

**Morgan sinks Afghanistan**

England captain Eoin Morgan set a new world record of 17 sixes in an individual one-day international innings as the World Cup hosts thrashed Afghanistan by 150 runs yesterday.

P 16

OP-ED

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Luck will not be enough for the UK's next prime minister

# THE DAILY tribune



Bella Hadid apologises to Saudi, UAE fans after online backlash

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CELEBS

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6

Mohamed Morsi buried in Cairo



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**45 killed in Syria clashes**

Beirut

Clashes between pro-government forces and extremist-led groups that control Syria's northwest killed at least 45 combatants yesterday, a war monitor said.

The fighting flared on the edge of Hama province when extremist group Hayat Tahrir Al Sham launched a dawn attack on regime positions, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

At least 14 pro-government forces died in ensuing clashes, said the Britain-based monitor.

"Regime forces foiled the attack," Observatory head Rami Abdul Rahman told AFP.

State news agency SANA also said the offensive had been thwarted.

**Debate clash over Brexit deadline**

London

Tory leadership rivals have clashed in a live BBC TV debate on whether the UK can leave the EU, no matter what, by the 31 October deadline.

Asked for a guarantee he would do this, Boris Johnson described the deadline as "eminently feasible".

Sajid Javid said the deadline "focused minds" while Michael Gove and Jeremy Hunt said extra time might be needed.



**02** Bolstering Arab-China ties

**04** Final verdict date set in gruesome murder case

**05** Banking fraud busted



## HRH Premier's visit puts focus on Thailand ties

● HRH the Premier expressed deep gratitude and appreciation to General Chulanont for his warm welcome and gracious hospitality.

Bangkok

His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa attended a dinner banquet hosted by General Surayud Chulanont, Acting Chief Advisor of Thailand King's Privy Council, in the presence of Thailand's Foreign Minister Don Pramudwinai.

The reception was hosted in



HRH the Premier attends an official banquet in Bangkok.

recognition of HRH the Prime Minister's role in boosting Bahrain-Thailand relations and the

Arabian Gulf ties with Thailand to wider areas of co-operation that reflected on the economy,

investment and development.

HRH the Premier expressed deep gratitude and apprecia-

tion to General Chulanont for his warm welcome and gracious hospitality that reflect the deep-rooted amicable ties between the two countries and peoples.

During the banquet, the conversation touched on the deep-rooted friendship ties and ways of boosting them at all levels as well as on the latest regional and international developments.

General Chulanont welcomed HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, praising the key role of His Royal Highness in consolidating co-operation in various fields, affirming his country's keenness to bolster it, wishing Bahrain and its people further progress and prosperity.

# Pressure campaign

US will put all efforts to deter Iranian aggression in the region, says Pompeo

● Fears of a confrontation between Iran and the US have mounted since Washington blamed Iran for last Thursday's attacks on two oil tankers.

New York

The US will maintain its pressure campaign on Iran and continue to deter aggression in the region, but does not want the conflict with Tehran to escalate, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said yesterday.

terday.

"We have been engaged in many messages, even this moment right here, communicating to Iran that we are there to deter aggression," Pompeo told reporters at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

"President Trump does not want war and we will continue to communicate that message while doing the things that are necessary to protect American interests in the region."

Pompeo called on other nations to help safeguard tanker traffic in the Arabian Gulf.

He said shipping security in the Gulf was not exclusively a US problem.



”

President Trump does not want war. But we will do everything necessary to protect US interests in the region.

POMPEO

"You have China that depends enormously on energy transiting the Strait of Hormuz. You have South Korea, Indonesia, Japan, all of whom have an enormous interest in ensuring there's free-

dom of navigation throughout this waterway," the secretary of state said.

"The United States is prepared to do its part, but every nation that has a deep interest in pro-

tecting that shipping lane so that energy can move around the world and support their economies needs to make sure they understand the real threat."

Fears of a confrontation between Iran and the US have mounted since Washington blamed Iran for last Thursday's attacks on two oil tankers near the strategic Strait of Hormuz shipping lane.

In an interview with Time magazine released Tuesday, Trump said he was prepared to take military action to stop Tehran from having a nuclear bomb but left open whether he would sanction the use of force to protect Gulf oil supplies.

STRANGE SEARCH

## Throwing surprise, Google Doodle celebrates falafel

Dubai

One of the Middle East's favourite dishes has been featured in a Google Doodle as the site apparently took a break from the Women's World Cup.

Google had been running a series of doodles about the major sporting event, but yesterday - apparently randomly - fo-

cused on what the search giant described as the "best thing that ever happened to chickpeas."

"We don't know why they chose Tuesday to run the Doodle - June 12 having been International Falafel Day.

"But the Middle East's claim to these mouthwatering balls of chickpeas, onions, herbs and spices is undeniable."



It is believed falafels originated in Egypt, where they were called ta'ameya and made of fava beans, about a thousand

years ago, by Coptic Christians who ate them during lent as a meat substitute.

Another version of the story suggests that it goes further back to Pharaonic times - traces of fava beans were said to be found in the tombs of the Pharaohs, according to website Egyptian Streets, and that there were paintings from ancient Egypt showing people making the food.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa yesterday received the credentials of four new ambassadors during a ceremony held at Al Sakhir Palace. The new envoys are Vladimir Kohut of Serbia, Shahin Sakir Oglu Abdullayev of Azerbaijan, Cosbert Themba Rubushe of South Africa and Ole E Moesby of Denmark. HM the King exchanged expressions of welcome with the new ambassadors and hailed strong bilateral relations and steadily-growing ties binding the Kingdom and their respective countries. HM King Hamad wished them success in performing their diplomatic duties to consolidate relations of co-operation and friendship with Bahrain.

# Bolstering Arab-China ties

Bahrain's unwavering support for the Belt and Road initiative stressed at Arab-China Co-operation Forum

Abu Dhabi

The Kingdom participated in the 16th session of the Senior Officials Meeting of the Arab-China Cooperation Forum, held yesterday in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The session was attended by the Director of the Arab Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Abdulaziz Al Eid.

Ambassador Al Eid asserted in his speech the keenness of the Kingdom in supporting the Arab-China Cooperation Forum, pointing out that the Kingdom hosted a number of events such as the third session of the Ministerial Meeting of the Arab-China Co-operation Forum in 2008, the Arab-Chinese media co-operation symposium in 2010 and the Chinese Arts Festival in March 2012.

He also reiterated the King-



Delegates from Arab countries and China at the forum.

dom's unwavering support for the Belt and Road initiative (BRI), noting that a memorandum of understanding was signed in 2018 to promote BRI between the Kingdom and the People's Republic of China.

He expressed his pride and appreciation for the current

friendly relations between the two countries, pointing out that this year marked the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

The two sides reviewed the most significant achievements made during the Eighth Minis-

terial Meeting of the Arab-China Co-operation Forum held in Beijing, July 10, 2018.

The meeting welcomed the launch of the Bahrain Declaration and the establishment of the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence" in March 2018.

It also discussed the latest

developments in the Arab and Chinese political arena.

Separately, the Kingdom took part in the meeting of the Fifth Session of the Arab-China Strategic Political Dialogue.

Mr Al Eid stressed that the Iranian interventions have become crystal clear in more than

an Arab country, including Bahrain, by planting terrorist cells, recruiting armed militias and spreading of sectarian divide in Arab societies.

He said the Iran-backed Houthi militias are still striking Saudi Arabia with Iranian-made ballistic missiles and is occupying the three UAE islands (Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa).

Mr Al Eid affirmed that the Kingdom stands by its brothers against all those targeting their security and stability, and fully supports the Saudi efforts to eliminate all forms of violence, terrorism and extremism.

He called on the international community to assume their responsibility in full towards these practices that aim at undermining the security and stability of the region and the world.

## Sruthilayam 2019, a special treat for musical fans

TDT | Manama

Sruthilayam 2019, a cultural show organised by Palakkad Arts and Cultural Theatre along with Interads was a big hit with over 1,000 in attendance.

The event was held at Indian School's Jashanmal Auditorium. Renowned Carnatic musician Padmasree K G Jayan inaugurated the Chembai Sangeetholsavam as part of the event. Over 100 children took part in the 'Sangeetha Archana', which followed.

A special performance by Mr Jayan left the audience spellbound.

The highlight of the evening, 'Jnanappana', took the audience to the highest levels of devotion, beauty and dance.

Indian movie stars and dancers



Vineeth and Lakshmi Gopalswami perform on stage.



Mr Jayan inaugurates Chembai Sangeetholsavam.

Vineeth and Lakshmi Gopalswami along with their teams performed the dance.

Bahrain Chamber of Commerce Vice-Chairman Mr Mohammed Abduljabbar Al Kooheji, Indian Embassy

Second Secretaries Renu Yadav and P K Chaudhary, Bahrain's leading industry icon Rashid Al Sinan, Bahrain

Keraleeya Samajam President P V Radhakrishna Pillai and General Secretary M P Raghu attended.

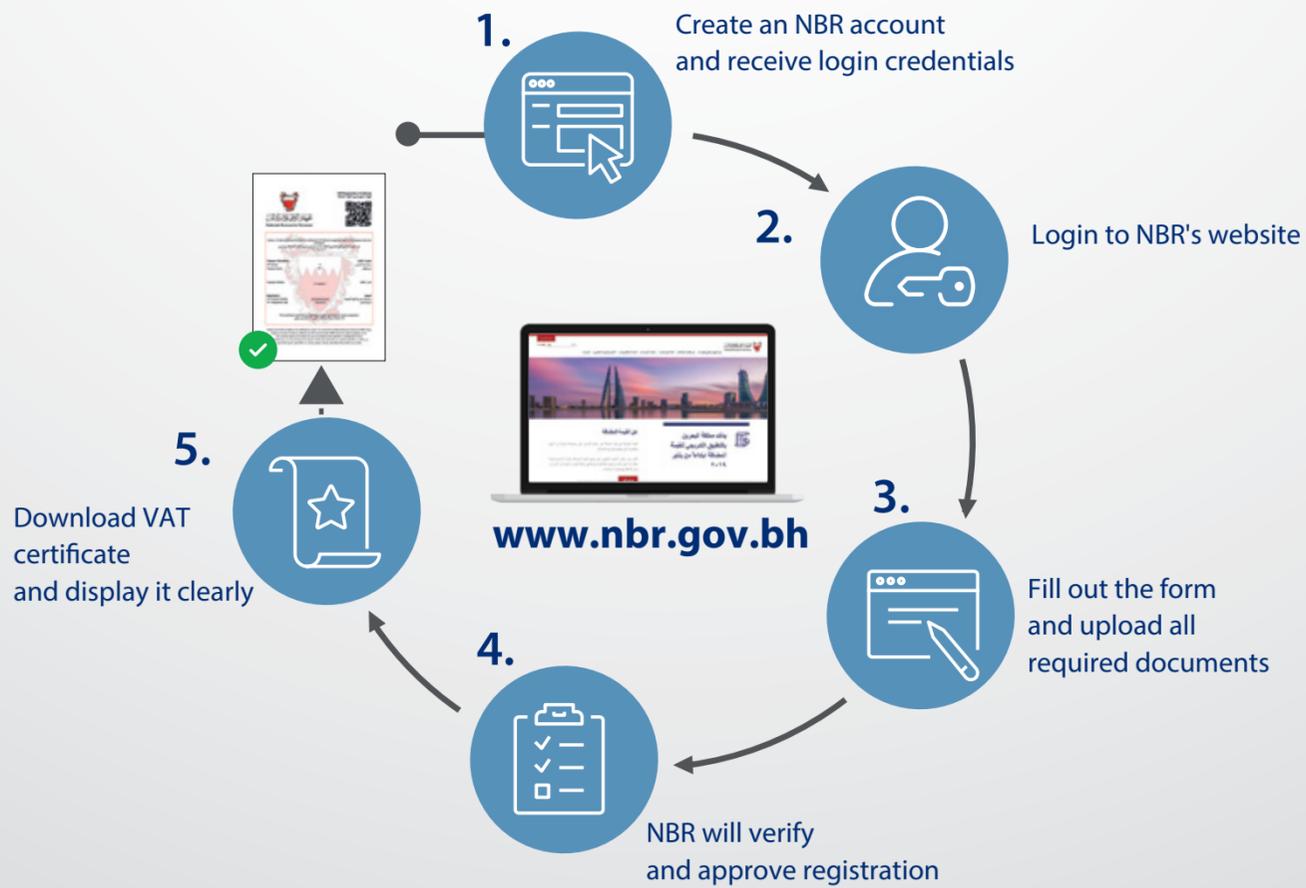
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# Final verdict date set in gruesome murder case

Public Prosecution has charged the Sudanese national with premeditated murder

● The details of the case show that the defendant had murdered the victim after encountering him on a public road at dawn.

● He also sodomised while the victim was dying, according to medical reports.

TDT | Manama

The First High Criminal Court yesterday said that it would announce its final verdict in the case of a Sudanese national allegedly murdering an Indian national in the Capital Governorate on

July 10, 2019.

The defendant, a Sudanese national, had earlier confessed to killing the Indian victim, after seeing him walking drunk on the road.

The 'Islamic State killing' was shocking as the 41-year-old tortured his victim, raped him and videotaped the process.

The Defence Attorney, Mohammed Bumtai, pleaded that his client isn't guilty, as medical reports proved he isn't mentally fit at the time when the crime took place, claiming that he wasn't responsible for his actions.

The details of the case show that the defendant had murdered the victim after encountering him on a public road at dawn.

He also sodomised while the victim was dying, according to

“I went to his apartment because I wanted to advise him. He opened the door for me and as I entered the apartment he began attacking me.”

DEFENDANT

medical reports. The report stated that the victim was strangled to death after he was beaten up.

The defendant told the prosecutors earlier that he killed the victim out of his "love for Bahrain" and refusal to see drunk men walking publicly.

He said that he came to Bahrain in search of a job and that he holds a medical engineering certificate. The defendant said he came to Bahrain four months

before the incident took place.

"I was looking for a job and my sister works as a doctor at a hospital here. Her employers sponsored me for some time, but I couldn't find a job," the defendant said in his statements.

"I didn't have any relationship with the victim. I saw him on the day of the incident at dawn and he was drunk. I was talking with my Bahraini friends on the road and I stopped him.

"I asked him about his religion because I love Bahrain and I don't like to see drunk people walking in public. I ordered him to show me his identity card, but he ran away," he explained.

The man claimed that he learnt where the victim lived. "I went to his apartment because I wanted to advise him. He opened the door for me and I entered the apartment.

"He locked the door and started attacking me. I responded in self-defence," he alleged.

Court files showed that the defendant then proceeded with torturing the victim and later killing him.

To mislead investigators, he is said to have written slogans on the walls of the apartment with an intention to get people belonging to a certain sect indicted in the murder.

"I decided to pour chlorine on the body of the victim as I have seen using chemicals to conceal the traces of crimes in movies. I also poured alcohol and powder all around the apartment. Before I left I wrote some slogans on the walls to mislead investigators," he added.

The defendant has been accused by the Public Prosecution of premeditated murder.

**Man gets fines doubled for breaking 19 red lights**

● The court described the man's behaviour to break red signals 19 times as recklessness and deliberate disregard of traffic laws and regulations.

TDT | Manama

A Bahraini driver, who was earlier ordered to pay BD1,900 in fine for jumping red signals got his fine doubled by the judges when he appealed seeking a reduction.

According to court files, the man has jumped 19 red signals and when he went to the General Directorate of Traffic to settle the matter he was informed that a criminal verdict has been issued against him by the court, which fined him BD1,900 (BD100 for each offence).

In an attempt to reduce the fine, the defendant went to the Traffic Court and filed an appeal against the verdict.

But, the judge ordered to double the fine considering the recurrence of the same offence, making it BD200 for each offence, a total of BD3,800 for all 19 offences.

The court described the man's behaviour to break red signals 19 times as recklessness and deliberate disregard of traffic laws and regulations.

The law allows judges to amend verdicts and increase punishments in accordance with the gravity of the committed offences, repetition and circumstances.

The man eventually paid the entire BD3,800 fine, after he was informed that he had only two options; to either pay the fine or spend time behind bars.

## RUW to honour 11th graduating class

TDT | Manama

Royal University for Women (RUW) will honour its 11th graduating class in a graduation ceremony that will take place at the Bahrain Gulf Convention hotel today.

RUW is celebrating the graduation of Class of 2019, where 123 students graduated, including 48 from College of Art and Design, 48 from College of Business and Financial Sciences and 27 from College of Law, the university said in a statement issued.

"In addition, 33 graduates from Summer of AY 2017/18 also participated in the ceremony."

Royal University for Women is the first private university which received the Higher Education Council accreditation, as well as being recognised and recommended by ministries of education in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Oman.

The university has recently met the Bahrain Quality Authority (BQA) quality assurance requirements for the second cycle, being one of only two universities in the Kingdom to have this achievement.

## Event brochure released



The programme committee of World Malayalee Federation has officially launched the brochure for 'Naattaranagu 2019'. The event comprises arts and sports activities, fun games, competitions and cultural programmes, which will be held on June 20 and 21 at Al Hial Hospital Auditorium in Salmabad. The registration is free, according to organisers.

## Cop attacker's prison term replaced with social service

TDT | Manama

The Supreme Criminal Court of Appeal yesterday ordered a Bahraini man who's convicted of assaulting an on-duty policeman to do community service, replacing his one year jail term.

The 18-year-old attacked the cop, who was guarding the eastern gates of Bahrain National Stadium in Isa Town, after the latter tried to stop him from using the entrance doors to exit while a match was still

ongoing, in violation of the stadium's safety rules and regulations.

Justifying himself, the defendant claimed in the interrogation that a stampede occurred near the gate and he threw random punches around without acknowledging that it was the cop he was hitting. The defendant also claimed that the policeman hit him several times in the face and head.

When confronted by the interrogators about tearing the cop's uniform, the defendant said he was losing balance and grabbed

“The man was earlier sentenced to one year imprisonment and the appeals court ordered to uphold his conviction and replace his punishment with community service.”

PROSECUTORS

the policeman's shirt so he wouldn't fall to the ground.

The Public Prosecution accused the defendant of assaulting a public security personnel and causing the injuries mentioned in the medical report, in addition to verbally assaulting him while carrying out his duties.

The man was earlier sentenced to one year imprisonment and the appeals court ordered to uphold his conviction and replace his punishment with community service, the Prosecutors said.

## Bahrain attends key meeting on women empowerment

Cairo

Ministerial consultative meeting focusing on women empowerment was held in Cairo, Egypt, under the theme "Women in decision-making positions".

The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) held the event in co-operation with the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and National Women's Council.

Supreme Council for Women (SCW) director general for administrative and media affairs Ezzeddine Almoayyed

attended the session, along with officials and experts representing the OIC member states.

Mr Almoayyed addressed the event outlining Bahrain's efforts to empower women to assume leading and decision-making roles.

He said that Bahrain was among the pioneering countries, which guaranteed women's right to participate actively in all fields.

Being a partner in the national development efforts, he underlined the SCW efforts to empower women, citing mainly



Mr Almoayyed at the meeting.

the National Programme for the Integration of Women's needs in Development, the establishment of a follow-up system, equal opportunity units, the national re-

port for gender balance and the national observatory for gender indicators.

The SCW director general for administrative and media affairs shed light on Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa Global Award for Women's Empowerment, highlighting legislations aimed at bolstering the status of women.

He also took part in the first meeting of the temporary Open-ended Working Group to prepare the draft internal regulations of the Organisation for the Development of Women in the OIC Member States.

# Banking fraud busted

National Investment Bank, a fraudulent financial institution, says CBB

● The CBB yesterday issued a warning to prevent customers falling prey to the institution's fraudulent schemes.

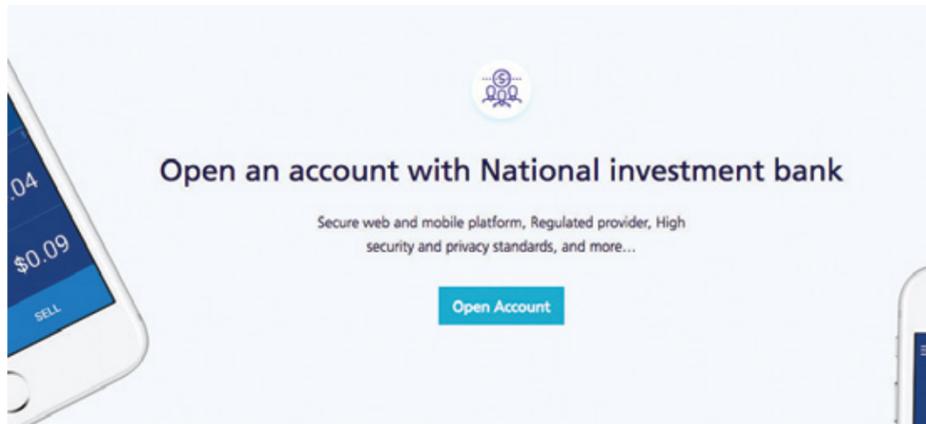
● Customers are now asked to visit the register of licensed financial institutions on CBB's website.

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) has warned the public against dealing with a financial institution, which is accused of fraud.

The financial institution named 'National Investment Bank' has been targeting residents of the Kingdom, according to CBB authorities.

Despite having no licence issued by the CBB to operate as a financial institution, it has been undertaking trading services, post trade services, depositing certificate of shares and market information services.



A screenshot of the National Investment Bank website.

The phone number listed by the institution is out of service. On website, it promises to provide "ultra-low spreads" and encourages the website visitors to "start trading now".

"National Investment Bank is a fully licensed trademark of Bahrain Capital Markets Authority," the institution states on its website.

Issuing a warning against the institution and customers falling prey to its fraudulent schemes, the CBB stated yesterday: "The Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB) would like to warn

customers against dealing with unlicensed market intermediaries that market investments in securities in the Kingdom through short message services (SMS), telephone calls and websites."

"This warning comes as a result of a fraudulent institution under the name of 'National Investment Bank', which is claiming to be licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain to undertake trading services, post trade services, depositing certificate of shares and market information services," it stated.

"The CBB also wishes to emphasise that the above-mentioned entity is not licensed by the CBB and that the activity of promoting financial services to residents in the Kingdom falls within the scope of regulated financial services in accordance with the Central Bank of Bahrain and Financial Institutions Law of 2006.

"The CBB stresses the need for customers to ensure the utmost care and caution, and take into consideration the risks, when investing, dealing or trading any amounts in se-

**”**  
We stress the need for customers to ensure the utmost care and caution, and take into consideration the risks, when investing, dealing or trading any amounts in securities or foreign exchange with any person, persons, institutions, companies or websites, including social media.

CBB

curities or foreign exchange with any person, persons, institutions, companies or websites, including social media, and ensuring that they hold the necessary licences from the Central Bank of Bahrain to engage in such activities."

In light of such fraudulent institutions operating in the Kingdom, customers have been encouraged to visit the register of licensed financial institutions on CBB's website ([www.cbb.gov.bh](http://www.cbb.gov.bh)) to verify the authenticity of market intermediaries.

**Attacks on Abha Airport, oil tankers condemned**  
Manama

The Supreme Council for Islamic Affairs (SCIA) has condemned, in the strongest terms, all terrorist acts and attacks targeting civilians, funds, trade and maritime navigation, including the heinous terrorist attack on Abha International Airport in Saudi Arabia, and those on oil tankers.

It called for the need to keep corridors and maritime, land and airports away from terrorism so as to secure international trade and achieve the interests of countries and peoples. It called for a unified international stance to counter terrorism, as well as its supporters and financiers, and to put an end to terrorist attacks that pose a threat to innocent people and violate sanctities and laws.

The council reviewed a memorandum presented by its Secretariat-General on its ceremony marking the Night of Destiny, held under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

The SCIA extended deepest thanks and appreciation to HM the King for his kind gesture to honour holy Quran memorisers.

The council reviewed another report by the Secretariat-General on the latest developments regarding mosque-building and maintenance projects.

## MoH planning to replace expat staff with citizens, minister tells lawmakers

TDT | Manama  
Mohammed Zafran

The Bahrainisation percentage at the Ministry of Health is currently 79 per cent, but this will be gradually increased, it was revealed.

The Ministry of Health has a total of 8,700 employees and 79pc of them are Bahrainis, as per the statistics revealed by officials yesterday.

This came as a group of parliamentarians met and held discussions with Health Minister Faeqa Al Saleh.

The group of parliamentarians headed by MP Ibrahim Al Nafeei presented the minister with a list of proposals to improve Bahrainisation percentage in the ministry.

The minister assured the lawmakers that a number of measures



Ms Al Saleh with a group of MPs led by Mr Al Nafeei.

would be adopted to improve Bahrainisation and many expatriates will be replaced by Bahrainis in a number of jobs including nursing.

She pointed out that 158 Bah-

raini nurses have been employed by the ministry last year.

The ministry is now ready to receive job applications for the various positions from Bahraini

candidates, she assured.

Mr Al Nafeei said that he intends to meet other government entities to discuss the topic of Bahrainisation as well.

He said that meetings with Civil Service Bureau, Ministry of Works, Municipal affairs and others are on the cards.

Parliamentarians have been

**158**

Bahraini nurses have been employed by the Health Ministry last year.

pushing for strengthening Bahrainisation in the country in recent weeks.

According to a recent proposal, fines as much as BD 20,000 should be imposed on companies that do not give priority to Bahrainis during recruitment.

Another proposal urged the government to ban expatriates from 35 different jobs.

## Indian Community Relief Fund expands its volunteer team

TDT | Manama

With an aim to promote supportive activities among the diversified Indian Community in Bahrain, the Indian Community Relief Fund (ICRF) has established a Regional Forum with representatives from various Indian states.

Around 40 members were included from various communities of all states from India, residing in Bahrain.

An initial meeting of the Forum was attended by the Ambassador of India to Bahrain Alok Kumar Sinha. The meeting was held on Monday, at the Indian Embassy premises in Seef.

"Indian expatriate workforce



Members at the ICRF regional forum inaugural meeting.

numbers are increasing and all segments of community need to be well represented, especially the blue collar workers. The objective of this forum is to reach out to

make them comfortable and also make them understand that there is a strong community over here and everyone is there to extend support," the Ambassador said

during his address.

"The purpose of the forum is to further enhance the reach of ICRF to the community members who are in need and to make sure to

address any resolvable problems within the limits of ICRF," said the Chairman of ICRF Aruldas Thomas.

The meeting was attended by

P K Chowdhury, Second Secretary of the Indian Embassy, Renu Yadav, Second Secretary of the Indian Embassy, Bhagwan Asarpota - Ex-Officio of ICRF, John Philip - General Secretary of ICRF, Pankaj Nallur - Joint Secretary of ICRF, Rakesh Sharma - Joint Treasurer of ICRF, Rosaline Roy, Sunil Kumar, Subair Kannur, Sudheer Thirunilath, Madhavan Kallath, V K Thomas, Clifford Correia, Sushma Anil, Florine Mathias, Toji A T, Anish Sreedharan, Nithin Jacob, Murali Krishna and Sreedhar S.

The ICRF Regional Forum will have regular review meetings to improve the reach of ICRF activities to all community members, the organisation said in a statement issued yesterday.

WORLD  
world

# Mohamed Morsi buried in Cairo

Cairo, Egypt

Egypt's first democratically elected president Mohamed Morsi was buried yesterday as calls mounted for an independent investigation into the causes of his death after he collapsed in a Cairo courtroom.

The Islamist leader, who was overthrown in 2013 after a year of divisive rule and later charged with espionage, was buried at a cemetery in eastern Cairo's Medinat Nasr, one of his lawyers said.

Abdel Moneim Abdel Maksoud said family members had washed Morsi's body and prayed the last rites early Tuesday morning at the Leeman Tora Hospital.

The prosecutor general's office said the 67-year-old leader had collapsed and "died as he attended a hearing" in a retrial hearing Monday over alleged collaboration with foreign powers and militant groups.

Abdel Maksoud said only around 10 family members and close Morsi confidants were present, including himself.

A reporter saw a handful of mourners entering the cemetery complex, accompanied by police officers, but journalists were prevented from entering the site.

The attorney general's office said Morsi, who appeared "animated", had addressed the court Monday for five minutes before falling to the ground inside the defendants' cage.

Another of Morsi's lawyers, Osama El Helw, said other de-



An Egyptian police vehicle is parked inside the Al-Wafaa Wa al-Amal cemetery after the former Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi was buried, in Nasr city district, east of the capital Cairo.

fendants had started banging loudly on the glass, "screaming loudly that Morsi had died".

The attorney general said he had been "transported immediately to the hospital", where medics pronounced him dead, a version of events confirmed by a judicial source.

Since Morsi's overthrow on July 3, 2013, his former defence minister, now President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, has waged an ongoing crackdown that has seen thousands of Muslim Brotherhood supporters jailed and hundreds facing death sentences. Morsi last saw his family in

September 2018. A month later, one of his sons, Abdallah, was arrested.

Abdel Maksoud was the last member of his defence team to see him, in November 2017.

A group of British parliamentarians in March 2018 warned that his detention conditions had not met international standards and could lead to his "premature death". Other Brotherhood leaders have also died in custody.

He spent just one turbulent year in office after the 2011 uprising, before being toppled by the military after millions took

to the streets demanding his resignation.

He has been in prison since his ouster, on trial on charges including for spying for Iran, Qatar and militant groups such as Hamas.

Morsi was also accused of plotting terrorist acts.

He was sentenced to death in May 2015 for his role in jailbreaks during the uprising that ousted his predecessor, longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak.

Morsi's turbulent rule was marked by widening schisms in Egyptian society, a crippling economic crisis and often-deadly opposition protests.

## Mohamed Morsi

The former President of Egypt dies at 67



2010

Becomes a spokesman for the **Muslim Brotherhood** and a member of its politburo

June 2012

Becomes Egypt's first president chosen in a free vote, also the first Islamist and civilian to head the country

July 2013

The army overthrows Morsi and bans the Muslim Brotherhood

December 2013

The government declares the **Muslim Brotherhood a terrorist organisation**

April 21, 2015

**Sentenced to 20 years in prison** for inciting violence against protesters in 2012

May 16, 2015

**Sentenced to death** for his role in a massive jailbreak in 2011

November 2016

**Court overturns his death sentence**, but he remains in prison

June 17, 2019

**Dies after collapsing in court**

© AFP

## Sri Lanka policeman defies president

Colombo, Sri Lanka

A Sri Lankan police officer yesterday defied President Maithripala Sirisena and testified before a parliamentary investigation into the Easter Sunday suicide bombings that killed 258 people.

Sirisena has come in for major criticism after ordering top brass not to allow police, military or intelligence personnel to take part in hearings into the attacks being held by a parliamentary committee.

The president, who has said the hearings could reveal classified information, is accused by critics of presiding over a security and intelligence apparatus which ignored warnings.

## Japan lifts tsunami advisory after quake: weather agency

Tokyo, Japan

Japan lifted a tsunami advisory early Wednesday hours after a strong 6.4-magnitude earthquake hit the country, but there were no immediate reports of damages or serious injuries.

The nation's meteorological agency lifted it at 1:02 am (1402 GMT Tuesday) after only small ripples of 10 centimetres were monitored on the coast of the Sea of Japan, north of Tokyo.

## Southwestern China rattled by series of quakes



This picture taken on April 21, 2018 shows part of the destroyed Xuankou Middle School, now the memorial site for the 2008 quake

Beijing

A string of five earthquakes -- including one with a magnitude of 6.0 -- shook China's southwestern Sichuan province on Monday, but there were no immediate reports of casualties or damage.

The epicenter of the largest quake was located outside the city of Yibin. It occurred at about 10:55 pm (1455 GMT) at a depth of 16 kilometres (10 miles), according to the China Earthquake Networks Center.

The subsequent smaller quakes, the largest of which had a magnitude of 5.1, took place in the following 40 minutes. Videos circulating on so-

cial media showed chandeliers and other light fixtures swaying from the shaking.

State news agency Xinhua said local authorities had dispatched personnel to determine if there had been any casualties.

Earthquakes regularly strike Sichuan, where a powerful 7.9-magnitude quake left 87,000 people dead or missing in 2008.

In February, three earthquakes hit Rongxian county in the province, killing two people and injuring 12 others -- casualties that residents blamed on fracking.

Local authorities later halted shale gas mining after thousands of residents protested.

## Trump promises 'wild' campaign rally

Washington, United States

President Donald Trump promised a "wild" 2020 campaign launch rally in Florida yesterday, even if dismal early poll numbers show he faces a difficult reelection.

Organizers claim the Orlando rally has sold out a 20,000-seat arena, with many more to gather outside, watching on big screens.

Trump portrayed the scale of the event as only one step below a rock concert.

"Look what is going on in Orlando, Florida, right now! People have never seen anything like it (unless you play a guitar). Going to be wild - See you later!" he tweeted.

Trump then returned to his almost daily claim that the media fails to reflect what he considers his achievements and popularity.

"The Fake News doesn't report it, but Republican enthusiasm is at an all time high," he tweeted.

After more than two drama-filled years at the White House, the fast-talking real estate salesman bets that a strong economy and his promise to fight for forgotten blue collar workers will persuade the country to give him a second term



Supporters of US President Donald Trump wait along one of the main streets outside the Amway Center on June 17, 2019 some 40 hours before a Trump campaign event in Orlando, Florida.

in 2020.

But more than 20 Democrats are lining up to take him on and there's no question that a lengthy probe into Trump's dealings with Russia and his divisive, bruising style have wounded the unconventional president.

A wide range of polls show Trump lagging far behind Democratic frontrunner Joe Biden, who is campaigning on a promise to return the country to what he portrays as the calmer, gentler days of Barack Obama, under whom he served as vice

president.

And it's not only Biden who is ahead.

Even Pete Buttigieg, the gay, small-city mayor emerging as one of the surprise stars of the Democratic field, narrowly leads Trump, according to a poll from Fox News released this weekend.

Polls so far in advance have limited value and in 2016 they famously failed to predict Trump's defeat of Democrat Hillary Clinton.

But in a sign of frayed nerves, Trump is lashing out at what he

calls "fake" polling, while multiple US media reports say that his campaign has fired several of its own pollsters.

### Back to basics

Democrats are fired up, with the party's most active wing veering left and a vocal minority pushing for Trump's impeachment.

So if Trump is going to win, he'll need everyone from his own fervent base on the right to turn out, setting the stage for a sharply polarized election.

The Orlando speech will see him aim directly at that demographic in a state likely to be crucial to either candidate in amassing the necessary electoral college votes for victory.

Expect Trump, the self-promoting hero of his ghost-written book "The Art of the Deal," to claim the US economy is richer, the military stronger, and the country more respected than ever in its history.

And expect ultra-loyal, core Republican supporters in red "Make America Great Again" baseball caps to chant "USA!"

These are the voters who steered Trump to improbable victory in 2016, when he faced the polished and experienced Clinton.

## Police launch suicide inquiry into death of Indian 'Houdini'



Indian stuntman Chanchal Lahiri, known by his stage name "Jadugar Mandrake", is lowered into the Ganges river, while tied up with steel chains and ropes, in Kolkata.

### Kolkata, India

Indian police said yesterday they were investigating whether a stunt artist deliberately drowned himself while performing a Houdini-inspired escape act in a Kolkata river.

Chanchal Lahiri died on Sunday in front of horrified onlookers who watched as the chained magician was lowered into the river but never reappeared.

The body of the so-called "Jadugar Mandrake" (Wizard Mandrake) was only recovered on Monday, still shackled, from the Hooghly river, a tributary of the Ganges river.

Kolkata police said they had started an "abatement to suicide" investigation against Lahiri's company.

"A negligence case has been initiated against

Chanchal Lahiri's company, Magic Belt India," Syed Waqar Raza, deputy commissioner of Kolkata's port police, told AFP.

"The investigation is also under section 306 of the penal code -- abetment to suicide."

Lahiri had not received permission to perform in the water, he added.

"Lahiri never mentioned in his authorisation letter that he was going to jump into the river," said the officer.

"We wonder why he was in such a rush to perform the stunt. It's a mystery to us."

River traffic police were absent when he began his act an hour earlier than he had told authorities, Raza added.

# US to begin removing 'millions' of illegal migrants, says Trump

● The US is facing a surge in migrant arrivals from Guatemala and other impoverished Central American countries which are plagued by gang violence

● Earlier Monday the US said it would not offer any more aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras unless they take "concrete actions"

### Washington, United States

The United States will start removing "millions" of illegal migrants next week, President Donald Trump said Monday, adding that Guatemala is preparing to sign a safe third country deal. "Next week ICE will begin the process of removing the millions of illegal aliens who have illicitly found their way into the United

States. They will be removed as fast as they come in," Trump said on Twitter, referring to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency.

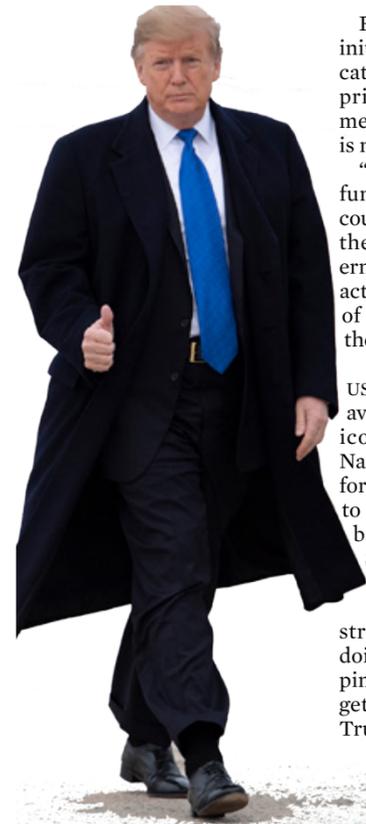
He added that "Guatemala is getting ready to sign a Safe-Third Agreement," an apparent reference to a pact in which migrants entering Guatemalan territory would have to apply for refugee status there, not in the United States.

The US is facing a surge in migrant arrivals from Guatemala and other impoverished Central American countries which are plagued by gang violence.

The numbers have overwhelmed the ability of US authorities to temporarily shelter and process them.

Trump has called it "an invasion," and has made the fight against illegal migration a central plank of his administration.

Earlier Monday the US said it would not offer any more aid to El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras unless they take "concrete actions" to deter undocumented migrants from heading for the US.



For fiscal 2019, \$370 million initially planned will be allocated to other foreign policy priorities, the State Department said, and all future aid is now conditional.

"We will not provide new funds for programs in those countries until we are satisfied the Northern Triangle governments are taking concrete actions to reduce the number of illegal migrants coming to the US border," Ortugas said.

Under a deal between the US and Mexico this month to avert threatened tariffs, Mexico agreed to deploy 6,000 National Guardsmen to reinforce its southern border, and to expand its policy of taking back migrants as the United States processes their asylum claims.

"Mexico, using their strong immigration laws, is doing a very good job of stopping people long before they get to our Southern Border," Trump said on Monday.



French high wire artist Philippe Petit performs an aerial walk to launch the celebration of the 70th anniversary of Philip Johnson's Glass House at their summer party

## Tightrope virtuoso Petit still defying gravity as he nears 70

### New York

Weeks from his 70th birthday, and a few decades from his famous high-wire walk between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center, French tightrope artist Philippe Petit continues to defy gravity.

It's been a few minutes since Petit wrapped up his show on this sunny Saturday afternoon but his mind is still up there. Several people draw near, but the red-haired artist appears not to see them.

He has come down off the wire but not out of his trance.

"My close friends, they say when you come back down after a walk, you're like a zombie, like an alien.

"You're still on the wire," he said after the walk earlier this month above the roof of the Glass House -- a house-turned-museum in New Canaan, Connecticut, designed exactly 70 years ago by famed architect Philip Johnson.

With a tight physique but a supple way of moving, Petit says age hasn't dented his abilities. He still trains three hours a day, six days a week.

"I think I can do what I was doing when I was 18 years old," he said after the ceremony to mark the Glass House's 70th birthday.

"I think I'm actually more in possession of my talent as a wire walker today at 70 years old than I was as a little kid," he added.

"I have nothing to prove anymore."

American by adoption, he decided to stay permanently in the United States after his famed walk at the World Trade Center in New York in 1974 -- 1,300 feet (400 meters) above the ground. He still feels the call of the wire just as deeply.

"I always feel excited," he said. "Like a kid. I am impatient to start."

### A return to Notre-Dame?

At the Glass House, as always, mischief-maker Petit is never content to simply walk on the wire.

He lengthens his stride, then lies down, and then starts all

over again, just like during his World Trade Center walk. The performance helped humanize the initially cold-seeming towers.

"I wasn't born in the circus. I was born in the theater, in the opera," said the self-taught performer.

"I am a poet wire-walker and I want to use my wire to connect."

From his home in northern New York, not far from Woodstock, the subject of the Oscar-winning documentary "Man on Wire" (2008) and the movie "The Walk" (2015) fantasizes about seeing himself summit increasingly high towers, all over the world.

The twin Petronas towers in

Kuala Lumpur (1,483 feet high) made him dream, but it is no longer possible to undertake such feats without permission, he admitted, even though he once strung his wire high above New York, Paris or Sydney without authorization.

"A guy with a ton of equipment at night on top of a giant tower -- don't you think they're going to shoot him and then ask questions?" he asked.

"We live in a world that is so paranoid about security."

The balancing man is currently preparing for an international tour, though he can't give many details yet.

He also has the Notre-Dame cathedral in Paris on his mind,

which, along with the rest of the world, he saw burn on April 15.

"I would love to maybe do a walk again between the two towers like I did in 1971," he said, "to help rebuild or to be part of the promotion of what's happening."

He reached out to the French culture minister, who has yet to respond.

Although Petit has never done the same walk twice, Notre-Dame would be a different story.

"It would be the same cable placement between the towers, but I would do something very different," he said. He already imagines cellist Yo-Yo Ma playing at the top of the tower at the other end of the wire.

# Luck will not be enough for the UK's next prime minister

*The UK's Conservative party is choosing its – and the country's – next leader. It's a job with even more potential pitfalls than ever*

GAVIN ESLER

There is no precise formula for success in politics. It's a peculiar alchemy of talent, tenacity, temperament and timing. The British Conservative party is now in the middle of a messy leadership race, which will result in its third prime minister in three years.

The apparent favourite is the former foreign secretary Boris Johnson, but why some people succeed while other, better candidates fail remains a puzzle. The US Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes famously observed that President Franklin Roosevelt owed his success to "a second-class intellect, but a first-class temperament." In his famous radio "fireside chats", Roosevelt certainly showed that he understood how to communicate with ordinary Americans.

Some British political observers believe that Boris Johnson is likely to become our next prime minister because he is also, in some way "relatable". Mr Johnson's personal life, even his appearance, seems chaotic, which perhaps makes us feel better about our own foibles.

Showing a degree of humanity in politics definitely is useful. The UK's outgoing prime minister Theresa May was noted for her tenacity, but she was so distant and cold that she frequently appeared robotic. When faced with the prospect of meeting victims of the disastrous fire at Grenfell Tower building in London, two years ago, she couldn't manage to do what most of us would have done and console them. Bill Clinton, on the other hand, and Barack Obama were leaders of first-class intellects who proved themselves to be big on empathy, too.

The first major politician I ever



Boris Johnson is the top contender for the leadership of the Conservative party.

met was a far-right British Conservative, Enoch Powell. Powell was talented – a former army brigadier, who rose through the ranks, and a professor of classics. However, he is best known for his appalling comments about race relations in Britain. He was sacked and ended his career a kind of exile in Northern Ireland. He wrote: "All political lives, unless they are cut off in midstream at a happy juncture, end in failure, because that is the nature of

politics and of human affairs." When I interviewed Powell, he made what I thought was a much sharper observation. He said that while politicians reach the level of the top table of government, in the Cabinet as senior ministers, owing to talent, they get to be leaders because of luck. Many talented, tenacious and thoughtful politicians get near the top but do not quite make it. William Hague, now Lord

Hague, was leader of the British Conservative party for a time. His misfortune was that his time was 1997 to 2001, the years when Tony Blair strode the world political stage. Hague got nowhere and quit. Then there is Ed Miliband, a very intelligent, talented man and one-time leader of the British Labour party. In May 2015 during a very tough general election campaign which many people – including his closest advisers

## Civil unrest destroys cultural heritage

*Museums and other places of wonder must not only be protected but also preserved*

THOMAS KAPLAN

Unfolding in many of the ancient capitals of antiquity, an epic struggle for the soul of humanity is occurring in plain sight. Even before we factor in the chaos of modern-day Syria and Iraq, could there be a more depressing symbol of cultural cannibalism than the obliteration of mankind's inheritance in the plunder of Mesopotamia, or the deliberate destruction of Palmyra?

Yet a forceful riposte is emerging from the Middle East itself. The fruit of a longstanding partnership between the UAE and France, Aliph – the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage in Conflict Areas – constitutes a genuine call to arms to safeguard our collective birthright. Created just over two years ago after a conference in Abu Dhabi in December 2016 on the protection of endangered heritage, this ambitious enterprise could not be more timely, as obscurantist narratives spread worldwide, not just in the cradle of civilisation.

Governed by a foundation

board and based in Geneva, Aliph is an alliance of sovereign states, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Morocco, China and Switzerland, international organisations, private partners and leading experts in the field. With pledges worth more than \$60 million already paid out, it finances the implementation of preventive care, emergency response and restoration programmes for cultural property at risk of destruction or damage. The foundation most recently announced its flagship project, the long-term restoration of the Museum of Mosul in Iraq.

In both spirit and purpose, Aliph emulates what is arguably the region's most far-reaching cultural initiative – Louvre Abu Dhabi. In the UAE capital, Louvre Abu Dhabi represents a rare green shoot of determined idealism. Evincing the UAE's resolve to share not only common interests but also common values between West and East, the museum provides remarkable insight into the conjoined history of mankind. From Islamic and Hindu art to illuminated

Hebrew manuscripts and the recent addition of Rembrandt's beautiful oil sketch *Head of a Young Man in Prayer*, depicting Jesus with his hands clasped in prayer, this joyful celebration of the profound interconnectedness of global civilisation since the beginning of time – a first in the Arab world – lifts our spirits and gives us hope.

But in its audacity, Louvre Abu Dhabi raises its own questions and forces us to reflect. At a time when erecting walls seems to be the fashion of the day, can the preservation of ancient heritage really build bridges between people? In an era of widespread scepticism about concepts such as enlightenment and universalism, can masterpieces of art truly advance a cause greater than mere accumulation or display?

Perhaps the best answer to those questions might come from Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *The Idiot*, a sort of prediction of the magnitude of precisely what Jean Nouvel's architectural jewel aims to accomplish. "Beauty will save the world," the book's protagonist Prince Myshkin declares, in a comment that the reader is free



Syrian army soldiers drive past the Arch of Triumph in the historic city of Palmyra, in Homs Governorate, Syria.

to interpret as evidence of either insanity or brilliance.

All art is contemporary when it is created. Yet it might take decades, if not centuries, to determine what endures as "signif-

icant" in the arc of art history. The greatest artists surpass conventional realism and become transcendent. Members of that sacred pantheon – giants such as Shakespeare, Bach or Rem-

brandt – changed their medium forever and, in doing so, made a contribution that changed the world.

Amid the international celebrations marking the 350th anni-

1862

The U.S. Congress prohibits slavery in United States territories, nullifying **Dred Scott v. Sandford**.

1867

Maximilian I of the Second Mexican Empire is executed by a firing squad in **Querétaro, Querétaro**.

1875

The Herzegovinian rebellion against the **Ottoman** Empire begins.



1903

**Benito Mussolini**, then a radical Socialist, arrested by Bern police for advocating a violent general strike.



Luck and timing may help Johnson as it did Emmanuel Macron in France and Donald Trump in the United States. Neither man would have reached the presidency of their countries a decade ago.

Neither man would have reached the presidency of their countries a decade ago. But being something – in these cases, prime minister or president – is not the same as doing something.

Mr Johnson has been the mayor of London and foreign secretary, without significant achievements in either job.

If he becomes prime minister he inherits a deeply divided country in which voters are shocked at the failures of government. Moreover, he has promised to “deliver” Brexit, but that is not like delivering a baby.

Stop 10 British people in the street and ask what “Brexit” means to them and they will offer 10 different, often mutually exclusive, definitions.

I’m not worried that the career of Britain’s next prime minister will end in failure. I am worried that, with the next Brexit deadline set for October 31, the next prime minister’s career will begin in failure. The clock is ticking.

Making a “success” of Brexit may not even be possible and, right now, it appears that luck is no longer enough. Being honest about the difficulties ahead would be a good place to start.

And so the time has come for another British leader to face the same key problem: Brexit. Boris Johnson has the air of a man who has been seeking the job of prime minister since birth. It may be his time. He is lucky his enemies and rivals are generally a lacklustre bunch prone to reciting dull-witted clichés.

Luck and timing may help Johnson as it did Emmanuel Macron in France and Donald Trump in the United States. Nei-

ers – expected Miliband to win, the Conservative leader David Cameron Tweeted: “Britain faces a simple and inescapable choice – stability and strong Government with me, or chaos with Ed Miliband.” Miliband lost. Cameron won by a healthy margin. Ironically, it was Cameron who provided anything but stability and strong government, as the EU referendum and the fiasco in which Britain now finds itself embroiled.

stage too  
but promoted



In both spirit and purpose, Aliph emulates what is arguably the region’s most far-reaching cultural initiative, Louvre Abu Dhabi. Evincing the UAE’s resolve to share not only common interests but also common values between West and East.

touch the soul” in painting, as the novelist and art theorist Andre Malraux put it, Rembrandt broke the bounds of convention and unleashed the imagination of the painter, casting off the classical limitations of expression and aesthetics to unveil a deeper narrative. Whether interpreting nobility or commoners, human or beast, the master connected intimately with the inner life of his subjects in a distinctly novel way – presaging by centuries the liberating breakthroughs of Impressionism and Expressionism.

Although controversial at the time, his revolutionary portrayal of the human condition and brushwork revealed a genius that enthralled and stirred legions of grateful luminaries – among them Goya, Delacroix, Van Gogh, Turner, Picasso, Rodin and Bacon – who in turn inspired the legions more that followed.

The first acquisition by a public institution in the Arab world of a Rembrandt can be seen as an exclamation point on this year’s commemorations. May Louvre Abu Dhabi’s honouring of the master’s universal impact remind us all why our interwoven cultural tapestry represents an invaluable source of enlightenment and unity of purpose, and why this endowment must not only be protected but promoted. Let it impress upon young and old the vital importance that museums and other places of wonder ought to assume in our lives, as well as the critical role that initiatives such as Aliph and Louvre Abu Dhabi play in the mission of not merely rejecting intolerance but embracing the mutual interdependence of humankind.



TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



I am happy to learn Nadda has been appointed as Working President of BJP in transition to President in December end. I have interacted with Nadda when he was party Gen Secy and as Health Minister. He is very decisive polite and has no prejudices or biases.

@Swamy39

02



Wow! The State Department said it has identified 30 Security Incidents involving current or former employees and their handling of Crooked Hillary Clinton’s Emails. @FoxNews This is really big. Never admitted before. Highly Classified Material. Will the Dems investigate this?

@realDonaldTrump

03



Election security should be a nonpartisan issue, yet we have a national security threat in the White House who is publicly thanking Senate Republicans for blocking election security legislation. This is downright irresponsible - the time to secure our elections is now.

@SenKamalaHarris

04



Ocasio-Cortez false-claims Trump is operating concentration camps, compares the situation to the Holocaust: “The U.S. is running concentration camps on our southern border and that is exactly what they are. ... ‘Never Again’ means something ... we need to do something about it”

@RealSaavedra

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

Wide Angle

Family movies: Are they more profitable?



JOEL INDRUPATI

After enjoying the new Disney movie ‘Aladdin’, I decided to do a quick short research. I wanted to find out how much money this movie is making; in order to test my hypothesis that the producers who invest in family movies are likely to earn higher profits.

For that, we need a sample of family movies, their budgets and their earnings. If we can collect and analyse this data, we will be able to understand if their producers really earned what they wanted.

But, first, a little bit of literature review. How do we define ‘a family movie’? Typically, the ‘family’ genre of movies has its stories and themes oriented towards families.

Some people differentiate a children’s film from a family film, by saying that the former targets children alone, while the latter offers value for the whole family (Unshrinking the kids: Children’s Cinema and the Family Film, a book by Cary Bazalgette, 1995, British Film Institute).

For the purpose of this essay, however, I wish to take G-rated family film and also PG-13 rated teen films into one single category. Since the under-18 kids with families can also watch PG-13 movies, my categorisation, I assume, would be acceptable.

If you just type out ‘a family movie’ or ‘family movies’ into your Google search box on your computers, it will immediately return a list of movies it thinks you are looking for.

Among the top family movies, released in the last six years, I found are these, listed in the ascending order: Frozen (2013), Lego Movie (2014), Minions (2015), Moana (2016), Jungle Book (2016), Coco (2017), The Boss Baby (2017), Incredibles 2 (2018), and The Grinch (2018).

In 2019, so far, ‘Dumbo’, ‘How to Train Your Dragon’, ‘Toy Story 4’, and now ‘Aladdin’, have already made waves. And it has not even reached the half-year mark yet.

According to boxofficemojo.com, Aladdin has already made \$727 mn, worldwide. And it is not even a month since it released on 24 May 2019. Its production budget was only \$183 mn.

‘Frozen’ costed \$150 mn to make, but earned a whopping \$1.3 bn. ‘Incredibles 2’ was produced at \$200 mn, but earned \$1.2 bn.

And ‘Minions’ with a production budget of just \$74 million earned \$1.2 bn worldwide. That’s more than 16 times its cost of production.

Even when we look at PG-13-rated movies made for teens and twenties – especially, the ones with superheroes – the cash registers at cinemas are ringing in loads of dough for the producers.

Last month, in the middle of May 2019, I had stumbled on an interesting piece of news; that ‘Avengers: End Game’ – which had a rousing welcome from movie-goers around the world – has toppled ‘Titanic’ from its second place of the all-time highest grossing movies at the box office.

Now, among the worldwide top-grossing movies of all time, the top five are these: Avatar (2009) made \$2.8 bn, Avengers: Endgame (2019), \$2.7 bn, Titanic (1997), \$2.2 bn, Star Wars: The Force Awakens (2015), \$2.1 bn, and Avengers: Infinity War (2018), \$2.0 bn.

Quite clearly, the investment into children’s movies, family movies, and teen-adventure or teen fantasy movies will make the producers laugh all the way to their banks.

But, sadly, when you wish to treat your family to good movies, in cinema theatres or on Netflix, the choice is almost always limited.

Of course, a limitation of my research is that we did not consider family movies which may have lost money due to bad craftsmanship.

But one thing is clear. The hypothesis that producers who invest in family movies are likely to earn higher profits, can be said to be true.

## business

## KHCB backs Centenary of formal education forum



The Minister of Education honouring KHCB for sponsoring the event

TDT | Manama

As part of its contribution to the Kingdom's celebrations in Bahrain, Khaleeji Commercial Bank (KHCB) has sponsored the Centenary of Formal Education Forum.

Under the patronage of the Minister of Education Dr Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, the event was held from June 11th -12th at ART Rotana Hotel, Amwaj Islands.

Commenting, KHCB CEO Sattam Sulaiman Algosaiabi asserted that KHCB is keen on maintaining its position as a key partner in celebrating national achievements.

"KHCB will spare no effort and continue supporting initiatives that serve the educational and learning processes in Bahrain, considering the significance of this field in achieving sustainable development in the kingdom," Algosaiabi added.

On the sidelines of the forum, KHCB participated with a stall at the Career Fair where they briefed visiting students, graduates and jobseekers on the banks' work environment and provided them with career consultancies.

Additionally, visitors were also granted the opportunity of submitting their résumés at the stall.

## Swing into LuLu's Half Payback fashion mode

TDT | Manama

LuLu Hypermarket has unveiled a summer fashion catwalk with its exciting Half PayBack offer that began yesterday in its Dana Mall, Riffa, Juffair, Hidd, Zinj (Galleria Mall) and Ramli Mall outlets.

With temperature climbing, it is once again time for a change of wardrobe to cool

cotton and stylish cuts and Summer-forward clothing for all the family.

The popular Half Payback promotion gives customers a chance to win back BD10 worth of vouchers for every BD20 spent on garments, sarees, churidar sets, baby accessories, toys, jewellery, ladies handbags, REO brand clothing, Eye Express eyewear and all kinds of footwear.

## Boeing apologises for 737 MAX crashes as Paris Air Show opens

Le Bourget, France

Top Boeing executive apologised Monday for two crashes of 737 MAX jets that together killed 346 people, disasters which have pushed safety to the top of the agenda as aerospace firms gathered for the opening of the Paris Air Show.

The US aerospace giant is battling to regain the trust of

passengers, pilots and regulators after a 737 operated by Indonesia's Lion Air flight crashed last October, followed by an Ethiopian Airlines jet in March. "We are very sorry for the loss of lives as a result of the tragic accidents... our thoughts and our prayers are with their families," Boeing's head of commercial aircraft Kevin McAllister said.

## Batelco, Tata Communications extend partnership agreement

Collaboration Supports Global Network Connectivity, IP Transit and Cloud

TDT | Manama

Batelco, a leading digital communications solutions provider, has announced signing an extension of its partnership with Tata Communications, a leading global digital infrastructure provider.

The deal allows Batelco to offer flexible and reliable data connectivity with expanded global reach; to service providers, mobile network operators (MNO) and Internet service providers (ISPs) in the Middle East.

This new collaboration brings together Tata Communications' global Tier-1 IP network and its new partnership IP node with Batelco in Global Zone – the Carrier Neutral Tier-3 certified data centre in Bahrain, and the recently launched protected

As businesses' use of data and cloud-based applications continues to grow, this highly resilient offering will help service providers and their customers ensure the reliability of their operations

ADEL AL-DAYLAMI  
BATELCO CHIEF GLOBAL BUSINESS OFFICER



The combination of these networks and infrastructures will offer service providers highly

resilient network connectivity with increased reach in the Middle East and globally, a Batelco statement said.

Adel Al-Daylami, Batelco Chief Global Business Officer said, "By harnessing each other's assets, we look to bring Middle East service providers, MNOs and ISPs the best of both worlds – the global reach of Tata Communications' Tier 1 IP network and our regional reach over our protected BGN."

Vaneet Mehta, Tata Communications Region Head – Middle East, Central Asia & Africa, said: "Through our partnership to-date, we've extended the reach of our respective data centre, cloud and connectivity capabilities. Our new collaboration with Batelco strengthens this relationship further."

## All major Gulf markets gain

- Top lender lifts Dubai
- SABB gains on debut trade as merged entity
- Abu Dhabi end three days of losses

Reuters

Major stock markets in the Gulf rose yesterday, led by financials including Emirates NBD in Dubai.

Markets have steadied after falling late last week following attacks on tankers in the Gulf of Oman on Thursday. The attacks raised fears of a military confrontation in a vital shipping route for global oil supply and heightened tensions between Iran and the United States, which have been in a standoff over Iran's nuclear programme.

Investor concerns have eased somewhat after both Tehran and Riyadh said they did not want a war, but tensions in the region remain high, making stock trading potentially volatile.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Tuesday that Iran will not wage war against any nation, a day after the United States announced the



A trader watching stock movements on the floor of a stock market in the Gulf (file)

deployment of more troops to the Middle East amid rising tensions between Tehran and Washington.

On Saturday, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman urged the international community to take a "decisive stand" but said Riyadh does not want a war.

In the UAE, the Dubai and Abu Dhabi indexes, rose 0.6 per cent and 0.2pc, respectively.

The Dubai market had fallen earlier in the day mainly pressured by real estate shares but reversed course financials rose.

Emirates NBD, Dubai's largest lender, gained 1.3pc and Emaar Malls closed 3.8pc higher.

In Abu Dhabi, blue chip companies Emirates Telecommunications and Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank were up 1pc and 1.2pc, respectively.

The Saudi index closed 0.3pc higher with Al Rajhi Bank gaining 1pc and Saudi Basic Industries climbing 0.3pc.

Saudi British Bank (SABB) gained 1.2pc in its debut trade as a merged entity. On Sunday, the lender completed its merger with Alawwal Bank creating the

## Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.3pc	» 9,000 pts
ABU DHABI	▲ 0.2pc	» 4,912 pts
DUBAI	▲ 0.6pc	» 2,629 pts
QATAR	▲ 0.3pc	» 10,420 pts
EGYPT	▼ 0.3pc	» 14,203 pts
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.1pc	» 1,451 pts
OMAN	▼ 0.1pc	» 3,915 pts
KUWAIT	▼ 0.8pc	» 6,306 pts

country's third-largest bank, becoming a single listed company after regulatory approvals. Alawwal Bank was de-listed from the bourse on Monday.

Qatar's index increased 0.3pc with Commercial Bank jumping 5pc. The Financial Times reported that the Qatar Investment Authority (QIA) is ramping up its investment plans in North America and Asia, and creating a unit to scour for opportunities in emerging markets in Latin America, Africa and Asia in an effort to snap up stakes in companies directly.

QIA, Qatar's Sovereign wealth fund, owns 17pc of Qatar's Commercial Bank.

Egypt's index fell 0.3pc as most of its blue-chip stocks slipped, with Juhayna Food Industries plunging 4.4pc.

Exchange data showed Egyptian investors were net sellers of Egyptian stocks.

## Trump says having 'extended meeting' with Xi at G20 summit

Washington, United States

US President Donald Trump said yesterday he had a positive phone conversation with his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping and the two leaders will hold an "extended meeting" next week at the Group of 20 summit in

Japan.

Trump's tweet set a more upbeat tone for his talks with Xi after worsening tensions creates fears over whether the world's top two economies would be able to resolve their differences and end an increasingly damag-

ing trade war. "Had a very good telephone conversation with President Xi of China. We will be having an extended meeting next week at the G-20 in Japan," Trump said on Twitter.

"Our respective teams will begin talks prior to our meeting"

The tweet came shortly before top US negotiator, Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer began his appearance before a Senate committee to discuss the status of the trade confrontation, as well as the new free trade agreement with Canada

and Mexico.

Trump's tweet sparked a rally on Wall Street, where the multi-front trade battles have repeatedly rankled investors worried about dented corporate profits and disruption to one of the major axes of global trade.

Global markets are concerned about Trump's threat to impose more steep tariffs on China, to cover an additional \$300 billion in goods, which could hurt the already slowing Chinese economy and spread the gloom worldwide.

# With 'Libra,' Facebook leaps into digital money

● **Libra offers an open source code to be used by developers interested in weaving it into apps**

● **Libra will be a regulated currency, subject to local laws**

● **Libra Association debuted with 28 members including Mastercard, Visa, Stripe, Kiva, PayPal, Lyft, Uber and Women's World Banking.**

**San Francisco, United States**

**F**acebook is leaping into the world of cryptocurrency with its own digital money, designed to let people save, send or spend money as easily as firing off text messages.

"Libra" -- described as "a new global currency" -- was unveiled yesterday in a new initiative in payments for the world's biggest social network with the potential to bring crypto-money out of the shadows and into the mainstream.

Facebook and some two dozen partners released a prototype of Libra as an open source code to be used by developers interested in weaving it into apps, services or businesses ahead of a rollout as

global digital money next year.

An eponymous nonprofit association based in Geneva will oversee the blockchain-based Libra, maintaining a real-world asset reserve to keep its value stable.

The initiative has the potential to allow more than a billion "unbanked" people around the world access to online commerce and financial services, said Libra Association head of policy and communications Dante Disparte.

"We believe if you give people access to money and opportunity at the lowest cost, the way the internet itself did in the past with information, you can create a lot more stability than we have had up until now," Disparte said.

"Sending money to your friend shouldn't be harder than getting them an Uber ride home," said Uber head of payments and risk Peter Hazlehurst.

"Libra has the potential to bridge the gap between traditional financial networks and new digital currency technology, while reducing the costs for everyone."

Facebook will be just one voice among many in the association, but is separately building a digital wallet called Calibra.

"We view this as a complement to Facebook's mission to connect people wherever they are; that includes allowing them to exchange value," Calibra vice president of operations Tomer Barel said.

"Many people who use Facebook are in countries where there are barriers to banking or credit."

Calibra is being built into Facebook's Messenger and WhatsApp with a goal of letting users send Libra as easily as they might fire off a text message.

**Backed**

**“We believe if you give people access to money and opportunity at the lowest cost, the way the internet itself did in the past with information, you can create a lot more stability than we have had up until now”**

DANTE DISPARTE  
LIBRA ASSOCIATION HEAD OF POLICY AND COMMUNICATIONS

**by real cash**

Libra learned from the many other cryptocurrencies that have preceded it such as bitcoin and is designed to avoid the roller-coaster valuations that have attracted speculation and caused ruin.

Real-world currency used to buy Libra will go into a reserve backing the digital money, the value of which will mirror stable currencies such as the US dollar and the euro, according to its creators.

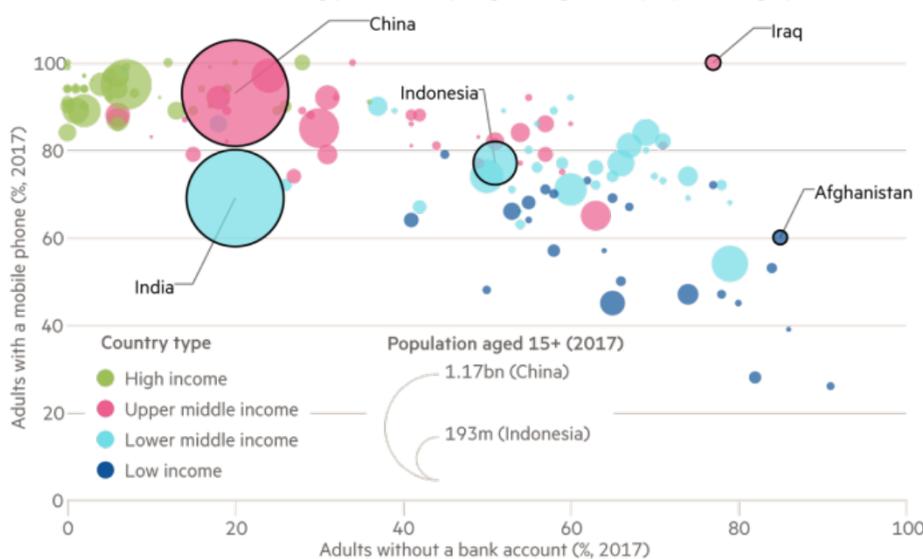
"It is backed by a reserve of assets that ensures utility and low volatility," Tomer said. For the digital currency to operate on a global scale, Libra is relying on a platform of blockchain technology that uses about 100 trusted computer "nodes" to validate and register transactions.

The Libra Association will be the only entity able to "mint or burn" the digital currency, maintaining supply in tune with demand and assets in reserve, according to Barel.

"It is not about trusting Facebook, it is effectively trust in the association's founding organizations that this is independent

Chief executive Mark Zuckerberg

**Libra's mobile-first strategy aims to plug the global payment gap**



Sources: World Bank; UN © FT

and democratic," Disparte said.

**New directions**

The launch comes with Facebook seeking to move past a series of lapses on privacy and data protection which have tarnished its image and spark scrutiny from regulators around the world.

Chief executive Mark Zuckerberg has promised a new direction for Facebook built around smaller groups, private messaging and payments.

The new Calibra digital wallet promises to eventually give Facebook opportunities to build financial services into its offerings, offer expand its own commerce and let more small businesses buy ads at the social network.

**Like bitcoin, there's no real identity on the blockchain**

From the perspective of the blockchain itself, you don't exist. Only public-private key pairs exist. The white paper states: "The Libra protocol does not link accounts to a real-world identity. A user is free to create multiple accounts by generating multiple key-pairs. Accounts controlled by the same user have no inherent link to each other."

Initially, the consensus structure for Libra will be dozens of organisations that will run nodes on the network, validating transactions. Each time consensus is voted on for a new set of transactions, a leader will be designated at random to count up the votes.

Libra opts to rely on familiarity rather than democracy to choose the right entities to establish consensus in the early days. "Founding Members are organisations with established reputations, making it unlikely that they would act maliciously," the white paper states. These are entities range from traditional payment networks (Mastercard, Visa) to internet and gig-economy giants (eBay, Lyft) to blockchain natives (Xapo) to VCs (Andreessen Horowitz, Thrive Capital).

"We certainly see long-term value for Facebook," Barel said.

Financial information at Calibra will be kept strictly separate from social data at Facebook and won't be used to target ads, Calibra vice president of product Kevin Weil said.

Libra will be a regulated currency, subject to local laws in

markets regarding fraud, guarding against money laundering and more, according to Weil.

**Like ethereum, it makes currency programmable**

In a number of ways, the white paper defines interesting ways in which its users can interact with the core software and data structure. For example, anyone can make a non-voting replica of the blockchain or run various read commands associated with objects (such as smart contracts or a set of wallets) defined on Libra. Crucially, Libra's designers seem to agree with ethereum's that running code should have a cost, so all operations require payment of Libra as gas in order to run.

Unlike ethereum, Libra makes two important changes in its smart contracts. First, it limits how much users can do on the protocol at first (the full breadth of Move's features are not yet open). Second, it breaks data out from software, so one smart contract (what Move refers to as a "module") can be directed at any pool of assets, which Move calls "resources." So one set of code can be used on any number of wallets or collections of assets.

**Like Hyperledger, it's permissioned (at least to start)**

Libra's designers have picked what they see as the best features of existing blockchains while providing their own updates and refinements



## How do cryptocurrencies work?

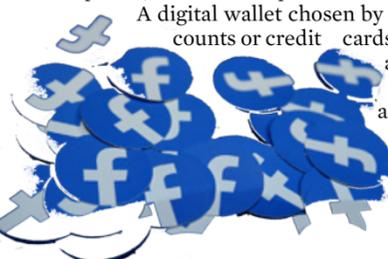
To use currencies like Libra, people will need to install software referred to as a digital wallet.

Several digital wallets are available, but one called Calibra is being built by a Facebook subsidiary for Apple- and Android-powered smartphones and integrated with the social network's Messenger and WhatsApp mobile services.

This system "lets everyone store their money securely in their phone," Calibra vice president of product Kevin Weil told AFP.

A digital wallet chosen by the user is linked to bank accounts or credit cards for transfers or online transactions.

"The same way you can pick any browser to go on the internet, you can pick any digital wallet," Weil said.



## What are the advantages?

Libra was released as an open ecosystem, so any business or service may accept it for payments. Financial institutions could also offer credit or loans in Libra.

"Imagine storing your life savings in your house; it is safer to take it with you on the go on your phone," Weil said.

Calibra, for example, could be used to send money to friends or family members in another country, or shop at stores online or in the real world the same way they might use Apple Pay or Google Pay.

More than a billion people already use WhatsApp and Messenger to communicate, so providing a way to send money makes sense.

"Over time, as the Libra ecosystem grows and Libra is built into products and services, there will be more things you can just do with Libra," Weil said.

## How is cash converted to crypto?

People without access to banks could go to a currency exchange or merchant to convert cash into Libra.

Once on a smartphone, Libra could be sent text-message style, with recipients having the option to save it in their own wallets for future use or convert it to their local currency.

"We make it easy to go back and forth to local currency," Weil said.

"If you are unbanked, you will have locations like money exchanges that operate with Libra."

Currency exchange fees would be market-driven, but likely less than remittance fees charged by businesses that wire funds.

Calibra has built-in fraud and password recovery protections, and there is a "know-your-customer" process that requires people to initially provide some form of government identification.

"This is people's money; we feel a huge responsibility to keep it safe," Weil said.

# 'Super Mario' sends stock markets skyward

London, United Kingdom

European Central Bank Mario Draghi sent Europe's stock and bond markets surging yesterday by hinting at further eurozone interest rate cuts, while the euro fell sharply on the news.

Draghi's dovish comments even sparked the fury of US President Donald Trump, who accused the ECB chief of sending the euro down against the dollar to make it "unfairly easier for them to compete against the USA".

Equity investors rejoiced, with Paris stocks soaring 2.1 per cent, London up 1.3pc and Frankfurt leaping 1.8pc in afternoon trade.

"Super Mario is back!" said IG analyst Chris Beauchamp in summary at the market action.

"Despite only having a few months left to his tenure, the head of the ECB has handed his successor a firmly dovish bias, as he leaves the door open to more QE (quantitative easing stimulus) and renewed negative rates at the ECB in order to try once again to kick-start the eurozone economy."

Ahead of a key US monetary policy decision, Draghi renewed openness to lowering eurozone interest rates still further, as well as other steps to boost the bloc's anaemic growth and inflation.



The President of the European Central Bank (ECB) Mario Draghi arrives during Eurogroup meeting at the EU headquarters in Luxembourg

"Further cuts in policy interest rates and mitigating measures to contain any side effects remain part of our tools," Draghi told the ECB's annual economics gathering in Sintra, Portugal.

Central bank governors had already discussed potential rate cuts at a regular meeting of the ECB's governing council in early June, faced with an economy weighed down by trade conflicts making for sluggish price growth.

The prospect of falling interest rates tends to push share prices higher because they cut company borrowing costs and

also boost consumers' disposable incomes.

It also tends to buoy bond markets, which reacted strongly, with the yield on the French government's benchmark 10-year bond turning negative for the first time.

## Fed rate cut hints?

Wall Street followed Europe's lead, opening higher ahead of a Federal Reserve meeting which is expected to give further hints about what would be the central bank's first rate cut in more than a decade.

The Fed has raised rates nine

times over the last three and a half years as the economy recovered and put millions of Americans back to work.

Investors are also gearing up for next week's high-stakes G20 summit, where Trump is set to meet his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping on the sidelines to discuss their trade war.

"So much has been priced in at this stage that it's going to be tough for the (US) central bank to live up to market expectations," Oanda analyst Craig Erlam told AFP.

"Ultimately, how they see

## Key figures around 1345 GMT

London - FTSE 100:	▲ 1.3pc at 7,455.07 points
Frankfurt - DAX 30:	▲ 1.8pc at 12,306.17
Paris - CAC 40:	▲ 2.1pc at 5,503.84
EURO STOXX 50:	▲ 1.9pc at 3,448.51
New York - Dow:	▲ 1.3pc at 26,441.31
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▼ 0.7pc at 20,972.71 (close)
Hong Kong - Hang Seng:	▲ 1.0pc at 27,498.77 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 0.1pc at 2,890.16 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1201 from \$1.1218 at 2100 GMT
Pound/dollar:	▼ at \$1.2523 from \$1.2534
Dollar/yen:	▼ at 108.51 yen from 108.54 yen
Brent North Sea:	▲ 36 cents at \$61.30 per barrel
Oil - West Texas Inter:	▲ 85 cents at \$52.78

the year out will likely largely depend on trade talks between the US and China, with the next opportunity to overcome the impasse being the G20 next week."

While trade war tensions continue to make waves, the key focus for now is what the Fed plans to do with monetary policy as the tariff stand-off shows signs of impacting the world's top economy.

The latest weak data include construction of new homes dropping in last month, as well as manufacturing activity in New York hitting its lowest level since late 2016.

Oil prices were also affected by Draghi's comments, rebounding from earlier losses to solidly positive gains.

On currency markets, the pound remained under pressure on growing worries that arch-Brexit Boris Johnson will be elected leader of the ruling Conservatives and thus prime minister, and pull Britain out of the European Union without a divorce agreement.

Sterling is at five-month lows ahead of the next round of the party's leadership vote Tuesday -- and before Thursday's monetary policy update from the Bank of England.

# Waves of Chinese tourists invade North Korea

Pyongyang

On a grey stone column in Pyongyang, a mural shows Chinese and North Korean soldiers rushing into battle against US-led forces in the Korean War. Decades later, the monument is a regular stop for new waves of Chinese going to the North, this time as tourists.

Hundreds of soldiers and workers have been sprucing up the obelisk and its grounds in recent days ahead of a state visit to Pyongyang by Chinese President Xi Jinping this week.

An inscription on it lauds "the Chinese People's Volunteer Army, who fought with us on this land and smashed down the common enemy".

Their "immortal exploits" will "last forever", it proclaims, as will "the friendship forged in blood between the peoples of the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

Nearly 70

years after Mao Zedong sent millions of soldiers to save Kim Il Sung's troops from defeat as General Douglas MacArthur's men marched up the peninsula, China remains the isolated, nuclear-armed North's key diplomatic backer and main provider of trade and aid.

Now the Friendship Tower, as the monument is known, attracts growing hordes of Chinese tourists -- and the renovations suggest it may also be on Xi's itinerary.

Ordinary Chinese pay travel companies around 2,500 yuan (\$360) for a standard three-day trip, arriving overland by train in Pyongyang to tour the capital's highlights, from the Arch of Triumph to Kim Il Sung Square.

The following day they head south to the Demilitarized Zone that has divided the peninsula since the two sides fought each other to a stalemate in 1953, before returning home.

"I'm very interested in North Korea and

wanted to come to see what North Korea looks like," said Yu Zhi, a retiree from Anhui province visiting Pyongyang, telling AFP that she had a "special feeling" for the country.

"China is very friendly with North Korea," added her fellow traveller, a woman surnamed Jin. "We have been friends for generations."

## Lips and teeth

It was not always so. Mao -- whose eldest son Mao Anying was among those killed in what China still calls the "War to Resist US Aggression and Aid the DPRK" -- described the neighbours as "as close as lips and teeth".

Ties then waxed and waned during the Cold War, when founder Kim Il Sung was adept at playing his Soviet and Chinese allies off against each other, and his grandson, the current leader Kim Jong Un, did not visit Beijing to pay his respects for more than six years after inheriting power.

But as he

embarked on a flurry of diplomacy last year he made sure that Chinese President Xi Jinping was the first foreign head of state he met, and he has since done so three more times -- more often than Kim has seen any other leader.

Now Xi is going to reciprocate. At the same time Chinese tourism to the North has reached record highs, according to travel industry sources -- so much so that Pyongyang has imposed a limit on arrivals.

No official figures are available from authorities on either side, but Simon Cockerell, general manager of Koryo Tours, the market leader for Western visitors, said there had been "a huge increase in Chinese tourists".

At peak times 2,000 people a day had been arriving in Pyongyang, he said. "That's far too many because there is no infrastructure to accommodate that many tourists, so problems with train tickets, with plane tickets, hotel space."

As a result North Korean authorities had themselves set a

1,000-a-day cap, he added, although it was unclear whether this applied across the industry or solely to Chinese, who make up the vast majority of arrivals.

"There are issues with just hundreds of people showing up at the same time."

## 'Choices being made'

China has a proven willingness to use tourism as a geopolitical negotiating weapon -- it banned group tours to South Korea after it deployed a US anti-missile system, THAAD.

With nuclear negotiations at a stalemate the North remains subject to multiple UN Security Council sanctions, and the US imposed a travel ban on its own citizens visiting following the death of student Otto Warmbier, who had been jailed after trying to steal a propaganda poster.

But tourism is not among the sectors targeted by the UN, potentially enabling Beijing to use it as an incentive for its sometimes wayward ally.

The Chinese travel phenomenon is market-driven, rather

than prompted by state order -- as well as the market offered by China's huge population, the two countries' border enables cheap overland journeys.

But simply enabling it to take place, said John Delury of Yonsei University in Seoul, meant "We can infer some choices are being made" by Beijing.

"We know it's a lever they can turn on and off," he said.

Even with the diplomatic process at a standstill, he added, "The Chinese think you have to use this window of opportunity to move things forward. There has to be a path on both sides and so something like opening up tourism is a good way to enable that."

At the Monument to the Three Charters for Reunification on the edge of Pyongyang, where two giant stone women form an arch over a road, a secondary school teacher from Shanghai called Peng said: "We are both socialist countries. I feel there are more Chinese coming to visit."



Tourists from China stand on a viewing deck of the Juche tower overlooking the city skyline of Pyongyang

# CAMPUS

## RCSI Bahrain receives HEC, BQA awards

TDT | Manama

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – Medical University of Bahrain (RCSI Bahrain) has further strengthened its position and reputation as a regional leader in healthcare education with further endorsements by Bahrain’s Higher Education Council (HEC) and the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA).

A busy few months for RCSI Bahrain’s Quality Enhancement team was duly rewarded, firstly in the presentation of the Institutional Accreditation Certificate from the HEC.

The certificate was presented by the Minister of Education and Chairman of the HEC, Dr Majed bin Ali Al-Noaimi, during a formal ceremony at the Ministry of Education in Isa Town recently.

The accreditation will last for an initial period of four years – the maximum period awarded – and supports the vision of the national development strategy, Economic Vision 2030, in developing Bahrain as a regional hub for quality higher education.

Speaking on the occasion of the HEC presentation, RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom, acknowledged the immense support RCSI Bahrain has received from the HEC over a number of years.



Minister of Education and Chairman of the HEC, Dr Majed bin Ali Al-Noaimi presents HEC certificate to RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom



Jawaher Al-Mudhahki presents BQA certificate to RCSI Bahrain President, Professor Sameer Ootom

He said this achievement was another important milestone in RCSI Bahrain’s pursuit of excellence in higher education, and extended his appreciation to His Excellency the Minister of Education and all the members of the accreditation committee.

In addition, RCSI Bahrain has also received a positive Quality Review outcome from the Bahrain Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA), part of the Supreme Council for Education and Training Development for the next five years.

The certificate was presented to Prof Ootom by BQA Chief Executive Officer, Dr Jawaher Al-Mudhahki, in the presence of fellow BQA delegates and senior RCSI Bahrain officials, during a special meeting at the University’s Busaiteen campus.

On this occasion, Professor Ootom thanked Dr Al-Mudhahki and all BQA representatives for their efforts in making the process a success, while also acknowledging the authority’s unwavering commitment to higher education standards in Bahrain.

## AGU study discusses water resources in Muscat



Supervisors of the study interact with Dawood Sulaiman Al Qassimi

TDT | Manama

The Arabian Gulf University (AGU) recently hosted the discussion of a study on modelling and simulating the water sector in Muscat Governorate in the Sultanate of Oman, linking the administrative, social and economic sides of the water system and the natural hydrological system.

Hosted at the College of Graduate Studies in AGU, the discussion focused on the calculation of future demand on water in the governorate, and underlined future scenarios to reach the best policies for the sustainability of water resources in Muscat.

The study was conducted by Omani researcher Dawood Sulaiman Al Qassimi and it was titled “Evaluation of the Sustainability of the Water Resources Management System in the Sultanate of Oman: Case Study of Muscat Governorate”. It was part of the requirements for obtaining the Master of Science in Natural Resources Major in Water Resources Management. It utilised the Governorate

of Muscat as a case study, identifying the most important challenges and problems faced by the water sector, and proposing possible administrative interventions to increase the efficiency and sustainability of the system in the service of the development objectives in the Sultanate.

“The water resources sector in the Sultanate of Oman faces many challenges in meeting the rapid development requirements of the municipal, agricultural and industrial sectors. In order to meet demand over the past years, the Sultanate has focused on the supply management method of increasing the drawdown of groundwater, and building desalination plants and dams, with less reliance on the reuse of sewage water,” Al Qassimi explained.

It was also highlighted in the study that several factors such as leakage reduction from the network by 10 percent, increasing sewage water treatment by 70 percent and increasing the efficiency of irrigation by 60 percent by the year 2035. Al Qassimi added that these fac-



Dawood Sulaiman Al Qassimi

tors, if implemented, will result in a significant reduction in associated costs, resulting in financial savings of around USD4.6 billion.

The study was supervised by Water Resources Professor at AGU Prof. Waleed Zubari, Water Resources Professor at AGU Dr. Alaa Elsadek, Water, Soil and Irrigation Relations Assistant Professor at AGU Dr. Abdelhadi Abdelwahab and Water Resources Management Professor at Taibah University in Saudi Arabia Dr. Mohammed Abdulrazzaq as an external examiner.

## Al Noor School honours reading winners

TDT | Manama

A unique award ceremony was held at Al Noor International School to honour the winners of a new reading competition venture called ‘Reading for All’. It was organised jointly by the British, CBSE and Arabic sections of the school to create a strong reading culture and competitive spur even among the reluctant readers.

About 2,500 participants from Grade 1 through the young adults of Grade 12 enthusiastically participated and out of 1,200 semifinalists 150 emerged successful in the final round.

Yesterday was the historic celebration of this victory and all these winners were given special mementos, trophies and certificates by the School Chairman Ali Hasan, Director Dr Muhammad Mashood and Principal Amin Mohammed Ahmed Heliwa.

The highlight of the event was the extempore round



Students receive award from school officials

where a group of 21 specially selected students were challenged with questions to which they all sensibly responded in 30 seconds. Parents also got the rare opportunity to pose questions to the winners to which the participants answered.



Students of Riffa Views International School (RVIS) during the graduation ceremony held at the Ritz Carlton. The event was attended by parents, faculty as the Class of 2019 took the stage to celebrate a major milestone in their lives

# celebs



## Bella Hadid apologises to Saudi, UAE fans after online backlash

Dubai

U.S.-Palestinian model Bella Hadid has taken to Twitter and Instagram to apologize to her fans in Saudi Arabia and the UAE after she was accused of being disrespectful by social media users.

It all kicked off when the 22-year-old supermodel uploaded a photo to her Instagram Stories on Monday, showing her boot pictured in front of an Emirates plane and a Saudia plane. The hashtag #BellaHadidIsRacist started trending as some social media users felt the model was being disrespectful, but she quickly took to the Internet to set the record straight, saying "this was an honest mistake on an early morning" in a tweet.

"I am posting this to clear up a few things that have been weighing on my heart," Hadid wrote on her Instagram Stories Monday. "To begin, I would never want my posts or platform to be used for hate against anyone, especially those of my own beautiful and powerful heritage. I love and care so much about the Muslim and Arab side of my family, as well as my brothers and sisters throughout the world."

Bella Hadid

## Money was my main driver: Irina Shayk on joining fashion industry

Los Angeles

Supermodel Irina Shayk has revealed her aim was never to work in the fashion industry and she wanted to study marketing.

The 33-year-old Russian model said growing up she had no access to the world of fashion and she decided to say yes to a modelling assignment to support her family, reported Contactmusic.

"We lived in a super small village, we never bought fashion magazines, I didn't even know that world existed. When I was asked to be a model, at first I said no, I wanted to finish studying marketing at college.

"My mum had been saving up to pay for it. Then I realised modelling would be a good way to help my family. Money was my main driver," Shayk said.

She believes it is important to be "strong and stubborn" if one wants to have a successful modelling career.

"I was older than other girls - some started modelling aged 13. I wasn't a size zero, I was bigger. Now, because of Instagram, it is not really about being a size zero, but back then, all the girls were skinny and I wasn't.

"There are so many people who tell you to lose weight, to colour your hair or cut it or do this or that... It's very important not to lose who you really are," she added.



Irina Shayk

## Sylvester Stallone nostalgic on 40th anniversary of 'Rocky II'

Los Angeles

On the 40th anniversary of "Rocky II", Hollywood heavyweight Sylvester Stallone said he is "incredibly grateful" to the audience for accepting and loving the characters from his boxing sports-drama franchise.

The actor, who starred as Rocky Balboa, the eponymous southpaw boxer from Philadelphia, also wrote and directed the blockbuster sequel which hit theatres on June 15, 1979.

In his Instagram post, Stallone recalled the characters -- Rocky's beloved wife Adrian, his trainer-manager Mickey Goldmill and opponent Apollo Creed.

"A heartfelt thank you for accepting these characters and their stories into your lives! It seems like only yesterday when Adrian was telling me to 'WIN! And Mickey pushing me to be an 'Italian Tank! and go through him!'"



Sylvester Stallone

## Taylor Swift feels 'so much lighter' after ending feud with Katy Perry

Los Angeles

Singers Taylor Swift and Katy Perry have put their feud in the past and there's no more bad blood between the two.

The music icons came together for Swift's 'You Need To Calm Down' music video, which released on Monday. In the video, which stands for the LGBTQ+ community and equal rights for women, the singers share a hug.

The duo had been in a feud for the past few years, reportedly over backup dancers. Swift's song 'Bad Blood' is also rumoured to be about her prolonged quarrel with Perry. Perry's 'Swish Swish' is said to be her response, reported E! News.

Katy Perry and Taylor Swift



## Britney Spears working hard to shed the pounds

Los Angeles

Revealing that she does not like cardio, pop star Britney Spears shared a video of her workout on Monday.

The video begins with Spears saying, "Hi guys, it's such a beautiful day, I had to come outside and do a little workout. I wanted to share with all of you."

The video then shows her working on bicep curls, squats and showing off her impressive high kicks while Jennifer Lopez song 'Booty' plays in the background.

"I've been working really hard to loose [sic] weight ... and for me, 3 pounds is like 7 pounds it's a lot," Spears captioned the video on Instagram.

"I don't like doing too much cardio. My body has muscle memory, cus I use it be [sic] gymnast and I can bulk up ... so I like isolated movement. The key to my workout is repetition, but that gets boring so I have a booklet I've made with all my favourite exercises. I usually wear headphones ... music takes me away."



Britney Spears

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DAPHNE SHAINA** Father of **JUSTIN PACKIA DHAS**, holder of Indian Passport No **M0805984** dated 17/09/2014 issued at Bahrain, having permanent residence at **9/66, A/4 KEEZHAMANIYANKUZHI, ERANIEL KONAM, NEYYOOR P.O, KANYAKUMARI DIST, TAMIL NADU**. Presently residing at **FLAT NO.1, BUILDING NO.1517, ROAD NO.2835, BLOCK NO:328, MANAMA, BAHRAIN** do hereby change my daughter's name as ( Given Name) **DAPHNE**, (Surname) **SHAINA**, 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.

## Olivia Wilde, Jon Hamm join cast of 'Richard Jewell'

Los Angeles

Hollywood actors Olivia Wilde and Jon Hamm have joined the star-studded cast of veteran filmmaker Clint Eastwood's upcoming feature "Richard Jewell".

The film is based on a real-life security guard whose world turned upside down after law enforcement leaked to an overenthusiastic reporter at the Atlanta Journal Constitution that Jewell was a possible suspect for the pipe-bombing at Centennial Park during the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

From that moment on, Jewell went from a hero, who discovered the suspicious abandoned backpack



Olivia Wilde and Jon Hamm

and saved hundreds of lives, to one of the most hated men in the US.

Paul Walter Hauser is playing the titular role in the Warner Bros film alongside Sam Rockwell as Jewell's attorney and Kathy Bates as Jewell's mother.

According to Variety, Wilde will essay the role of real-life reporter Kathy Scruggs, who covered the event, while Hamm will play an FBI agent investigating the bombing.

## 'Avengers' dominate MTV Movie & TV Awards 2019

Los Angeles

'Avengers' ruled the MTV Movie & TV Awards 2019 as Marvel's latest offering "Endgame" was named the Best Movie with Robert Downey Jr winning the title of Best Hero as IronMan at the ceremony.

According to The Hollywood Reporter, Josh Brolin's re-

prisal as supervillain Thanos won him the Best Villain award. In a video message, Downey Jr said winning the award was "kinda unexpected".

"That said it's been an absolute joy, honour and privilege, etc to play Tony Stark all these years. So I want to say thank you Marvel, Disney, MTV and mostly thank y'all."



## SPORTS

## sports

## Sharapova returns to action with a win in Mallorca Open



Maria Sharapova of Russia in action

## Madrid

The former World Number one from Russia, Maria Sharapova gathered a decent crowd on the Center Court of Santa Ponsa Tennis Academy, Mallorca as she stepped on to the professional tennis courts after four months due to a prolonged a shoulder injury.

Maria Sharapova defeated her eleven-year younger opponent, Viktoria Kuzmova from Slovakia, 7-6(8), 6-0 in her opening match at Mallorca Open 2019. In the beginning, Maria Sharapova could take a 2-0, but the Slovak bounced back to maintain the equilibrium in the opening set.

Both of them came up with unplayable forehand winners and the set wasn't tilting towards either of them until the

end. Kuzmova could flip the set, at 6-5 by breaking Sharapova's serve, but the battling to stay in the set, the Russian drove it to the tiebreaker.

Maria Sharapova and Viktoria Kuzmova executed exhilarating tennis in the tiebreaker, and the 21-year-old Slovak also held set points. With Sharapova displaying her experience on the sealed the opening set as Kuzmova netted the ball on Russian's set point.

The second was unconditionally different from the previous one. As Kuzmova came up with a series of double faults and that benefitted the World Number 86, Maria Sharapova, to dominate in the second set. She fed her opponent a bagel and advanced into the second round at the Mallorca Open 2019.

## Chile rout Japan

● Vargas at the double as Copa holders Chile put Japan to the sword

● Sanchez scores first goal in six months

AFP | Sao Paulo, Brazil

Eduardo Vargas scored twice as Chile launched the defense of their Copa America crown with an emphatic 4-0 defeat of Japan in Sao Paulo on Monday.

Vargas, who plays for Mexico club Tigres UANL, netted twice in the second half as Chile gradually overpowered a skillful but limited Japan, who are playing in the South American showpiece as one of two invited teams from Asia.

Erick Pulgar had opened the scoring for Chile in the first half before Vargas doubled the 2015 and 2016 champions' advantage with a deflected second-half strike.

Manchester United's Alexis Sanchez then took his Chilean record goals tally to 42 after diving to head home in the 82nd minute before Vargas scored the pick of the goals moments later with a deft lob over Japan goalkeeper Keisuke Osako.

The win saw Chile join Uruguay at the top of Group C, level on points and goal difference.

"The important thing is that we move on now with humility," said Chile coach Reinaldo



Chile's Alexis Sanchez celebrates scoring their third goal

Rueda.

"This win doesn't suddenly make us a dream team, just as we weren't the disaster that our critics were saying we were before."

The scoreline was harsh on Japan, who had carved out several promising chances but were let down by poor finishing from young striker Ayase Ueda.

"We deserved to score a goal," said Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu. "The difference was that they were clinical and took their chances. We're sad to lose but proud that we really took it to them."



Manchester United's Alexis Sanchez then took his Chilean record goals tally to 42

Japan had started confidently, dominating territory and possession albeit without threaten-

ing the Chile goal.

Their best early chance came after nine minutes when Shoya Nakajima let fly after bursting forward only to see his shot saved by Chile goalkeeper Gabriel Arias.

As the first half wore on, Chile looked increasingly more threatening, and Sanchez sounded the alarm in the Japanese defense in the 35th minute when his low shot flashed just wide.

Sanchez then almost played in Charles Aranguiz but the Bayer Leverkusen midfielder took too long to get his shot away, allowing Japan to deflect behind from a corner.

## Chile dominant

Aranguiz made amends, though, in the 41st minute by delivering the set piece which gave Chile the lead.

A whipped corner from the right caused havoc in the Japanese area, and Bologna midfielder Pulgar leapt high above Yuta Nakayama to head home.

The goal reflected Chile's dominance, but Japan were given a glorious opportunity to equalize just before half-time.

Chile coughed up possession inside their own half and Gaku Shibasaki released Ueda on goal.

The 20-year-old Ueda was unable to make the chance count, though, rounding Arias but failing to find the empty net with his shot from a tight angle.

The half closed with Chile threatening to add to their lead, Sanchez's header from close range saved by Osako.

## BOC to organise CPR course

TDI | Manama

The Bahrain Olympic Committee's (BOC) Bahrain Olympic Academy has announced that registration for the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) course, scheduled for August 6 and 7, is now underway.

The two-day course, organized in cooperation with the American Base and Interna-

tional Red Crescent Society, and is part of academy's annual plan that aims to qualify and develop national competencies at different sports authorities.

Training and Development Programmes head Mahmood Yateem said the CPR course is one of the most significant programmes organized by the academy before.

The academy had already brought up this subject twice

before, with the first held in October 2018 when 30 sports representatives were in the fray, while the most recent course took place on March 19 and 20 and featured 35 participants.

The course attempts to provide knowledge to the athletes and the public alike on cardiac recovery, especially in line with the increasing phenomena of sudden death among athletes in Bahrain over the past year.

## Ex-UEFA boss questioned in 2022 World Cup probe, denies wrongdoing

AFP | Paris

The banned ex-UEFA chief Michel Platini was held for questioning yesterday in connection with a criminal investigation into the awarding of the 2022 World Cup to Qatar.

The French football legend who led European football's governing body from 2007 to 2015 was taken into custody by French anti-corruption police investigating alleged corruption in the 2010 vote to award the competition to the gas-rich Gulf state.

Platini denied wrongdoing



The former Uefa president Michel Platini talks to the press

and a statement from his representatives said the facts of the case were "unknown to him."

The decision to name Qatar the 2022 World Cup hosts triggered allegations of corruption that ultimately sparked FIFA's worst ever scandal.

France's Office of the Financial Crimes Prosecutor (PNF) opened a preliminary investigation in 2016 into allegations of corruption, conspiracy and influence peddling surrounding the Qatar vote and also the awarding of the 2018 World Cup to Russia.

According to Sepp Blatter, the FIFA president at the time, Qatar won hosting rights as a result of a deal with France, derailing FIFA's own "diplomatic arrangement" whereby hosting rights would have gone to Russia in 2018 and then to the United States four years later.

## Team Aalya advance to division two finals



Members of Team Aalya after the match

TDI | Manama

Team Aalya defeated Team Ching One in Division Two Semi-Finals of the 15th FCTG Team Tennis Tournament held at Bahrain Tennis Federation courts in Isa Town.

Team Aalya scored 4-1 against Team Ching One when Marianna and Mohammed defeated Alvin and Henry 7-6, 6-4, Ali and Bader won over Len and Kathy 6-3, 6-4, Eyad and

A.Ghaffar scored 3-6, 6-1, 10-6 hard earned victory against Vic and Ebrahim then Enkhee and Khadija ease past Sheng and Mariah 6-3, 6-0

Team Ching One took a consolation win with a walkover. In another division semi-finals matches, Team Ching Two took the victory with a three straight games when Joy and Ellen defeated Leah and Lloyd 6-3, 6-1, Abby and Chiqui won over Jerry and Chris 7-6, 6-4

then Thess and Cyra beat Felix and Sarah 7-6, 6-2.

Team Leah won two consolation matches when Bushra and Jason defeated Isa and Rey 3-6, 6-2, 10-7 while Bon and Lito beat Vicky and Jo Pre 6-1, 6-4.

Division Two finals will be played on Thursday, 20th June 2019 BTF courts.

The tournament is sponsored by Grand Safir Hotel Bahrain and organized by Filipino Club Tennis Group (FCTG).

## Osaka grinds out opening win on grass

AFP | Birmingham

World number one Naomi Osaka progressed to round two of the Birmingham Classic, but was made to work for a 6-1, 4-6, 6-3 win over Greece's Maria Sakkari.

Osaka admitted in her

pre-tournament press conference that she still does not feel comfortable on grass.

However, she got off to a flying start in her first match since losing in the third round of the French Open.

Osaka broke the Sakkari serve three times in romping through

the first set.

The world number 33 fought back in the second to take the match to a deciding set.

Osaka needed to stave off five break points in the fifth game to take a 3-2 lead but then pounced immediately for the only break in the final set.

# Morgan sinks Afghanistan

● **Eoin Morgan led from the front with the bat as England registered their fourth win of the tournament to clinch the top spot in the points table**

AFP | Manchester

England captain Eoin Morgan set a new world record of 17 sixes in an individual one-day international innings as the World Cup hosts thrashed Afghanistan by 150 runs yesterday.

Victory at Old Trafford saw favourites England go ahead of holders Australia to sit top of the World Cup group table on net run-rate.

Morgan's six-hitting spree in his career-best 148 set the tone for England's team total of 25 sixes, which was also a new ODI innings record.

The Dubliner's innings was the centrepiece of England's 397-6.

That was the highest total of the tournament so far and the largest England had made at any World Cup, surpassing their 386-6 against Bangladesh in Cardiff 10 days ago.

Even though bottom of the table Afghanistan, suffering their fifth defeat in five matches, posted their highest World Cup total of 247-8 they were never up with the required run-rate.

There was a worrying moment when Hashmatullah Shahidi, on 24, was hit on the side of the helmet by a Mark Wood bouncer and fell to the turf.

But after several minutes' on-field treatment, Shahidi resumed his innings in a new helmet.

Shahidi completed a gutsy 68-ball fifty on his way to 76, while his fourth-wicket stand of partnership of 94 with Ashgar Afghan (44) was a record for any Afghanistan wicket at a World Cup.

Earlier, Morgan, dropped on 28, dominated a third-wicket stand of 189 with Joe Root (88), whose contribution to their partnership was a mere 43.

Afghanistan star leg-spinner Rashid Khan set an unwanted record with 0-110 in nine overs -- the most expensive return at a World Cup and second costliest in all ODI cricket.

Morgan's tally surpassed the record of 16 sixes in an ODI innings previously shared by India's Rohit Sharma, South Africa's AB de Villiers and West Indies' Chris Gayle.

He broke the record when he launched Gulbadin Naib for a flat straight hit over the Afghanistan captain's head.

## Impressive Morgan

But the very next ball saw Morgan hole out off Naib to end a 71-ball innings that also featured four fours.

His innings, which featured



**Eoin Morgan set a new world record for most sixes in ODI as he hit 17 sixes in his career-best 148, with England's total of 25 sixes also a new world record**



England's captain Eoin Morgan plays a shot

118 runs in boundaries, was all the more impressive as Morgan had been doubtful for this match with a back spasm suffered in England's eight-wicket win over the West Indies, in which he could not bat.

Jonny Bairstow got England off to a solid start, with England accelerating after James Vince fell for 26 when he mishooked paceman Dawlat Zadran to short fine-leg.

In sight of his eighth ODI century, Bairstow's 99-ball innings ended when he chipped a return catch to Naib.

Morgan, after an early mix-up that saw him sent back and get tangled up with opposing skipper Naib, settled in quickly.

He hit Naib for two sixes including a fine drive over long-on. But the left-hander should

have been out when he skied Rashid, only for Zadran at deep mid-wicket to make such a mess of the catch that the ball bounced out of his hands and over the rope for four.

Not even Zadran's eventual return of 3-85 could undo the damage of that costly error, with Morgan immediately hitting a soaring six off Rashid's next ball in a 36th over that cost 18 runs.

Root was denied a second successive hundred and third of the tournament when he holed out off Naib, whose 3-68 was a creditable return in the circumstances.

## England

J. Vince c Rahman b Zadran	26
J. Bairstow c&b Naib	90
J. Root c Shah b Naib	88
E. Morgan c Shah b Naib	148
J. Buttler c Nabi b Zadran	2
B. Stokes b Zadran	2
M. Ali not out	31
C. Woakes not out	1
Extras 9 (1b1, nb1, w7)	
Total (six wickets, 50 overs)	397

## Afghanistan

Noor Ali Zadran b Archer	0
Gulbadin Naib c Buttler b Wood	37
Rahmat Shah c Bairstow b Rashid	46
Hashmatullah Shahidi b Archer	76
Ashgar Afghan c Root b Rashid	44
Mohammad Nabi c Stokes b Rashid	9
Najibullah Zadran b Wood	15
Rashid Khan c Bairstow b Archer	8
Ikram Alikhil not out	3
Dawlat Zadran not out	0
Extras 9 (1b1, 8w)	
Total (eight wickets, 50 overs)	247

## Cricket World Cup 2019 standings

Team	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	No result	Run rate	Points
England	5	4	1	0	0	1.862	8
Australia	5	4	1	0	0	0.812	8
New Zealand	4	3	0	0	1	2.163	7
India	4	3	0	0	1	1.029	7
Bangladesh	5	2	2	0	1	-0.270	5
Sri Lanka	5	1	2	0	2	-1.778	4
West Indies	5	1	3	0	1	0.272	3
South Africa	5	1	3	0	1	-0.208	3
Pakistan	5	1	3	0	1	-1.933	3
Afghanistan	5	0	5	0	0	-2.089	0

## Today's matches

### New Zealand vs South Africa



Kane Williamson



Edgbaston - Birmingham  
12:30pm



Kagiso Rabada

- » Both teams are quite close to each other in terms of talent
- » New Zealand is in better form and is unbeaten so far
- » South Africa has no option but to win and that will allow it to play fearless cricket

## New Zealand

New Zealand have won 10 and lost 4 out of the 14 one-day internationals they have played this year, including the last six straight. In the ongoing ICC Cricket World Cup, they are placed second on the points table with three wins and a washout from their four matches. They beat Sri Lanka by ten wickets in their opening game at Cardiff, then pipped Bangladesh by two wickets at London before crushing Afghanistan by seven wickets at Taunton. The Kiwis had to share points with India in their previous rain-abandoned match at Nottingham.

### Probable XI

Martin Guptill, Colin Munro, Kane Williamson (c), Ross Taylor, Tom Latham (wk), James Neesham, Colin de Grandhomme, Mitchell Santner, Matt Henry, Lockie Ferguson, Trent Boult

## South Africa

South Africa have won nine and lost five out of the fourteen one-day internationals they have played this year. They are currently eighth on the CWC 2019 points table with one win, three losses and a washout from five matches. The Proteas made a poor start to their World Cup campaign, suffering defeats in their first three fixtures - against England in the tournament opener - by 104 runs, then against Bangladesh by 21 runs before their six-wicket loss to India. South Africa's next game against the West Indies had to be called off due to rain and they won their most recent encounter against Afghanistan by nine wickets in a rain-curtailed clash at Cardiff.

### Probable XI

Hashim Amla, Quinton de Kock (wk), Aiden Markram, Faf du Plessis (c), Rassie van der Dussen, David Miller, Chris Morris, Andile Phehlukwayo, Kagiso Rabada, Imran Tahir, Lungi Ngidi

## PITCH REPORT

The weather is expected to be a bit cloudy to start off but then clears as the day progresses. Considering the bad weather we have had in this tournament, a delayed start is not very bad news. The pitch in Edgbaston is very good for batting. We expect this match to be high-scoring and a lot of runs to be scored. Teams have tended to overestimate the amount of help they will get under overcast conditions so far so both South Africa and New Zealand will be wary about choosing to bat second in this match.

## Calm dressing room key to Bangladesh win: Shakib

Reuters | London

Bangladesh's successful run chase against West Indies at the World Cup on Monday was aided by a calm and confident dressing room atmosphere that the players were able to replicate on the pitch, all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has said.

Shakib scored his second century in a row as Bangladesh pulled off the second highest successful run chase in the tournament's history to beat twice champions West Indies by seven wickets.

Sent in to bat first, the West Indies set a target of 322 but Shakib, who scored an un-



Shakib Al Hasan celebrates his century with Liton Das

beaten 124 off 99 deliveries, and Liton Das, who smashed 94 not out, guided Bangladesh home with 51 balls to

spare.

"At the end of the first innings, we thought it would be tough but everyone was com-

fortable and chilling," Shakib, who scored 121 against England in his last innings, told reporters.

**"It is one of the best wins because of the way we paced the innings. I was never in a rush. I was patient to wait and put the bad ball away. Every time I did that quite well"**

SHAKIB AL HASAN

## Mortaza praises exceptional Shakib after Windies heroics

Reuters | Taunton

Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Mortaza heaped praise on team mate Shakib Al Hasan after the all-rounder scored his second century in as many World Cup matches to lead them to a big win over West Indies.

"Shakib Al Hasan has made it in this World Cup now," said

Mortaza. "In every match he's doing something that's exceptional and let's hope it continues for the team."

"Liton Das normally opens or bats at number three but he's coped with moving down the order and he's delivered the goods."

The result leaves Bangladesh fifth in the table on five points ahead of their clash

with holders Australia.

"We have a chance to go through but we have to win all of our matches," he added.

"The turning moment was when Mustafizur Rahman took two wickets in an over to remove Shimron Hetmyer and Andre Russell."

Asked whether batting or bowling was at fault for the defeat, captain Jason Holder

said: "Bit of both, we were probably 40-50 runs short, the wicket played really well, but we could have been more disciplined with the ball and we let ourselves down in the field as well."

"I thought we got through the first 10 overs well batting but never got the momentum and had too much to do at the back end."