

Prophet Muhammad arrives in Yathrib (Medina)

Spanish expedition led by Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan sets off on the first successful circumnavigation of the globe (Magellan is killed en route)



Battle of the Alma: British, French, and Ottoman alliance defeats the Russian Empire in the first major battle of the Crimean War

Rome is captured by the Italian army after Pope Pius IX surrenders to King Victor Emmanuel II, unifying Italy and ending the 1,116-year reign of the Papal States

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

New Delhi BRICS Summit Signals New Horizons for the GCC



CAPTAIN MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

The 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi (12–13 September 2026) marked more than a routine gathering of emerging economies—it signalled a decisive recalibration of global governance, with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) positioned at its centre. With the United Arab Emirates participating as a full member and Saudi Arabia engaging at ministerial level, alongside Bahrain's representation of the GCC as an outreach partner, the summit underscored a profound shift: the Gulf is no longer a peripheral stakeholder but an active architect of the multipolar order.

A Strategic Inflection Point for the Gulf

For decades, GCC foreign policy operated within a predominantly Western-centric security and economic framework. The Delhi summit, however, illuminated a matured strategy of multi-alignment—leveraging BRICS not as an alternative to traditional partnerships, but as a complementary platform to diversify trade, investment, and diplomatic channels. The presence of Crown Prince Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan for the UAE and Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud for Saudi Arabia reflected a pragmatic pivot: securing long-term capital flows, advancing local-currency settlement mechanisms, and embedding Gulf economies more deeply within Asian supply chains.

Bahrain's role, articulated by Foreign Minister Dr Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani in his address to the expanded dialogue session, reinforced this trajectory. Emphasising the shared responsibility of safeguarding maritime routes and ensuring the uninterrupted flow of global trade, Dr Al Zayani aligned the GCC's core strategic interest—maritime security—with BRICS' broader resilience agenda. In doing so, Bahrain helped frame the Gulf not merely as an energy supplier, but as an indispensable guarantor of global commerce.

Beyond Energy: Co-Authoring a Multipolar Order

The inclusion of African voices—Egypt, Ethiopia, and beyond—within BRICS has reshaped the grouping's priorities toward development finance, food security, and infrastructure cooperation. West Asia is matching this momentum stride for stride. The active participation of Gulf states demonstrates a region unwilling to remain a passive recipient of external policy dictates. Instead, through BRICS, the GCC is co-authoring institutional frameworks that reflect its own economic weight, demographic dynamism, and geopolitical centrality.

Crucially, this is not ideological realignment but strategic diversification. The Gulf continues to deepen ties with Western partners while simultaneously building bridges to Asia, Africa, and Latin America via BRICS and its partner network. Such balanced statecraft enhances the GCC's autonomy, reduces over-reliance on any single axis, and fortifies its role as a stabilising hub between continents.

The Path Forward

The New Delhi Declaration's emphasis on "Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability" offers a ready-made scaffold for GCC-BRICS convergence. From green hydrogen partnerships with India to digital payment interoperability with China, from joint maritime-security initiatives with African littoral states to co-investment in critical minerals with Indonesia and Brazil—the avenues for substantive collaboration are expansive.

For Bahrain, hosting the upcoming GCC Summit in the region and chairing the Council in this session, the summit's outcomes provide both mandate and momentum. As the Gulf deepens its institutional engagement with BRICS, it cements its status not as a geopolitical proxy, but as an indispensable architect of global economic resilience.

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

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TWEETS

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I am pleased to announce that the United States of America has entered into an Agreement with The Kingdom of Denmark, and Greenland, that gives the United States permanent control over security, and all other needs, in Greenland, completely addressing ALL of our many U.S. concerns.

@realDonaldTrump

02



Happy European Heritage Days to all. Our monuments, our landscapes, our forests, our know-how and our traditions: our heritage tells our story and brings our territories to life. Since 2017, we have made its preservation a priority. Restore, protect, bring back to life.

@EmmanuelMacron

03



I am pleased that we are now looking at a good agreement for Greenland, the Kingdom of Denmark and the United States — an agreement that strengthens our shared security in the Arctic and the North Atlantic, and therefore also benefits NATO and Europe. At the same time, the agreement recognizes the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Greenlandic people's right to self-determination.

@Statsmin

04



As the Asian Games commence in Aichi-Nagoya, my best wishes to the Indian contingent. Each athlete has worked incredibly hard and shown remarkable dedication and determination. India is proud of them.

@narendramodi

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

Iran: zero barrels; US says 1 billion barrels moved through Hormuz

Cooper said the primary transit lanes in the strait had been cleared of mines

TDT | agencies



US Central Command (CENTCOM) commander Adm. Brad Cooper

US Central Command (CENTCOM) commander Adm. Brad Cooper said Iran had exported "zero barrels" of oil while more than 1 billion barrels of crude had moved out of the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz with US military support.

In a video statement released on X, Cooper said, "CENTCOM forces have supported more than one billion barrels of crude oil leaving the Gulf."

He said US forces had also assisted more than 2,000 commercial vessel transits through the strategic waterway by providing coordinated protection.

Cooper said the primary transit lanes in the strait had been cleared of mines and that thousands of ships had passed through the waterway.

He attributed the halt in Iran's oil exports to what he described as the US "ironclad blockade".

Cooper said the volume of crude oil, cargo and liquefied

natural gas moving through the Strait of Hormuz over the past two weeks was higher than at any point during the previous six months.

He added that the US was working with Gulf Cooperation Council countries, insurers and shipping companies to further increase traffic through the waterway, one of the world's key energy transit routes.

Toll from attack at police HQ in Pakistan rises to 31



Army personnel stand amid the rubble following an explosion inside the police headquarters at Kohat in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province

AFP | Kohat, Pakistan

The death toll from an explosion and gun attack at a police headquarters in northern Pakistan rose to at least 31, including 16 police personnel, a senior police official said yesterday, with fighting ongoing.

Attackers stormed the Old Police Lines complex at Kohat, a town of around 220,000 people in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, on Friday afternoon.

The police compound serves as a district-level police headquarters, housing key offices of the Counter Terrorism Department (CTD), Special Branch and several other police units.

"At least 31 people, including 16 police personnel, have been killed and more than 100 injured so far in the militant attack and suicide bombing,"

the official said.

"Several militants are still holed up in the Special Branch section of the Kohat Police Complex," the police official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

"An exchange of fire with them has been ongoing since late last night. Their exact number remains unclear," the official added.

A statement from the Kohat district health officer late on Friday said that more than 100 people had been injured, the vast majority of them police personnel, and several were in a critical condition.

Local militant group Ittehad-ul-Mujahideen Pakistan, a faction linked to Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) -- the Pakistani Taliban -- has claimed responsibility for the attack.

Rubble, blown-out walls AFP images showed military

personnel standing by piles of bricks, rubble and blown-out walls following the attack, with soldiers carrying assault rifles guarding the complex.

Several ambulances were seen lining a street near the police compound.

Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif condemned the attack on Friday evening, expressing "deep sorrow and regret over the injury of several people as a result of the blast".

President Asif Ali Zardari expressed "regret" over the casualties, sending his "best wishes for the speedy recovery of those injured in the blast".

"The complete elimination of Fitna-al-Khawarij and terrorists operating with foreign backing is essential for national security," he said, using another term for the TTP group.