

## HH Shaikh Nasser's Cup set for main race today at REHC

As the temperatures begin to heat up, so does the action at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC), |P12

Saudi-Egyptian animated film champions Arab voices, stories

# THE DAILY tribune



Justin Bieber thinks he can beat up Tom Cruise in a fight

Bahrain set for tough India challenge

## HM King sends condolences to Chinese president

TDI | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al-Khalifa yesterday sent a cable of condolences to Chinese President Xi Jinping on the victims of the novel coronavirus.

HM, the King commended the role of the Chinese Government in containing the virus and supporting infected people to speed up their recovery.

He reiterated Bahrain's support to the measures undertaken by China to contain the virus and find a drug to eliminate the disease.

## Trump ally gets 40 months prison



Washington

Donald Trump's long-time ally Roger Stone was sentenced yesterday to 40 months in prison for impeding a congressional investigation, in a case that ignited a firestorm over the US president's political interference in the justice system.

Stone, a veteran Republican operative and one of Trump's oldest confidants, was convicted in November of lying to Congress, tampering with a witness and obstructing the House investigation into whether the Trump campaign conspired with Russia to cheat in the 2016 election.

"The truth still exists," said US District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson as she handed down the sentence.



03 Locusts invade Bahrain

04 Cineco reports BD 4.23 million profit

08 Deadly shisha bar shootings rock Germany

210 fils (includes VAT)



His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, meeting with the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan, Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani, and an accompanying delegation, at Gudaibiya Palace. During the meeting, HRH the Crown Prince highlighted the depth of historic ties between Bahrain and Pakistan and underscored the importance of further enhancing joint parliamentary and legislative cooperation, underlining Pakistan's contributions towards safeguarding regional and international stability. For his part, Sanjrani along with the accompanying delegation, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to meet HRH the Crown Prince, noting HRH's support to enhancing Bahrain-Pakistan relations. Shura Council Chairman, Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh, also attended the meeting.

## HRH CP appoints new directors

TDI | Manama

HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, yesterday named two directors at the Survey and Land registration Bureau (SLRB).

Mohammed Ibrahim Ahmed Al-Amiri was appointed as Registration and Follow-up Director, and Shaikha Maram bint Rashid bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, was appointed as Director of Human and Financial Resources at SLRB.

HRH the Crown Prince also named Abdulla Abdulrahman Al-Kooheji as Policies and Strategic Planning Director at the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA).

# Countering Iran

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visits US troops in Saudi

Riyadh

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited American troops in Saudi Arabia yesterday after talks with King Salman on the second day of a visit focused on countering Iran.

The United States began building up its military presence at the Prince Sultan air base, south of Riyadh, last year following a series of attacks in the Gulf that Washington and Riyadh have blamed on their common foe Iran.

"Pompeo's visit to Prince Sultan air base and a nearby US Patriot battery highlights the long-standing US-Saudi security relationship and reaffirms America's determination to stand with Saudi Arabia in the face of Iranian malign behaviour," the State Department said in a statement.



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo shares lunch at the mess with members of the military as he visits the Prince Sultan air base in Al-Kharj, Saudi Arabia

"In response to the attacks and at the request of Saudi Arabia, the United States deployed missile defence, and fighter jets on a defensive mission to deter and protect against any future attacks."

Pompeo's three-day visit to

close ally Saudi Arabia comes in the wake of a US-ordered drone strike that killed Qasem Soleimani, Iran's most powerful general, as he visited Baghdad on January 3.

Regional tensions rose due to the killing and Iran responded

with missile strikes on US forces in Iraq. US President Donald Trump and his oil-rich ally Riyadh have accused Iran of attacking tankers in the Gulf and Saudi oil installations, incidents which roiled global energy markets last year.

## More sanctions

Reuters | Washington

The United States yesterday imposed sanctions on five Iranians in its latest action targeting Tehran, according to a notice posted yesterday on the US Treasury Department's website.

The Treasury said it sanctioned Ahmad Jannati, Abbas Ali Kadkhodaei, Siamak Rahpey, Mohammad Hasan Sadeghi Moghadam and Mohammad Yazdi.

Tehran denies involvement in the attacks.

Before visiting the air base, Pompeo held talks with King Salman in Riyadh.

The top US diplomat also met Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman and deputy defence minister Prince Khalid bin Salman.

## Revolutionary ideas

# Silicon Valley inventor of 'cut, copy and paste' dies

San Francisco

Silicon Valley on Wednesday was mourning a pioneering computer scientist whose accomplishments included inventing the widely relied on "cut, copy and paste" command.

Bronx-born Lawrence "Larry" Tesler died this week at age 74, according to Xerox, where he spent part of his career.

"The inventor of cut/copy & paste, find & replace, and more

was former Xerox researcher Larry Tesler," the company tweeted.

"Your workday is easier thanks to his revolutionary ideas. Larry passed away Monday, so please join us in celebrating him."

A graduate of Stanford University, Tesler specialized in human-computer interaction, employing his skills at Amazon, Apple, Yahoo, and the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC).



Lawrence "Larry" Tesler died this week at age 74

The cut and paste command was reportedly inspired by old

time editing that involved actually cutting portions of printed text and affixing them elsewhere with adhesive.

"Tesler created the idea of 'cut, copy, & paste' and combined computer science training with a counterculture vision that computers should be for everyone," the Computer History Museum in Silicon Valley tweeted Wednesday.

The command was made popular by Apple after being

incorporated in software on the Lisa computer in 1983 and the original Macintosh that debuted the next year.

Tesler worked for Apple in 1980 after being recruited away from Xerox by late co-founder Steve Jobs.

Tesler spent 17 years at Apple, rising to chief scientist.

He went on to establish an education startup and do stints in user-experience technology at Amazon and Yahoo.



# 1200 brides and grooms tie the knot in largest-ever mass wedding



The ninth mass wedding was held in the presence of His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Works and Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Board of Trustees' Chairman His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Khalifa.

**TDI** | Manama

A total of 1200 brides and grooms tied the knot yesterday in the largest ever mass wedding supported by the Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Foundation.

Organised yesterday at the University of Bahrain (UoB), the ninth mass wedding was held in the presence of His Majesty the King's Representative for

Charity Works and Royal Charity Organisation (RCO) Board of Trustees' Chairman His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al-Khalifa.

The ceremony was also attended by UAE Ambassador to Bahrain Shaikh Sultan bin Hamdan bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Southern Governor HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al-Khalifa, RCO Secretary-General Dr Mustafa Al-Sayyed,

Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Foundation director-general Mohammed Khoury.

HH Shaikh Nasser extended congratulations and greetings to the brides and grooms, praying to Allah the Almighty to bless with happiness and felicity in their married life.

UAE Ambassador to Bahrain Shaikh Sultan bin Hamdan bin Zayed Al-Nahyan said the mass weddings sponsored by the

Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Foundation have so far benefitted around 6000 brides and grooms over the past years, including 1200 in 2020. RCO Secretary-General Dr Mustafa Al-Sayyed expressed deepest thanks and gratitude to UAE President HH Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan for supporting the mass wedding through the Khalifa bin Zayed Al-Nahyan Foundation in Bahrain.



Life care group of pharmacies inaugurated their new branch at Dana Mall with the presence of Shoukath Ali. M. A. MD, Lifecare group, Juzer Rupawala, Director, LuLu Group, Sheheazad, Director, Lifecare group and Shehafaz, Director, Lifecare Group along with the other prominent business personalities and dignitaries.

# Police arrest nurse attacker

**TDI** | Manama

An Asian man was arrested yesterday on suspicion of aggravated assault on a nurse in Salmaniya, a day after the shocking incident.

Mobile footage of the incident, in Salmaniya on Tuesday, has been shared online.

The footage, which went viral, showed a man stalking a woman and beating her brutally, felling her to the ground, before fleeing.

Interior ministry confirmed the arrest of the 29-year-old suspect through a combined action by the Capital Police Directorate and the General Directorate



Screengrab from a footage showing the attacker and the victim

of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science.

Director-General of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science Brigadier Abdulaziz Al Rumaihi said the victim is a 33-year-old Asian national.

She was on her way back home after her shift at Salmaniya Medical Complex when the attack occurred.

Brig. Al Rumaihi said an intensive investigation led to the identification and arrest of the suspect. The General Directorate of Criminal Investigation and Forensic Science is taking legal measures to refer the case to the Public Prosecution.



Defence Affairs Minister Lieutenant General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi with the Director-General of Operations Department of the Japanese Self Defense Forces Vice Admiral Yasuki Nakahata. They reviewed ways of enhancing military cooperation between the two countries



National Guard Director of Staff Major-General Shaikh Abdulaziz bin Saud Al Khalifa during a graduation ceremony of specialised course for officers, where he was briefed on the course's progress and the theoretical lectures and practical applications it contained. The Director of Staff of the National Guard distributed graduation certificates and presented top achievers award



The Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) military units marked its 52nd anniversary with several events, functions and programmes

# 11 fire brigades and four hours to douse fire in Tubli Warehouse



Fire brigades at the scene of fire

**TDI** | Manama

Civil Defence Firefighters doused a huge fire that engulfed a detergents store in Tubli area Wednesday night.

No human losses or injuries were reported.

According to an Interior Ministry statement, it took, 11 fire brigades and 46 personnel, four hours to extinguish the blaze completely.

It is not immediately clear what caused the fire.

Civil Defence Director General Brigadier Abdulaziz Rashid Al Amer explained that the incident was reported at 10:37 PM and the firefighters reached the spot within four minutes.

"They immediately controlled the flames and prevented it from reaching the neighbouring buildings," he said.

Investigations continue to determine the cause of the fire, which only resulted in materialistic losses.



# Swarms of locusts invade Bahrain

TDT | Manama

Swarms of desert locusts that have been reaping havoc across Saudi Arabia have spread to Bahrain yesterday.

Citizens and residents were astonished in seeing hordes of locusts descending upon them from the sky as they stepped out of their houses in several parts of the Kingdom.

The swarms, however, were mild and not as critical as reported in Saudi Arabia, where it had spread throughout the central, eastern and western regions including Riyadh, Japan, Mecca, Qassim and more.

“It didn’t cause major concern to us, though its sudden appearance took us by surprise,” said a resident in Tubli where the swarm was visible.

Experts say strong winds from Saudi Arabia might have brought these insects into the Kingdom.

Mobile footages of the swarms were posted by many on social media platforms, which soon went viral in the Kingdom.

Authorities also sprung into action.

Ministry of Works, municipalities and urban planning immediately send teams of experts to contain the situation before spiralling out of hands.

The Agriculture and Marine Resources Department at the Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning said it’s following the spread in some regions of the Kingdom and teams from the Plant Protection and Quarantine section are spraying the affected areas.

## Bahrain is not within the locust itinerary

The Ministry stated that they are in constant touch with Saudi Arabian authorities.

“There is continuous communication with the National Centre for Locust Research and Control in Saudi Arabia to exchange information regarding develop-



Screengrabs taken from videos circulating online in Bahrain show the intensity of locust invasion in the Kingdom

ments of locust outbreak in the region,” said the Agriculture and Marine Resources Department.

Confirming that “there is no need to panic”, the depart said that they had been following up the developments of locust outbreak in the region, since early February.

They explained that the locust outbreak was caused by an atmospheric depression from the southern side that ends in Manama, causing wind speed to reach 30 kilometres per hour, which contributed to transporting large locust swarms from

Yemen and Oman to Dammam, Al-Ahsa and Buqayq in Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain is not within the locust itinerary, and that some locust numbers reach it from time to time, stressing that it is often not dangerous.

In a statement to BNA, the department asserted that according to the official classification of the Commission for Controlling Desert Locust in the Central Region, “Bahrain is among countries in which locusts spread, and not those in which they multiply, and which include Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.”

## Delicacy in Kuwait



Locust consumption is dwindling across Kuwaiti society among the younger generation, but the senior citizens stand by the protein-rich insect

Not all consider locusts as a threat, especially in Kuwait where some like it baked, while others love them dried.

Kuwaitis say the crunchy offerings are surprisingly nutritious and delicious.

In fact, locusts are consumed in many parts of the world and are a staple of some cuisines. Experts say they are an excellent, energy-efficient source of protein.

In Kuwait, they retain a sturdy fan base among older citizens.

Authorities have sought in vain to ban the consumption of locusts over fears they could be contaminated.



## Not a concern: Ministry

The spread, a ministry source said, can be contained by employing various measures including spraying of insecticides. The source said that the size of the locust population in Bahrain is small and not a cause of concern.

Locusts reportedly can spread from stagnant water and swamps, which was also a reason for the recent mosquito outburst.

## What exactly are locusts?

- Locust is the common name for any member of several species of short-horned grasshoppers of the family Acrididae.
- They are essentially relatives of grasshoppers and are sometimes solitary insects with lifestyles much like grasshoppers.
- They are from 1.25 to 7.5 centimeters (0.5 to 3 inches) in length.
- However, under favourable environmental conditions, they can congregate into thick, mobile, ravenous swarms, which according to experts will be a “devastating natural disaster.
- Large swarms of locusts can completely strip the foliage and stems of plants such as forbs and grasses.
- According to Prevention Web, a knowledge base about disaster management, a single desert locust swarm the size of Brussels could consume Belgium’s entire food supply in a single day.
- The desert locust, indigenous to Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, is considered to be one of the worst.

BAHRAIN CINEMA COMPANY B.S.C.

Cineco

Recommendation of Declaration of Dividends

The Board of Directors of Bahrain Cinema Company B.S.C. resolved, at its meeting held on 20th February, 2020, to recommend the distribution of dividend for the year ending 31st December, 2019 to the shareholders whose names are registered on the Company's register on the Record Date. This is subject to the approval of the Company's shareholders on the upcoming Annual General Meeting. The proposed distribution is as follow:

a) Cash Dividend: 50% of share nominal value, equivalent to 50 fils per share amounting to BD 3,946,960.

Below are the key dates to be taken note of:

Event	Date
<b>General Meeting Date</b> (Shareholders' approval date)	25-03-2020
<b>Cum-Dividend Date</b> (Last day of trading with entitlement to dividends)	26-03-2020
<b>Ex-Dividend Date</b> (First day of trading without entitlement to dividends)	29-03-2020
<b>Record Date</b> (The Day on which all shareholders whose names are on the share register will be entitled to dividends)	30-03-2020
<b>Payment Date</b> (The Day on which the dividends will be paid to the entitled shareholders)	09-04-2020

Dr. Esam Abdulla Fakhro  
Chairman

Batelco

BAHRAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
COMPANY (BATELCO) B.S.C.  
Recommendation of Declaration of Dividends

The Board of Directors of Bahrain Telecommunications Company (Batelco) B.S.C. resolved, at its meeting held on 20 February 2020, to recommend the distribution of dividend for the year ended 31 December 2019 to the shareholders whose names are registered on the company's register on the Record Date. This is subject to the approval of the company's shareholders on the upcoming Annual General Meeting. The proposed distribution is as follows:

Cash Dividend: 27.5% of share nominal value, equivalent to 27.5 Fils per share amounting to BD45.7M. (The proposed annual cash dividend includes 10% declared and paid to the shareholders as interim dividend).

**Below are the key dates to be taken note of:**

Event	Date
<b>General Meeting Date</b> (Shareholders' approval date)	25 March 2020
<b>Cum-Dividend Date</b> (Last day of trading with entitlement to dividends)	26 March 2020
<b>Ex-Dividend Date</b> (First day of trading without entitlement to dividends)	29 March 2020
<b>Record Date</b> (The Day on which all shareholders whose names are on the share register will be entitled to dividends)	30 March 2020
<b>Payment Date</b> (The Day on which the dividends will be paid to the entitled shareholders)	12 April 2020

Abdulla Bin Khalifa AlKhalifa  
Chairman  
20 February 2020



business

Cineco reports BD 4.23 million profit

TDT |Manama

Bahrain Cinema Company (Cineco) yesterday said its net profit grew to BD 4.23million for the financial year ended 31st

December 2019 from a year ago thanks to the better valuation profit earned on investments in equity and bonds & sukuks.

Cineco board also recommended a cash dividend of 50

per cent of the paid-up capital equivalent to 50 fils per share.

Quarterly results

Cineco’s fourth-quarter net profit and other comprehensive

income was BD 378,100 against a net loss of BD 1,513,510 in the same quarter a year ago.

The change in net profit and other comprehensive income for the fourth quarter was due to the reduction in the valuation of the investment properties in the fourth quarter of the year 2018, resulting in the net loss.

Earnings per share was 5 fils.

Operating gross profit was BD 267,365 as compared to BD 287,032 in the prior-year quarter, a decrease of 6.85pc. Operating income was BD 1.94m as compared to BD 2.15m in the same quarter a year ago, a decline of 9.6pc.

Full-year results

Full-year 2019 net profit and other comprehensive income was BD 4.23m as compared to BD 4.22m a year ago, registering an increase of 0.25pc. Earnings per share was 54 fils, up 1.89pc from EPS of 53 fils in 2018.

Company’s total assets was BD 92.4m as compared to BD 92.8m reported as on 31st December 2018, a decrease of 0.43pc.

Operating gross profit was BD 1.53m as against BD 1.39m for the year 2018, representing an increase of 10.66pc. Operating Income was BD 9.02m as compared to BD 8.34m in 2018, an increase of 8.1pc.

Dr Esam Abdulla Fakhro, Chairman of the Board of Bahrain Cinema Company, said the board had recom-



The Company’s strong foothold in the entertainment industry is a manifestation of our commitment to deliver to the ever changing needs of the customers and grow strategically by meticulous planning and prudent allocation of our resources

DR ESAM ABDULLA FAKHRO, CHAIRMAN



The year, 2019 has been a successful year. Cineco has entered into agreements for opening new Cinema screens and electric go-karting activities as part of its expansion and diversification strategy

AHMED A. RASHED ALBASTAKI, MD, CEO

Full year earnings per share 54 fils

Recommends distribution of 50 fils per share as dividend

mended to distribute a cash dividend of 50pc of the paid-up capital equivalent to 50 fils per share.

On expansion plans, Managing Director & Chief Executive Of-

ficer of Bahrain Cinema Company, Ahmed A. Rashed AlBastaki said the company has acquired 100pc stake in Galleria Cineplex in Dubai in November 2019 and it will be open for public by March 2020.

Cineco has also agreed to open 13 screens Cineplex in Al Marassi Galleria Mall, Diyar Al Muharraq, and a 4 screen Cineplex in Amwaj Village project, Amwaj Islands in Bahrain, which is expected to be open for the public in 2021.

Batelco posts Q4, FY19 results

TDT | Manama

Batelco (BATELCO), yesterday reported a fourth net profits attributable to equity holders of the company of BD7.4 million (US\$19.6m), an 82 per cent increase from BD4.1 m (US\$10.9m) in the year-ago quarter when net profits were impacted due to one-off charges.

Quarterly earnings per share (EPS) was 4.5 fils compared to 2.4 fils in Q4 2018.

Batelco’s total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders was BD13.8m (US\$36.6m) an increase of 204pc from BD4.6m (US\$12.2m) in the same quarter a year ago.

Revenues decreased by 1pc to BD102.9m (US\$272.9m) from BD104.4m (US\$ 276.9m) in the prior-year quarter.

Operating profit was up by 62pc to BD19.9m (US\$52.8m) from BD12.3m (US\$32.6m) in Q4 2018.

The board also recommended a full-year cash dividend of BD45.7m (US\$121.2m), at a value of 27.5 fils per share to be agreed at the Annual General Meeting, of which 10 fils per share was already paid during the third quarter of 2019 with the remaining 17.5 fils to be paid following the AGM in March 2020.

Full-year 2019 net profits attributable to equity holders



Mikkel Vinter, Batelco CEO

of the company was BD51.6m (US\$136.9m) up by 3pc from BD50.1m (US\$132.9m) in 2018, thanks to a 4pc increase in operating profit and the BD28.4m (US\$75.3m) gain on the sale of Qualitynet in May 2019. EPS was 31.2 fils for the year compared to an EPS of 30.2 for 2018.

Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders was up by 30pc to BD56.3M (US\$149.3m) from BD43.3m (US\$114.9m) a year ago.

Revenues were BD401.5m (US\$1,065.0m), a decrease of 1pc when compared to BD405.9m (US\$1,076.7m) of revenues in 2018.

Consolidated revenues have been impacted by the sale of Qualitynet, whereby the company contributed an additional BD11.0M (US\$29.2m) of revenues in 2018. However, revenues in the home market of Bahrain have increased by 5pc year-over-year boosted by rev-



Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman

enues from fixed broadband, data communications and mobile services.

Operating profits increased by 4pc from BD72.7m (US\$192.8m) in 2018 to BD75.5m (US\$200.3m) in 2019 thanks to a reduction in depreciation and amortization charges of 6pc in 2019.

Batelco Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said,“Having restructured our organisation following the separation of the Company, we have embarked on a new journey to create a transformed Batelco for this new decade.”

Looking ahead, Batelco CEO Mikkel Vinter said that to meet the demand for faster and smarter communication solutions, Batelco will be focussed on two main areas, to strengthen core connectivity business and to continue with digital transformation journey.

Citi Islamic Investment Bank E.C.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 31 December 2019

USD'000

	2019	2018
	(audited)	(audited)
ASSETS		
Bank balances	501	632
Murabaha receivables	13,622	13,530
Other assets	560	462
Total assets	14,683	14,624
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
	2019	2018
LIABILITIES		
Payables and other accrued expenses	287	171
Total liabilities	287	171
EQUITY		
Share capital	10,000	10,000
Statutory reserve	3,465	3,361
Retained earnings	931	1,092
Total equity	14,396	14,453
Total liabilities and equity	14,683	14,624

INCOME STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 December 2019

	2019	2018
	(audited)	(audited)
INCOME		
Income from advisory services	2,158	1,909
From restricted investment accounts	126	182
Income from murabaha contracts	330	295
Total income	2,614	2,386
EXPENSES		
Staff cost	394	360
Other expenses	1,185	847
Total expenses	1,579	1,207
Profit for the year	1,035	1,179

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the year ended 31 December 2019

USD'000

2019 (audited)	Share Capital	Statutory Reserves	Retained earnings	Total
Balance at 1 January 2019	10,000	3,361	1,092	14,453
Profit for the year	-	-	1,035	1,035
Total recognised income and expense for the year	-	-	1,035	1,035
Dividend paid	-	-	(1,092)	(1,092)
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	104	(104)	-
As at 31 December 2019	10,000	3,465	931	14,396
2018 (audited)	Share Capital	Statutory Reserves	Retained earnings	Total
Balance at 31 December 2017	10,000	3,243	38	13,281
Impact of adopting FAS 30 as at 1 January 2018	-	-	(7)	(7)
Balance at 1 January 2018	10,000	3,243	31	13,274
Profit for the year	-	-	1,179	1,179
Total recognised income and expense for the year	-	-	1,179	1,179
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	118	(118)	-
As at 31 December 2018	10,000	3,361	1,092	14,453

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

for the year ended 31 December 2019

USD'000

	2019	2018
	(audited)	(audited)
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipt of advisory income	2,100	2,061
Receipts of income from murabaha contracts	330	295
Receipts of income from restricted investment accounts	126	182
Payment to employees and suppliers	(725)	(835)
Management fees paid	(785)	(488)
Net cash from operating activities	1,046	1,215
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Dividends paid	(1,092)	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(1,092)	-
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(46)	1,215
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	14,169	12,954
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	14,123	14,169
Cash and cash equivalents comprise:		
Bank balances	501	632
Murabaha receivables	13,622	13,537
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	14,123	14,169

The financials statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 20 February 2020

Mohammed Jaffer Nini  
Deputy Chairman

Usman Ahmed  
Chief executive officer

The published figures have been extracted from the financial statements audited by KPMG, who expressed an unqualified audit opinion on 20 February 2020

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# Ithmaar reports stable growth

TDT | Manama

Ithmaar Bank, a Bahrain-based Islamic retail bank, yesterday reported a net loss attributable to equity holders for the three months ended 31 December 2019 of BD4 million, a 2509 per cent increase compared to the net loss of BD0.15 m reported for 2018 helped mainly by prudent impairment provisions.

Total net loss for the quarter was BD2.8 m compared to a net profit of BD9.38 m reported for the same quarter of 2018.

As a result, net loss attributable to equity holders for the year ended 31 December 2019 was BD1.35 m compared to the net profit of BD1.41 m reported for 2018. Total full-year 2019 net profit was BD2.48 m, an 82.5pc decrease compared to the net profit of BD14.14 m reported for 2018, mainly due to a one-off gain from Dilmunia Development Fund I L.P when it became a subsidiary of the Bank in 2018.

“On behalf of the Ithmaar Bank Board of Directors, I am pleased to report that, although the Bank did not report a profit for the year, it continues to report stable, consistent growth with improved products and services as well as increased customer deposits,” said Ithmaar Bank Chairman His Royal Highness Prince Amr Al Faisal.

“This is in line with the Bank’s commitment to focusing on its core retail banking business



**The Bank’s unwavering focus on its core retail banking business is building a stable foundation while setting the stage for continued growth**

AHMED ABDUL RAHIM  
ITHMAAR BANK CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



**On behalf of the Ithmaar Bank Board of Directors, I am pleased to report that, although the Bank did not report a profit for the year, it continues to report stable, consistent growth with improved products and services as well as increased customer deposits**

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE AMR AL FAISAL, ITHMAAR BANK CHAIRMAN

while working to realise our shared vision of becoming one of the region’s leading retail banks,” he said.

Total income for the year was BD171.22 m, a 12.8pc increase compared to the total income of BD151.78 m reported for 2018, thanks to increases in core income. Operating income for the year was BD83.59 m, a 0.3pc decrease compared to the BD83.82 m in 2018.

“The bank’s unwavering focus on its core retail banking business is building a stable foundation while setting the stage for continued growth,” said Ithmaar Bank Chief Executive Officer, Ahmed Abdul Rahim. “The focus throughout 2019 has been on preparing the Bank to fully realise the tremendous opportunities that lie ahead. This, in turn, has earned the Bank two key awards in 2019, both reflecting our ability to stay ahead of the curve both locally and regionally as well as highlighting the significance of our digital initiatives,” he said.

Ithmaar Bank’s subsidiary, Faysal Bank Limited, one of the fastest-growing retail banks in Pakistan, also reported improved performance and continues with the aggressive branch expansion programme under which it has opened 275 new branches since 2016. In 2019 alone, Faysal Bank Limited opened 100 new branches. The total number of branches stood at 555 as of 31 December 2019.

## Tamannaah opens Malabar Gold’s Nizamabad outlet



Leading Indian Actress Tamannaah Bhatia inaugurates Malabar Gold & Diamonds’ new showroom at Nizamabad, Telangana in the presence of Dharmapuri Arvind, Member of Parliament, MP Ahammed, Chairman, Malabar Group, Abdul Salam KP, Group Executive Director, Malabar Group, Asher. O, Managing Director – India Operations, Management team members of Malabar Gold & Diamonds, media & well-wishers.

Manama

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one among the largest jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 250 outlets spread across 10 countries launched its new store in Dwaraka Nagar, Nizamabad, Telangana on 17th February 2020.

Leading Indian Actress Tamannaah Bhatia inaugurated the new showroom at Nizamabad, Telangana.

Dharmapuri Arvind, Member of Parliament, MP Ahammed, Chairman, Malabar Group, Abdul Salam KP, Group Executive Director, Malabar Group, Asher. O, Managing Director – India Operations, Management team members of Malabar Gold & Diamonds, media & well-wishers were present.

The new showroom is strategically located at Dwaraka Nagar, Hyderabad Road, Nizamabad, unveiling a significantly large collection of modern, stylish, traditional as well as contemporary designer jewellery in tune with the taste of jewellery lovers. Malabar Gold & Diamonds already has 11 showrooms in the state of Telangana. The new showroom will have plenty of space besides posh shopping amenities and valet parking facility.

Cineco

Bahrain Cinema Company B.S.C.

Cineco

Consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019

Consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2019

(Audited) (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

Year ended 31 December 2019

Year ended 31 December 2018

Operating income 9,019,933

Operating costs (7,486,830)

Operating gross profit 1,533,103

Income from investments, net 4,486,647

Other income 1,186,470

General and administrative expenses (2,537,251)

Impairment in investment in joint ventures (5,548)

Finance costs (432,383)

Net profit and other comprehensive income for the year 4,231,038

Basic earnings per share 54fills

Consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019

(Audited) (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

31 December 2019

31 December 2018

ASSETS

Non-current assets

Property, plant and equipment 6,345,249

Capital work-in-progress 389,380

Investment properties 23,409,302

Right-of-use assets 4,332,820

Investment in joint ventures 15,607

Investment in an associate 47,796

Non-current portion of receivable on disposal of business operations 22,805,870

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss 9,457,066

9,033,470

75,788,754

Current assets

Inventories 275,583

Trade and other receivables 5,319,081

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss 10,663,778

Cash and bank balances 362,256

16,610,898

92,399,452

Total assets 92,801,151

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

Capital and reserves

Share capital 8,262,345

Share premium 927,728

Revaluation reserve 4,557,442

Statutory reserve 4,131,173

Charity reserve 310,695

Retained earnings 57,017,385

Treasury shares (368,426)

74,838,342

Non-current liabilities

Non-current portion of Murabaha facility 1,291,180

Non-current portion of lease liabilities 3,379,649

Employees' terminal and other benefits 2,997,093

7,357,862

Current liabilities

Current portion of Murabaha facility 5,481,036

Current portion of lease liabilities 902,250

Trade and other payables 2,941,997

Bank overdrafts 697,965

10,203,248

92,399,452

Total equity and liabilities 92,801,151

Consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 December 2019

(Audited) (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

Year ended 31 December 2019

Year ended 31 December 2018

Operating activities

Net profit for the year 4,231,038

Adjustments for:

Depreciation 968,072

Amortisation of cost to right-of-use assets 1,146,186

Write-off of property, plant and equipment, net 84,095

Unrealised fair value (gain)/loss on investment properties (3,689)

Reversal of impairment loss from investment in joint venture -

Net share of (loss)/profit from investment in joint ventures 10,382

Impairment loss on investment in joint ventures 5,548

Net share of profit from investment in an associate (1,602,526)

Unrealised gain on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (1,919,695)

Dividend income (418,035)

Interest income from trading of bonds (509,258)

Interest income (11,615)

Realised gain on sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (32,211)

Profit on sale of property, plant and equipment (4,761)

Interest income on long term receivable (673,815)

Finance costs 432,383

Changes in operating assets and liabilities:

Inventories 52,305

Trade and other receivables (630,332)

Trade and other payables (3,706,383)

Other employee benefits (558,904)

Employee terminal benefits net 23,804

Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities (3,117,411)

Investing activities

Purchase of property, plant and equipment (86,751)

Additions to capital work-in-progress -

Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment 4,761

Purchase of investment properties (393,082)

Proceeds from disposal of business operations 3,152,353

Purchase of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (416,639)

Proceeds from sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss 253,568

Interest income on long term receivable 673,815

Interest income from bonds and sukuk 509,258

Profits received from fixed deposits 11,615

Dividend received from joint ventures 16,259

Dividend received from an associate 4,995,035

Dividend income received 418,035

Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities 9,138,227

Financing activities

Purchase of treasury shares (68,836)

Murabaha facility obtained during the year -

Amount repaid against Murabaha facility (445,568)

Lease liabilities paid (1,220,148)

Dividends paid (4,158,127)

Charity paid (46,090)

Finance costs paid (272,320)

Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities (6,211,089)

Net decrease in cash and bank balances (190,273)

Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year (355,436)

Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year (545,709)

Comprising: Cash and bank balances 352,256

Bank overdrafts (897,965)

(545,709)

Consolidated statement of changes in shareholders' equity for the year ended 31 December 2019

(Audited) (Expressed in Bahrain Dinars)

Share capital

Share premium

Revaluation reserve

Statutory reserve

Charity reserve

Retained earnings

Treasury shares

Total

At 31 December 2017 8,262,345 1,084,396 4,557,442 4,131,173 266,134 56,640,392 (345,976) 74,595,906

Dividends for 2017 - - - - - (3,958,185) - (3,958,185)

Transferred to charity reserve - - - - 91,250 (91,250) - -

Charity paid - - - - (74,092) - - (74,092)

Purchase of treasury shares - (97,155) - - - - (13,127) (110,282)

Net profit and other comprehensive income for the year - - - - - 4,220,504 - 4,220,504

At 31 December 2018 8,262,345 987,241 4,557,442 4,131,173 283,292 56,811,461 (359,103) 74,673,851

Dividends for 2018 - - - - - (3,951,621) - (3,951,621)

Transferred to charity reserve - - - - 73,493 (73,493) - -

Charity paid - - - - (46,090) - - (46,090)

Purchase of treasury shares - (59,513) - - - - (9,323) (68,836)

Net profit and other comprehensive income for the year - - - - - 4,231,038 - 4,231,038

At 31 December 2019 8,262,345 927,728 4,557,442 4,131,173 310,695 57,017,385 (368,426) 74,838,342

Dr Esam Abdulla Yusuf Fakhro

Ali Yusuf Ali Ubaydli

Ahmad A. Rashed Albastaki

Auditors

Chairman Vice-Chairman MD & CEO BDO



SILVER SCREEN

Saudi-Egyptian animated film champion

‘The Knight and the Princess’ is Egypt’s first animated feature and was screened at the Malmo Arab Film Festival



A poster of ‘The Knight and the Princess’

Arab News | Cairo

“The Knight and the Princess,” Egypt’s first animated feature film, created by a Saudi company, had its world premiere at the third edition of the El Gouna Film Festival and also make its way to the 9th Malmo Arab Film Festival in Sweden. Scripted and directed by prominent screenwriter Bashir El-Deek and co-directed by Ibrahim Mousa Mostafa, with character designs by late cartoonist Mustafa Hussein, this long-awaited

action-adventure animated comedy is the latest production from leading Saudi-led animation company, Alsaahar Animation. The animation is a fictionalized account of the adventures of 7th century Basra-born warrior Mohammed Bin Alkassim, who at the age of 15 sets off to save women and children abducted by pirates from merchant ships in the Indian Ocean. His heroic adventures ultimately bring him face to face with king Daher, the tyrannical ruler of North India, and his treacherous sorcerer, Gandar. The film features a star-studded voice cast, in-

The animation is a fictionalized account of the adventures of 7th century Basra-born warrior Mohammed Bin Alkassim, who at the age of 15 sets off to save women and children abducted by pirates from merchant ships in the Indian Ocean. His heroic adventures ultimately bring him face to face with king Daher, the tyrannical ruler of North India, and his treacherous sorcerer, Gandar

cluding Egyptian mega stars Medhat Saleh, Donia Samir Ghanem, Mohamed Henedy, Maged El-Kedwany, Abdel Rahman Abou Zahra, Abia Kamel and Lekaa Elkhamissi. “The Knight and the Princess” was born of a dream to tell an Arab story featuring a real Arab hero and is premised on the belief that “Arab stories are better told from an Arab perspective by Arab talents,” according to the press release. “From the start, when we decided to produce an animated feature, our aim was that the story has to come from our culture, and (be) done by Arab artists,” Alabbas Bin Alabbas, founder and president of Alsaahar Animation, said. “It is self-expression of our history and culture and artistic point of view. We felt we have something to convey to our society and the world at large. Making a decent and respectful effort to tell our story from our perspective was the right thing to do,” he added. Telling these kinds of stories, Alabbas believes, will “naturally...face off with the stereotypes the West intentionally (pushes).” Alabbas’s Cairo-based company has built its reputation over the past three decades producing children’s animated series. Established by Alabbas in 1992 as the Arab region’s leading animation production company, the enterprise was inspired by a personal encounter he had years earlier. “When I was in the US during my PhD program, my son was five-years-old, I was surprised by the



The makers and cast of ‘The

great impact of the animation,” Alabbas explained. “I decided to travel to TV animation series and I realized there was no animation world,” he said. This was Alabbas’s engineering and computer world of animation. His production company, “After eight years and we felt the urge to take be free of the restriction by TV stations,” Alabbas create the new film. Growing more confidence in animation abilities, Alabbas for the company’s first approached screenwriters the idea. It wasn’t smooth sailing. “The quality demanded a film far exceed the limit of animated TV series,” Al-

SPOTLIGHT

Amr Diab - the first Arab artist to get his very own

The move is a bid to promote the music and culture of the Middle East and

Arab News | Dubai

Amr Diab is the first Arab musical artist to get his face plastered on a Spotify billboard in New York City’s iconic Times Square. The streaming giant projected a smiling portrait of the Egyptian crooner in one of the most-visited landmarks in the Big Apple in a bid to promote the music and culture of the Middle East and North Africa. “Today we are celebrating Diab’s legacy and we are proud to see him shine so brightly - literally - on the global stage,” says Claudius Boller, Managing Director, Spotify Middle East and Africa in an official press statement. According to Spotify, the legendary singer’s music is most streamed in the United States, followed by Sweden, Germany, the UK and Canada. His album “Nour el-Ain” (Our Eyes



Amr Diab on the Spotify billboard in New York City’s iconic Times Square

His album “Nour el-Ain” (Our Eyes Beam) brought him global success and earned him the title of “The Father of Mediterranean Music” for his style of blending Egyptian and western rhythms

Beam) brought him global success and earned him the title of “The Father of Mediterranean Music” for his style

of blending Egyptian and western rhythms. Diab received a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Big Apple Music Awards in 2009. At the 2014 World Music Awards, Diab was also awarded Best Egyptian Artist, Best Male Arab Artist, and World’s Best Arab Male Artist Voted Online. He was also one of the first artists to headline a concert in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the Saudia E-Prix in 2018. He was part of a superstar lineup that included the likes of Enrique Iglesias, Jason Derulo, the Black Eyed Peas, One Republic and David Guetta.



Amr Diab



1173

Pope Alexander III canonizes Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury

1613

Michael Romanov, son of Patriarch of Moscow, elected first Russian Tsar of the house of Romanov



1804

1st locomotive, Richard Trevithick's, runs for the 1st time, along the tramway of the Pen-y-darren Iron-works in Merthyr Tydfil, Wales

1922

Britain declares Egypt a sovereign state

Message



Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh

I would like to greet the Bangla-speaking people and people of all languages and cultures across the world on the occasion of the glorious Martyrs and International Mother Language Day.

The great Ekushey is the symbol of grief, strength and glory in the life of every Bangalee. On this day in 1952, many valiant sons of the soil, including Salam, Barkat, Rafiq, Jabbar, Shafique sacrificed their lives for protecting the dignity of the mother tongue.

I pay my deep homage to the memories of the martyrs. I also pay my deep respect to the greatest Bangalee of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who had led the language movement and all other language veterans.

In 1948, State Language Movement Council was constituted comprising Tamuddin Majlish, Student League and other student bodies as per a proposal of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The council called a general strike on 11 March to realise the demand for recognising Bangla as the state language. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with a number of student leaders was arrested on the day from in front of the Secretariat. They were released on 15 March. Bangabandhu chaired a public meeting at Amtola in the Dhaka University campus on 16 March.

The movement for the demand of mother tongue spread all over the country. On 11 September 1948, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib was arrested from Faridpur. He was released on 21 January 1949. He was again detained on 19 April and released at the end of July. On 14 October, Bangabandhu was again arrested from Dhaka and confined to jail. His undaunted inspiration from inside the jail provided new impetus to the people's movement. In continuation of the movement, the language martyrs sacrificed their precious lives on 21 February 1952 while breaking Section 144 imposed by the rulers.

The resonance of the pride of Amar Ekushey is now resounded in the hearts of the people of the world surpassing the boundary of Bangladesh. Some expatriate Bangladeshis living in Canada including Salam and Rafiq took initiative for recognition to the 21 February as the International Mother Language Day. The then Awami league government placed the demand to the United Nations. Therefore, the UNESCO gave the recognition to the 21 February as the International Mother Language Day on 17 November 1999. The International Mother Language Day is now a source of inspiration to all people of the world in establishing the truth and justice.

We have already placed the demand before United Nations to make Bangla, spoken by over 26 crore people of the world, as one of the official languages of the UN. We established 'International Mother Language Institute' in Dhaka to preserve the languages of the world and carry out research on those.

Holding the spirit of Ekushey and war of liberation, our government achieved huge progress in every sector including macro economy, agriculture, education, health, communication, information technology, infrastructure, power, rural economic development, diplomatic success and cooperation during the last 11 years. Bangladesh is now a 'Role Model' for development in the world.

Through the implementation of Vision 2021 and 2041, and Delta Plan-2100, we have been working to build a hunger-poverty-free and happy-prosperous Golden Bangladesh as dreamt by the Father of the Nation. Let us be firmly committed in the spirit of the great Ekushey, we will unitedly build the Golden Bangladesh of the Father of the Nation.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
Joy Bangladesh Live Forever.

# ions Arab voices, stories



'The Knight and the Princess' during its world premiere at the third edition of El Gouna Film Festival

animation series he was watching.

to Egypt to get a few Arabic and to my surprise I discovered there was no animation in Egypt or the Arab world

due to switch careers from computer science and delve into animation production, establishing my own company soon after graduation.

and many animated TV series, I decided to take on a bigger challenge and create a new world with no limitations requested by the market as said of why he decided to

ident in his company's animation. Alabbas felt the time was ripe to produce the first animated feature and

riter Bashir El-Deek with the film, however.

nds of an animated feature with different animation styles fit for the market, Alabbas said.

**When I was in the US during my PhD program, my son was five-years-old, I was surprised by the great impact of the animation series he was watching. I decided to travel to Egypt to get a few Arabic TV animation series and to my surprise I discovered there was no animation in Egypt or the Arab world**

ALABBAS BIN ALABBAS

"So, we had to train more talents and develop the experience of all talents to outperform themselves. I was determined not to present the film with excuses of our lack of experience."

It was in the process of training animators that Alabbas and his crew ended up building a competent local industry.

"We meant to produce the film and ended up building the animation industry in the Arab world," he says.

Now that the film is finally hitting the big screen, Alabbas has reason to be optimistic about the future of the Arab animation industry.

"The successful result of our production puts a lot of pressure on everyone in the Arab world — they have no excuse not to venture into this important and vital industry," he said.

"The ball (is now in the court of) those who used to say we need to do something for our new generations that makes them proud of their heritage."

# own Times Square billboard

and North Africa



**Today we are celebrating Diab's legacy and we are proud to see him shine so brightly - literally - on the global stage**

CLAUDIUS BOLLER



Amr Diab during a concert



world

# Deadly shisha bar shootings rock Germany

- The shootings late Wednesday targeted bars in Hanau, according to local media
- Police raided the suspect's apartment and say they found two bodies - believed to be him and his mother
- Officers also found a confessional video in which he claimed certain people 'have to be exterminated'



Hanau | Germany

At least eleven people were killed in two shootings at shisha bars in Germany, with an unknown number of attackers still at large, police and media said.

The shootings late Wednesday targeted bars in Hanau, about 20 kilometres (12 miles) from Frankfurt, according to local media, where police launched a huge manhunt for the gunmen.

The first attack occurred at the "Midnight" bar in the centre of the city around 10pm (2100 GMT), police and reports said. Witnesses reported hearing a dozen shots, local media said.

The attacker, or attackers, then fled the scene by car, ac-



A far-right shooter, named by German media only as Tobias R (pictured), opened fire at two shisha bars in the city of Hanau overnight, killing nine people before going back to his parents' apartment before shooting his mother and then himself (Courtesy of Daily Mail)



Emergency service swarmed the area after the shooting. A silver Mercedes covered with rescue blankets was seen in front of a bar in Hanau (Courtesy of Daily Mail)

According to police. There was then a second shooting at Arena Bar.

According to local media reports, three people were killed in front of the first bar and five in front of the second.

At least five people were also seriously wounded, reports said.

A journalist at the scene saw around thirty police cars leaving Hanau police station and,

according to witnesses, police officers with machine guns were deployed in the city.

A silver Mercedes covered by what looked like a survival blanket could be seen behind a police cordon and surrounded by officers in front of "Arena Bar", with shattered glass on the floor.

"The police can now confirm that eight people were fatally wounded. The search for

suspects is going at top speed. There is no clear information yet as to a motive," authorities said.

Germany has been targeted in recent years by several extremist attacks, one of which killed 12 people in the heart of Berlin in December 2016.

But far-right attacks have become a particular concern for German authorities.

In October, a deadly anti-Semitic gun attack in the eastern city of Halle on the holy day of Yom Kippur underscored the rising threat of neo-Nazi violence. The rampage, in which two people were shot dead, was streamed live.

Last June conservative politician Walter Luebbeke, an advocate of a liberal refugee policy, was shot at his home.

On Friday police arrested 12 members of a German extreme right group believed to have been plotting "shocking" large-scale attacks on mosques similar to the ones carried out in New Zealand last year.



A Mercedes Benz was left damaged with glass covering the floor as police look on at the crime scene in Hanau last night(Courtesy of Daily Mail)

## Owner of car used to flee shooting was 43-year-old German



Police have seized a vehicle believed to belong to the suspect from outside an apartment where it is thought he killed himself (Courtesy of Daily Mail)

Reuters | Berlin

The German interior minister of the state of Hesse said the owner of the car used to leave the scene of a shooting in Hanau that left nine people dead was a 43-year-old German man from that town.

Peter Beuth said the car was

found at the owner's address and when a special task force entered it, they found two further people dead - the suspect and his 72-year-old mother.

Police said their information suggested the gunman had committed suicide at his home after fleeing in a car. He is a suspected right-wing extremist.

## Scores rescued from blaze in Myanmar's Yangon



About 60 fire trucks raced to a 12-storey apartment block in Yangon on Thursday to tackle a fire

Yangon

Scores of people were rescued from a blazing building in Myanmar's commercial hub Yangon early Thursday, many brought to safety with a cherry-picker crane from the highest floors.

Around 60 fire trucks raced to the 12-storey apartment block as smoke and flames spread through the building.

No deaths had been reported by mid-morning and the cause of the blaze had not been established. Nyi Nyi, 34, said he

ran out of his home to warn his elderly neighbours but was forced to retreat after nearly passing out.

"I couldn't see anything as it was too dark with smoke," he said, adding firefighters arrived just in time.

The fire service rescued people with a cherry-picker as smoke billowed out across the street, causing traffic to snarl up.

After years of under-investment, Yangon's downtown buildings have notoriously poor safety standards and fires are common.

## Suspects in abduction, murder of 7-year-old Mexican girl detained

- The girl had been reported missing on February 11 after she left school
- The suspects face between 80 and 140 years in prison
- Mexico recorded more than 1,000 femicide victims in 2019,

Mexico City

Mexican authorities arrested a couple believed to have kidnapped, tortured and murdered a seven year-old girl on Wednesday, days after the discovery of the victim's body sparked protests in the violence-wracked country.

The suspects "were detained in a town in the State of Mexico," Mexico City mayor Claudia Sheinbaum tweeted, without giving more detail.

The girl had been reported missing on February 11 after she left school, and her tortured body was found in the capital on Saturday.



Children attend the burial in Mexico City of the seven-year-old girl whose body was found over the weekend with signs of torture

Video footage released earlier appeared to show the girl being held by the hand of another woman and walking in the street on the day she disappeared.

Prosecutors on Tuesday released pictures of the two sus-

pects -- identified as Giovana and Mario Alberto "N" -- after searching a house near the victim's home.

During the search investigators found "identification, photographs, clothing and other personal objects" that linked the two suspects to the child's disappearance, said Ulises Lara, spokesman for the Mexico City prosecutor's office.

The suspects face between 80 and 140 years in prison given the gravity of the crime, Lara added.

Protests demanding an end to violence against women have been staged around the capital in recent days -- including at the victim's school, her funeral and outside the presidential residence.

Mexico recorded more than 1,000 femicide victims in 2019, according to official figures, although experts believe the true figure may be much higher due to difficulties in registering murders as femicide.



SHOW



**BRAHMS: THE BOY II (15+)(HORROR/THRILLER)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR: 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM  
OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 2.15 + 6.30 + 10.45 PM  
CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI.)  
CITY CENTRE (VIP II) : 10.30 AM + 2.45 + 7.00 + 11.15 PM  
SEEF (I): 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM + (1.00 AM THURS/FRI.)  
WADI AL SAIL: 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM  
KATIE HOLMES, RALPH INESON, OWAIN YEOMAN

**THE CALL OF THE WILD (PG)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM  
OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 12.00 + 4.15 + 8.30 PM  
OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 2.45 +7.15 + 11.45 PM  
CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN  
CITY CENTRE (VIP II) : 12.30 + 4.45 + 9.00 PM  
SEEF (II): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM  
WADI AL SAIL: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM  
HARRISON FORD, DAN STEVENS, OMAR SY

**BHOOT: PART ONE -THE HAUNTED SHIP**  
FROM THURSDAY 20th 3.00 PM ONWARDS  
OASIS JUFFAIR: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM  
CITY CENTRE: 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM  
SEEF (I): 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN + (12.45MN THURS/FRI.)  
WADI AL SAIL: 12.30 + 5.45 + 11.00 PM  
VICKY KAUSHAL, BHUMI PEDNEKAR, ASHUTOSH RANA

**COLOR OUT OF SPACE (15+)(THRILLER/HORROR)**  
SEEF (II):7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN  
WADI AL SAIL: 11.15 AM + 4.00 + 8.45 PM  
NICOLAS CAGE, JOELY RICHARDSON, MADELEINE ARTHUR

**EMMA (PG-13)(DRAMA/COMEDY/ROMANTIC)**  
SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM  
WADI AL SAIL: 1.30 + 6.15 + 11.00 PM  
ANYA TAYLOR-JOY, JOHNNY FLYNN, BILL NIGHY

**ELCANO & MAGALLAN: FIRST TRIP AROUND THE WORLD**  
CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 12.30 + 2.30 + 4.30 PM  
SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 PM  
HERNAN 'RIO' CHAVARRO, CHRIS JAHN, BETSY DURKIN

**VIC THE VIKING AND THE MAGIC SWORD (PG)**  
SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 12.45 + 2.30 + 4.15 PM  
WADI AL SAIL: 10.45 AM + 12.30 + 2.15 + 6.45 PM  
ROLAND BEARNE, TIM BENTINCK, KONRAD BÖSHERZ

**AFTER MIDNIGHT (15+)(DRAMA/HORROR)**  
SEEF (I):10.45 AM + 2.45 + 6.45 + 10.45 PM  
JEREMY GARDNER, BREA GRANT, JUSTIN BENSON

**SANDOOQ AL DUNYA (15+)(ARABIC/DRAMA)**  
CITY CENTRE: 12.15 + 5.00 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM  
SEEF (II): 5.00 + 7.00 + 9.00 + 11.00 PM  
EMAD AL BAHAT, KHALID AL SAWEE, RANAYOUSIF

**AZMA MALIYAH (PG)(ARABIC/COMEDY)**  
SEEF (I): 12.45 + 4.45 + 8.45 PM  
KHALID AL-KHALDI, EID AL-DHAHERI, MAITHA MUHAMMAD

**BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (PG-15)(ACTION/COMEDY/CRIME)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR:12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM  
CITY CENTRE: (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)  
CITY CENTRE:(ATMOS): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN  
CITY CENTRE (IMAX 2D): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM  
CITY CENTRE (VIP I) : 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM  
SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN  
WADI AL SAIL: 4.00 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM  
WILL SMITH, MARTIN LAWRENCE, VANESSA HUDGENS

**SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (PG)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR:2.45 + 7.15 + 11.45 PM  
OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA): 12.30 + 5.00 + 9.30 PM  
CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM  
SEEF (II):10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN  
WADI AL SAIL: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM  
JIM CARREY, BEN SCHWARTZ, JAMES MARSDEN

**FANTASY ISLAND (15+)(THRILLER/HORROR)**  
CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN  
LUCY HALE, MAGGIE Q, PORTIA DOUBLEDAY

**1917 (PG-15)(WAR/ACTION/DRAMA) 1917**  
Winner of 3 Oscar Awards  
CITY CENTRE:10.45 AM + 1.15 + 3.45 + 6.15 + 8.45 + 11.15 PM  
SEEF (II):11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM  
GEORGE MACKAY, DEAN-CHARLES CHAPMAN, MARK STRONG

**BIRD OF PREY (15+)(ACTION/ADVENTURE/CRIME)**  
CITY CENTRE : 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM  
SEEF (II):8.45 + 11.15 PM  
MARGOT ROBBIE, MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD, EWAN MCGREGOR



**DOLITTLE (PG)(ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY)**  
CITY CENTRE:11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM  
SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 PM  
ROBERT DOWNEY JR., ANTONIO BANDERAS, MICHAEL SHEEN

**JUMANJI THE NEXT LEVEL (PG-15)**  
CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM  
SEEF (II): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM  
DWAYNE JOHNSON, JACK BLACK, KEVIN HART

**THE GENTLEMEN (15+)(CRIME/ACTION)**  
CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM  
MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY, CHARLIE HUNNAM, HENRY GOLDING

**AL FELOUS (THE MONEY) (PG-15)(ARABIC)**  
CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.30 + 6.00 + 8.30 + 11.00 PM  
TAMER HOSNY, ZEINA, KHALID EL-SAWI

**THIEF OF BAGHDAD (PG-13)**  
CITY CENTRE:2.00 + 6.45 + 11.30 PM  
MOHAMMED EMAM, YASMINE RAEIS, AMINA KHALIL

**FROZEN 2 (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)**  
SEEF (II):10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 PM  
KRISTEN BELL, IDINA MENZEL, JOSH GAD

**MALANG (PG-15)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR:11.45 AM + 2.30 + 5.15 + 8.00 + 10.45 PM  
SEEF (II): 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM  
ADITYA ROY KAPOOR, ANIL KAPOOR, DISHA PATANI

**SPIES IN DISGUISE (PG)**  
CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 4.00 + 8.30 PM  
WILL SMITH, TOM HOLLAND, KAREN GILLAN

**MIRACLE IN CELL NO. 7 (PG-15)(TURKISH/DRAMA)**  
CITY CENTRE:2.15 + 7.00 PM  
ARAS BULUT YNEMLI , N SA SOF YA AKSONGUR, LKER AKSUM

**LITTLE WOMEN (PG)(DRAMA/ROMANTIC)**  
Winner of 1 Oscar Award  
CITY CENTRE: 2.30 + 8.15 PM  
SAOIRSE RONAN, EMMA WATSON, FLORENCE PUGH

**LE MANS '66 (PG-13)(DRAMA/SPORT/BIOGRAPHY)**  
Winner of 2 Oscar Award  
CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 5.15 + 11.00 PM  
MATT DAMON, CHRISTIAN BALE, JON BERNTHAL

**JOKER (15+)(THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA)**  
Winner of 2 Oscar Award  
CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM  
JOAQUIN PHOENIX, ZAZIE BEETZ, ROBERT DE NIRO

**PARASITE (15+)(KOREAN/COMEDY/DRAMA/THRILLER)**  
Winner of 4 Oscar Award  
CITY CENTRE:(DISTRACTION FREE SCREEN): 12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM  
SEEF (II): 12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM  
WADI AL SAIL: 3.00 + 8.15 PM  
SONG KANG HO, LEE SUN KYUN , MARIA SIMON

**VARANE AVASHYAMUND (PG-13)(MALAYALAM)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM  
SURESH GOPI, SHOBANA, DULQUER SALMAAN, KALYANI PRIYADARSHAN, URVASHI

**AYYAPPANUM KOSHIYUM (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR:1.00 + 4.15 + 7.30 + 10.45 PM  
SEEF (I):10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM  
AL HAMRA : 5.30 + 8.45 + (12.00 MN THURS./FRI)  
PRITHVIRAJ, BIJU MENON, RENJITH, SABUMON



**MAFIA (PG-13)(TAMIL)**  
From Friday 21st Feb.  
OASIS JUFFAIR: 1.30 + 6.30 + 11.30 PM  
SEEF (I):10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM  
AL HAMRA : 3.00 PM  
ARUN VIJAY, PRASANNA, PRIYA BHAVANI SHANKAR

**AL MALLU (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)**  
OASIS JUFFAIR:12.45 + 6.00 + 11.15 PM  
SEEF (I): 10.45 AM + 3.45 + 8.45 PM  
AL HAMRA : 12.00 NOON.  
NAMITHA PRAMOD, ANOOP MAJEED, SIDDIQUE

MOVIE REVIEW

The Call of the Wild: old-fashioned shaggy-dog story with bite

● Harrison Ford and other humans save CGI dog in the kid-friendly movie

The Call of the Wild is a 2020 American adventure film based on the Jack London 1903 novel of the same name and Twentieth Century Pictures' previous 1935 film adaptation

The film is directed by Chris

Sanders, in his live-action directorial debut, written by Michael Green, and stars Harrison Ford, Dan Stevens, Omar Sy, Karen Gillan, Bradley Whitford, and Colin Woodell.

Set in the 1890s Klondike Gold Rush, a dog named Buck is stolen from his home in California and sent to Canada, where he befriends an old man and begins a life-altering adventure.

It received mixed reviews from critics, with some criticizing the CGI animals as uncanny, though others praised the “entertaining action and



Harrison Ford and the CGI'd Buck in 'The Call of the Wild'



Disney's adaptation of the classic Jack London adventure, starring Harrison Ford and a pack of CGI critters, is enjoyably corny

earnest tone”.

On Rotten Tomatoes, the film holds an approval rating of 73% based on 56 reviews, with an average rating of 6.23/10. The website's critics consensus reads: “It’s undermined by distracting and unnecessary CGI, but this heartwarming Call of the Wild remains a classic story, affectionately retold.”

On Metacritic, the film has a weighted average score of 55 out of 100, based on 22 critics, indicating “mixed or average reviews”.

SUDOKU

6		9		8		5	
				7	9		
	3			4			
3				6	1		
8	9					6	1
			8	9			2
				8			1
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6		7			8		3

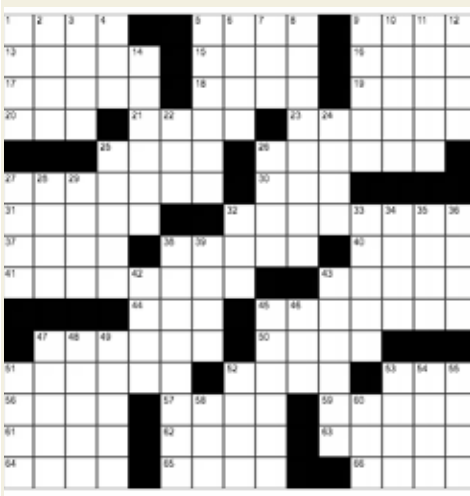
Yesterday's solution

6	8	7	3	2	4	1	9	5
4	1	9	5	8	6	7	3	2
3	5	2	1	9	7	6	8	4
1	9	6	2	3	8	5	4	7
7	2	3	9	4	5	8	1	6
8	4	5	7	6	1	9	2	3
2	3	1	6	7	9	4	5	8
9	6	8	4	5	2	3	7	1
5	7	4	8	1	3	2	6	9

How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD



Across

1-“ \_\_\_\_\_ sprach Zarathustra”; 5- Roof overhang; 9- \_\_\_\_\_ forgive our debtors; 13- Hickory-nut; 15- Radiograph; 16- Of \_\_\_\_\_ I Sing; 17- Plumber's tool; 18- Quote; 19- Remove water from a boat; 20- Hall or Byrnes; 21- Not new; 23- Horse-drawn vehicle in India; 25- Discontinue; 26- Overjoyed; 27- Satisfied; 30- Gangster's gun; 31- Lend \_\_\_\_\_; 32- Large percussion instrument; 37- Capital of the Ukraine; 38- Merchandise; 40- Effortlessness; 41- Ingoing; 43- Lots of lots; 44- Period of human life; 45- Large ships; 47- Places of contest; 50- Finishes; 51- Dried grape; 52- Put on; 53- Mai \_\_\_\_\_; 56- Quod \_\_\_\_\_ demonstrandum; 57- Undecided; 59- Ruhr city; 61- Not one; 62- Large wading bird; 63- Pier; 64- Tolkien tree creatures; 65- Large town; 66- Buck follower;

Down

1- Semicircular recess; 2- Give for a while; 3- Great quantity; 4- Cask wood; 5- Unless; 6- Dry and waterless; 7- Large container; 8- Monocle; 9- No longer on deck; 10- Apportion; 11- Off-the-wall; 12- Slippery; 14- Asexual; 22- Male offspring; 24- Panama and bowler; 25- Fend (off); 26- Mild oath; 27- Birthday treat; 28- Getting \_\_\_\_\_ years; 29- Nair rival; 32- Wet spongy ground; 33- Ship floors; 34- Steak order; 35- Manipulator; 36- Untidy condition; 38- Very large; 39- Change for a five; 42- Wife of a rajah; 43- One of the 12 apostles; 45- Microscopic; 46- “SNL” alum Gasteier; 47- Biblical brother; 48- Cheerful; 49- Politico Kefauver; 51- Actor Auberjonois; 52- Habeas corpus, for one; 53- Nicholas II was the last Russian one; 54- Prefix with -drome; 55- Poop; 58- \_\_\_\_\_-Wan Kenobi was a character in “Star Wars”; 60- Doo-wop syllable;

Yesterday's solution

L	A	D	E	N	R	I	S	E	S	A	C	E
A	D	E	L	E	E	N	T	R	E	L	O	A
C	A	N	O	E	S	O	A	R	S	T	B	S
N	A	N	K	E	E	N	A	M	O	R	A	L
A	G	E	N	D	A	A	C	M	E	S		
C	A	R	E	R	O	M	E	O	M	A	S	T
H	I	V	E	R	I	N						
O	N	E	D	T	A	S	T	E	T	I	E	R
H	E	R	E	I	N	S	I	N	C	E	R	E
I	A	N	A	D	L	I	B	O	U	R	R	A
S	S	N	L	I	S	L	E	G	R	A	I	L
T	E	Y	S	P	E	E	R	E	L	E	M	I



# CELEBS

## Justin Beiber thinks he can beat up Tom Cruise in a fight

ANI | Los Angeles



Justin Beiber

Music sensation Justin Beiber is quite confident that he can beat Tom Cruise in a full-blown MMA fight.

The 25-year-old had challenged Cruise for a Mixed Martial Arts match-up on Twitter the previous year, but the fight eventually failed to materialise.

His Tweet from 2019 read: "I wanna challenge Tom Cruise to fight in the octagon. Tom if you don't take this fight your scared and you will never live it down. Who is willing to put on the fight? @danawhite?"

Though sometime later, Beiber admitted to TMZ that he'd get pounded if he dared to fight the 'Mission Impossible' star.

However, in his latest appearance on James Corden's 'Carpool Karaoke', the "Yummy" singer did a 180-degree turn and reaffirmed that he would emerge victorious if he ends up fighting Cruise, reported Fox News.

When Corden seemed to defer, Beiber lashed back and said "there's absolutely no way" the 57-year-old could beat him.

"He's not the guy you see in movies. That's a character. [Being in] phenomenal shape



I wanna challenge Tom Cruise to fight in the octagon. Tom if you don't take this fight your scared and you will never live it down. Who is willing to put on the fight? @danawhite?

JUSTIN BEIBER



Tom Cruise

doesn't mean you're a good fighter," the singer went on and said, according to Fox News.

As Corden insisted that Cruise would turn out to be the winner, Beiber defended himself by saying that "you're mesmerized by the

characters that he's playing" and further claimed that "I'm telling you ... I'm dangerous. My agility is crazy. My agility is insane."

He went as far as proclaiming himself as "the Conor McGregor of entertainment."

McGregor, the prolific and often controversial MMA phenomenon, offered to host the cage match between Beiber and Cruise last year.

In his Tweet from 2019, the Irishman wrote: "If Tom Cruise is man enough to accept this challenge, McGregor Sports and Entertainment will host the bout.

## Orlando Bloom fixes tattoo that misspelled his son's name

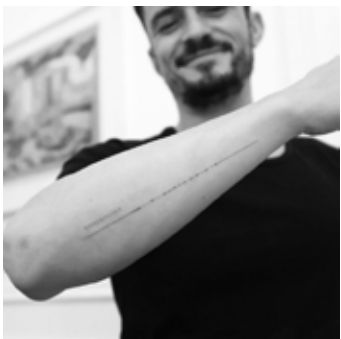
Fox | Los Angeles

All is right again in the life of Orlando Bloom after the actor debuted some fresh ink that awkwardly misspelled his son's name.

Bloom, 43, took to Instagram last week to share a tattoo that spelled the name of his son, Flynn, in Morse code on his forearm, in addition to the date and time Flynn was born. However, followers commented back that there was a mistake in the design.

On Wednesday, the "Pirates of the Caribbean" actor shared an updated version of his tribute tattoo, along with a new design for his best buddy, Sidi, Bloom's dog that has since passed away.

"Finally got it right! How do you make a mistake like that?"



Orlando Bloom shows his tattoo

#pinterestfail (read the small print)," Bloom captioned the new black-and-white image of the updated design on Instagram. "Fortunately I know how to spell Sidi. Forever my boy."

Bloom's tattoo artist, Balazs Bercesenyi, known for his impressive line work, also ac-

knowledgeed the mishap on his own social media before vowing to correct it.

"A beautiful reminder for @orlandobloom of his son and yes, a dot is missing, we know, it will be fixed :)" the celebrity tattoo artist wrote before doubling back with a second post of Bloom on Tuesday, proudly displaying his updated ink.

"Round 2 with @orlandobloom + we added the missing dot to the morse code, and did a small one in memory of Sidi, his dog + conclusion: never fully trust what your clients find on pinterest + Life is officially back to normal," Bercesenyi quipped.

Bloom's son, Flynn, whom he shares with ex-wife Miranda Kerr, was born on Jan. 6, 2011, at 9:03, according to the tattoo.



Dichen Lachman

## Actor Dichen Lachman joins 'Jurassic World 3' cast

ANI | Los Angeles

Nepal-born actor Dichen Lachman has been roped in to join the cast of 'Jurassic World 3.'

The actor, who is popularly known for her television show 'Animal Kingdom' and the Netflix series 'Altered Carbon' is the latest cast member of the Colin Trevorrow-directed picture, reported Deadline.



'Jurassic World 3' will also star Mamoudou Athie, DeWanda Wise, Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum

The third film in the Jurassic World franchise will have Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard, reprising their roles from the previous films, reported Variety.

Other than them, 'Jurassic World 3' will also star

Mamoudou Athie, DeWanda Wise, Laura Dern, Sam Neill, and Jeff Goldblum.

Colin Trevorrow will not only direct and produce the film but is also penning the script with Emily Carmichael.

For production Trevorrow is being joined by his old partner Steven Spielberg and Frank Marshall and Pat Crowley. Universal Pictures' senior vice president of production Sara Scott is heading the production on behalf of the studio.

Colin Trevorrow helmed the 2015's 'Jurassic World' which minted USD 1.67 billion worldwide and turned to be the sixth-highest-grossing film in cinema history.

'Jurassic World 3' is slated to hit the big screens on June 11, 2021.

## Gigi Hadid was told she "didn't have a runway body"

Fox | Los Angeles

The road to modeling wasn't an easy one for Gigi Hadid.

The 24-year-old opened up to i-D Magazine recently, where she revealed that despite being the daughter of a famous model -- Yolanda Hadid -- the industry was tough to break into because of her body type.

In 2015, Jean Paul Gaultier cast Hadid in her first Paris runway show, which came as she was "coming out of high school" and still had her "volleyball body."

"It was a body that I loved," said Hadid. "I knew how hard I worked to have those muscles, to be curved in those places -- I kind of miss it now. At the time, people

were hard on me and tried to say that I didn't have a runway body."

Although Hadid had found other work, it wasn't exactly what she imagined. Luckily, along came Gaultier.

"There were still stylists or designers at that time who were putting me in their shows, but putting me something that really covered my body," she explained. "And so for him to make me feel like he wanted me to shine in that way, it really meant a lot to me as a young model."

Hadid also noted that Gaultier has "done that for a lot of people."

Hadid recently collaborated with the designer again, walking in his runway show last month.

Gigi Hadid



## Kylie Jenner's trademarking spree foiled by clothing company

ANI | Los Angeles

Beauty mogul Kylie Jenner who has a habit of going on trademark filing, may finally be thwarted in her attempts to stake a legal claim to the entire English language.

According to Page Six, Jenner had applied to pick up a bunch of trademarks related to her 2-year-old daughter's name, Stormi, including 'Stormi World', to safeguard the infant's inevitable theme-park empire.

However, a New Orleans clothing company has lawyered up to prevent Jenner from grabbing it.

As Business Moves Consulting who trademarked 'Stormi Couture' about a month after the baby was born in 2018, has lodged an opposition to Kylie's proposal, claiming that it's likely to confuse their own customers

Since they doubt that Kylie actually intends to use it anyway or as they put it, she has "no bona fide intent to use the mark in commerce for identi-

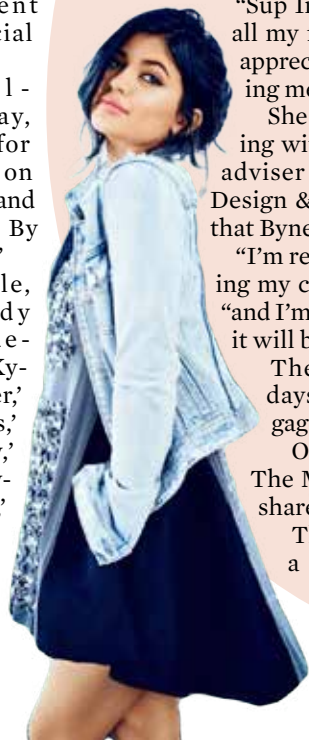
fied goods or services," reported Page Six.

In the past, Jenner even filed to trademark the phrase 'rise and shine' after a video of American media personality singing the phrase to her daughter, Stormi, went viral on social media.

On Valentine's Day, Kylie filed for trademarks on 'Ky-bow,' 'Kyliner,' 'Glitter Eyes,' 'Kylie Baby,' 'Lip Kit,' 'Kylie Museum,' 'Kylie Kon' and many more.

Meanwhile, she already owns trademarks on 'Ky-bow,' 'Kyliner,' 'Glitter Eyes,' 'Kylie Baby,' 'Lip Kit,' 'Kylie Museum,' 'Kylie Kon' and many more.

Kylie Jenner



## Amanda Bynes says she's 'looking forward' to starting a clothing line

Fox | Los Angeles

Amanda Bynes has found her next project. The 33-year-old former actress took to her Instagram Story on Tuesday where she shared with her fans that she intends to work on a clothing line.

"Sup Instagram, just wanted to say 'Hi' to all my followers, I really wanted to say I appreciate you guys so much for supporting me," Bynes first said in the video.

She then revealed that she was dining with her friend Kathy, a student adviser at the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, the school that Bynes attended.

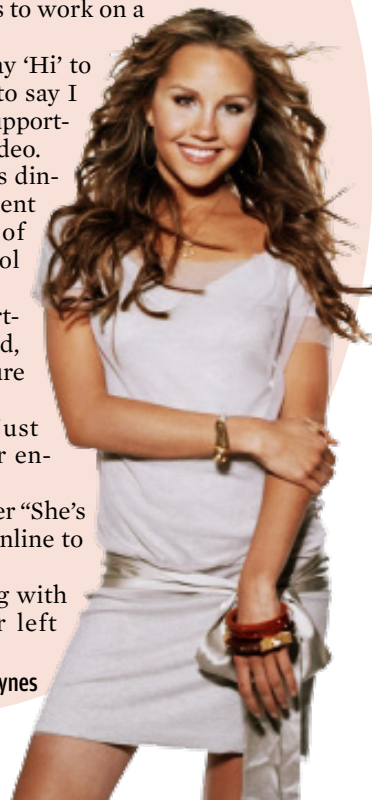
"I'm really looking forward to starting my clothing line," she continued, "and I'm hoping that in the near future it will be out online..."

The announcement comes just days after Bynes revealed her engagement.

On Valentine's Day, the former "She's The Man" star posted a photo online to share the exciting news.

The photo showcased a ring with a massive diamond on her left hand.

Amanda Bynes





## sports

# Bahrain set for tough India challenge

● **Bahrain to face India today in Fiba Asia Cup qualifiers**

TDT | Manama

**B**ahrain take on India tonight in their opening qualifying game for the 2021 Fiba Asia Cup.

The contest is scheduled for a 7pm tip-off at the Khalifa Sports City arena in Isa Town.

All are welcome to attend. Entrance will be free.

Bahrain and India are both in Group D of the qualification process along with Lebanon and Iraq. Following this evening's opener, the Bahrainis travel directly to Beirut where they will face off with their Lebanese counterparts on Monday.

Bahrain head coach Sam Vincent from the USA has finalised his 12-man roster for the upcoming pair of fixtures. He has dropped power forward Ali Shukrallah from national league champions Muharraq and point guard Ahmed Aziz of Manama.



Coach Vincent, right, gives instructions as he conducts practice alongside his coaching staff

The players who will be suiting up are Mohammed Hussain, Ahmed Aldurazi, Mohammed Buallay, Subah Hussain, Mohammed Salman, Mohammed Qurban, Maytham Jameel, Hesham Sarhan, Mohammed Ameer, Muzamel Ameer, Ahmed Najaf and CJ Giles.

The visiting Indian team includes two seven-footers in Amritpal Singh and Jagdeep Singh, both of whom are a towering seven feet, two inches tall. The rest of the squad features captain

Vishesh Bhriguvanshi, Muin Bek Hafeez, Joginder Singh, Prasanna Vankatesh Sivakumar, Sahil, Prashant Singh Rawat, Aravind Annadurai, Princepal Singh, Amaan Sandhu and Arvind Arumugam.

India are coached by renowned Serbian tactician Veselin Matic, who also formerly in charge of the national teams of Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Iran and Poland before signing with India.

Following their first two

games, there will be a long break before the Bahrainis next take to the court on November 26, which will be away against Iraq. They then play away once again against India on November 29. Their final two qualifiers will be held in February of next year, both at home against Lebanon and then Iraq.

In the rest of qualifying, Group A features the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and South Korea; Group B includes Tai-



Bahrain big man Giles with a two-handed dunk during the team's practice yesterday at the game venue

pei, Japan, Malaysia and China; Group C consists of Australia, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Guam; Group E features Saudi Arabia, Syria, Qatar and Iran; and Group F is composed of Jordan, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka and Palestine.

Only the top two teams from each of the six qualification groups book their tickets to the Fiba Asia Cup, while the third-placed teams go to another stage of qualification, where another four final spots will be up for grabs.

## BIC teams compete in 24-hour endurance race

TDT | Manama

**B**ahrain International Circuit (BIC) fielded a pair of teams last weekend in the 24-hour final round of the 2019/2020 Bahrain Karting Enduro Championship (BKEC) at Bahrain International Karting Circuit (BIKC).

The squads, made up of BIC staff, competed in both the Nations and Corporate classes of the event, which featured a total of 14 competing entries. They raced on identical 390cc Honda-powered Sodikart RT8s.

The Nation team included Sara Kanian, Jassim Marhoon, Mohamed Juma, Ali AbduAlnabi, and Ahmed Falmarzi. They completed 1,067 laps in the race.

BIC Corporate featured Faten Amin, Royden Giles, Nigel Dias, Riyanna D'Souza, Amal Moosa, Sunil Chadhuray, Phani Shanker, Mecwyn Castelino and Donald Castelino. They finished the event with a total of 1,009 laps.



BIC team members celebrate their win

All the action took place along BIKC's 1.414-kilometre Commission Internationale de Karting

(CIK) Track. The action flagged off on Friday afternoon and concluded at the same time the very next day.

The 24-hour event was the

culmination of a hugely exciting season in the BKEC, which also featured three, six and 12-hour races in the opening three rounds.

## Silva races to recover from injury in time for Real clash

AFP | London

**M**anchester City manager Pep Guardiola hopes David Silva will be fit for next week's Champions League clash against Real Madrid after the midfielder was injured during the 2-0 win against West Ham.

Silva limped off in the closing moments at the Etihad Stadium on Wednesday after being caught by a crunching tackle from West Ham's Angelo Ogbonna.

Guardiola immediately asked Silva about the extent of the injury on the touchline and, while he does not think the problem is especially serious, there is still some doubt about his availability for the last 16 first leg in Spain next Wednesday.

"He told me that he felt

something. But I don't think it was a big issue," Guardiola said.

"I will know (on Thursday) exactly. He played really well and we will see in the next days.

"He told me he had more caution after what happened near the goal. We will see with the doctors."

City's trip to the Bernabeu has taken on added focus in the wake of UEFA handing the club a two-year ban from European competitions for "serious breaches" of Financial Fair Play regulations.

Unless City win their appeal, this season will be Guardiola's last chance to win the Champions League until the 2022-23 campaign.

David Silva

### CLASSIFIEDS

## Muharraq win semi-final first-leg against Manama

TDT | Manama

**M**uharraq hold a one-goal advantage over Manama in their semi-finals of His Majesty the King's Cup in football, following a narrow 2-1 first-leg victory last night at the Khalifa Sports City stadium in Isa Town.

An own goal by Manama's Kumaal Abdulla gifted Muharraq the lead in just the third minute of the match.

Brazilian professional Everton de Mendonca then doubled his team's advantage in the 31st minute. He scored from close range following a fine cross by Nigerian teammate Prince Agreh from the right of the box.



Muharraq's Brazilian professional Thiago Augusto looks to make a pass as he is hounded by Manama's defence

Manama tried hard to fight back and they trimmed the deficit to one goal after Brazilian striker Vitor Gabriel tapped in a cross from teammate Issa Mousa in the 80th minute.

Despite their best efforts to find a late equaliser, Manama had to settle for their lone goal as they head into the return leg on the back foot.

Muharraq and Manama return to the pitch in two weeks' time on March 4, which will decide who punches their tickets to the tournament final.

The other final four clash is between His Majesty the King's Cup holders Riffa and Al Hidd.

### WHAT TO DO AFTER EXAMS ???

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## Federer to miss French Open after knee surgery

Reuters | London

Roger Federer has said he will miss a number of tournaments, including the French Open, after undergoing keyhole surgery on his knee in Switzerland on Wednesday but he is targeting a return in time for Wimbledon.

The 20-times Grand Slam champion struggled with injury at the Australian Open, where he lost in the semi-finals to eventual champion Novak Djokovic, and has not played since.

Federer, 38, said he would miss ATP tournaments in Dubai, Indian Wells, Bogota and Miami as well as the French Open which starts at the end of May.

It will be the fourth time in five years that Federer, champion at Roland Garros for the only time in 2009, has missed the claycourt slam.

"My right knee has been bothering me for a little while. I hoped it would go away, but after an examination and discussion with my team, I decided to have arthroscopic surgery in Switzerland yesterday," Federer said in a statement on Twitter.

"After the procedure, the knee is feeling much better. I am looking forward to getting back on the court as soon as possible."

doctors confirmed that it was the right thing to have done and are very confident of a full recovery."

The Swiss skipped the entire claycourt season in 2017 and 2018 and last year played only two tournaments on the surface before arriving in Paris for the French Open where he lost to Rafa Nadal in the semi-finals.

His agent told Reuters last week that Federer was planning on playing only at Roland Garros while skipping the Madrid and Rome Masters. The French Open begins on May 24.

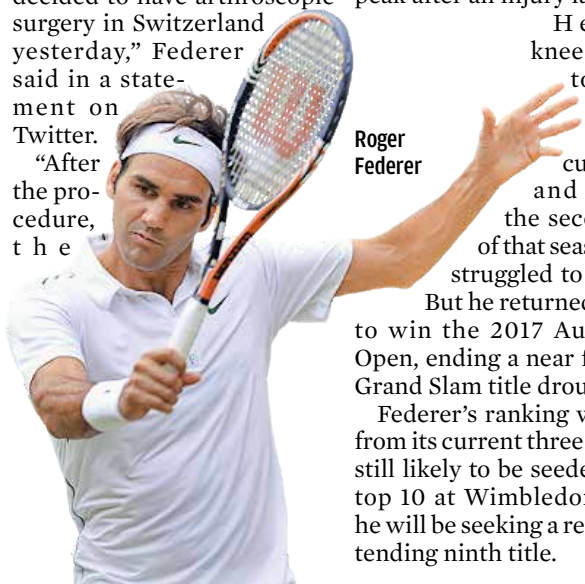
While the prospect of Federer being away from the Tour for so long will dismay his vast army of fans, they can be encouraged that his decision to undergo knee surgery for a second time seems designed to extend his career.

"I can't wait to be back playing again soon, see you on the grass," Federer added on his Twitter page.

Federer has proved in the past that he can return to his peak after an injury layoff.

He had knee surgery to repair a torn meniscus in 2016 and missed the second half of that season as he struggled to recover. But he returned in style to win the 2017 Australian Open, ending a near five-year Grand Slam title drought.

Federer's ranking will drop from its current three but he is still likely to be seeded in the top 10 at Wimbledon where he will be seeking a record-extending ninth title.



Roger Federer

## HH Shaikh Nasser's Cup set for main race today at REHC

TDT | Manama

As the temperatures begin to heat up, so does the action at Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC), where an action-packed day of seven races is on the cards today.

The seventh and main event is for the HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup, and it carries a whopping total prize of BD10,000. The race is over 11 furlongs in distance, and it is for imported horses aged three years old and up.

Tipped with a chance in the six-horse field are New Show, Fayeze and Coolagh Forest. New Show is owned by Victorious, trained by Hesham Al Haddad and will be ridden by Adrie De Vries, who has enjoyed plenty of success in recent races at REHC. Fayeze is owned by Al Mohamediya Racing and is also trained by Hesham Al Haddad, and will be ridden by Paddy Mathers. Coolagh Forest, who is coming off a runner-up finish in last week's main race, will be competing for Mohammed Khalid Abdulrahman, Paul D'Arcy and John Egan.

The rest of the three entries are all owned by Victorious and trained by Hesham Al Haddad, including Vale Do Sol, Macaque and Albert Finney.

Meanwhile, there are two other races offering HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Cups, including the sixth and third events.

Race six is over 11 furlongs, with a BD5,000 total prize and featuring six locally bred horses three years old and up.

Tipped with a chance at victory are Pulsar, owned by Abdulla Fawzi Nass, trained by Hesham Al Haddad and to be ridden by Adrie De Vries; News Breaker,



Plenty of exciting action is set for today at REHC (file photo)



**HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Cup carries a whopping total prize of BD10,000**

owned by Victorious, trained by Alan Smith and to be ridden by Lee Newman; and Milyar, competing for HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, trained by James Naylor and to be ridden by Abdulla Faisal.

Race three will be over a straight of five furlongs, and it carries a total prize of BD3,000. Eight locally bred horses aged

three years old and up, rated zero to 35, are in the fray.

The fifth race of the day features 12 imported horses, and they will be competing for the HH Shaikh Hamad bin Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Cup. The sprint is over seven furlongs and it offers a prize of BD5,500.

With a chance are Gomati, competing for Abdulla Fawzi Nass, Hesham Al Haddad and Adrie De Vries; Aluqair, representing Shaikh Isa bin Duaij bin Salman bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Sami Saloom and John Egan; and Chatham House, racing for Hasan Mefareh Alajmi, Yousif Taher and Abdulla Faisal.

Race four features the biggest field of 17 horses, all imported and aged three years and up with a rating of zero to 80. They will be battling over a straight of five furlongs for the lion's share of the BD3,000 prize and the right to lift the HH Shaikha Sheemah bint Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Cup.

The second race of the day, over nine furlongs with a BD2,000 prize, is for the HH Shaikh Hamdan bin Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Cup. Ten horses are entered. They are local breeds aged three and up with a rating of zero to 40.

Kicking off the day's action in the first race of the day is for the HH Shaikh Mohammed bin Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa Cup. It is over eight furlongs in distance and it carries a BD3,000 total prize. The WAHO event features just four horses aged three and up.

Tipped with a chance are two horses owned by Victorious and trained by Yousif Taher, including Kuheilal Afas 1708 (jockey Abdulla Faisal) and Al Jellaby 1544 (jockey Marcialis Jaures), and Al Jellaby 1683, owned by Al Riffa, trained by Yousif Alboainain and to be ridden by Hasan Al Saffar.

All are welcome to attend the races. Entrance to REHC is free.

## Porsche, 2,000cc title battles to heat up in Speed Weekend

TDT | Manama

There will be no room for error as the title battles head down to the wire in the penultimate rounds of the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East and the BIC 2,000cc Challenge.

Both are set to hit the tarmac as part of Speed Weekend today and tomorrow at Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) in Sakhir, and each series is set to feature their own thrilling fights for wins, podium places and all-important championship points.

Racing will be held along BIC's 5.412-kilometre Grand Prix track, which will be hosting motorsport's biggest stars less than a month from now in the Kingdom's highly anticipated Formula 1 weekend from March 19 to 22.

Speed Weekend will be held from 8am to 5pm today and then from 11am to 6pm tomorrow. All are welcome to attend. Tickets are available at the gate.

Heading into the fifth of six rounds in its 2019/2020 season, Leon Koehler of Germany tops the overall championship standings in the Porsche Sprint Challenge.

He has 213 points and enjoys a comfortable lead over

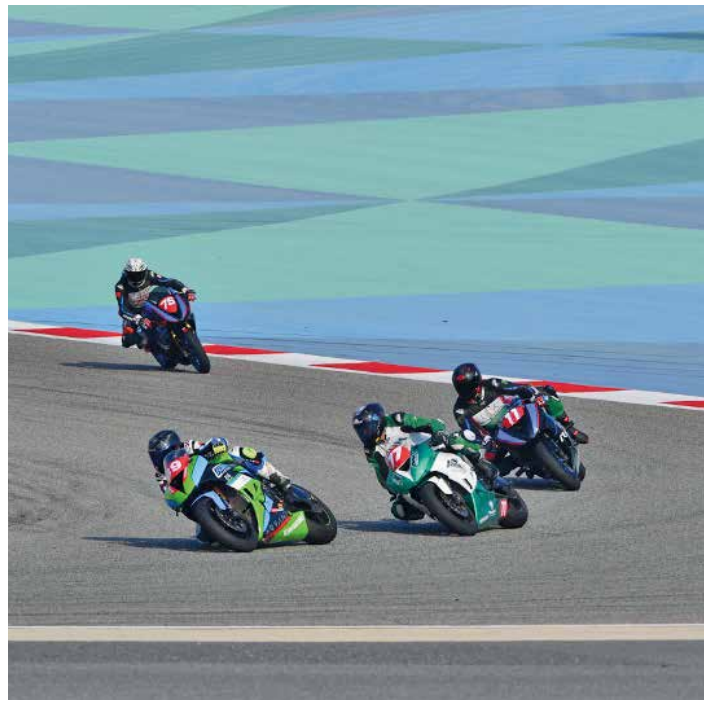


Cars in action at BIC (file photo)

countryman and current second-placer Julian Hanses, who is on 170 points. A further two points behind is JB Simmenauer of France, while Saul Hack of South Africa is fourth with 163 points and Richard Wagner from Austria is fifth with 147 points. Jesse Van Kuijk from the Netherlands rounds out the overall top six with 129 points.

All of the leading group, aside from Hanses and Hack, are on the 14-car provisional entry list for this round.

Koehler, Simmenauer and Wagner are all competing in the series' Pro category, where they will be joined on the grid at BIC by David Beckmann of Germany and Dylan Pereira of Luxembourg; while Van Kui-



Bikes in action during BMR 600 race (file photo)

jk is competing in the ProAm along with fellow-Dutch drivers Daan Van Kuijk and Lucas Groenveld, Christoffer Bergstrom of Sweden and Shaikh Ali bin Mohammed Al Khalifa of Bahrain.

The remainder of the entry list is made up of competitors in the Am class, including Jean Marc Cordier of France, Michael

Doppelmayer of Austria, Michael Knutzon of Sweden and Shaikh Jaber bin Ali Al Khalifa.

Meanwhile, the BIC 2,000cc Challenge is set to feature a 17-car grid for its sixth and penultimate meeting of the season.

Following the first five rounds, there is a close two-horse race in the front with Shaikh Salman

bin Isa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa leading in his Honda Civic with 175 points, just four ahead of Ahmed bin Khanen who drives a Honda Civic EG4.

Then, not far behind are Mohammed Faqih, also in a Civic, with 152 points and Raed Raffii in a Honda S2000 with 148 points. Tareq Al Tajer is fifth with 135 points in his Ford Focus, and Nasser Al Alawi is sixth in a Honda S2000 with 115 points. Each of the top six are competing in the 2,000cc's Pro class.

Leading the Novice category is Andreas Buelow with 61 points, a mere two points from Husain Al Ghanem. Both are driving Civics.

All are set to suit up this Speed Weekend. The rest of the grid includes Majed Himmo (Civic), Raed Himmo (Civic), Mohammed Janahi (Honda DC5) and Shaikh Hamad bin Isa bin Ebrahim Al Khalifa (Civic) in the Pro class; and Bassim Al Alawi (Honda CRX), Ali Al Bahrani (Civic), Wiebke Buelow (Civic), Ali Toblani (Mini Cooper) and Shaikh Abdulla Al Khalifa (BMW Z3) in the Novice category.

Speed Weekend is also set to feature action in the Bahrain Motorcycle Racing (BMR) 600.