

1895

The Republic of Formosa collapses as **Japanese** forces invade.

1910

HMS Niobe arrives in Halifax Harbour to become the first ship of the **Royal Canadian Navy**.

1912

First Balkan War: **Kardzhali** is liberated by Bulgarian forces.



1921

President **Warren G. Harding** delivers the first speech by a sitting U.S. President against lynching in the deep South.



Pakistani journalists have always been boisterous taking on military dictators and civilian rulers who have tried to curb their freedoms. They were out on the streets again last week.

scale and sophistication.

Four years ago, after Hamid Mir, arguably the country's most well-known television journalist, was shot six times in Karachi, his brother accused the chief of the military spy agency, known as the ISI, of ordering the hit. The military establishment turned on the Geo TV network, where Mir worked, and the Jang media group for maligning the ISI.

Seven years ago, Syed Saleem Shahzad, a reporter who had exposed suspected connections between the Pakistani navy and terrorists, was found dead in a canal. A judicial commission that probed the incident didn't reach any conclusion, but it recommended reforming the intelligence agencies. Those reforms haven't taken place, but the intelligence agencies have found ways to control the media without having to resort to physical violence. Newspaper distributors are told not to deliver the paper. TV shows keep disappearing as cable operators are instructed over the phone to take them off the air.

Pakistani journalists have always been boisterous taking on military dictators and civilian rulers who have tried to curb their freedoms. They were out on the streets again

last week. But about the same time that they were protesting, a delegation of media owners was being briefed by the army's spokesman on how to report on national security.

At the heart of the Pakistani establishment's idea of national security is a self-aggrandising notion of respect. Almeida refers to the army as "the boys," sometimes cheekily. The establishment thinks he's not respectful enough. It asks: Why did he call the army chief, not Gen. Raheel Sharif, but just Sharif? A prime minister tells Almeida, on the record, that he has different ideas from theirs about national security? How dare he go write that up in a newspaper just under the picture of our founding father?

For now, it seems the new censorship is working. Urdu journalists are writing about national politics in parables. Current affairs programs criticising the army are routinely dropped at the last moment. Reporters seen as critical of the army are losing their jobs. Ghazi Salahuddin, one of Pakistan's most senior journalists, recently said that he has never seen such restrictions on the media here. He has been a working journalist for a half-century and through three military dictatorships.

Dawn's first editor-in-chief, Altaf Hussain, once wrote that Jinnah, the paper's founder, never gave him any editorial directive — that he "never said 'Do this' or 'Don't do that.' In fact, he told me to study a given situation and form my honest and independent opinion on it, and then to write fearlessly what I thought." If Jinnah were alive today, he probably wouldn't be able to write what he thought in the paper he founded.

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son charges.

interview confirming his differences with the generals. And now Almeida faces criminal and possibly treason charges simply for writing that a three-time prime minister said that Pakistan shouldn't be a staging ground for terrorist attacks on another country.

But he isn't the one who is a threat to the nation.

The persecution of Almeida is now the center of a clampdown on Pakistani media unprecedented in

on culture

and resources in the arts

course, is film, and, in the last two decades, Palestinians have built a robust, internationally recognised cinema. While there are some recurring refrains, the narratives in the films are not delivering a monotonous dialogue, neither in pitch or content. "Wajib," a new feature by the Palestinian-born director Annemarie Jacir about the generational and political differences between a father and a son, offers complexities of Palestinian perspectives that are not often seen or heard.

Jacir, whose films were recently on view at BAM in a mini retrospective, is one of the many Palestinians who understand the power that culture can yield. In 2003, she curated a festival of Palestinian films at Columbia University, which resulted in a book with a preface by Edward Said. Recently, alongside her sister, the award-winning artist Emily Jacir (whose solo exhibition is currently on view at Alexander and Bonin in New York), she has transformed her family's 128-year-old home in Bethlehem into an arts hub.

While those involved in this

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cultural mission are proud of the movement's independence, its organic growth and the increasing sense of camaraderie and solidarity that accompanies it, many would like the Palestinian government to do more to help. Jacir said she "received a small but symbolic support from the Palestinian Ministry of Culture" for "Wajib."

That's unlikely to change now that the United States has decided to withdraw the more than \$200 million in aid to Palestini-

ans, which many educational and humanitarian institutions depend on. Yet it is important for the Palestinian authorities to continue to designate a portion of their budget — as "symbolic" as it may be — to the invaluable contribution of Palestinian artists and filmmakers. At a time when the status quo between Israeli and Palestinians seems intractable, such works supply visual documentation of Palestinian concerns and a more measured portrayal of the conditions under which they exist.

It's true that there is little precedent to suggest that national arts movements alone are capable of bringing about political change. But such cultural undertakings should be viewed as an essential component of the road to peace, one that provides vital possibilities for engagement, participation and cooperation among the generations of Palestinians who, individually and collectively, are painting distinct pictures of their myriad realities.

(Nana Asfour is an editor in The New York Times Opinion section.)



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



If the Democrats would stop being obstructionists and come together, we could write up and agree to new immigration laws in less than one hour. Look at the needless pain and suffering that they are causing. Look at the horrors taking place on the Border. Chuck & Nancy, call me!

@realDonaldTrump

02



Crowd reaching Parliament Square ahead of 570,000 demanding a final #Brexit say on #PeoplesVoteMarch - great to see so many MPs here from across the parties, albeit if from the backbenches

@ChrisLeslieMP

03



Have you noticed, #Brexit fans have given up claiming that it'll be easy, good for the economy, save money, enable better tradedeals, etc?

The only justification they still give is that it's the will of the people.

In which case, best to check that it still is!

#PeoplesVote

@RCorbettMEP

04



Respect and thanks to everyone on the #PeoplesMarch today. Wish I could be there marching alongside you. For all our sakes, shout it loud and proud, we deserve a say on the final #brexit deal and the future of our country.

@peoplesvote_uk

@jginorton

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

HH Shaikh Nasser, Bahrain's youth icon



CAPT. MAHMOOD AL MAHMOOD

With a youth demographic of close to 70 per cent, (15-24 years: 15.65pc and 25-54 years: 56.04pc), the Kingdom of Bahrain is a young nation. And in HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, what a hero, our youth have got to honour and emulate. As President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee, His Highness has always led by example, offering his active and physically gruelling life in the international sporting arena as an example for a healthy life.

And now, by turning in an incredible performance and winning the Ironman World Championship 2018 in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii in his category, he has put the spotlight on Bahrain in the finest way possible, showcasing the aspirations of its people and showing the world that the Kingdom is willing and able to compete and win among the very best in the whole world.

The Ironman World Championship brings together the world's best endurance athletes in a competition that presents the ultimate test of body, mind and spirit to earn the title.

An endurance athlete and accomplished long-distance triathlete, HH Shaikh Nasser

believes in leading the people of Bahrain by example and has always sought to demonstrate that through triathlon and sports participation, one can aspire to peak fitness and also train the mind to accomplish great things in every sphere.

Besides professional athletes, these days we see many high-achievers in different circles take to sport for fitness and also for mental strength. In his role as a fitness and endurance sports champion, HH Shaikh Nasser has cleared the track for future champions to raise the flag of Bahrain

Inspired by the vision of His Majesty the King, HRH the Prime Minister and HRH the Crown Prince, here is a youth leader and icon whose dedication to his nation represents the future of Bahrain.

on the podium.

Little wonder that under his watch as the Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, the Kingdom's athletes have put in the best ever performance in the history of the Asian Games this year, winning 26 medals in total (12 gold, 7 silver, 7 bronze) — the 11th ranked overall out of 45 countries.

Such a score and medal tally means that the government of Bahrain and its leaders are giving gifted athletes every opportunity and support to excel.

Excellence in sports represents so much more than mere physical fitness. Its about mental strength too and the will to succeed and place oneself at the service of the nation.

HH Shaikh Nasser's capacity to push himself beyond the normal levels of human endurance is now a benchmark of his commitment to inspire and encourage all the sportspeople in the country — indeed, it goes beyond the sporting arena because his concern touches all areas.

Inspired by the vision of His Majesty the King, HRH the Prime Minister and HRH the Crown Prince, here is a youth leader and icon whose dedication to his nation represents the future of Bahrain.

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