic radiation, said Julie Robinson, NASA’s chief scientist for the International Space Station.

“A second is our food system,” she added. The current plant

system ideas “are not packageable, portable or small enough to take to Mars.”

And then there’s the question of dealing with medical emergencies: astronauts will need to be able to treat themselves in case of any accidents.

“I actually think a big deal is the suits,” added Jennifer Heldman, a NASA planetary scientist.

One of the major gripes of the Apollo astronauts was their gloves, which were too inflated and prevented them from doing dexterous work.

NASA is developing a new suit, the first in forty years, called xEMU, but it won’t be ready for its first outing in the International Space Station for a few more years.

On Mars, dust will be even more of a problem than on the Moon. The Apollo astronauts returned with huge amounts of lunar dust in their modules. Keeping it out of habitats will be critical for a mission that involves spending months on the Red Planet.

Techniques to exploit Martian resources to extract water,

oxygen and fuel necessary for humans to live there don’t yet exist -- and must be tested on the Moon by the end of this decade.

Finally there’s the most fundamental question: how will a group of people cope with the psychological stress of being to

tally isolated for two years?

It won’t be possible to communicate in real time with Houston mission control: radio communications will take between four and 24 minutes between the planets, one-way. NASA plans to test out delayed-communication

tion exercises on board the ISS in the coming years.

Artificial intelligence must also be developed to assist and guide the astronauts.

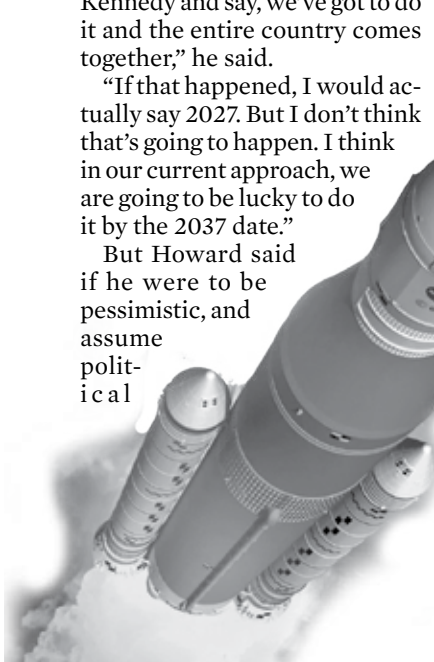
A researcher commissioned by NASA to study the likelihood of getting to Mars by 2033 concluded the objective was “infeasible.”

“It isn’t just budget,” said Bhavya Lal of the Science and Technology Policy Institute. “It’s also organization bandwidth, how many things can NASA do at the same time?”

For Lal, the more realistic timeframe was 2039.

“The Moon is our path to get to Mars in the fastest, safest way possible. That’s why we go to the Moon

JIM BRIDENSTINE
NASA ADMINISTRATOR



An attendee looks at a poster during the Humans to Mars Summit, which aims to advance humanity to the Martian surface by the 2030s, at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington

US doctor sexually abused at least 177 students

● The probe looked into misconduct allegations from 1979 to 1997 reported by former students

● The victims included school athletes as well as other students

Washington, United States

An Ohio State University team doctor sexually abused at least 177 male students over nearly two decades and was never disciplined at the US school despite reports of his actions, an investigation found Friday.

Richard Strauss, who died in 2005, committed the abuse while employed at the school from 1978 to 1998, and university staff were made aware of claims as early as 1979, according to a 12-month independent probe.

The probe looked into misconduct allegations from 1979



Dr Richard Strauss

to 1997 reported by former students -- 150 of whom reported first-hand accounts of sexual abuse committed by Strauss.

In all, more than 440 former students and university staff believed to have information related to allegations involving Strauss were interviewed for the investigation.

The victims included school athletes as well as other students who saw Strauss at the university health center and at an off-campus private medical office.

Strauss established the private medical office in 1996 after he

was suspended from his activities as a treating physician at the school but remained a tenured faculty member.

University president Michael Drake said an independent investigation was launched into the allegations after they were brought to the university’s attention last year.

“The findings are shocking and painful to comprehend,” Drake said as he made the redacted investigation report public.

“On behalf of the university, we offer our profound regret and sincere apologies to each person who endured Strauss’s abuse. Our institution’s fundamental failure at the time to prevent this abuse was unacceptable -- as were the inadequate efforts to thoroughly investigate complaints raised by students and staff members.”

‘Escalated over time’

The abuse, which included “excessive” genital exams and fondling, “escalated over time” as students underwent a series

“On behalf of the university, we offer our profound regret and sincere apologies to each person who endured Strauss’s abuse. Our institution’s fundamental failure at the time to prevent this abuse was unacceptable -- as were the inadequate efforts to thoroughly investigate complaints raised by students and staff members

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT MICHAEL DRAKE

of examinations, according to the report.

“We find this range of acts ‘abusive’ because they exploit-



ed the power Strauss enjoyed purely by virtue of his status in the doctor-patient relationship,” it said.

Perkins Coie, the law firm that conducted the investigation, said it is also examining whether Strauss may have examined students of high school age while serving at the university.

While Strauss resigned from university medical staff at the end of 1994, he remained on the faculty until retiring as professor emeritus in 1998, an honorary status the university is revoking.

The university is covering the costs of counseling for those affected by the abuse.

Drake said his school has implemented safeguards since Strauss’s departure, including a sexual violence consultation team, a centralized anonymous hotline, mandatory reporting of sexual assault for all university employees and mandatory sexual prevention education for incoming students, faculty and staff.

“Issues of sexual misconduct and abuse challenge our society in real and important ways,” he added.

“It is our collective responsibility to remain ever-vigilant and work to ensure that this can never happen again.”

Austria plunged into crisis over ‘Ibiza affair’

● **Strache promised public contracts in return for campaign help from a fake Russian backer.**

Vienna, Austria

Just days before key EU elections, Austria’s coalition government was plunged into crisis yesterday as far-right party leader and Vice-Chancellor Heinz-Christian Strache came under huge pressure to resign after explosive revelations from a hidden camera sting.

Media reports emerged on Friday alleging that Strache promised public contracts in return for campaign help from a fake Russian backer.

Germany’s Der Spiegel and Sueddeutsche Zeitung published hidden-camera recordings of a sting operation they say took place in a luxury villa on the island of Ibiza a few months before 2017’s parliamentary elections in Austria.

In the recordings Strache and his party’s group leader in parliament Johann Gudenus are seen discussing with a woman purporting to be the niece of a Russian oligarch how she can invest in Austria.

She says she specifically wants to gain control of the country’s largest-circulation tabloid, the Krone Zeitung.



FPÖ leader Heinz-Christian Strache in Ibiza in 2017. (Courtesy of Spiegel)

In the recordings Strache and his party’s group leader in parliament Johann Gudenus are seen discussing with a woman purporting to be the niece of a Russian oligarch how she can invest in Austria.

Strache is seen suggesting that new owners could make staff changes at the Krone and use the paper to help his Freedom Party (FPÖ) in its election campaign.

He goes on to suggest the woman would then be able to gain access to public contracts.

According to the newspapers, Strache says that there would be no resistance among the Krone’s editorial staff as “journalists are the biggest whores on the planet”.

Both the newspapers that published the footage say they don’t have any firm information over who set up the elaborate sting.

Chancellor Sebastian Kurz is due to give a press conference on Saturday morning where he will give his reaction to the scandal.

Austrian media report Strache is also expected to speak.

He has already admitted the meeting took place but denies any wrongdoing.

He told the Sueddeutsche Zeitung that “a lot of alcohol was consumed as the evening progressed” and that there was a “high language barrier” during the conversation.

Elsewhere in the video Strache evokes the possibility of privatising part of Austria’s public broadcaster ORF and says he would like Austria’s media landscape to resemble that in neighbouring Hungary.

Hungary’s right-wing nationalist Prime Minister Viktor Orban has overhauled the country’s

public media into a government propaganda organ while allies have steadily bought up swathes of the private media sector.

The FPÖ has mounted repeated attacks on the ORF’s coverage, accusing it of being biased against the party.

Strache also appeared to hint at possible ways political donations could be made to a foundation linked to the FPÖ and not to the party directly, apparently in order to escape legal scrutiny.

In recent weeks Kurz has already had to defend his decision to enter government with the far-right after a string of revelations about extremist sympathies in the FPÖ’s ranks.

The putative link to Russia in the scandal is particularly embarrassing as the FPÖ has a cooperation agreement with Russian President Vladimir Putin’s United Russia party, leading many to accuse the FPÖ of an overly close relationship with Moscow.

The FPÖ’s lead candidate in next week’s elections, MEP Harald Vilimsky, cancelled a planned trip to Milan on Saturday where he was due to take part in a campaign event with far-right Italian Interior Minister Matteo Salvini.

Strache, 49, succeeded the mercurial Joerg Haider as leader of the party in 2005.

He himself flirted with neo-Nazism in his youth, but as leader sought to clean up the party’s image and make it more electable.

First exit polls indicate Labor win in Australian election
Sydney, Australia

The first exit polls from Australia’s climate-dominated election Saturday showed a victory for the opposition Labor party.

A Nine-Galaxy poll showed Labor beating the governing Liberal coalition 52-48, which would signal a clear parliamentary majority.

It would see former union leader Bill Shorten become prime minister after six years of conservative government.

‘Save the Pacific to save the world’
Port Vila, Vanuatu

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said it was vital “to save the Pacific to save the world” as he wrapped up his brief South Pacific tour in Vanuatu yesterday.

Guterres has spent the past week in the region pushing for urgent action ahead of a UN summit in September billed as a last chance to prevent irreversible climate change.

According to the UN, Vanuatu is the world’s most at-risk country from natural hazards, but Guterres said it was also “leading the way” with is resilience.

Life goes on under cloud of smog in Mexico City

Mexico City, Mexico

Scientists say breathing the heavily polluted air in Mexico City these days is like smoking somewhere between a quarter- and a half-pack of cigarettes a day.

But that has not stopped Oscar Chong from going out for his daily workout, despite four days of warnings from the authorities to avoid strenuous physical activity outside.

“I’m addicted to exercise. If I don’t work out on a daily basis, I don’t feel well. It actually helps release my creativity, among many other things. If I just stayed home, I’d be staring at the walls, staring at my computer screen, and ideas are never born that way,” Chong, a graphic designer, told AFP.

The trim 51-year-old was taking a break from his interval workout in the capital’s largest park, the Bosque de Chapultepec -- which the authorities actually closed at one point this week, to hammer home the message that running or cycling in the middle of an air pollution alert was not a good idea.

The sprawling city -- a metropolitan area of more than 20 million people -- has been blanketed in a thick cloud of smog since last weekend.

Authorities blame the problem on dozens of wildfires that have broken out across central Mexico in recent weeks, and the lack of wind or rain to disperse the resulting particles.

However, experts agree the city’s chronic pollution problems are also at fault.

Mexico City is prone to air pollution, both because of the mountains that surround it -- trapping smog overhead -- and its more than five million cars.

But the wildfires have undoubtedly made matters worse. They have sent the levels

of PM2.5 soaring -- tiny particles produced by any fire that are the deadliest air pollutant.

Authorities declared a pollution alert from Tuesday to Friday, after the micro-particle level hit 158 micrograms per cubic meter.

That is the equivalent of smoking more than seven cigarettes a day, according to a widely cited study by US doctors Richard and Elizabeth Muller, every age group.

‘Feels horrible’

The gray cloud of smog has scrambled people’s routines in the sprawling mega-city.

Officials are urging residents to avoid physical activity outdoors, and children, the elderly and those with respiratory illnesses to remain inside.

They have canceled school and sporting events. The football league moved a key semi-fi-

nal match to Queretaro, some 200 kilometers (125 miles) to the northwest.

Many residents who can afford it have decided to do the same, skipping town until the pollution dies down -- though many traditional getaway spots outside the city are polluted, too.

That includes the picturesque colonial city of Puebla, 135 kilometers to the southeast, which is dealing with an extra dose of pollution thanks to the nearby Popocatepetl volcano, which has been spewing ash into the sky.

Other residents have little choice but to ride out the smog, which stings many people’s eyes and throats.

“I’ve been trying not to go out. It smells like something burned,” Nicté Munoz, 38, said from behind a surgical mask on her way to the environmental organization where she works.

Authorities have shut down

large construction sites, restricted the use of older vehicles and ordered certain polluting industries to cut emissions by 30 to 40 percent. They have even shut down some of the city’s beloved street-food stands to reduce smoke.

But Mayor Claudia Sheinbaum and President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador -- close allies in the leftist ruling party Morena -- have faced criticism over the government’s slow reaction.

And none of the authorities’ anti-pollution measures amount to anything if they are not enforced, underlined Chong.

“Take the restrictions on older cars, for example,” he said.

“The (emissions) verification centers are full of corruption, and always have been. There may be a system designed to attack the pollution problem, but the reality is, it’s not. Pollution just continues, one way or another.”



A group of students wear face masks during a ceremony at Zocalo Square in Mexico City

San Francisco Is Right: Facial Recognition Must Be Put On Hold



JONAH GOLDBERG

What are we going to do about all the cameras? The question keeps me up at night, in something like terror.

Cameras are the defining technological advance of our age. They are the keys to our smartphones, the eyes of tomorrow's autonomous drones and the FOMO engines that drive Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat. Cheap, ubiquitous, viral photography has fed social movements like Black Lives Matter, but cameras are already prompting more problems than we know what to do with — revenge porn, live-streamed terrorism, YouTube reactionaries and other photographic ills.

And cameras aren't done. They keep getting cheaper and — in ways both



Facial recognition software is demonstrated at the Intel booth at CES 2019 show at the Las Vegas Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada

amazing and alarming — they are getting smarter. Advances in computer vision are giving machines the ability to distinguish and track faces, to make guesses about people's behaviours and intentions, and to comprehend and navigate threats in the physical environment. In China, smart cameras sit at the foundation of an all-encompassing surveillance totalitarianism unprecedented in human history. In the West, intelligent cameras are now being sold as cheap solutions to nearly every private and public woe, from catching cheating spouses and package thieves to preventing school shootings and immigration violations. I suspect these and more uses will take off, because in my years of covering tech, I've gleaned one ironclad axiom about society: If you put a camera in it, it will sell.

That's why I worry that we're stumbling dumbly into a surveillance state. And it's why I think the only reasonable thing to do about smart cameras now is to put a stop to them.

This week, San Francisco's board of supervisors voted to ban the use of facial-recognition technology by the city's police and other agencies. Oakland and Berkeley are also considering bans, as is the city of Somerville, Mass. I'm hoping for a cascade. States, cities and the federal government should impose an immediate moratorium on facial recog-

nition, especially
ment agencies.
at a later time,
to cameras ever
jump into an all
understanding t
What are the r
by Clare Garvie,
ies facial recog



A live demonstration of temporal technology at CES 2019 in Las Vegas

The technology
is unregulated
and rife with
error. We
shouldn't
deploy it
without strong
privacy rules.



A display shows a facial recognition system for law enforcement during the NVIDIA GPU Technology Conference, which showcases artificial intelligence, deep learning, virtual reality and autonomous machines, in Washington

The 'new Malaysia' promised in last year's election

Prime
minister
Mahathir
Mohamad
has yet to
deliver on
the reforms
promised
when he
ended
Barisan
Nasional's
grip on
power



SHOLTO BYRNES

This time last year, Malaysia was in a state of shock after the Barisan Nasional coalition — which had been in government since independence in 1957 — lost the May general election. There was euphoria, too, not only felt by the victors. That the first ever democratic transition took place peacefully, with no attempt by the previous administration, headed by Najib Tun Razak, to cling on, was a sign of political maturity not always found in developing countries. The new government promised much. It seemed as though there was something for almost everyone to cheer.

One year on, the celebrations have been distinctly muted. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad marked the first anniversary of his return to power — he previously led the nation from 1981 to 2003 as the head of the

United Malays National Organisation, part of Barisan Nasional's coalition — with a speech in which he announced a new plan called Shared Prosperity, which aims to achieve sustainable and equitable growth and "harmony and stability among the people" by 2030. Just days before, however, he had given his own cabinet only five out of 10 for their work so far — hardly the most ringing of endorsements.

The Pakatan Harapan (PH) administration might have won a by-election in the state of Sabah last weekend but it was a seat it expected to retain. The previous three by-elections were all victories for the new Barisan Nasional opposition, in which Najib campaigned with a new motorbike-riding, man-of-the-people persona that appears to have gained some traction on social media. For an ex-prime minister facing an array of charges, mostly related to the 1MDB scandal, that could see him jailed for the rest of his life, he appears to be remarkably buoyant and relaxed.

The PH administration has some achievements to be proud of, such as



Malaysia's Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad speaks during a press conference in Putrajaya

2012

A car bomb explodes near a military complex in the Syrian city of Deir ez-Zor, killing nine people.

2015

The Refugio oil spill deposited 142,800 U.S. gallons (3,400 barrels) of crude oil onto an area in California considered one of the most biologically diverse coastlines of the west coast.

2016

EgyptAir Flight 804 crashes into the Mediterranean Sea while traveling from Paris to Cairo, killing all on board.

2018

The wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle is held at St George's Chapel, Windsor, with an estimated global audience of 1.9 billion.



2019 consumer electronics

its use by law-enforcement. We might still decide, to give ourselves over everywhere. But let's not see future without the risks at hand. Two new reports a researcher who studied at Georgetown



uses artificial intelligence and facial recognition in dense crowd spatially at the Horizon Robotics exhibit at the Las Vegas Convention Center during

A ban on facial recognition for law enforcement in San Francisco highlights growing public concerns about technology which is seeing stunning growth for an array of applications while provoking worries over privacy



E. Craig, Detroit's police chief, disputed any "Orwellian activities," adding that he took "great umbrage" at the suggestion that the police would "violate the rights of law-abiding citizens."

I'm less optimistic, and so is Garvie. "Face recognition gives law enforcement a unique ability that they've never had before," Garvie told me. "That's the ability to conduct biometric surveillance — the ability to see not just what is happening on the ground but who is doing it. This has never been possible before. We've never been able to take mass fingerprint scans of a group of people in secret. We've never been able to do that with DNA. Now we can with face scans."

That ability alters how we should think about privacy in public spaces. It has chilling implications for speech and assembly protected by the First Amendment; it means that the police can watch who participates in protests against the police and keep tabs on them afterward.

In fact, this is already happening. In 2015, when protests erupted in Baltimore over the death of Freddie Gray while in police custody, the Baltimore County Police Department used facial recognition software to find people in the crowd who had outstanding warrants — arresting them immediately, in the name of public safety.

(Farhad Manjoo is a leading and influential Silicon Valley voice and an opinion writer for The New York Times)

CAPTAINS CORNER

Bahrain's leaders signal preparedness



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

The mounting regional tension is undoubtedly the result of irresponsible policies followed by some countries and as a bloc, the GCC stands prepared for the face-off. This was the message of His Majesty King Hamad as he chaired the joint meeting of the Cabinet and the Supreme Defence Council.

Bahrain is part of the GCC and always expressed commitment to regional peace. Our leaders have always played a powerful role in creating the environment for peace and prosperity but as His Majesty said so clearly, our national and regional priorities for peace must not be taken as an unwillingness to fight for our rights. This means that our Kingdom is prepared morally and militarily to confront terrorism and acts of sabotage and backing of any measures taken to maintain their security and stability.

At the uppermost levels of leadership, Bahrain has sent out the signals that it stands by its brotherly allies of Saudi Arabia and UAE in the fight against terrorism. Bahrain is closely monitoring the situation — as a nation that borders the Arabian Gulf, one of the most important and busiest sea lanes for the global oil industry, we see this as a responsibility to the world.

It is time for the international community to be unambiguous about its support of the countries that are mobilizing against extremism so that the rogue nations know that the world is against disruption of peace.

HM the king said any attempt to incite sedition, division or acts that are inconsistent with the national constants would be firmly addressed, and stressed that Bahrain has the capabilities to confront risks to its security, stability and its people.

Now, it is the turn of citizens to show their loyalty and preparedness for defending the values that we hold most dear. You see, it is not necessary to be in the military to defend your beloved country. As His Majesty said, citizens and civil societies are the backbone of civilization and our first line of defence against extremism. Vigilance against terrorism and unpatriotic acts begins in every home.

(Captain Mahmood Al Mahmood is the Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Tribune and the President of the Arab-African Unity Organisation for Relief, Human Rights and Counterterrorism)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



From securing our borders from enemy to securing citizens from natural calamities, the unbent & unbroken will-power of Indian Army to serve the country minus even the highest peaks of Himalayas. I salute our saviours & sons of the soil for their help in Odisha's hour of need.

@dpradhanbjp

02



At start of Senate Watergate hearings, today 1973, Chair Sam Ervin said, "The health, if not the survival, of our social structure and of our form of government requires the most candid and public investigation of all the evidence...The nation and history itself are watching us."

@BeschlossDC

03



Even as states like Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Ohio, and Mississippi are hell-bent on overturning Roe v. Wade and outlawing abortion in this country, there are more of us across the country who are ready to defend women's reproductive freedom. We won't go backward.

@KamalaHarris

04



A tale of two presidents: President Trump pardoned an army ranger who killed a member of the Taliban in self-defense. Barack Obama pardoned Chelsea Manning - a transgender who committed espionage against the United States.

@RyanAFournier

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

lection has failed to materialise

reinventing the country's Electoral Commission and making efforts to improve scrutiny of the government of the day in parliament. But disappointment is widespread: at the U-turns on signing up to innocuous UN human rights treaties; over the perception that cost of living issues are not being addressed, a crucial factor in last year's election; and that many of the promises in PH's manifesto have not been implemented.

Dr Mahathir has answered the last point by saying that when the pledges were made, "we didn't expect to win", which might be typically frank but is hardly the most satisfying of explanations. Those expecting liberal reforms feel particularly let down.

Dr Mahathir and other friends of PH have said that the new ministers are inexperienced and should be given more time. But the home, foreign, finance and economic affairs ministers have all previously held high office while other highly respected ex-cabinet ministers are advisers or members of different PH component parties.

Many agree that the initial period

after PH won last year's election was a huge missed opportunity. It was then, when there was such goodwill towards the new government, that it had the political capital to make some tough decisions, such as changing the positive discrimination policy that favours Malays. They are, overall, a poorer segment of society — which includes many other ethnicities, mainly Chinese, Indian and other indigenous groups — but most economists concur that the decades-long programme has become a crutch that holds back both the economy and Malays themselves. Other reforms could certainly have been enacted, like repealing the draconian Sedition Act, which is so vaguely worded it can be used to arrest anyone for almost anything.

Instead, PH has spent much of its energy on an anti-corruption drive, targeting Najib and his allies. That might have been broadly popular — but it also left them floundering once the United Malays National Organisation, which dominated the previous Barisan Nasional government, teamed up with the Malaysian Islamic Party. The new coalition has

Many agree that the initial period after PH won last year's election was a huge missed opportunity, when there was such goodwill towards the new government

claimed Islam and the rights of Malays are under threat from the new government, pointing to the large number of ethnic Chinese MPs in the PH coalition. As a result, the current administration, which only won 30 per cent of the Malay vote last year, has realised it must retain and build on that number if it is to win the next

election.

But it also means that the "new Malaysia" that was anticipated is still dominated by the old discourse of race and religion — and on those, the new coalition is hard to beat.

Many said that Dr Mahathir, who has been accused of being authoritarian and a Malay chauvinist in the past, had changed when he came to head the opposition, now the ruling party, before the election. But there are many reasons to conclude he has not changed at all. He thinks he knows best for Malaysia and he thought Najib — his one-time protégé — had to be removed. He might well feel satisfaction at achieving his goal after the former prime minister lost power and is now the subject of criminal charges. But those who hoped for a new Malaysia would be justified in asking if that was all last year's election was really about.

(Sholto Byrnes is a Kuala Lumpur-based commentator and consultant and a corresponding fellow of the Erasmus Forum)

business

OPEC to act if needed

Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister says oil stocks still building

● OPEC's agreed share of the cuts is 800,000 bpd, but its actual reduction is far larger due to the production losses in Iran and Venezuela.

Reuters | Saudi Arabia/ Jeddah

Saudi Arabia's Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih said yesterday that OPEC will be responsive to the oil market's needs, but that he was not sure there is an oil shortage with data, particularly from the United States, still showing inventories building.

Speaking in Jeddah ahead of a ministerial panel gathering yesterday by top OPEC and non-OPEC producers, including Saudi Arabia and Russia, Falih said OPEC will not decide on output until late June when the group is due to meet.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Russia and other non-OPEC producers have agreed to reduce output by 1.2 million barrels per day (bpd) from Jan. 1 for six months, a deal designed to stop inventories building up and weakening prices.



I am not sure there is a supply shortage, but we will look at the (market) analysis. We will definitely be responsive and the market will be supplied

KHALID AL-FALIH
SAUDI ARABIA'S ENERGY MINISTER

"We will be flexible. We are going to do the right thing as we always do," Falih said of any decision at the meeting in June on continuing the reductions.

Falih said OPEC is guided by two main principles: "One to keep the market in its direction towards balancing and inventories back to normal level. And two to be responsive to market needs. We will strike the right balance I am sure."

OPEC's agreed share of the cuts is 800,000 bpd, but its actual reduction is far larger due to the production losses in Iran and Venezuela. Both are under U.S. sanctions and exempt from the voluntary reductions under the OPEC-led deal.

Sunday's ministerial panel meeting, known as the JMMC, comes amid concerns of a tight market as Iran's oil exports are likely to drop further in May, and shipments from Venezuela could fall more in coming weeks due to the sanctions by Washington.

Oil contamination also forced Russia to halt flows along the Druzhba pipeline - a key conduit for crude into Eastern Europe and Germany - in April. The suspension, as yet of unclear duration, left refiners scrambling to find supplies.

"I am not sure there is a supply shortage, but we will look at the (market) analysis. We will definitely be responsive and the

market will be supplied," Falih said.

"All indications are that inventories are still rising. We saw the data from the U.S. week after week, and they are massive increases, so obviously (there is) supply abundance."

US crude inventories rose unexpectedly last week to their highest since September 2017, while gasoline stockpiles decreased more than forecast, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) said on Wednesday.

An OPEC and non-OPEC technical committee found that oil producers' compliance with the supply-reduction agreement reached 168pc in April, three sources told yesterday.



MIKE ORLOV

Your Attitudes, Behaviours and Habits Drive Your Leadership Competencies

We left off last week saying: "How we manage, how we conduct ourselves when carrying out our management-processes, activities and tasks, defines our management-competencies". We added: "...our attitudes and our consistent-behaviours as a manager define our leadership-competencies. To be competent, you need great management-capabilities as well as outstanding attitudes and consistent-behaviours".

There has been some immediate and fascinating comeback on these statements, with many believing it just is not possible to change someone's attitudes and behaviours. If someone has bad attitudes, then this is something they are going to live with all their life. And bad attitudes will mean poor behaviours and terrible habits.

So the question is; can people-focused leaders help others change attitudes, aid in shifting behaviours and be a catalyst for new habits? The answer is a confident, definite, positive and resounding yes it is possible.

So the question is; can people-focused leaders help others change attitudes, aid in shifting behaviours and be a catalyst for new habits? The answer is a confident, definite, positive and resounding yes it is possible.

To help us understand how leaders can help people change their attitudes, behaviours and habits it is worthwhile exploring the differences between attitudes and behaviours.

Attitude is a psychological construct based on a mental and emotional entity characterising a person. Attitudes are our value-stance towards other individuals, issues, events or objects. Acquired through experiences, attitudes are complex: a way of thinking or feeling about something; point of view; viewpoint; vantage point; frame of mind; way of thinking; way of looking at things; personal outlook; opinions; ideas; convictions; perceptions and interpretations.

Given attitudes are moulded by those we admire, respect and wish to emulate; they are not only formed from past experiences, but also from the present. And attitudes can change dramatically given what is occurring in the present. Our attitudes are also shaped by those we fear or loathe; 'I don't want to act like THAT person'.

Attitudes are unstable, open to be changed. With positive influences, attitudes can be changed for the better. Conversely, with negative influences, attitudes can change for the worse. Imagine you had a supportive leader, a people-focused supervisor who was suddenly removed from post and replaced by a narcissist bully who took all the credit for themselves, did not work hard, was a poor time-keeper and did not know how to recognise good work, appreciate others and never praised anyone. Your attitudes towards you work would change for the worst almost immediately. And this shift would influence your behaviours from your own time-keeping, how much you showed initiative and just how positive you were about the organisation.

Behaviours therefore are the ways in which we acts or conduct ourselves based on our attitudes; our deportment, bearing and etiquette. How we behave is manifestation of our attitudes towards the other person, issues, events or objects. People judge us on our behaviours, not on our attitudes. They may say '...you have a bad attitude...' but what they mean is your behaviours indicate you have a bad attitude.

Others cannot see your knowledge. Nor can they see your experiences. Others may have a sense of your skills and capabilities but can only judge you on your behaviours, which are projections of your attitudes.

If attitudes can be changed, then behaviours can also be changed. Imagine your new narcissist boss begins to keep better time. You are suddenly praised for all your innovative efforts by the narcissist bully's superior because she realises what you have historically been doing. And the narcissist joins in. These positive behaviours continue and the narcissist begins to change hos behaviours. You are likely to change your attitudes towards this narcissist and the organisation which will affect your behaviours.

If your behaviours begin to change, so will your consistent habits; those behaviours you do not have to think about because they are so ingrained, settled and regular; behaviours becoming hard to give up.

(Mike Orlov is a Partner at Stepping Stone Global, a Bahrain-based boutique strategic management consultancy. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Leadership and Management. Email: info@steppingstoneglobal.com)

Gulf Travel and Tourism Forum 2019 in October



Shaikh Khaled Bin Humood Al Khalifa

TDI | Manama

Bahrain will host the first Gulf Travel and Tourism Forum under the patronage of Shaikh Khaled Bin Humood Al Khalifa, the CEO for the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority.

The first-of-its-kind event in Bahrain will take place at the Gulf Convention Center from 23 to 25 October 2019.

The event is organised by Action Leaders for Women Advancement (ALWANE) and is being managed by Worksmart for Events Management.

Forum's primary objective is promoting Bahrain as one of the top MICE destinations in the region.

On the sidelines of Gulf Travel and Tourism Forum are several activities that reflect Bahraini's hospitality, in addition to a series of workshops and discussions related to the tourism sector will be organised.

NBB launches 'Al Watani TRADE'



Officials during the launch ceremony of Al Watani TRADE held on the floor of Bahrain Bourse

TDI | Manama

National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) yesterday launched Al Watani TRADE, an online trading platform that allows to trade equities and other securities directly on Bahrain Bourse.

Al Watani TRADE was inaugurated on the Bahrain Bourse trading floor in the presence of NBB management and staff.

The platform developed in collaboration with Mubasher Financial Services provides customised stock alerts and smart grid watchlists to keep

track of favourite stocks.

Al Watani allows to view buying power information, consolidated portfolio review and evaluation, historical transactions record, real-time market notifications for potential investment opportunities, major Global Market summary to help monitor price movement and keep track of the key market indices, commodities and currencies as well as trading alerts and notifications via SMS and email.

Commenting, Hussain Al Hussaini, Chief Executive – Treasury, Capital Markets &

Wealth Management at NBB, said, "With Al Watani TRADE, customers get real-time quotes, can buy and sell stocks on the go, access all news and announcements, and benefit from a wide range of analytical tools to help them make smart and well-informed decisions."

Narjes Farookh Jamal, Chief Operating Officer of Bahrain Bourse added: "AlWatani TRADE, which falls under the Bahrain Trade network, aims to enhance retail investor penetration in the market as the platform aims to provide convenience and flexibility."

Less buzz, Less show

As bitcoin gyrates, less euphoria in evidence at blockchain gathering

Last year's Consensus blockchain conference took place just four months after the virtual currency hit almost \$20,000, spawning a legion of bitcoin millionaires who rode in swanky luxury cars and partied in over-the-top soirees



● **Blockchain is a digital ledger that is the underlying technology of bitcoin with broad applications in finance and many industries**

New York, United States

The vibe at a gathering this week for blockchain enthusiasts felt decidedly less exuberant than its predecessor a year ago after dizzying swings in bitcoin.

Last year's Consensus blockchain conference took place just four months after the virtual currency hit almost \$20,000, spawning a legion of bitcoin millionaires who rode in swanky luxury cars and partied in over-the-top soirees.

Despite bitcoin's latest bounce, this year's gathering, again held at a hotel in New York, featured less ostentatious displays of wealth and a more sober sensibility.

The shift is partly a reflection of bitcoin's dramatic price swings, as well as a sign of the evolution of blockchain technology into more real-life, less trendy applications.

"It's definitely less buzz, less show," said Wes Fuldord, chief executive at Bitfarms Technologies, a cryptomining operation based in Quebec. "But it's reflecting signs of a more mature market."

Blockchain is a digital ledger



Bitfarms founder and president Pierre-Luc Quimper, right, and CEO Wes Fuldord are seen at their bitcoin mine in Magog, Que



Deloitte demonstrated blockchain-based cybersecurity technology at the Consensus 2019 conference in New York

that is the underlying technology of bitcoin with broad applications in finance and many industries that permit multiple users to share data and information in real time. The technology is considered secure because the

data cannot be altered.

"In 2018, we just had a lot of powerpoint presentations," recalled Francois-Xavier Thoores, founder of blockchain company Ark. "This year, we have real products."

Display stands at the event included a Deloitte product of three screens that employs blockchain for cybersecurity, and an application from startup Riddle & Code that authenticates expensive watches.

Speakers included representatives of Pfizer and AstraZeneca, who discussed blockchain applications in pharmaceutical research, and Microsoft, which is marketing a blockchain-based "decentralized identity" to secure personal data.

Attendees also discussed solutions to manage the ownership of digital assets and the various legal and regulatory issues that have surfaced.

This year's conference, sponsored by the digital media company CoinDesk, follows a turbulent year for bitcoin, which bottomed out at \$3,200 in December in a decline that sparked skepticism on the potential of blockchain.

Mysterious bitcoin rally

The recent rally in bitcoin -- doubling to \$8,000 from \$4,000 in late March -- failed to push conference attendance to the 2018 count of 8,000. This year's event drew just 4,800 people.

The volatility in bitcoin prices as especially troubling for some observers. Fuldord said some smaller players have exited the market, leaving it to more established companies.

"Some of the hype has slowed down in the back of price weakness in 2018," Fuldord said.

Some blockchain experts have

questioned whether the latest rise in bitcoin as a result of financial market uncertainty due in part to protracted US-China trade talks, with investors seeking "refuge" in the crypto market.

But for many the rally in the digital currency remains a mystery.

"We're still at the stage with bitcoin of alternating between euphoria and despair," said Thoores, adding that more attention from regulators should with time lead to a more normalized market.

Thoores noted that the crypto universe has come a long way from one that only two years ago could lead to banks closing an account linked to a crypto trading platform.

"All technologies go through the same steps, from fringe, to frontier, to mainstream," said Margaret Rosenfelds, an attorney who specializes in blockchain at K&L Gates.

At this point, finance is the most seasoned when it comes to understanding cryptocurrencies and using blockchain, she said.

But many other sectors are looking at applications, and devotees still expect to see growth is expected, even if the technology remains a bit abstract to a non-specialist.

Comparing it to the technology underlying email and many other now-common applications, Rosenfelds said, "The average person don't need to understand how it works to adopt and use it."

Trump lifts steel, aluminum tariffs on Canada, Mexico



● **The 25 per cent tariff on steel and 10pc on aluminum -- became a major stumbling block to ratifying a new North American trade pact**

"I'm pleased to announce that we've just reached an agreement with Canada and Mexico and will be selling our product into those countries, without the imposition of tariffs"

DONALD TRUMP

Washington, United States

President Donald Trump on Friday announced a deal to lift US tariffs on steel and aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico that had created friction between the neighbors and blocked a new North American free trade agreement.

His statement came moments after Canada released the text of the agreement between Ottawa and Washington in which they agreed to eliminate US tariffs on steel and aluminum, and Canada's retaliatory measures, within no more than two days.

Mexico confirmed it had reached a similar agreement with the United States.

"Trump's strategy has worked," US Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said in a statement, crediting the tariffs with reviving US steel and aluminum manufacturers.

The steep US tariffs imposed last year -- 25 percent on steel and 10 percent on aluminum -- became a major stumbling block to ratifying a new North American trade pact negotiated last year by the three countries.

Canada and Mexico initially were exempted from the tariffs Trump enforced using a national security argument, as part of his hardline trade tactics.

Once America's neighbors were included, the levies drew

retaliation with tariffs on a host of US products.

Even after the governments agreed to a revised free trade deal -- the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement, or USMCA -- the tariffs remained in place, but officials in Ottawa and Mexico City said they would not sign unless Washington removed the metals duties.

Not making sense

Speaking to reporters in Ottawa, Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said there was a shared recognition that "these tariffs were harming workers and consumers on both sides of the border" and "didn't make a lot of sense" in the context of a new free trade deal.

"Obviously these continued tariffs on steel and aluminum and our countermeasures represented significant barriers to moving forward with the new NAFTA agreement," he said, referring to the 24-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement.

"Now that we've had a full lift on these tariffs we are going to work with the United States on timing for ratification but we're very optimistic we are going to be able to move forward well in the coming weeks," Trudeau said.

Mexican chief trade negotiator Jesus Seade likewise tweeted that the lifting of tariffs "clears

the way towards ratification of USMCA."

Some key members of the US Congress had said they would not agree to vote for the three-country free trade pact unless the Trump's metals tariffs ended.

"Hopefully Congress will approve it quickly," said Trump.

Democratic US Senator Chuck Schumer applauded the decision to remove the metals tariffs, but said there are other concerns about the USMCA.

"It is a good thing these tariffs will be lifted, and we should urge our allies to join us in preventing China's predatory practices," Schumer said in a statement.

However, "There are still many other issues that are outstanding before Democrats would support the USMCA."

According to the agreement, Canada and Mexico will withdraw all complaints lodged against the United States at the World Trade Organization.

The two countries also agreed to monitor imports of steel and aluminum to ensure metals that are sold at "dumped prices" -- below the cost of production -- are not purchased in or shipped through Canada and Mexico.

In addition, they agreed to a provision to reimpose steep duties if imports of the metals "surge meaningfully beyond historic volumes of trade over a period of time."

The US Trade Representative's office said the agreement "provides for aggressive monitoring and a mechanism to prevent surges in imports of steel and aluminum."

"This agreement is great news for American farmers that have been subject to retaliatory tariffs from Canada and Mexico," USTR said. US tariffs on steel and aluminum from Europe remain in place, as does the EU retaliation. Some countries, including South Korea, accepted export quotas to avoid the tariffs.



A man works in a steel distribution factory in Monterrey in northern Mexico

KHCB announces readiness for open banking services

TDT | Manama

Khaleeji Commercial Bank (KHCB) yesterday announced its readiness for open banking services, making it the first bank in Bahrain and the MENA to be fully compliant with the CBB's directives.

Through these services, KHCB will be able to accept requests to share account information and process payment procedures with other banks and institutions in the frame of open banking service laws and regulatory requirements.

KHCB's open banking infrastructure has been provided by Token.io, an Open Banking platform provider represented by Tarabut Gateway, a subsidiary of Almoayed Technologies and licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB).

KHCB CEO Sattam Sulaiman Alghosaibi said: "This step is an integral part of our approach towards digital transformation, accelerating progress



KHCB CEO Sattam Sulaiman Alghosaibi

in this field and paving the way towards an advanced banking experience for our clients."

Abdulla Almoayed, CEO of Almoayed Technologies stated: "This partnership with KHCB demonstrates how quickly banks can adapt to regulatory demands when offering proven open banking technologies."

VISA, FinTech Bay join hands

TDT | Manama

Visa said it has partnered with Bahrain FinTech Bay to further support the development of the FinTech ecosystem in Bahrain.

The partnership will focus on the development of joint innovation and educational initiatives alongside a payment focused event to discuss the latest trends in payments, e-commerce, security and risk.

The deal will also contribute to the regional and global initiatives in which Bahrain Fintech Bay is an active participant and across the Fintech Consortium's platform including Silicon Valley and Singapore.

Khalid Saad, CEO of Bahrain FinTech Bay said the partnership with Visa will further de-

velop the FinTech ecosystem here and in the region through Bahrain FinTech Bay's deepening connections to global centres.

Dylan Kaloo, Visa's Country Manager for Bahrain, said, "We look forward to working with startups and innovators to foster and potentially bring new payment experiences in a secure and scalable manner."

Bahrain FinTech Bay was established a year ago and has around 100 partners including financial institutions, technology companies, FinTechs, public institutions, educational institutions and others to drive innovation and the entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Bahrain Fintech Bay is part of the Fintech Consortium's global hub network.

Brazil economic woes hit stocks, currency

● The bleak outlook was underscored by economy minister Paulo Guedes, who warned this week that Brazil was "at the bottom of the well"

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Atrophying growth forecasts and waning confidence in President Jair Bolsonaro sent Brazil's stocks and currency to their lowest level of the year this week, as analysts warned of further falls.

Since touching a record 100,000 points in mid-March, the Bovespa has fallen 10 percent and wiped out gains made since far-right Bolsonaro took power on January 1 on a promise to revive Latin America's biggest economy.

The benchmark index closed just below 90,000 on Friday, while Brazil's currency traded at its lowest level against the dollar in eight months, breaking through four reals.

The sharp declines have been fanned by uncertainty over US-China trade talks that has pummelled stocks and currencies in emerging markets, which are perceived as riskier bets.

But the "external headwinds" have been compounded by concerns over Brazil's feeble economy, which has struggled to grow since emerging from the devastating 2015-2016 recession, said William Jackson of London-based Capital Economics.

"There was a lot of hope when Bolsonaro came to power that the economy would turnaround, but we have seen no evidence of this," Jackson said.



Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro delivers a speech during the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual meeting, in Davos, eastern Switzerland.

This week's massive nationwide protests over education spending freezes, money laundering accusations against Bolsonaro's eldest son and the slow pace of economic reforms were adding to the general malaise.

"The economy is really flirting with recession," Jackson added.

The bleak outlook was underscored by economy minister Paulo Guedes, who warned this week that Brazil was "at the bottom of the well" as he slashed the government's forecast for 2019 economic growth to 1.5pc from 2.2pc.

That was followed by central bank chief Roberto Campos Neto, who flagged a likely contraction in the economy in the first quarter following a slowdown at the end of 2018.

Market analysts have pared their full-year growth forecasts 11 weeks in a row and now expect the economy to expand by an anemic 1.45 percent, according to the latest central bank survey.

Some even saw that estimate as optimistic.

Marcos Casarin of Oxford Economics warned Brazil appeared headed for around one percent growth for the third year in a row.

"Brazil has never had such a slow recovery," said Casarin, attributing lackluster activity to post-recession deleveraging by the Brazilian government, businesses and consumers, which has sapped spending, borrowing and investment in the country.

"Everyone had to pay back debt at the same time."

But the risk of a technical recession -- two straight quarters of contraction -- was low.

"We are already at the bottom," Casarin noted.

"We could potentially see a double dip, but that would have to be triggered by a domestic crisis" -- such as failure to pass the pension reform bill.

Uphill battle

Bolsonaro has done little to help boost optimism among investors or voters.

The pro-market reform agenda that helped get the former army captain elected in October has stalled as he struggles to push his signature policy -- an ambitious overhaul of the pension system that he says will bankrupt Brazil if not passed -- through Congress.

There are fears the proposal could be significantly watered down by the time it is approved, probably later this year, eroding any positive impact on the economy.

"There was excessive optimism going on (with Bolsonaro's victory) and now they are just more realistic," said Casarin.

"It is pretty clear that he is struggling as president to make Congress do what he wants."

One of the challenges for Bolsonaro is that his ultraconservative Social Liberal Party only holds around 10 percent of the 513 seats in the lower house of Congress.

That means he is relying on ad-hoc alliances with lawmakers in various parties who are part of his evangelical, pro-agribusiness, pro-gun base.

It does not bode well for his reforms, the economy or the markets.

Japan tests next-generation Shinkansen bullet train



JR East unveils to the media its new test bullet train "ALFA-X" in Rifu, Miyagi prefecture

Tokyo, Japan

A prototype of Japan's next-generation Shinkansen bullet train, set to be the fastest train on wheels when it enters service, reached speeds of 320 kilometres (198 miles) per hour on a test run Thursday.

The train, code-named ALFA-X, will eventually hit 360 kilometres per hour when it begins to take passengers in about a decade, according to East Japan Railway.

Production of the 10-car train with a long nose-shaped head finished in early May at a cost of 10 billion yen (\$91 million).

Thursday's trial run between Sendai and Morioka, two cities in northern Japan, was the first open to the media since tests started last week.

"We successfully conducted the test run today and will continue testing the train for about three years," a company spokesman said.

The firm plans to introduce the train in 2030-31 when Shinkansen services will be extended to Sapporo, the biggest city on the nation's northern island of Hokkaido.

"We will try to shorten travelling time with the next-generation Shinkansen," said Kazunori Koyama, an official in charge of the testing.

US Treasury defies Congress subpoena for Trump tax records

● Democratic Representative Richard Neal issued the subpoena on May 10, saying the confidential documents were necessary in carrying out oversight of taxation

Washington, United States

US Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin rejected Friday a congressional subpoena for President Donald Trump's tax records, setting up a new court battle between the two sides of government.

Mnuchin told Democratic Representative Richard Neal, the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, that the committee "lacks a legitimate legislative purpose" to demand Trump's tax returns.

Neal issued the subpoena on May 10, saying the confidential



US Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin (L) speaks with White House Chief Economic Adviser Larry Kudlow

documents were necessary in carrying out oversight of taxation, including understanding how a sitting president with extensive business interests is treated by the Internal Revenue

Service.

Neal expected the rejection and told reporters earlier Friday he would take the issue to court as early as next week rather than seek a contempt citation

against Mnuchin, according to Roll Call, a news outlet that covers US government.

The court will have to rule whether the committee, as Neal asserts, has the right to demand the tax records of any American from the IRS as part of its oversight powers.

Trump has bucked the tradition of presidential candidates baring their finances and divulging how much they have paid in taxes.

Since before the 2016 election he has claimed that his personal and corporate annual income statements have been under audit by the IRS and cannot be released.

Democratic opponents suspect the real estate billionaire of using accounting and other loopholes to avoid taxes.

The New York Times reported earlier this month that based on an analysis of IRS records, Trump reported losses of nearly \$1.2 billion between 1985 and 1994, and may have been able to carry over those losses for years after to minimize his tax bills.

show

OASIS JUFFAIR

1-DE DE PYAAR DE (15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
* AJAY DEVGN, TABU, RAKUL PREET SINGH
DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM

2-UGLYDOLLS (PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW
* EMMA ROBERTS, KELLY CLARKSON, GABRIEL IGLESIAS
DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 10.45 AM + 12.45 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 11.15 PM

3-A DOG’S JOURNEY (PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW
* DENNIS QUAID, BETTY GILPIN, ABBY RYDER FORTSON
DAILY AT (VIP): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM

4-MR. LOCAL (PG-15) (TAMIL) NEW
* SIVA KARTHIKEYAN, NAYAN THARA, RAADHIKA
FROM FRIDAY 17TH
DAILY AT: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

5-AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
* BRIE LARSON, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., KAREN GILLAN
DAILY AT: 1.30 + 5.00 + 8.30 PM + 12.00 MN
DAILY AT (3D): 10.30 AM + 4.45 + 11.00 PM

6-STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2 (PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/COMEDY/DRAMA)
* TIGER SHROFF, TARA SUTARIA, ANANYA PANDEY
DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM

7-DUMBO (PG) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)
* COLIN FARRELL, MICHAEL KEATON, DANNY DEVITO
DAILY AT (KIDS CINEMA): 2.45 + 9.00 PM

8-MAHARSHI (PG-13) (TELGU)
* MAHESH BABU, POOJA HEGDE, ALLARI NARESH
DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.30 + 4.45 + 8.00 + 11.15 PM

9-UYARE (PG-15) (MALAYALAM)
* PARVATHY THIRUVOTH, ASIF ALI, TOVINO THOMAS
DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.15 + 5.45 + 8.15 + 10.45 PM

10- ORU YAMANDAN PREMA KATHA (PG-15) (MALAY-ALAM)
* DULQUER SALMAN, SOUBIN SAHIR, SAMYUKTHA MENON
DAILY AT: 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM

11-ATHIRAN (PG-15) (MALAYALAM)
* FAHADH FAZIL, SAI PALLAVI, ATUL KULKARNI
DAILY AT: 2.00 + 8.15 PM

CITYCENTRE

1-DE DE PYAAR DE (15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
* AJAY DEVGN, TABU, RAKUL PREET SINGH
DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 PM + 12.00 MN

2-UGLY DOLLS (PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW
* EMMA ROBERTS, KELLY CLARKSON, GABRIEL IGLESIAS
DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN

3-A DOG’S JOURNEY (PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW
* DENNIS QUAID, BETTY GILPIN, ABBY RYDER FORTSON
DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 PM + 12.00 MN

4-AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)



* BRIE LARSON, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., KAREN GILLAN
DAILY AT (ATMOS): 12.30 + 4.00 + 7.30 + 11.00 PM
DAILY AT (IMAX 3D): 1.30 + 8.30 PM
DAILY AT (IMAX 2D): 10.15 AM + 5.00 PM + 12.00 MN
DAILY AT (VIP I): 12.15 + 3.45 + 7.15 + 10.45 PM
DAILY AT (VIP II): 1.15 + 4.45 + 8.15 + 11.45 PM
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 12.00 + 3.00 + 3.30 + 6.30 + 7.00 + 10.00 + 10.30 PM

5-STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2 (PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/COMEDY/DRAMA)
* TIGER SHROFF, TARA SUTARIA, ANANYA PANDEY
DAILY AT: 12.00 + 3.00 + 6.00 + 9.00 PM + 12.00 MN

6-BRIGHTBURN (15+) (THRILLER/HORROR)
* ELIZABETH BANKS, DAVID DENMAN, JACKSON A. DUNN
DAILY AT: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 + 6.30 + 8.30 + 10.30 PM + 12.30 MN

7-LONG SHOT (15+) (COMEDY/ROMANTIC)
* CHARLIZE THERON, SETH ROGEN, JUNE DIANE RAPHAEL
DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM

8-DUMBO (PG) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)
* COLIN FARRELL, MICHAEL KEATON, DANNY DEVITO
DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM



Some friendships transcend lifetimes.

9-SHAZAM! (PG-15) (ACTION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE)
* ZACHARY LEVI, MARK STRONG (II), ASHER ANGEL
DAILY AT: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

10-WONDER PARK (PG) (ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
* BRIANNA DENSKI, JENNIER GARNER, KEN HUDSON CAMPBELL
DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM

11-ESCAPE ROOM (PG-15) (THRILLER)
* TAYLOR RUSSELL, LOGAN MILLER, DEBORAH ANN WOLL
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

12-THE CURSE OF LA LLORONA (15+) (HORROR/THRILLER)
* LINDA CARDELLINI, RAYMOND CRUZ, PATRICIA VELASQUEZ
DAILY AT: 11.15 AM + 1.15 + 3.15 + 5.15 + 7.15 + 9.15 + 11.15 PM

13-CAPTAIN MARVEL (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
* BRIE LARSON, GEMMA CHAN, SAMUEL L. JACKSON
DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 2.15 + 4.45 + 7.15 + 9.45 PM + 12.15 MN

14-COLD PURSUIT (15+) (ACTION/CRIME/DRAMA)
* LIAM NEESON, EMMY ROSSUM, LAURA DERN
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

15-THE UPSIDE (PG-15) (COMEDY/DRAMA)
* KEVIN HART, BRYAN CRANSTON, NICOLE KIDMAN
DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.30 + 9.15 PM

16-NADI ELREGAL EL SERI (PG-15) (ARABIC/COMEDY)
* KARIM ABDULAZIZ, GHADA ADEL, MAJDE ALKIDDAWI
DAILY AT: 2.15 + 7.00 + 11.45 PM

SEEF (II)

1-UGLY DOLLS (PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW
* EMMA ROBERTS, KELLY CLARKSON, GABRIEL IGLESIAS
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.30 + 3.30 + 5.30 + 7.30 + 9.30 + 11.30 PM

2-A DOG’S JOURNEY (PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW
* DENNIS QUAID, BETTY GILPIN, ABBY RYDER FORTSON
DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM

3-THE CONVENT (PG-13) (HORROR) NEW
* MICHAEL IRONSIDE, ROSIE DAY, CLARE HIGGINS
DAILY AT: 12.15 + 2.15 + 4.15 + 6.15 + 8.15 + 10.15 PM + 12.15 MN

4-CONTRACT TO KILL (PG-15) (ACTION/THRILLER) NEW
* STEVEN SEAGAL, RUSSELL WONG, JEMMA DALLENDER
DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 PM + 12.00 MN

5-LIZZIE (18+) (DRAMA/CRIME/BIOGRAPHY) NEW
* CHLOE SEVIGNY, KRISTEN STEWART, JAMEY SHERIDAN
DAILY AT: 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM

6-AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
* BRIE LARSON, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., KAREN GILLAN
DAILY AT: 1.15 + 4.45 + 8.15 + 11.45 PM
DAILY AT (3D): 12.15 + 3.45 + 7.15 + 10.45 PM

7-STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2 (PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/COMEDY/DRAMA)
* TIGER SHROFF, TARA SUTARIA, ANANYA PANDEY
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM

8-BRIGHTBURN (15+) (THRILLER/HORROR)
* ELIZABETH BANKS, DAVID DENMAN, JACKSON A. DUNN
DAILY AT: 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM

9-LONG SHOT (15+) (COMEDY/ROMANTIC)
* CHARLIZE THERON, SETH ROGEN, JUNE DIANE RAPHAEL
DAILY AT: 11.45 AM + 4.15 + 8.45 PM

10-DUMBO (PG) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA/FAMILY)
* COLIN FARRELL, MICHAEL KEATON, DANNY DEVITO
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM

11-NADI ELREGAL EL SERI (PG-15) (ARABIC/COMEDY)
* KARIM ABDULAZIZ, GHADA ADEL, MAJDE ALKIDDAWI
DAILY AT: 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM

SEEF (I)

1-DE DE PYAAR DE (15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
* AJAY DEVGN, TABU, RAKUL PREET SINGH
DAILY AT: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM

2-MR. LOCAL (PG-15) (TAMIL) NEW
* SIVA KARTHIKEYAN, NAYAN THARA, RAADHIKA
FROM FRIDAY 17TH
DAILY AT: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM

3-MONSTER (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW
* S.J. SURYA, PRIYA BHAVANI SHANKAR, KARUNAKARAN
FROM FRIDAY 17TH
DAILY AT: 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM

4-MAHARSHI (PG-13) (TELGU)
* MAHESH BABU, POOJA HEGDE, ALLARI NARESH
DAILY AT: 11.00 AM + 2.15 + 5.30 + 8.45 PM + 12.00 MN

5-UYARE (PG-15) (MALAYALAM)
* PARVATHY THIRUVOTH, ASIF ALI, TOVINO THOMAS
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 PM + 12.00 MN

6-KEE (PG-15) (TAMIL)
* JIIVA, GOVIND PADMASOORYA, NIKKI GALRANI
DAILY AT: 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM

SAAR

1-DE DE PYAAR DE (15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
* AJAY DEVGN, TABU, RAKUL PREET SINGH
DAILY AT: 8.15 + 11.00 PM

2-UGLY DOLLS (PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW

* EMMA ROBERTS, KELLY CLARKSON, GABRIEL IGLESIAS
DAILY AT: 7.15 + 9.45 PM

3-A DOG’S JOURNEY (PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW
* DENNIS QUAID, BETTY GILPIN, ABBY RYDER FORTSON
DAILY AT: 7.30 + 11.45 PM

4-AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
* BRIE LARSON, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., KAREN GILLAN
DAILY AT: 7.30 + 11.00 PM

5-BRIGHTBURN (15+) (THRILLER/HORROR)
* ELIZABETH BANKS, DAVID DENMAN, JACKSON A. DUNN
DAILY AT: 11.45 PM

6-LONG SHOT (15+) (COMEDY/ROMANTIC)
* CHARLIZE THERON, SETH ROGEN, JUNE DIANE RAPHAEL
DAILY AT: 9.15 PM

AL HAMRA

1-MR. LOCAL (PG-15) (TAMIL) NEW
* SIVA KARTHIKEYAN, NAYAN THARA, RAADHIKA
FROM FRIDAY 10TH
DAILY AT: 5.45 PM + (12.00 MN FRI)

2-MONSTER (PG-13) (ACTION/ADVENTURE) NEW
* S.J. SURYA, PRIYA BHAVANI SHANKAR, KARUNAKARAN
FROM FRIDAY 17TH
DAILY AT: 11.30 AM

3-MAHARSHI (PG-13) (TELGU)
* MAHESH BABU, POOJA HEGDE, ALLARI NARESH
DAILY AT: 2.30 + 8.45 PM

WADI AL SAIL

1-DE DE PYAAR DE (15+) (HINDI/COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA) NEW
* AJAY DEVGN, TABU, RAKUL PREET SINGH
DAILY AT: 9.00 + 11.45 PM

2-UGLY DOLLS (PG) (ANIMATION/COMEDY/ADVENTURE) NEW
* EMMA ROBERTS, KELLY CLARKSON, GABRIEL IGLESIAS
DAILY AT: 7.45 + 9.45 PM

3-A DOG’S JOURNEY (PG-13) (ADVENTURE/DRAMA) NEW
* DENNIS QUAID, BETTY GILPIN, ABBY RYDER FORTSON
DAILY AT: 8.45 + 11.00 PM

4-AVENGERS: ENDGAME (PG-15) (ACTION/ADVENTURE)
* BRIE LARSON, ROBERT DOWNEY JR., KAREN GILLAN
DAILY AT: 11.30 PM

5-BRIGHTBURN (15+) (THRILLER/HORROR)
* ELIZABETH BANKS, DAVID DENMAN, JACKSON A. DUNN
DAILY AT: 11.45 PM

6-STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2 (PG-15) (HINDI/ROMANTIC/COMEDY/DRAMA)
* TIGER SHROFF, TARA SUTARIA, ANANYA PANDEY
DAILY AT: 8.30 PM

7-MAHARSHI (PG-13) (TELGU)
* MAHESH BABU, POOJA HEGDE, ALLARI NARESH
DAILY AT: 8.00 + 11.15 PM

8-UYARE (PG-15) (MALAYALAM)
* PARVATHY THIRUVOTH, ASIF ALI, TOVINO THOMAS
DAILY AT: 9.00 + 11.30 PM

MOVIE REVIEW

Lizzie: mythic axe murders get an edgy update

Lizzie is a 2018 American biographical thriller film directed by Craig William Macneill, written by Bryce Kass, and starring Chloe Sevigny, Kristen Stewart, Jay Huguley, Jamey Sheridan, Fiona Shaw, Kim Dickens, Denis O’Hare, and Jeff Perry.

It is based on the true story of Lizzie Borden, who was accused and acquitted of the axe murders of her father and stepmother in Fall River, Massachusetts, in 1892. Sevigny also served as a co-producer.

On review aggregator website Rotten Tomatoes, the film has an approval rating of 65% based on 57 reviews, with an average rating of 5.6/10.

On Metacritic, which assigns a normalized rating to reviews, the film has a weighted average score of 60 out of 100, based on 23 critics, indicating “mixed or average reviews”.

Katie Walsh of the Los An-



Kristen Stewart, left, and Chloe Sevigny in Lizzie

geles Times noted that the film possesses a “sense of serious studiousness” and praised its sound design, adding of Sevigny: “The respect for Lizzie means that

film almost denies drama, rendering some moments almost inert. It could use an operatic high note, or even a truly deep dark night of the soul, some oscilla-

tion in the levels. But the film reflects the evenness with which Sevigny portrays the unflappable Lizzie, cool as a cucumber all the way to court. That control



Chloe Sevigny plays the terrorised daughter – and prime suspect – in this retelling of the notorious Lizzie Borden story

never betrays her or belies an inconvenient truth, and Sevigny’s steadiness is almost unnerving.”

Michael O’Sullivan of The Washington Post similarly wrote that Sevigny “is something of a closed book, delivering a stolid performance that can be read as either strong-willed or stony-hearted.”

CHANGE OF NAME

I, LALIT KUMAR S/O. DAVINDER KUMAR, holding Indian Passport No H5862208 dated 17/06/2009 issued at Bahrain , having permanent residence at VPO MALAUDH , LUDHIANA . Presently residing at FLAT NO. 11 , BUILDING. NO. 1033 , ROAD NO. 828 , BLOCK NO: 308 , MANAMA , BAHRAIN will henceforth be known as (Given Name) LALIT , (Surname) KUMAR , objection if any may be forwarded to Embassy of India , P.O.Box 26106, Bldg No. 1090, Road No. 2819 , Block 428, Al Seef, Kingdom of Bahrain.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY

Save by May 20th to make all your dreams come true this Eid with MyHassad!

GRAND EID DRAW
\$ 250,000
JUNE 2019

@aubbahrain | 17 221 9999 ahlunited.com

البنك الأهلي المتحد
ahli united bank

Tamil Integrated Federation’s grand Iftar party



Habibiz Nasik Dhol’s Iftar kit distribution



Ramadan cooking

Harira, (Moroccan soup for Ramadan)



Ingredients

- 4 tbsp of olive oil
- 1/2 cup of finely minced onions
- Two stalks of celery, diced
- 4 large tomatoes, diced
- 3 cloves of garlic
- 2 tbsp of tomato paste
- 1 cup brown lentils, cooked
- 2 cups chickpeas, cooked

Instructions

1. In a large Dutch oven, heat 4 tablespoon olive oil in mild flame.
2. Add the minced onions and cook until translucent.
3. Add the diced celery stalks and continue to saute.
4. Next, add 4-diced tomatoes to the oven and cook down for 1-2 minutes before adding the minced garlic and 2-table spoons of tomato paste.
5. Stir to combine, and then add the cups of cooked brown lentils and chickpeas.
6. For flavour, you may also add ground spices like cumin, coriander, smoked paprika, cinnamon, black pepper, salt and red pepper flakes. We suggest adding a little chopped fresh cilantro, mint, and parsley, too. This intensifies the aroma and flavour.
8. Pour in a whole carton of lamb broth and bring the entire mixture to a nice boil.
9. Reduce the heat to medium-low and cover. Allow for the dish to cook for about 20 minutes.
10. Finally add chopped fresh spinach, kale, and small and gently stir to combine.
11. Raise the heat slightly and let to cook for 10-12 minutes.
12. When finished, remove from heat and serve with a lemon or lime wedge.

Ramadan Sharing Fridges are back in Dubai

When communities come together, miracles happen. In 2016, Dubai-resident Fikra Yel opened up a sharing fridge in her neighbourhood so the needy could help themselves to food from the refrigerator.

Over time, the movement grew, and with the creation of a Facebook group ‘Ramadan Sharing Fridges’, Dubai residents were encouraged to set up and stock fridges all over Dubai for those in need. A volunteer with the group since the beginning, Magda Scriabine, said: “We have over 200 fridges across the city. Each fridge feeds 100 to 1,200 needy people a day.” Magda said that every bag of food collected by the project is distributed the same day, making it a zero-waste model.

She added: “It is a grassroots initiative that is super-easy and accessible to those willing to donate.” However, the fridges do not accept hot, cooked food, and leftover food. “We encourage people to donate water, laban, milk, canned fruits, all kind of



A volunteer hands out food packets to workers as part of the Ramadan Sharing Fridge initiative

fruits, biscuits, crisps, etc,” she explained.

Each fridge has a manager who interacts with the donors as well as people who walk in to collect the food. “A fridge manager is a person or the family that has set it up, an individual who has decided to give back to the community,” she added.

The group is closing registrations to open fridges this week-

end, and interested people can write to info@ramadansharing-fridges.org. “You need to obtain permissions from community or building management to set up a fridge,” said Magda. Most people who access the fridge are from the working community, people working around the compound where the fridge is, and near construction sites. Children and families spend the evenings



Homemade sandwiches for Ramadan Sharing Fridges

before Iftar distributing packages to those in need in their neighbourhood, making it one of the most widely participated community initiatives in the city.

As part of the UAE Food Bank Initiative, the Dubai Municipality has also installed over 80 sharing fridges in various parts across the city.

Private companies have also set up fridges in various neighbourhoods in Dubai. Schneider Electric has set up solar-powered fridges in two locations in Dubai - Dubai Technology Entrepreneur Campus (DTEC) and Ras Al Khor. This com-

munity-driven initiative was launched in partnership with Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani (BITS, Pilani), Aikah Establishment and

Luminous to give back to the society in the spirit of the holy month.

Steigenberger Hotel Business Bay is setting up two Ramadan sharing fridges for the third consecutive year. With their mantra of ‘think globally, act locally’, the vision of the sharing fridges is to benefit the neighbouring community in the Business Bay area. This Ramadan, the fridges will be launched with a splash of colour inspired by the Year of Tolerance, as Steigenberger will invite everybody to leave their colourful handprint and loving energies on the two big fridges on May 2 from 10 am onwards.



Volunteers from the Ramadan Sharing Fridges initiative in Dubai distribute meals to construction workers in Bur Dubai

SPORTS

sports

‘Special’ farewell for Robben, Ribery as Bayern win title

● Bayern Munich won Bundesliga with decisive goals from Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery

● Victory leaves Bayern two points ahead of Dortmund

AFP | Berlin

Franck Ribery hailed a “special” moment as he and Arjen Robben both scored in their final game at the Allianz Arena yesterday to wrap up a 5-1 win over Eintracht Frankfurt and a seventh successive Bundesliga title.

“It was a special moment, but also a difficult one,” Ribery told Sky.

“These were my last moments at the Allianz Arena, with the fans and with my team, after being here for 12 years.”

“There is a time for everything and you have to accept it.”

The fairytale farewell for club icons Robben and Ribery saw Bayern end an unusually tight title race two points ahead of rivals Borussia Dortmund, who beat Borussia Moenchengladbach 2-0.

“You couldn’t write a better finale than that,” said Bayern coach Niko Kovac.

Nine points behind Dortmund in December, Bayern lost just one game be-



(Front row, l to r) Bayern Munich’s Dutch midfielder Arjen Robben, Bayern Munich’s Brazilian defender Rafinha and Bayern Munich’s French midfielder Franck Ribery lift the trophy as Bayern Munich players celebrate

tween January and May as they bounced back to be crowned German champions for the 29th time in their history.

Robben and Ribery, who will both leave the club at the end of the season, came off the bench against Frankfurt to score Bayern’s fourth and fifth goals and end Dortmund’s hopes of pulling off a final day miracle.

Their departure marks the end of a glistening decade of success for Bayern, who are now set for a major squad overhaul ahead of next season, having already signed World Cup winners Benjamin Pavard and Lucas

Hernandez.

Kingsley Coman gave Bayern a dream start, slotting home a Thomas Mueller through ball after just four minutes.

There was brief hope for Dortmund as both they and Frankfurt scored either side of half-time.

After Gladbach dominated the first half, Jadon Sancho smashed in the opener for Dortmund, and Reus doubled the lead after the break.

In Munich, Sebastien Haller bundled in a shock equaliser at a corner just after the break, but Bayern responded furiously, and David Alaba restored the lead in

a matter of minutes.

Dortmund’s hopes lay in tatters when Renato Sanches blasted the ball in from close range to score his first Bundesliga goal and put Bayern 3-1 up.

Ribery and Robben each came off the bench to standing ovations in the second half, and Ribery danced through the Frankfurt ranks to seal the title on 72 minutes, before Robben completed a fairytale afternoon with a 78th minute tap-in.

Leverkusen secure top four spot

The defeats for Gladbach and

Frankfurt saw Bayer Leverkusen sneak into the fourth Champions League spot behind RB Leipzig, as they won 5-1 away to Hertha Berlin.

Valentino Lazaro cancelled out Kai Havertz’s opener but Julian Brandt and a Lucas Alario hat-trick ensured a comfortable win for Leverkusen.

Third-place RB Leipzig lost 2-1 to Werder Bremen, 40-year-old Claudio Pizarro grabbing the winner after Nordi Mukiele had equalised Milot Rashica’s opener.

Leipzig-bound coach Julian Nagelsmann will leave Hoffen-

heim without European football, meanwhile, after Mainz came from behind to snatch a late 4-2 win and knock Hoffenheim down to ninth.

Daniel Brosinski and Jean-Paul Boetius cancelled out first-half goals from Ishak Belfodil and Andrej Kramaric, before Boetius and Jean-Philippe Mateta snatched the win in injury-time.

Wolfsburg will join Gladbach and Frankfurt in the Europa League after a Wout Weghorst hat-trick and goals from Robin Knoche, Daniel Ginczek, Elvis Rexbechaj and Josip Brekalo saw them thrash Augsburg 8-1.

Julian Schieber picked up a consolation goal for Augsburg before a Kevin Danso own-goal completed the rout.

At the other end of the table, Stuttgart held Schalke to a 0-0 draw, and Nicolai Mueller’s late goal was not enough for relegated Hanover, as Rouwen Hennings and Kenan Karaman fired Fortuna Dusseldorf to a 2-1 win.



Bayern Munich secured seventh league title in a row



Gareth Bale

Zidane the boss as Bale set for final game at Real

AFP | Madrid

Zinedine Zidane hinted yesterday that Gareth Bale could make his last appearance for Real Madrid on Sunday after saying he would make changes this summer ahead of the final match of their miserable La Liga season.

Bale fell out with Zidane towards the end of the Frenchman’s first spell in charge and their relationship has quickly soured again, with the Wales attacker starting just five times since the coach’s return in March and left out completely for Real’s last two matches against Villarreal and Real Sociedad.

Zidane said Bale would be in the squad against Real Betis on Sunday but, asked by reporters if it would be his last game for Madrid, he said: “I don’t know, I can’t tell you. It’s the season finale and next year there are going to be changes. But I don’t know what is going to happen.”

Madrid face Betis at the Santiago Bernabeu in their final match of a campaign that will see them finish third, behind both Barcelona and Atletico Madrid, and trophyless after being knocked out of the Copa Del Rey by Barca and the Champions League by Ajax. Zidane has pledged to make changes once the campaign is over, with several players including Bale expected to be sold, and defended his right to make the big calls.

“It’s my decision,” Zidane told reporters. “That is clear as water. I’m the coach and I will always do what I want to do. If not, I’ll leave.”

“For signings and those sorts of things we have people who work on them but we work together.”

De Bruyne has no sympathy for Liverpool over narrow title miss

AFP | London

Manchester City star Kevin De Bruyne understands Liverpool players being disappointed at falling just short of winning the Premier League title but he does not have any sympathy for them.

The 27-year-old Belgian midfielder says simply his side were better than Liverpool. De Bruyne says no one would have felt sorry for City when they lost to Tottenham Hotspur in the Champions League quarter-final.

“No,” he said this week when asked did he have sympathy for Liverpool. “It’s a remarkable effort but it means that we were just better than them in the end. “I don’t feel sorry for them because I don’t think they’d feel sorry for us. “I don’t think anybody felt sorry about the way we went out of the Champions League.”

He played a less influential role than in City’s 2017/18 title triumph, starting just 11 league matches with bit parts in eight others due to two serious knee injuries and then a hamstring problem.

De Bruyne, who had a superb 2018 being named City’s player of the 2017/18 season and then

anybody felt sorry about the way we went out of the Champions League.”

De Bruyne, who had a superb 2018 being named City’s player of the 2017/18 season and then

sparkled for Belgium as they finished a best ever third in the World Cup, says Liverpool feeling sore is understandable.

“I know how they feel because you’re going to feel disappointed,” said De Bruyne, who is fit for selection for the Cup final.

“We’d feel the same if it happened to us. But we’re still competitors. We want to win as much as they do but I can understand the feelings they have.”

De Bruyne, whose high point in what he admits has “not been the most fun season” has come off the pitch with his second son being born, is a great believer in football being played through emotions.

For me football is still a game of emotions. I don't like how people try to take emotions out of the game, because what it's about is having fun, enjoying. If you win you're happy, if you lose you are sad. And that's what it's all about

KEVIN DE BRUYNE



Kevin De Bruyne

Nadal reaches 50th Masters final

● **Rafael Nadal sweeps past Stefanos Tsitsipas to reach Italian Open final**

● **Johanna Konta reaches final after victory over Kiki Bertens**

● **Konta to face Pliskova for Rome title**

AFP | Rome

Defending champion Rafael Nadal swept past Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 6-4 to advance to his 50th Masters final and first on clay this season at the Italian Open yesterday.

The eight-time Rome winner had been stunned by Tsitsipas, seeded eighth, in the semi-finals at the Madrid Open last weekend.

But the 32-year-old Spaniard was clinical on the red clay of the Foro Italico, winning through in 1hr 42min to reach the final for the 11th time.

"It's an important victory for me," said Nadal. "I played a solid match against a good player who is winning lot of matches on this surface. Last week I didn't play very well in Madrid. Today I did better."

Nadal, seeded second, was playing his fourth straight semi-final, but had not managed to go further on clay this season.

But he has not dropped a set so far this week and next plays either world number one Novak Djokovic or Argentine Diego Schwartzman, who meet in the second semi-final.

Nadal's run to the Rome final comes just a week before he starts his assault on a 12th French Open title at Roland Garros.

"The feeling is that I am playing better every week, every day. That's important for me," he said.

"It's not a drama to lose in



Rafael Nadal of Spain returns a forehand to Greece's Stefanos Tsitsipas

The feeling is that I am playing better every week, every day. That's important for me. It's not a drama to lose in semi-finals. The main thing is recover my level

RAFAEL NADAL

semi-finals. The main thing is recover my level.

"I say in Madrid I was playing better, then I played a bad match in the semi-finals, true.

"But my feeling, especially after my loss against (Dominic) Thiem in the semi-finals of Barcelona, I think my personal feeling improved and my energy came back a little bit."

"I've been through some tough moments after Indian Wells. Recovery of the knee again... was not easy to come

back and to prepare myself the right way."

Britain's Johanna Konta fought back from a set down to seal victory on her fourth match point against Kiki Bertens to reach the WTA final.

Konta, ranked 42, came through 5-7, 7-5, 6-2 against sixth seed Bertens, winner of the Madrid Open last week, after almost three hours on the red clay of Rome.

Dutchwoman Bertens had advanced to the semi-finals after world number one Naomi Osaka of Japan retired with a hand injury before their match Friday.

Konta next meets Czech fourth seed Karolina Pliskova who eased past Greek qualifier Maria Sakkari 6-4, 6-4 in 88 minutes.

Pliskova and Sakkari last met in the second round at the Foro Italico in 2018 when the Czech, furious at a line call, smashed a hole in the umpire's chair after losing in three sets.



Atletico Madrid's French forward Antoine Griezmann controls the ball

Valencia hold on to fourth, Griezmann jeered on last game

AFP | Madrid

Valencia held their nerve to secure La Liga's last Champions League place yesterday as a 2-0 victory over Real Valladolid ended Getafe and Sevilla's hopes of snatching fourth.

Getafe had to better Valencia's result at the Estadio Jose Zorrilla as they faced Villarreal, while Sevilla needed beat Athletic Bilbao and hope both Getafe and Valencia lost.

Sevilla held up their side of the bargain by seeing off Bilbao 2-0 but Getafe drew 2-2 and Valencia won, meaning it is Marcelino's side who reach the Champions League for a second consecutive year.

They sit seven points behind Real Madrid, who play Real Betis at home on Sunday, and 15 adrift of second-placed Atletico, who earlier drew 2-2 away at Levante, with Antoine Griezmann jeered in his final match for the club.

Valencia's Champions League chances looked slim after they were knocked out of the Europa League by Arsenal two weeks ago and even slimmer when a miserable start to the season left them 15th after 15 games, a scrap for survival more likely than a dash for the top four.

But Marcelino stayed and oversaw the recovery, which could now have a final flourish if they manage to beat a physically and mentally drained Barcelona and win the Copa del Rey on May 25.

After 11 weeks in the top



Griezmann joined Atletico in 2014 and signed a new five-year deal last June, but announced on Tuesday that he would be leaving

four, fifth place and the Europa League comes as a disappointment for Getafe, even for a team promoted to the top flight only two seasons ago whose annual wage bill is more than 10 times smaller than Real Madrid's.

Sevilla qualify for the Europa League too, finishing sixth after Ben Yedder and Munir El Haddadi extinguished Bilbao's own hopes of European football next season.

Instead, Sevilla are joined by Espanyol, whose fans invaded the pitch when the full-time whistle blew at Cornellà, where a 2-0 win over Real Sociedad means the Catalan side clinched seventh.

Griezmann bitter farewell

Getafe sat fourth for 23 minutes over the course of the afternoon, after Francisco Portillo pulled an early shot into the corner, but news soon filtered through that Valencia had scored against Valladolid,

Carlos Soler capitalising on a mistake by Kiko Olivas.

From there, everything went Valencia's way as Rodrigo gave them a two-goal cushion, shortly after Villarreal's Vicente Iborra had nodded in an equaliser against Getafe.

A brilliant header from Ne-manja Maksimovic looked to have given Getafe a winning finish but even that was denied them when Gerard Moreno's angled shot bobbled its way in after some clumsy handling by David Soria.

Earlier, Griezmann was barracked by fans during his last game for Atletico and Rodrigo might have scored his final goal for the club as they came back from two goals down to draw with Levante.

Griezmann received whistles at the City of Valencia Stadium from the visiting fans, who were also heard chanting "out, out, out" before goals from Sergio Camello and Rodrigo ensured Atletico ended the season with a point.

"We had to highlight the work of the gladiators who are leaving," Simeone said afterwards.

"Their greatest legacy is not the titles won, it is their commitment and respect. I love them very much."

Simeone has dismissed fears of a mass exodus, despite both Diego Godin and Griezmann already announcing their departures, with the likes of Rodrigo, Juanfran and Filipe Luis all expected to follow.

Man City thrash Watford 6-0 in FA Cup final to complete treble

AFP | London

Manchester City completed the first ever domestic treble in English football in emphatic fashion by dispatching Watford 6-0 at Wembley to claim the FA Cup yesterday.

Raheem Sterling scored a hat-trick, while David Silva, Kevin de Bruyne and Gabriel Jesus also netted to cap a glorious campaign with the biggest margin of victory in a FA Cup final since 1903.

Watford's wait to win their first ever major piece of silverware goes on, but after going behind they had little answer to Pep Guardiola's relentless champions as the Catalan picked up the 27th trophy of his coaching career.

It could have been very different for the Hornets had Rober-

to Pereyra not missed the first big chance of the game after Watford pounced on one slack pass by Oleksandr Zinchenko to spring a counter-attack.

Gerard Deulofeu fed the Argentine, but City goalkeeper Ederson raced from his goal to make a fine save with his trailing leg.

Watford were also left angered as a handball shout for a penalty against Vincent Kompany was not looked upon favourably by referee Kevin Friend or the Video Assistant Referee.

And Javi Gracia's men also played a big part in their own downfall for City's first goal on 26 minutes from which Guardiola's men never looked back.

The diminutive figures of David Silva and Sterling both won headers against taller defend-



Manchester City's Vincent Kompany lifts the FA Cup

ers before the ball broke for the Spaniard to fire across Heurelho Gomes.

City control then turned into total dominance as a gloriously crafted second gave Watford a mountain to climb.

Bernardo Silva's curling cross picked out Jesus at the back post and the Brazilian's effort was heading in before Sterling snatched his 24th goal of the season by smashing the ball over the line.

Veteran goalkeeper Gomes was making what is expected to be his final game before he plans to become a pastor in retirement.

Watford were left praying for a miracle that never came, but the 38-year-old briefly kept his side in the game either side of half-time with saves from Riyad Mahrez and Jesus.