

**Bahrain wrap up best handball worlds**

Kingdom's senior men's national team claim their highest-ever final classification in history of IHF Men's Handball World Championship | P12

WORLD 6 Russian Wagner boss acknowledges comparison with Rasputin



Madonna admits to 'struggling' with understanding motherhood

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BUSINESS 5 Oil prices hit 7-week high on stronger China outlook

**UK imposes new Iran sanctions over 'brutal repression'**

London

Britain sanctioned more Iranian individuals and entities yesterday over the country's "brutal repression" of its people, including a crackdown on anti-government protests, and the recent execution of British-Iranian dual national Alireza Akbari.

The sanctions included an asset freeze on Iranian deputy prosecutor general Ahmad Fazelian, who the British foreign office said was responsible for an unfair judicial system that used the death penalty for political purposes.

"Those sanctioned today, from the judicial figures using the death penalty for political ends to the thugs beating protesters on the streets, are at the heart of the regime's brutal repression of the Iranian people," British foreign minister James Cleverly said in a statement.

**'World's worst' McDonald's to shut down**

Ottawa

A McDonald's restaurant in Ottawa, Canada, dubbed the "world's worst McDonald's", is shutting shop after 38 years.

Located on Rideau Street, the outlet grabbed headlines in 2013 after a viral video showed a man pulling out a raccoon from his sweater amidst a brawl involving over 15 people in the restaurant.

The outlet will officially close in April 2023 as it has decided not to renew the lease.

**Ex-FBI official held**

New York

Former top FBI official, Charles McGonigal, was arrested over the weekend on accusations he worked for sanctioned Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska, prosecutors said yesterday. He faces four counts including sanctions violations and money laundering.

# HM King praises BDF 'patriotism'

Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces visits BDF General Command

● His Majesty commends steady progress in armament and training

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa expressed his pride in Bahrain's defense staff and their competence, and noted their constant keenness to carry the out patriotic tasks entrusted to them with courage and determination.

HM the King, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, hailed the efforts exerted by the Bahrain Defense Force (BDF) with determination and sincerity to preserve Bahrain's successful progress achieved through the unity and solidarity

of Bahraini citizens and wished them further success.

This came as His Majesty visited the General Command of the BDF yesterday.

Upon arrival, HM King Hamad was welcomed by the BDF Commander-in-Chief, Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, National Security Advisor, Royal Guard Commander, Major-General His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Royal Guard's Special Force Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Chief of Staff of the BDF, Lieutenant-General Dheyab bin Saqr Al Nuaimi, and senior BDF officers.

During the visit, HM the King was briefed on plans and programs for the development of various units and praised its steady progress in the fields of armament and training.



He lauded the good organization of the graduation ceremony held under HM's patronage of the 15th batch of officer candi-



HM the King meets senior BDF officers



The Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces praised the programs and specialised courses of the BDF in all fields and military sciences at the hands of the best qualified trainers and through the latest advanced methods.

dates "Al Qadisiyah" at Isa Royal Military College.

HM the King wished the graduates success in their patriotic duties alongside the valiant officers.

The Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces praised the programs and specialised courses of the BDF in all fields and

military sciences at the hands of the best qualified trainers and through the latest advanced methods.

He also hailed exchanging experiences and expertise and enhancing competencies through joint military exercises regularly conducted with other countries.

## Bahrain unemployment rate down 5.4% in 2022

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet yesterday reviewed a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Labour, regarding the latest developments in employment and training for 2022 within the Economic Recovery Plan.

The memorandum outlined a decrease in the unemployment rate from 7.7% in 2021 to 5.4% in December 2022.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Cabinet reviewed a memorandum of the Ministerial Committee for Social Services



HRH Prince Salman chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting

on the latest developments in the Health Insurance Scheme, "SEHATI".

It also reviewed a memorandum submitted by the Minister of Cabinet Affairs, following up on the performance of government agencies across the "Sijilat", "Tawasul", and "Benayat"

systems in 2022, which remain vital indicators of government service efficiency.

The memorandum demonstrated advanced performance levels in the "Tawasul" system, where 53 government agencies received more than 179,421 submissions, inquiries, and com-

plaints, and of which 99.3% of cases have been addressed in the specified timeframe.

Regarding the "Benayat" system, 2,309 requests were received, and none of which exceeded the time limit specified in the service level agreement. With regards to "Sijilat", there

were 169,528 requests received with an SLA compliance rate of 99%.

The Cabinet highlighted the importance of the discussions held between His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and the UAE President His Highness Shaikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during His Majesty's visit to the UAE.

On the occasion of International Day of Education, the Cabinet congratulated Bahrain's educational professionals, highlighting their critical role in contributing to the country's education sector, one of many sectors under the Kingdom's comprehensive development, led by His Majesty the King.

220 fils (includes VAT)



## Memorandum on student academic code of conduct



HRH Prince Salman chairs the Cabinet meeting

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet yesterday approved a memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs regarding a draft decision on the issuance of a student academic code of conduct for all educational levels across all public schools.

The Cabinet, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, took note of ministerial reports regarding the Bahrain Diplomatic Day and the 2023 Diplomatic Forum.

It also discussed the following:

- The outcomes of the visit of the Minister of Labour to the Ministry of Human Resources

- and Emiratisation in the United Arab Emirates
- The outcomes of the participation in the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week
- The visit of the Minister of Legal Affairs to the United Arab Emirates
- The outcomes of the meeting of the International Renewable Energy Agency
- The participation of the Kingdom's delegation in the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2023
- The conclusion of the first semester of the 2022-2023 academic year
- The participation in the ministerial meeting of the International Mining Conference

# Value of local product exports down by 6%

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's value of exports of national origin has decreased by 6% to reach BD1.121 billion during fourth quarter of 2022, down from BD1.192 billion for the same period of the previous year.

The value of imports increased by 0.3%, reaching BD1.410 billion during fourth quarter 2022 compared with BD1.406 billion for the same quarter of the previous year.

The Information & Government Authority (IGA) released its foreign trade report of Fourth quarter 2022, encom-

passing data on the balance of trade, imports, exports (national origin), and re-exports.

The trade balance, difference between exports and imports, recorded a deficit of BD88 million during fourth quarter 2022 compared with BD59 million for the same quarter of the previous year, with a growth of 50%.

### Top 10 countries

The top 10 countries in terms of the value of exports of national origin purchased from Bahrain accounted for 73% of the total value, with the remaining countries accounting for 27%.

Saudi Arabia ranked first

among countries receiving Bahraini exports of national origin, importing BD261 million from Bahrain. The UAE was second with BD126 million and the US third with BD110 million.

Unwrought aluminum alloys emerged as the top products exported during fourth quarter 2022 with BD325 million, agglomerated iron ores and concentrates alloyed was second with a value of BD177 million, and unwrought aluminum not alloyed third with BD83 million.

The top 10 countries accounted for 69% of the value of imports, while the remaining countries accounting for 31%.

China ranked first when it came to imports with a total value of BD183 million, the UAE was second with BD133 million, and Brazil third with BD131 million.

Non-agglomerated iron ores and concentrates emerged as the top product imported into Bahrain with a total value of BD153 million, while aluminum oxide was second with BD97 million, and gold ingots third with BD47 million.

The total value of re-exports increased by 29% to reach BD200 million during fourth quarter 2022, compared with BD155 million for the same quarter of the previous year.

## Focus on ways to promote King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award



Participants in the meeting

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom is committed to exploring ways to promote the King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award.

This was emphasised by Youth Affairs Minister Rawan bint Najeeb Tawfiqi as he met with the Foreign Affairs Ministry Organizations Section Acting Head, Hamad Waheed Sayyar.

Tawfiqi affirmed that the award aims to achieve sustainable development goals in vari-

ous international forums in the youth sector and demonstrate the Kingdom's pioneering role in achieving international objectives.

The minister stressed the achievements made by the King Hamad Youth Empowerment Award to achieve sustainable development goals.

The award is considered the first of its kind globally and represents the belief of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa in the youth to lead the world towards a better future of peace



A total of 6,176 individuals participated in the award and youth-supporting institutions presenting their work and projects and represented 122 countries.

and prosperity.

Tawfiqi stressed the award's international role in the youth and sustainable development field.

"The cooperation between the two ministries seeks to enhance the award's achievements

by promoting it in various international forums and meetings while ensuring the participation of various countries, youth groups, institutions, and civil organisations in the award's next edition," the minister said.

## BDF-Ministry coordination



Bahrain Defense Force (BDF) Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa received Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Abdullah bin Rashid Al Zayani. The meeting reviewed coordination between the BDF and the ministry.

## Push to encourage investments in Bahrain higher education sector



Dr Shaikha Rana with Prof Abdulghaffar and Dr Al Hamad

TDT | Manama

The Higher Education Council (HEC) and Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) discussed cooperation to develop education and encourage investments in the sector of higher education.

It is part of the development goals led by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the 2023 Bahrain Economic Vision.

This came as the HEC Sec-

retary General, HEC Board of Trustees' Deputy Chairperson, Dr Shaikha Rana bint Isa bin Daij Al Khalifa, received yesterday BCCI Education and Training Committee Chairman Professor Youssef Abdulghaffar, in the presence of committee member Dr Bassam Al Hamad.

Dr Shaikha Rana stressed continued efforts to achieve the aspirations of the Government, chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, through sup-

porting economic development and the diversification of sources of revenues.

She underscored the importance of consolidating cooperation with the chamber to encourage investments in the sector of higher education and develop education tourism.

Prof Abdulghaffar stressed the committee's plan to coordinate with higher education institutions and support their academic programmes and qualifications at the international level to attract students.

## Bahrain-Turkey diplomacy



Advisor to His Majesty the King for Diplomatic Affairs Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammad Al Khalifa received Bahrain's Ambassador to Turkey, Ibrahim Youssef Al Abdullah. Shaikh Khalid expressed his appreciation to Ambassador Al Abdullah for his efforts in promoting cooperation with Turkey, and wished him continued success. The Ambassador thanked the Advisor for his care and support.

## Community partnership



Southern Governor His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Ali Al Khalifa received member of the Council of Representatives Dr Mohammed Al Husaini. HH the Southern Governor reviewed the needs of citizens. MP Dr Al Husaini praised the active role of HH the Southern Governor in boosting community partnership with the competent parties.

# Unesco-King Hamad award application deadline extended

TDT | Manama

The application deadline for the 2022 Unesco-King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa Prize for the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Education has been extended to Friday,

February 3, 2023 to provide an opportunity for the largest number of people to participate in the award.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco) made the announcement yesterday.

The award, in its new cycle, is themed “The use of public platforms to ensure inclusive access to digital education content.”

It will recognise three innovative solutions that have contributed to providing public and all-inclusive digital education.

It will reward projects that have made public digital learning platforms and e-content available for all, locally and universally, in addition to initiatives that have helped to develop knowledge and digital skills for teachers, and facilitated elec-

tronic communication across the world in the field of education. Eligible projects shall be ongoing for at least one year. They should not be affiliated to or financed by Unesco. In addition, the technology tools they use should be open and free.



## Meeting discusses ways to help Bahrainis find jobs in private sector



Humaidan with Al Romaihi

TDT | Manama

The Labour Ministry and Council of Representatives discussed initiatives and projects to assist Bahrainis seeking jobs in the private sector and the continuous efforts to build a healthy work environment.

This came as Labour Minister Jameel bin Mohammed Ali

Humaidan met with Council of Representatives member Abdullah Khalifa Al Romaihi yesterday.

The meeting affirmed the importance of the Council's role in developing national legislation related to the ministry's fields of work.

It also highlighted the co-operation efforts to achieve sustainable development.

# Performance-enhancing drugs' side effects 'outweigh' benefits

Multivitamins and protein shakes are risk-free nutrient supplements

● Experts warn against using PEDs as they can affect organs

Zahra Ayaz

TDT | Manama

Health experts have warned against using performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs), commonly available in all significant e-commerce sites used by fitness freaks to develop strength and muscles.

According to sources, while some PEDs increase performance for fitness athletes, it's usually expensive. In addition, the side effects often outweigh the benefits and can affect many organs, including the liver, heart, and hormonal issues.

The main issue with nutritional supplements is that most of them need to be regulated by the FDA since it is challenging for the common man to find the content in the Drug.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Moayyed Feroze, Coach and Co-founder of Healthy Conscience, said, “Since PEDs are unsafe and impact hormones, I would not advise anyone to take them.”

“Doctors use PEDs for clinical purposes. Therefore, it would be best if you didn't take them unless your doctor prescribed



them because doing so could have severe and even fatal adverse effects.

“The modern diet does not provide the body with all the nutrients it needs, especially in this region where there are fewer naturally grown foods because of the climate.

“Multivitamins and protein shakes are risk-free supplements that everyone should take because they are packed with nutrients and do not interfere with the body's hormonal processes.

He pointed out that everyone should drink protein shakes, even those who don't exercise or aren't interested in fitness. Protein drink contains no fat, and we don't get enough protein these days even though we eat meat, poultry, and fish.

Protein is necessary for older people, especially vegetarians. Even people with acidity and digestive issues can safely take

protein drinks. Obese people can lose weight by substituting a protein shake with a big meal.

Earlier, The Daily Tribune reported a similar case where many gym and fitness experts were promoting various supplements in the Kingdom for easy results apart from workouts.

Meanwhile, Vinod Maloor, a fitness expert based in the Kingdom, told The Daily Tribune that avoiding drugs for weight gain and loss is ideal. “I have been advising everyone to practice yoga, physical exercises and a nutritious diet. There are no shortcuts, and the focus should be better health without any negative side-effects.”

He said every human body is not the same, and its response to a specific drug would also be different. “Fat-burning pills, liquids, steroids, testosterone injections and other weight gain or weight loss drugs are a big business now. Serious aware-



**Since PEDs are unsafe and impact hormones, I would not advise anyone to take them. Doctors use PEDs for clinical purposes. Therefore, it would be best if you don't take them unless your doctor prescribed them because doing so could have severe and even fatal adverse effects**

MOAYYED FEROE, COACH AND CO-FOUNDER OF HEALTHY CONSCIENCE

## COURT STORY

# Bahraini man on trial for using lost ID card to con construction company

TDT | Manama

A 29-year-old Bahraini man is facing fraud and forgery charges after posing as the ID holder to rent construction equipment using it.

Investigation revealed that the suspect found the missing card of another Bahrain man and used it to sign a contract with a construction company.

The company worker who delivered the equipment to him at the contract signing was able to identify the accused.

He was referred to Public Prosecution where he was charged, on June 17, 2021, under the Northern Governorate Security Department, with unlawful usage of the victim's ID to rent the construction equipment.

He also committed forgery in an official document by

signing the rental contract. The prosecution referred him to the High Criminal Court which began hearing the case.

His trial was postponed to allow the defence obtain a copy of the papers and to submit the pleading.

The victim was surprised by a notice stating that he hadn't paid for construction equipment rented under a contract with a company that filed a complaint against him to collect the owed amount, estimated at BD600.

He denied the incident, and investigations revealed that he lost his ID card on the date the contract was signed. The suspect found the card and used it to con the company.

The construction company submitted a report stating that a man rented equipment for BD600 which he failed to pay.

## Intensified inspection campaign



The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) conducted three inspection campaigns on a number of shops and work sites in the Capital, Muharraq and Northern Governorates. Two joint inspection campaigns were conducted in the Muharraq Governorate in coordination with the Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) and the Governorate's respective Police Directorate.

# 146th IPU Assembly media coverage reviewed

TDT | Manama

A meeting was held to discuss the detailed plan for media coverage of the 146th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), which the Kingdom is hosting on March 11-15.

The national organising committee of the event – the largest international parliamentary gathering to be held in Bahrain – and its related meetings, chaired by the First Deputy Chairman of the Shura Council, Jamal Mohammed Fakhro, yesterday met with the National Communication Centre (NCC)'s Chief Executive Officer, Yousif Al Binkhalil, and a number of its representatives, in the presence of the panel's media team.

Fakhro affirmed the committee's keenness to coordinate with various media agencies and institutions, to highlight this significant global parliamentary event, and ensure comprehensive and distinguished media coverage.

He praised NCC's tremendous and continuous efforts to project images of success and excellence



The meeting in progress

of Bahrain in a way that reflects its status and sustainable progress in various fields, locally and internationally.

Al Binkhalil reviewed the media work mechanisms within the established detailed plan, affirming that all NCC's capabilities will

be harnessed to highlight the 146th IPU Assembly and related meetings and ensure the success of the coverage.

# Unique Philippine Festival to celebrate Filipinos' 'community life' in Kingdom

Philippine Embassy to commemorate 45 years of diplomatic relations with Bahrain

TDT | Manama

The Philippine Embassy will be holding a unique "Philippine Festival" from 26 to 28 January at the Oasis Mall in Juffair to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the Philippines-Bahrain diplomatic relations this year.

This was announced by Philippine Embassy Chargé d' Affaires Anne Jalando-on Louis.

The embassy is partnering with event organiser Brand Sync, as well as with Oasis Mall, in holding this three-day event, starting with its official launch on 26 January at 5 pm.

"The festival is the first activity we will be organising to mark the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and the Kingdom of Bahrain this year," Louis said.

"Even though diplomatic ties between the Philippines

and Bahrain were established 45 years ago, we are aware that there had already been relationships between Filipinos and Bahrainis before this.

"Up to this moment, we have developed good bilateral ties with our Bahraini friends over a long period of time. We hope that after the pandemic crisis, both sides would continue to work to rekindle bilateral collaboration in many areas, particularly labour matters, which are obviously very important to the Philippines, as well as trade investments. These areas include education, health, culture, and the arts."

The Chargé d' Affaires added that aside from the entertainment and performances, there will be booths set up outside the car park of Oasis Mall where they will be selling traditional Filipino foods and other items.

"Our Bahraini friends and other expatriates can sample Filipino food and cuisine at this



Chargé d' Affaires Anne Jalando-on Louis

festival as well. We'll also have numerous booths there selling goods from the Philippines," she said.

"In addition to their stalls, on January 27, we will host an art display. The 27th and 28th of January will see this take place within the mall. We will have a game, the 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, on Friday, July 27, at 10:00 a.m. Partnership with the Filipino Club Basketball Group is involved in this. We

Up to this moment, we have developed good bilateral ties with our Bahraini friends over a long period of time. We hope that after the pandemic crisis, both sides would continue to work to rekindle bilateral collaboration in many areas, particularly labour matters, which are obviously very important to the Philippines, as well as trade investments. These areas include education, health, culture, and the arts

have invited everybody who would be interested to attend this event, not just Filipinos."

There will also be a Zumba session, bazaar, live performances, various family activities and an art exhibit with a "Kid's Craft Corner" in collaboration with the Filipino Creatives Bahrain.

There is no entrance fee to the festival and everyone is welcome to attend. The Chargé d' Affaires said: "We hope that many Filipinos, as well as our Bahraini

friends and members of other communities, would take part in this unique event. We have a strong support system and a sense of 'community life' whenever Filipinos travel abroad, thus I believe it is crucial that we band together as a community.

"Instilling a newfound love of nation and patriotism in us, in my opinion, will serve to remind us of how rich our culture and traditions are. Festivals and fiestas play an important role

in Filipino culture," CDA Louis stressed.

"This festival is a manifestation of how Filipinos celebrate life, despite the challenges that come to our lives. It also shows how rich we are, in terms of our music, dances, and arts and how much we have to offer the world.

"As an introduction to the Philippines, for instance, particularly for some of our Bahraini friends, many of whom have not yet travelled there. Therefore, we are showing to them who we are as a nation and a people through the festivals.

"We look forward to everyone participating in this festival. As I have mentioned, this is simply the first of our events for this year. There will be many more in the months to come. I am inviting everyone to keep tuned to our social media pages, our Facebook and Instagram and our website, for announcements on our forthcoming activities after the festival," she said.

## NPRA launches new website

TDT | Manama

Interior Ministry Undersecretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA), Shaikh Hisham bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa launched the new NPRA website yesterday during the periodic meeting with the NPRA Assistant Undersecretaries and directors.

The website <https://www.npra.gov.bh> meets technological development to enable clients to access services and information through new designs that could be logged in through smartphones.

He highlighted that the website is part of the 25 initiatives launched by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, as part of the economic recovery to meet the inspirations of the government and Bahrain's economic vision 2030.



Shaikh Hisham hailed the directives of Interior Minister Shaikh Rashid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa to promote digital transformation and the use of technology.

He asserted the dedication of the NPRA to facilitate all procedures, speed up the processing of services and the continuation of the development operations.

## BAS to plant 79 neem trees along Hatim Al Taie Avenue

TDT | Manama



Shaikha Maram with BAS officials and employees at the site

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Airport Services company (BAS) will contribute to the National Afforestation Campaign, "Forever Green" by planting 79 neem trees along 1,031 linear metres along the Hatim Al Taie Avenue in the Muharraq Governorate.

This was announced by the

National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD), in partnership with the Ministry of Municipalities' Affairs and Agriculture and the Supreme Council for the Environment.

This kind initiative of BAS is within the ongoing efforts of the National Afforestation Campaign to mobilise national efforts and coordinate with the four municipalities and

private institutions to contribute to achieving the environmental goals of the Kingdom of reaching carbon neutrality by 2060.

The planting site was inaugurated in the presence of NIAD Secretary-General, Shaikha Maram bint Isa Al Khalifa, BAS Board of Directors Chairman, Nabeel Khalid Kanoo, Chief Central Support Officer, Fahad

Al Qadhi, and Chief Human Capital Officer, Hana Abdullwahed.

A number of BAS employees also attended the ceremony to contribute to planting seedlings based on the national role that BAS adopts in supporting and strengthening the agricultural and environmental sector to achieve sustainable development goals.

## Universities cooperation



University of Bahrain (UoB) President, Dr Jawaher Shaheen Al Mudhahka, received yesterday the German Ambassador to Bahrain, Clemens Hach. Dr Al Mudhahka discussed with the envoy ways to enhance cooperation in several available fields, including facilitating the process of concluding scientific and research agreements and exchanging academic expertise between UoB and with German universities. The Ambassador praised UoB's scientific and research role, stressing his keenness to enhance cooperation, and strengthen relations, to achieve the maximum possible scientific and research benefit with the countries of the world.

## Walkway inspection



The Director General of the Municipality of the Southern Region, Eng. Asim Abdul Latif Abdullah, and the municipal member representing the First District, Abdullah Saleh Darraj, made an inspection tour of the Madinat Zayed walkway, in the presence of a number of officials and engineers. The latest construction developments in the walkway were inspected, including the bicycle track. This project is part of the plan of the Ministry of Municipalities Affairs and Agriculture to develop walkways.

# Oil prices hit 7-week high on stronger China outlook

● Brent, US crude hit highest since early December

● G7 seeks two price caps for Russian oil products

● India's crude imports hit 5-month high in December

Reuters | New York

Oil prices rose by around 1% on Monday to a seven-week high, extending last week's gains on the back of a stronger outlook thanks to an expected economic recovery in top oil importer China this year.

Brent crude was up \$1.28, or 1.5%, at \$88.91 a barrel at 11:06 a.m. EST (1606 GMT). The session high was \$88.99 a barrel, highest since Dec. 1.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude rose 76 cents, or 0.9%, to \$82.40. The session high was \$82.64 a barrel, highest since Dec. 5.

Last week Brent rose 2.8% while the US benchmark logged a 1.8% gain.

Asian trading was slower because of the Lunar New Year holiday, but analysts said that optimism over China's reopening is likely to drive oil prices



Pumpjacks are seen during sunset at the Daqing oil field in Heilongjiang province, China

higher.

Sukrit Vijayakar, director of Mumbai-based energy consultancy Trifecta, said the market wants to preserve long positions in case Chinese growth resumes.

Data shows a solid pick-up in travel in China after COVID-19 curbs were eased, ANZ commodity analysts said in a note, pointing out that road traffic congestion in the country's 15 key cities so far this month is up 22% from the same period last year.

Crude oil prices in much of the world's physical markets have started the year with a ral-

ly as China has shown signs of more buying and traders have worried that sanctions on Russia could tighten supply.

"While the (China) reopening itself will no doubt prove to be complicated, particularly over the holiday season, early indications suggest there has been a rise in activity, meaning the economy could perform better," said OANDA analyst Craig Erlam.

Brent is expected to move back into a range between \$90 and \$100 as the oil market tightens, Erlam said.

The European Union and Group of Seven (G7) coalition will cap prices of Russian re-

financed products from Feb. 5, in addition to the price cap on Russian crude in place since December and an EU embargo on imports of Russian crude by sea.

The G7 has agreed to delay a review of the level of the price cap on Russian oil to March, a month later than originally planned, to provide time to assess the impact of the oil products price cap.

In India, crude oil imports rose to a five-month high in December, government data showed on Monday, as refiners stocked up discounted Russian fuel amid a steady increase in consumption in the country.

## NBB and JCB now accepts JCB Cards through POS & E-Commerce Merchants

TDI | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) and JCB International Co., Ltd., the international operations subsidiary of JCB Co., Ltd., Japan's only international payment brand, have signed an agreement to enable JCB payment acceptance at the bank's POS and e-commerce merchants in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The signing ceremony was recently held at NBB Headquarters in the presence of NBB and JCB representatives.

The partnership with JCB, will provide cardholders from mainly Asian markets with greater convenience, allowing them to enjoy the usage of their JCB Cards at all NBB merchant outlets across the Kingdom.

Hisham AlKurdi, Group Chief Executive - Corporate & Institutional Investment Banking at NBB, said: "This partnership is a step forward to increase JCB Card acceptance in the Kingdom through NBB POS and Payment Gateway channels as well as strengthening cross-country relations, improving accessibility and

The partnership with JCB, will provide cardholders from mainly Asian markets with greater convenience, allowing them to enjoy the usage of their JCB Cards at all NBB merchant outlets across the Kingdom.

enhancing branch capability to better reach all citizens and residents for a more enhanced service."

Yoshiki Kaneko, President and COO of JCB International Co., Ltd., said: "This partnership will enhance our offering for convenience of cardholders in the Kingdom and cater for both the business and touristic needs of our cardholders worldwide."

JCB is a major global payment brand and a leading payment card issuer and acquirer in Japan with more than 150 million cardholders. Its acceptance network includes about 41 million merchants around the world.

## Egypt signs \$1.5 billion financing agreement with ITFC, CNBC Arabia reports

Reuters

Egypt has signed a \$1.5 billion financing agreement with the International Islamic Trade Finance Corporation to fund its trading, including imports of energy products and essential commodities, *CNBC Arabia* wrote on *Twitter*, citing the head of the corporation.

Egypt's Planning Minister Hala al-Saeed said at a signing ceremony in Cairo that the financing cooperation portfolio between Egypt and the corporation totals \$14.5 billion so far, according to a statement by the Planning Ministry posted on its account on Facebook.

She added that the latest signing comes within the framework agreement concluded between Egypt and the ITFC in 2018 that was renewed last year for an additional five

Last year Egypt signed a similar agreement also worth \$1.5 bn with the ITFC, which is headquartered in Jeddah in Saudi Arabia and often funds Egypt's commodities imports, including grains and petroleum.

years, with an amendment to the credit limit of the agreement from \$3 to \$6 billion.

Egypt recently agreed to a \$3 bn IMF support package as it faces a currency crunch exacerbated by Russia's war in Ukraine, pushing up its bills for wheat and oil while dealing a blow to its tourist numbers from both nations. Tourism is a key source of hard currency for Egypt.

## Spotify to cut 6% of jobs, content head to depart

Reuters

Spotify Technology SA (SPOT.N) said yesterday it plans to cut 6% of its workforce and would take a related charge of up to nearly \$50 million, that would add to the massive layoffs in the technology sector in preparation for a possible recession.

The tech industry is facing a demand downturn after two years of pandemic-powered growth during which it had



hired aggressively. That has led firms from Meta Platforms Inc (META.O) to Microsoft Corp (MSFT.O) to shed thousands of jobs.

"Over the last few months we've made a considerable ef-

fort to rein in costs, but it simply hasn't been enough," Chief Executive Daniel Elk said in a blog post announcing the roughly 600 job cuts.

"I was too ambitious in investing ahead of our revenue growth," he added, echoing a sentiment voiced by other tech bosses in recent months.

Spotify's operating expenditure grew at twice the speed of its revenue last year as the audio-streaming company aggressively poured money into its

podcast business, which is more attractive for advertisers due to higher engagement levels.

At the same time, businesses pulled back on ad spending on the platform, mirroring a trend seen at Meta and Google parent Alphabet Inc (GOOGL.O), as rapid interest rate hikes and the fallout from the Russia-Ukraine war pressured the economy.

It said Dawn Ostroff, the head of content and advertising, was leaving after an over four-year stint at the company.

## India expected to cut gold import duty to sideline smugglers

● The effective duty is now 18.45%

● Plan is to bring it down to below 12%

Reuters | New Delhi/Mumbai

India is expected to slash the import duty on gold to undercut smugglers who have been offering hefty discounts as illicit imports boom after COVID-19, denting the market share of banks and refiners, government and industry officials told Reuters.

A cut in the import duty by the world's second-biggest consumer could lift retail sales by making gold cheaper ahead of peak demand season and support global prices.



A salesperson shows gold bangles to a customer at a jewellery showroom during Dhanteras, a Hindu festival associated with Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth, in Mumbai, India

It could also revive operations of domestic gold refineries, who have seen their business wither over the past two months as they are unable to compete with grey-market operators.

"The government is aware of problems created by the higher duty structure and they will be fixed soon," said one govern-

ment official, who declined to be identified, in response to a question about the possibility of a cut in the import duty.

Grey market operators, who smuggle gold in from overseas and sell it for cash to avoid duties, got a boost in July when the government raised the basic import duty on gold to 12.5% from

7.5% to bring down the trade deficit and support the rupee.

The effective duty is now 18.45%, which includes the 12.5% import duty, 2.5% agriculture infrastructure development cess and other taxes.

Another official said the government was considering bringing the effective rate down to below 12%, adding: "We will take a final call soon."

The finance ministry declined to comment while the trade ministry did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

An official at the Ministry of Commerce said it was in favour of cutting the import duty on gold and had asked the finance ministry to do so.

"Smuggling is going up," said the commerce ministry official, adding that the duty could be cut in an upcoming budget.

The July increase in the duty

on gold was a welcome boost for the smugglers, who were largely sidelined in 2020 and 2021 because of travel restrictions imposed to contain COVID-19.

The grey market operators are now offering a more than \$40 per ounce discount on official domestic prices, which no bank or refiner can match, said James Jose, managing director of refiner CGR Metalloys.

"Substantial reduction in the duty is the only solution to stop smuggling," Jose said.

Customs and other agencies seized 3,083.6 kg of gold illegally brought in last year up to November, the highest in three years.

Indian gold prices jumped to a record 56,850 rupees per 10 grams last week.

The increase in smuggling has contributed to a decline in legal imports in December by 79%



Around 187,200 tonnes of gold has been mined since the beginning of civilisation. If all of the existing gold in the world was pulled into a 5 micron thick wire, it could wrap around the world 11.2 million times.

MANY OF LIFE'S FAILURES ARE PEOPLE WHO DID NOT REALIZE HOW CLOSE THEY WERE TO SUCCESS WHEN THEY GIVE UP THOMAS A EDISON

1848

James Marshall finds gold in Sutter's Mill in Coloma, California

1857

University of Calcutta founded as the first full-fledged university in South Asia

1899

Rubber heel for boots or shoes patented by American Humphrey O'Sullivan



1984

Apple Computer Inc unveils its revolutionary Macintosh personal computer

News in brief

Sweden should not expect Turkey's support for its NATO membership after a protest near the Turkish embassy in Stockholm at the weekend including the burning of a copy of the Quran, President Tayyip Erdogan said yesterday. "Those who allow such blasphemy in front of our embassy (in Stockholm) can no longer expect our support for their NATO membership," Erdogan said in a speech after a cabinet meeting. "If you love members of terrorist organisations and enemies of Islam so much and protect them, then we advise you to seek their support for your countries' security," Erdogan also said. Turkey had already summoned Sweden's ambassador to Ankara and strongly condemned the event. The Quran-burning was carried out by Rasmus Paludan, leader of Danish far-right political party Hard Line. Paludan, who also has Swedish citizenship, has held a number of demonstrations in the past where he has burned the Quran.



Erdogan to Sweden: Don't expect Turkish support for NATO bid after Stockholm protest

A judge probing the deadly August 2020 Beirut port explosion has charged two of the country's top generals and a former army chief over the blast, three judicial sources said. The three sources said Judge Tarek Bitar had charged spy chief Major General Abbas Ibrahim, State Security director Major General Tony Saliba and former Lebanese army commander Jean Kahwaji in connection with the explosion which killed more than 220 people. The sources did not say what exactly the three had been charged with. Ibrahim declined to comment on reports that he had been charged when contacted by Reuters. Saliba and Kahwaji could not immediately be reached for comment. All have denied wrongdoing.



The United States and Israel yesterday launched what one US official described as the allies' most significant joint military exercise to date, involving thousands of forces, a dozen ships and 142 aircraft, including nuclear-capable bombers. The "Juniper Oak" drills, which will run through Friday, are meant to demonstrate and deepen integration between the U.S. and Israeli militaries, the senior US defense official said, and come at a time of growing tension over Iran's nuclear programme.

US, Israel launch week of major military exercises



CURIOSER & CURIOSER

First Boxing Club opens doors to women in Gaza



Palestinians girls warm up during training inside the first women boxing center in Gaza City

Reuters | Gaza

In Gaza's only boxing club for girls, 15-year-old Farah Abu Al-Qomsan is practising her moves, trading jabs and punches with the other girls training with coach Osama Ayoub at the Palestine Boxing Centre. Since taking to the sport at the age of nine, Farah has found a release from the daily stresses of life in Gaza, a narrow coastal strip where some 2.3 million Palestinians live blockaded by both Israel and neighbouring Egypt. "We used to train in a small garage. Now we train according to the full rules and release bad energy," the 15-year-old girl, at the territory's first women-only boxing center. Six years ago, Ayoub, started with two girls. As more joined, they moved out of the garage and began training on the beach or in rented spaces before moving into the new club building. "The girls are ready. I trained them hard for five years," said Ayoub. "We are setting an example." Now around 40 girls train in the centre with its full-size boxing ring, training equipment and posters of boxing heroes such as Mike Tyson on the walls, defying expectations in a region where boxing has traditionally been a sport for men. "Some people used to tell me 'Why boxing, what are you going to benefit from it, go and learn something girly,'" Farah said. "I benefit a lot from boxing and today my ambition is to represent my Palestinian people and take part in world championships."

Russian Wagner boss acknowledges comparison with Rasputin

Prigozhin acknowledged only last September that he had founded the Wagner group

Reuters

Russian mercenary boss Yevgeny Prigozhin responded to comparisons between himself and the monk Rasputin who treated the son of the last tsar for haemophilia, saying on Sun-



day his job was not to staunch bleeding but to spill the blood of Russia's enemies.

The Financial Times newspaper said at the weekend that Prigozhin had growing influence on the Kremlin and likened him to Orthodox monk Grigory Rasputin, who had considerable influence on the wife of Russia's last tsar, Nikolai II. Prigozhin acknowledged only last September that he had founded the Wagner group, which has played a major role in the Russian military's attempts to capture territory in Ukraine's eastern Donbas region. "I am not very familiar with the history of Rasputin, but as far as I know, an important quality of Rasputin is that he staunch the blood flow of the young prince with incantations," Prigozhin's press service quoted

him as saying, referring to the article. "Unfortunately, I do not staunch blood flow. I bleed the enemies of our motherland. And not by incantations, but by direct contact with them."

Wagner has been deployed in a number of African countries, generally to combat insurgents. In recent months, Prigozhin has been seen in online videos trying to lure inmates from Russian prisons to join its ranks in Ukraine. The Financial Times was not the first to compare his role to

that of the monk in the Russian imperial court - a Russian journalist made the comparison last year. The newspaper said that Prigozhin, like Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, another active supporter of Russia's war, "has positioned himself as a searing critic of military, bureaucratic and business elites who are supposedly failing Putin with their half-hearted, incompetent approach to the war".



Russian and some Western observers believe that the organization does not actually exist as a private military company but is in reality a disguised branch of the Russian MoD that ultimately reports to the Russian government. The company shares bases with the Russian military, is transported by Russian military aircraft, and uses Russia's military health care services. The Russian state is also documented supporting the Wagner Group with passports.

Prigozhin said the comparisons were "absolutely clear" and he saw his role as bringing wayward Westerners back into line. "When children engage in mischief, they try to draw the attention of their father with all sorts of unexpected tricks," he wrote. "All Americans have to do therefore is to come to dad, ask for forgiveness and continue to behave normally."

Rasputin was assassinated in 1916 by a group of Russian noblemen who feared his growing influence on the tsarist family.

EU agrees new Iran sanctions, won't label Guards as 'terrorist' for now

The European Parliament has called on the EU to go further and list the IRGC as a terrorist entity

Reuters | Brussels

The European Union yesterday introduced new sanctions against Iran for a "brutal" crackdown on protests, but the bloc's top diplomat said the country's Revolutionary Guards (IRGC) cannot be listed as a terrorist group without a court decision.

Relations between the 27-nation EU and Tehran have deteriorated during stalled efforts to revive talks on its nuclear programme, worsening further as Iran has moved to detain several European nationals.

The bloc has also become increasingly critical of the continuing violent treatment of domestic protesters, including executions, and the transfer of Iranian drones to Russia.

Sweden, which currently holds the EU's rotating presidency,



High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell speaks to members of the media as he attends a European Union (EU) Foreign Ministers' meeting in Brussels, Belgium

said the bloc's foreign ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday "adopted a new package of sanctions against Iran, targeting those driving the repression."

"The EU strongly condemns the brutal and disproportionate use of force by the Iranian authorities against peaceful protesters," said Sweden's Foreign Minister

Tobias Billstrom, according to a Twitter post by the country's EU diplomatic mission.

EU diplomats told Reuters last week the bloc was set to add 37 names to a blacklist of Iranian people and entities banned from travelling to Europe and subject to an asset freeze.

The European Parliament has called on the EU to go further and list the IRGC as a terrorist entity, blaming it for the crackdown on protests now into their fourth month and the supply of drones for Russia's war against Ukraine.

The IRGC was set up shortly after the 1979 Islamic Revolution to protect the Shi'ite clerical ruling system. It has an estimated 125,000-strong military with army, navy and air units, and commands the Basij religious militia often used in crackdowns.

"The Iranian regime, the Revolutionary Guards terrorise their

own population day after day," German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock told Monday's meeting.

But the EU's top diplomat said a court ruling with a concrete legal condemnation had to first be handed down in a member country before the EU itself could apply any such designation. "It is something that cannot be decided without a court... decision first. You cannot say I consider you a terrorist because I don't like you," Josep Borrell told reporters on the sidelines of the Brussels talks.

The ministers were meeting in the EU political hub where thousands took to the streets a day before to protest against the detention in Iran of Belgian aid worker Olivier Vandecasteele.

Iran earlier warned the EU against designating the IRGC as a terrorist entity.

Russian warship armed with hypersonic missiles to join drills with China, South Africa



The lead ship, Admiral Gorshkov or its full name - Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union Gorshkov, [17] was laid down on 1 February 2006 in Severnaya Verf shipyard in St. Petersburg

Reuters

A Russian warship armed with new-generation hypersonic cruise weapons will participate in joint exercises with the navies of China and South Africa in February, the Russian state agency, TASS, said yesterday. It was the first official mention of the participation by the

frigate, "Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union Gorshkov," which is armed with Zircon missiles. The missiles fly at nine times the speed of sound, with a range of more than 1,000 km (620 miles), Russia says. They form the centrepiece of its hypersonic arsenal, along with the Avangard glide vehicle that entered combat duty in 2019.

Woman beggar arrested in Abu Dhabi found with luxury car, large amount of money

TDI | agencies

A woman who was found out to be driving a luxury car yet asked for handouts, is among people who were arrested for begging in Abu Dhabi in the recent months, reported Khaleej Times.

Abu Dhabi Police said it arrested 159 beggars between November 6 and December 12, last year. In one of the cases, according to the force, a woman was reported by a resident after suspecting her of begging. Police monitored her and found her begging in front of mosques in various areas of

the city. She would walk for a long distance until she reached where she had parked her car, which was one of the latest luxury models. The force also found her with a lot of money she obtained from begging. The cash was seized and the woman was prosecuted.

UAE Public Prosecutors explained that the penalty for begging is imprisonment for three months and a fine of not less than Dh5,000 or one of the two penalties. The penalty for organised begging is imprisonment for a period of six months and a fine of not less than Dh100,000.



Picture for illustration only. Courtesy of Khaleej Times

Kuwait PM submits resignation of cabinet

Reuters | Kuwait

Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Sabah yesterday submitted the resignation of his cabinet to the country's crown prince, state news agency KUNA reported.

Crown Prince Sheikh Meshal al-Ahmad al-Sabah, who has taken over most of the emir's duties, last year named Sheikh Ahmad as premier and called early legislative polls after dissolving the previous parliament to end feuding that impeded fiscal reforms.

Tensions recently resurfaced between parliament and the government, sworn in last October, as lawmakers pressed for a debt relief bill, under which the state would buy Kuwaiti citizen's personal loans, and sought to question two ministers.

The prime minister submitted the government's resignation to the crown prince "as a result of



Sheikh Ahmad Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah what has become of the relationship between the executive and legislative authorities", KUNA cited a cabinet statement as saying.

Parliament had been scheduled to convene on Tuesday. MP Shuaib Al Muwaizri, head of parliament's financial and economic affairs committee, had said in a Twitter post on Sunday that personal debt relief would remain on the table until the government "officially presents just alternatives" to increase wages, pensions and social assistance for Kuwaitis.



A raw piece of cultivated chicken breast created at the UPSIDE Foods plant

able them to offer their beef steaks and chicken breasts at a more affordable price. Along the way, they must overcome a reluctance among some consumers to even try lab-grown meat.

Cultivated meat is derived from a small sample of cells collected from livestock, which is then fed nutrients, grown in enormous steel vessels called bioreactors, and processed into something that looks and tastes like a real cut of meat. Just one

country, Singapore, has so far approved the product for retail sale. But the United States is poised to follow.

The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said in November that a cultivated meat product - a chicken breast grown by California-based UPSIDE Foods - was safe for human consumption. UPSIDE is now hoping to bring its product to restaurants as soon as 2023 and to grocery stores by 2028, its executives told Reuters.



A Polish Leopard 2PL tank fires during Defender Europe 2022 military exercise of NATO troops including French, American, and Polish troops, amid the Russian invasion of Ukraine, at the military range in Bemowo Piskie, near Orzysz, Poland

Poland signals intent to send Leopard tanks to Ukraine

Poland says it is planning to send Leopard tanks to Ukraine

Germany hints at approval as allies put on pressure

President Zelenskiy grapples with corruption scandal

Russia says tank debate shows NATO split

Reuters | Warsaw/Kyiv

Poland's prime minister said yesterday his government would ask Germany for permission to send Leopard tanks to Ukraine - and planned to send them whether or not Berlin agreed.

The Kyiv government desperately wants the German-made Leopard 2 tank to break through Russian lines and recapture territory this year.

Pressure on Berlin - which must approve re-exports of the Leopard - also came from EU foreign ministers meeting in Brussels. Latvia's foreign minister said "there are no good arguments" why the battle tanks could not be provided.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy meanwhile was grappling with a corruption scandal which could dampen Western enthusiasm for his

government. A newspaper reported that the Ukrainian military had allegedly secured food at highly inflated prices, and a deputy minister resigned after an investigation into allegations he accepted a bribe. American lawmakers pushed their government on Sunday to export M1 Abrams battle tanks to Ukraine, saying even a symbolic number would help push European allies to do the same.

Britain has said it will supply 14 Challenger 2 tanks to Ukraine. French President Emmanuel Macron said he did not rule out the possibility of sending Ukraine Leclerc tanks. Leopards are seen as the best option for Ukraine because they are more widely available than the British and French tanks and use less fuel than the turbine-powered US Abrams.

The Kremlin said yesterday whether to provide tanks to Kyiv showed there was increasing "nervousness" within the NATO military alliance.

"But of course all countries which take part, directly or indirectly, in pumping weapons into Ukraine and in raising its technological level bear responsibility" for continuing the conflict, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

The EU foreign ministers meeting were also due to discuss more military aid for Ukraine. EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said he hoped they would approve another 500 million euro (\$545 million) tranche of support.



TOP 4 TWEETS

01



Today, on Parakram Diwas, I pay homage to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and recall his unparalleled contribution to India's history. He will be remembered for his fierce resistance to colonial rule. Deeply influenced by his thoughts, we are working to realise his vision for India.

@narendramodi

02



It has been a tough few years in America. But the economic plan we've put in place is setting us up to emerge stronger, more resilient, and more prosperous for decades to come.

@POTUS

03



In Cabo Verde, the climate crisis has led to severe drought and agricultural losses. On Sunday, I visited projects supported by the @UN helping implement sustainable agricultural practices & safeguard food security.

@antonioguterres

04



In coming months, Twitter will translate & recommend amazing tweets from people in other countries & cultures

@elonmusk

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

# celebs

## Madonna admits to 'struggling' with understanding motherhood

FIANS | Los Angeles

The Queen of Pop, Madonna has opened up on the struggles of motherhood, confessing it's been "the most difficult battle".

The 'Hung Up' hitmaker admitted that it must be difficult for her kids to grow up "with a mother like me", reports 'Mirror.co.uk'. The songstress is mum to Lourdes (26), Rocco (22), David (17), Mercy (16) and twins Estere and Stella, 10.

Speaking during her cover story with 'Vanity Fair', she confessed: "Today, I am still struggling to understand how to be a mother and do my job. Because, whoever you are, having chil-

dren and raising them is a work of art. And no one gives you a manual. You have to learn from mistakes. It is a profession that requires a lot of time. And it is exhausting because there is never rest."

According to 'Mirror.co.uk', she went on to gush over how proud she is at seeing each of her kids find their own creativity and style, which she says comes from an authentic place.

"I have never encouraged my daughter Lola to make music or my son Rocco to paint," she continued. "But I've always exposed them to art, to music, and I'm happy that they've found ways to express themselves. I have respect and admiration for

them and for what they do."

She added that much of her happiness comes from seeing her kids happy. Her own mum died at the age of 30 when the superstar was aged just five.

Madonna continues to draw in the crowds and recently announced her Celebration world tour for later this year. It will mark the biggest arena tour of

**Today, I am still struggling to understand how to be a mother and do my job. Because, whoever you are, having children and raising them is a work of art. And no one gives you a manual. You have to learn from mistakes. It is a profession that requires a lot of time. And it is exhausting because there is never rest**

MADONNA



## Channing Tatum says he may never get married again

Fox | Los Angeles

Channing Tatum saying he's not sure he'll ever get married again following his 2019 divorce from his wife of 10 years Jenna Dewan.

The "Magic Mike" actor, 42, told 'Vanity Fair' in an interview that he's a serial monogamist but

has been hurt in love. "Relationships are hard for me," he said. "Even though I am a bit of a monogamist. In business, I have no real fear of anything being destroyed. But heart things, when it comes to people I love, I have a really hard time. I end up trying too hard, you know?"

Tatum and his ex-wife first got together in 2006 after meeting on the set of the movie "Step Up."

"We fought for it for a really long time, even though we both sort of knew that we had sort of grown apart," Tatum said of his marriage, adding, "I think we told ourselves a story when we were young, and we just kept telling ourselves that life was telling us that we were so different."

Channing Tatum

## I love being a mom, says Rihanna

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Rihanna "loves" the challenge of motherhood.

The 34-year-old singer gave birth to her baby boy in May 2022, and the chart-topping star relishes spending time with him.

A source told PEOPLE: "Rihanna loves being a mom. She is obsessed with her baby boy."

A\$AP Rocky has also proven to be a very hands-on dad since the loved-up couple welcomed their first child.

The insider explained that Rocky, 34 - who has been dating Rihanna since 2020 - is "very involved

as well and a great dad".

Last year, Rihanna actually revealed that her baby boy inspired her to perform at the Super Bowl.

The award-winning star admitted that motherhood has changed her outlook on life, and that it even prompted her to accept an invitation to perform the Super Bowl halftime show.

The 'Work' hitmaker shared: "I feel like it was now or never, really. There's this weird s\*\*\* that happens when you become a mom, that you just unleash or unlock other parts of your superpower, you feel like you can take on or you could do anything."

"I wanted to take on the challenge and I wanted to do something that would force me to get back onstage."

Rihanna confessed to relishing the challenge of motherhood.

However, the singer admitted that she struggled to describe the emotions and the challenges of parenthood.

Rihanna - who is expected to release her long-awaited new album later this year - said: "It is crazy. It is amazing. It's wild. It's weird. It's all of those things, all at once. The best feeling. The most love I've ever known."

**I feel like it was now or never, really. There's this weird s\*\*\* that happens when you become a mom, that you just unleash or unlock other parts of your superpower, you feel like you can take on or you could do anything**

RIHANNA

Rihanna

## Mel B recalls 'embarrassing' encounter with Prince William

Celebretainment | Los Angeles

Mel B was "embarrassed" to meet Prince William while wearing a revealing dress.

The Spice Girls star, 47, was honoured with an MBE by the Prince of Wales - who was at that time known as The Duke of Cambridge prior to the death of Queen Elizabeth - at Buckingham Palace last year for her charity work for vulnerable women as a patron for Women's Aid but recalled her surprise when he pinned the medal onto her chest because she was wearing a dress designed by her former bandmate Victoria Beckham which had a "slit" across the cleavage.

Speaking on 'Live with Kelly



Mel B meets Prince William

and Ryan', she said: "It was quite embarrassing, actually, because I didn't realize the medal actually goes here on your chest. And Victoria [Beckham] designed my dress, mine and my mum's dress for the occasion. And she put a big slit right there. I was like, 'Oh, sorry.' I think she knew! She did a number on me!"

At the time, 'Say You'll Be There' hitmaker - who accused her ex-husband Stephen Belafonte of being abusive when they split in 2017 - admitted

it was even more "amazing" because she was receiving the honour as Melanie Brown and not Scary Spice.

She explained: "I felt like it was the most incredible day of my life."

"It felt amazing that it was me, Melanie Brown, a working-class girl from Leeds, and not Mel B the Spice Girl who had received the award."

Mel added how important it was for her to use her "loud voice" to shine a spotlight on

her fellow survivors of domestic abuse.

She added: "The MBE was for all women and especially for my late dad, because I promised him on his deathbed that I would leave my husband, and if it wasn't for that I wouldn't be here now. It's all about making something terrible into something positive and about women supporting other women. I have got a loud voice; so many women suffer in silence and it's an honour for me to be their voice."

**YOU KNOW WHAT**  
Mel B admitted it was even more "amazing" because she was receiving the honour as Melanie Brown and not Scary Spice

### SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
20												
23												
26												
29												
32												
35												
38												
41												
44												
47												
50												
53												
56												
59												
62												
65												
68												

Across

1- Hardy equestrian creatures; 6- Saws further; 10- Household; 14- Destiny; 15- Hard fatty tissue; 16- Clarinet cousin; 17- Chip maker; 18- Member of a great Peruvian people; 19- Mines; 20- Approaches; 21- Brisk conflict; 23- Guy's partner; 25- Agnus; 26- Like the White Rabbit; 29- ... forgive our debtors; 32- Celtic priest; 37- Hydrocarbon suffix; 38- Loaded; 39- Potemkin setting; 40- One recording the past; 43- Apportions; 44- Bank (on); 45- It may come before long; 46- Gaucho's rope; 47- Bread spread; 48- Engendered; 49- Half a fly; 51- Maiden name precursor; 53- Not safe; 58- Ezio Pinza; for one; 62- Black-and-white cookie; 63- Egg-shaped; 64- Current location; 65- Join lips; 66- Goad; 67- Humble; 68- About; 69- Side; 70- Building addition;

Down

1- Related by blood; 2- All there; 3- Lady of Sp.; 4- Develop; 5- Chip dip; 6- Garage sale sign; 7- Dip into coffee; 8- Come to a conclusion; 9- Gaze intently; 10- Snake dancers; 11- Kimono ties; 12- Lepidopterous insect; 13- Some M.I.T. grads; 22- Noon; 24- Retreats; 26- "The Merry Widow" composer; 27- Old-womanish; 28- Unit of magnetic induction; 30- "Nova" subj.; 31- Vertical; 33- Weightlifter's unit; 34- Doorkeeper; 35- Grenoble's river; 36- Ventured; 38- Revolve; 39- Synthetic fiber; 41- Wee one; 42- "Fancy that!"; 47- Body of work; 48- Lighthouse; 50- Reconnoiter; 52- Deadly virus; 53- The eyes have it; 54- Hotbed; 55- Just okay; 56- Hindu music; 57- K-K; 59- Stitched; 60- Cut-price retail event; 61- Quartz variety; 62- River to the Volga;

Yesterday's solution

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

# Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394  
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## VACANCIES AVAILABLE

**MCDONALDS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17220068 or LUBINA@FAKHRO.COM

**DURRAT AL KHALEEJ MARINE SERVICES** has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17674316 or durratkhaalej@hotmail.com

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**BEDO TOWER CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSTRUCTION WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17756535 or CEO.SALVAGROUP@YAHOO.COM

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**HAYAT BEAUTY AND CARE** has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36962213 or HAYAT.ALI22@HOTMAIL.COM

**ALKHAIR MENS BARBER** has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32273555 or AAZZ131@HOTMAIL.COM

**MARQOOQ FOR TRADITIONAL FOOD** has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330563 or COOLMAN147@HOTMAIL.COM

**PUNJAB MOBILES** has a vacancy for the occupation of BANKING SECTOR TRAINEE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36164926 or ahsanjajwa@GMAIL.COM

**COLOR LAND COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38089944 or MUS2022MU@GMAIL.COM

**TIRYAQ REHABILITATION CENTER W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34529953 or ALBAHRIN2050@GMAIL.COM

**CHEF ABOUD RESTAURANT W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37233733 or CHEFABOUD@GMAIL.COM

**LANDMARK CONSTRUCTION AND TRADING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECRETARY, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17295050 or MADEEHA@LANDMARKBAHRAIN.COM

**BLUE WHITE SALOON BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66375429 or SHIBRAMBISWAS999@GMAIL.COM

**NAD FOODS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593465 or AALI@MINISO-BH.COM

**LANKA CAFE W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39026285 or HASSAN@ARABASIAN.COM

**ALI HUSSAIN CARPENTRY WORKSHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33701101 or MYE30.HA@GMAIL.COM

**BAIT UM LBNAYAT RESTAURANT** has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17676757 or MALNOAIMI1970@GMAIL.COM

**BINH CONSULTANCY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17322255 or JASSIMRADIANCE@GMAIL.COM

**RESTAURANT & CAFE ALREEF ALDEMASHQI BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36448589 or N.daud2010@gmail.com

**SOHOB ALBINA CONSULTANCY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 362424614 or ALMOBDEA.200@GMAIL.COM

**SULTAN CENTER RETAIL BAHRAIN - WHOLESALE CENTER W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17636666 or AHASSAN@SULTAN-CENTER.COM

**KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON ASST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

**KOOHEJI CONTRACTORS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

**Delmon Ready Mixed Concrete & Products Co. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC(HEAVY MACHINERY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

**BAHRAIN SERVICES & MAINTENANCE COMPANY B.S.C. (CLOSED)** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39468574 or aqeel@basma.com.bh

**ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY TRUCK), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

**ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

**NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.)** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

**NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.)** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

**NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.)** has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

**NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY (W.L.L.)** has a vacancy for the occupation of PUMP OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

**AL ANJOM AL ZAHERA BUILDING MAINTENANCE** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33795726 or ALANJOMALZAHERA@GMAIL.COM

**ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

**PALM COAST CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36005572 or aamirbh@gmail.com

**EXCELLENCE INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or a.jawahery@exibah.com

**TAMCON CONTRACTING CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36636624 or h.bukhamas@tamcon.bh

**FADHEL SALMAN TRNSPORT** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39787804 or BUNEBRAS12@HOTMAIL.COM

**URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjinath@urbaser.com

**BDC MANPOWER SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17180530 or mona.alnokhedha@bas.com.bh

**ALMANAFA FOR TRANSPORTATION AND HEAVY EQUIPMENTS** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33966689 or MANAFA18@HOTMAIL.COM

**MUSHTAQ SUPPORT SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36253266 or MUSHTAQ29SP@GMAIL.COM

**FOUR BROTHERS FACILITY SUPPORT COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34179580 or FRIEND.BEST2013@GMAIL.COM

**MOMINA INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36133556 or interiormomina@gmail.com

**NEXXEUS METAL SCRAP W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34391669 or MUHAMMADWAQAS1888@GMAIL.COM

**DAR AHL AL-MUHARRAQ TAILORING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33618685 or DARAHALMUHARRAQ@GMAIL.COM

**ARAB CLASSIC PHONES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39035326 or MOHD.SHAHBAZ94@YAHOO.COM

**BHUIYA FASHION BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3770787 or SHIFULBHUIYA787@GMAIL.COM

**AUNTY KATE EVENTS AND TRADE SHOWS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38305889 or DACYKATE45@GMAIL.COM

**SHINE ARAIN SERVICES CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35947209 or ASMA.MINHAS005@GMAIL.COM

**SHINE ARAIN SERVICES CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35947209 or ASMA.MINHAS005@GMAIL.COM

**SHAMAL INTERIOR DECOR W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35639011 or MUHAMMADYOUNISBH1122@GMAIL.COM

**TAHIR MUNEER FOR INTERIOR DECORATION BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33702583 or AMANSHABBIR234@GMAIL.COM

**ROHAN CARGO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36953023 or IKRAMUAEAA@GMAIL.COM

**BENU RANA INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36103555 or BAHADUR83122@GMAIL.COM

**SPREADING KNOWLEDGE FOR INFORMATION SYSTEM W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37091822 or HNANSANDRA2022@GMAIL.COM

**ROLLSTONE CARGO SERVICES CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34112433 or SUPERIORLINKSBH@OUTLOOK.COM

**SAAS SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34368119 or SAASSERVICESINQUIRY@GMAIL.COM

**ALI YOUNIS ABDULLA CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34456280 or ALIYOUNISBH@GMAIL.COM

**JASIM SAYED MOHAMED HABIB EBRAHIM ALMOOSAWI** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666661 or JASIM@ALFATEH.BH

**ABDULAZIZ ALSAYED TRADING & CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33747598 or AHMEDALSAYED88@HOTMAIL.COM

**DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

**QUICK ZEBRA SERVICES** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or hrd@dreamgroup.bh

**URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajjinath@urbaser.com

**FLY TO USA BEST SERVICES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33416255 or RANAFASALMANZOR@GMAIL.COM

**FATEMA ABDULLA HASAN MOHAMED SAYYAH (160537)** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33392225 or FATIMASAYYAH1@GMAIL.COM

**ADEEL CONSTRUCTION OF FLOATING STRUCTURES COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727450 or A.JABBAR@BFCWLL.COM

**The Food Supply Co. Ltd.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17672837 or SURAJ49@BATELCO.COM.BH

**JASMI'S CORPORATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17588787 or Imra@jasmi.com

**ALHUJAIRI BOUTIQUE** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39462260 or HEJAIR.D.C@GMAIL.COM

**ALNEAM CAFETERIA** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39665500 or SAEEDALSAMAHJ20@HOTMAIL.COM

**TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39649922 or HR.S@EKKANOO.COM.BH

**ARAB SIGN ADVERTISING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33318810 or MOHAMMED@ARABSIGNS.COM

**GRAND OCEAN CAFETERIA** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39467332 or ABDULLA.ROWAIE@GMAIL.COM

**NEPTON WORKSHOP FOR ALUMINIUM AND CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39222086 or ABRAR.

ALMAJED@LIVE.COM

**DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH

**Delta Security Services Co. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262725 or hr@delta-ss.me

**AAZ ALAWTAN** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34391023 or MOHAMEDALHASHEMI66@GMAIL.COM

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**AL KHUWAITER EXCAVATION EST** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456969 or UMZAAAL1975@GMAIL.COM

**Alnoorain bakery est** has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456969 or UMZAAAL1975@GMAIL.COM

**ALAMJAD ELECTRONICS WORKSHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39696054 or ALSAYED\_76@HOTMAIL.COM

**Khayber Fire and Security systems W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720747 or INFO@KHAYBER.COM

**HALAB CAFETERIA & GRILLS** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33478999 or albdry33@hotmail.com

**ALGHALIA W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17710271 or hrpv@alghalia.com

**DAIRY QUEEN W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33350072 or KAREEM.JAWAD@JAWAD.COM

**AL YARMOOK LAUNDRY** has a vacancy for the occupation of PRESSER (HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39179077 or adraj1@gmail.com

**JAWA ACCESSORIES** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39458278 or GADEERVIDEO@YAHOO.COM

**GREEN ENERGY TRADING ESTABLISHMENT** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600014 or HHASAN@6-PENCE.COM

**FAKHRAWI ABAYAS** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17643990 or MOHDG11051@GMAIL.COM

**R.P. CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17215122 or ashokma@gmail.com

**THE BAHRAIN PETROLEUM COMPANY B.S.C - CLOSED** has a vacancy for the occupation of GENERAL MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17704040 or recruitment@bapco.net

**KINGDOM ASPHALT COMPANY W L L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17466776 or ABDULLA@KINGDOM.BH

**FARAS SWIMMING POOL partnership company** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717636 or J2000@BATELCO.COM.BH

**PALM COAST CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36005572 or aamirbh@gmail.com

**AL AMJAD CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36609992 or alamjadhb@gmail.com

**MAMA RICH CHOCOLATE** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33859367 or ALNOAIMI.999@HOTMAIL.COM

**GHUSOON SPA BEAUTY** has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39670705 or YERASHID@YAHOO.COM

**ATYAB RESTAURANT** has a vacancy for the occupation of BREAD BAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39026285 or HASSAN@ARABASIAN.COM

**ALROWISH CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17592120 or haifa@alrowishgroup.com

**ALAMANAH STATIONERY** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39783234 or MALABAR.CONSTRUCTION@YAHOO.COM

**AL QHIBLAIN ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39646808 or ALQHIB@GMAIL.COM

**Bader palace construction** has a vacancy

for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456955 or BADARALBADER101@GMAIL.COM

**SUHAIB BOUTIQUE & TAILORING** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39824233 or UMTHAMER042@GMAIL.COM

**MEGA MIND EDUCATION W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39806556 or NATRAJSARMA@GMAIL.COM

**SOLAS MARINE SERVICES (FOREIGN BRANCH)** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39580153 or gshetty@solasmarine.com

**KAFLAN CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39871069 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

**WAHAT TYLOS CLEANING CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17410208 or MZAH\_80@HOTMAIL.COM

**S.K. ARABICA ADVERTISING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39867387 or georesidence@gmail.com

**SIXPENCE HR SOLUTIONS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CONSULTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13600014 or hhasan@6-pence.com

**AL FURSAN TOWERS CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66966055 or FURSAN-H@HOTMAIL.COM

**AL RAWNAQ PALACE TRADING** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33114441 or aidarwish1974@gmail.com

**ALGHANIM INTERNATIONAL GENERAL TRADING AND CONTRACTING CO. -** For has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300616 or karim.eissa@falghanim.com

**Delta Security Services Co. W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262725 or hr@delta-ss.me

**SILVER CITY CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39188855 or SILVERCITYCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

**WESTPOINT HOME (BAHRAIN) W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17838129 or ADEL.JABBER@WPHOME.COM

**RANWA STONE CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36361228 or ALJMAA16@GMAIL.COM

**ABDULAZIZ JUMA ABDOMOHAMMED AJAMCO W.L.L. CO.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17623007 or AJAMCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

**FRESH CUTS GENTS SALOON** has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17596593 or S.KADHEM@GMAIL.COM

**HIDY DREAM COLDSTORE** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33761989 or SALAHUDDINBELAL2@GMAIL.COM

**SMALCO CONTRACTING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33040002 or smalco.bh@hotmail.com

**UNISKILLS W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224578 or INFO@JANIKINGBAHRAIN.COM

**AZAD LAUNDRY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39137129 or AZADELECTRICAL@HOTMAIL.COM

**SHAMS ALZAIN GOLD STORES** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77229911 or INFO@AWTADI.COM

**JABERI WOODEN FACTORIES W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39452896 or hrjwf@jaberigroup.com

**Farsana Construction S P C** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39829689 or FARSANABAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

**ALUSOL ALUMINIUM FACADE SOLUTIONS W L L** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255209 or varghese@dadahaiconstruction.com

**LAMSAT CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720543 or SAAD1@BATELCO.COM.BH

**Almadob cating withkitchen est** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783791 or zx28015131@gmail.com

**ARZAN SUPER MARKET BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000371 or YOUNISKBZ@HOTMAIL.COM

for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456955 or BADARALBADER101@GMAIL.COM

**SUHAIB BOUTIQUE & TAILORING** has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39824233 or UMTHAMER042@GMAIL.COM

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**Farsana Construction S P C** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39829689 or FARSANABAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

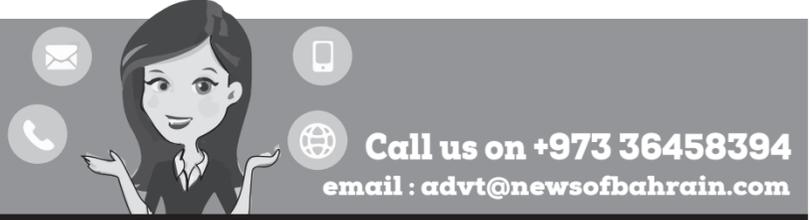
**ALUSOL ALUMINIUM FACADE SOLUTIONS W L L** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255209 or varghese@dadahaiconstruction.com

**LAMSAT CONSTRUCTION WORKSHOP** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17720543 or SAAD1@BATELCO.COM.BH

**Almadob cating withkitchen est** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17783791 or zx28015131@gmail.com

**ARZAN SUPER MARKET BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000371 or YOUNISKBZ@HOTMAIL.COM

# Classifieds



**VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED**

Manhaj alkhaleej gate coldstore has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77199011 or EXP.SEV4DOC@GMAIL.COM

One Call co W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36094012 or IBRAHIM@DREAMGROUP.BH

GHORI AND DALLAH CAFETERIA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39939958 or ALBOAINAIN\_1@HOTMAIL.COM

NARJIS KHALIFA CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66301144 or ALWAHADCCR@GMAIL.COM

MOHD ALSAYYAD CAR SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664535 or Alsayyad2019@gmail.com

ROUGE BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17744990 or LAWAZON@GMAIL.COM

CHICKI EXPRESS RESTURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17343582 or VIVAALI124@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD JAVED MAINTENANCE CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17002839 or JAVEDSARDAR248@YAHOO.COM

RED STAR GATE FOR TYERS has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39836099 or YOUSIF.RASOOL198299@GMAIL.COM

Infinite Enterprise & Media control Solutions WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000909 or Sayed@infinitetechologies.com

Charcoal Gourmet Burger Snack has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

AL SHAIKH YUSUF GATE CLEANING has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33660885 or adeltaherxp@hotmail.com

MAKKA HOUSE RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35458563 or CBJALLIP@GMAIL.COM

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## Ten Hag says Man Utd must 'change mentality' after Arsenal defeat



Man United's Bruno Fernandes in action with Arsenal's Gabriel Martinelli  
AFP | London

Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag said his team must change their mentality if they want to become a trophy-winning team, bemoaning defensive errors in his side's 3-2 defeat against Arsenal on Sunday.

Eddie Nketiah struck in the closing minutes at the Emirates to claim a dramatic victory for the Premier League leaders, who restored their five-point advantage over Manchester City.

Marcus Rashford gave the

**At this moment I'm annoyed and I also told the players 'if you want to win trophies, titles, we have to change our mentality' because it's not possible that you are in a top game and you're making three such big mistakes where you concede goals, especially the last goal**

ERIK TEN HAG

visitors a first-half lead in London but Nketiah equalised shortly afterwards.

England forward Bukayo Saka put the hosts ahead in the second half, before Argentina defender Lisandro Martinez opened his United account with a looping header.

But United were unable to hold out against relentless Arsenal pressure and lost for the first time in any competition since early November.



**United were unable to hold out against relentless Arsenal pressure and lost for the first time in any competition since early November**

## Ruthless Djokovic, Sabalenka sweep into Australian Open quarters

● **Flawless Novak Djokovic dismantles Alex de Minaur to storm into last eight**

● **Rublev wins five-set epic to make quarters**

AFP | Melbourne

Novak Djokovic surged into the Australian Open quarter-finals with his "best match of this year" yesterday, while Aryna Sabalenka was an equally ruthless winner.

After a series of shocks at Melbourne Park, normal order was more or less restored on day eight, except for fourth seed Caroline Garcia bowing out under the weight of expectation.

Djokovic demolished Alex de Minaur for the loss of just five games to sweep into the last eight and step up his bid for a 10th Melbourne crown, and record-tying 22nd major title in all.

He will meet fifth seed Andrey Rublev for a semi-final berth after the Russian topped Danish teenager Holger Rune in a thrilling five-set clash also at Rod Laver Arena.

The Serb's 6-2, 6-1, 6-2 triumph over 22nd-seeded home hope De Minaur was an ominous statement of intent. Significantly, his troublesome left hamstring appeared much improved.

Asked afterwards how he had been so emphatic, Djokovic told the crowd: "Because I wanted to.

"I cannot say I'm sorry you did not watch a longer match. I



Novak Djokovic in action during his fourth round match against Alex De Minaur

**I wanted to win in straight sets. Once on the court, you have to deal with a lot of things... the first four, five games were close and after the break I started feeling more loose and more aggressive**

NOVAK DJOKOVIC

really wanted to win in straight sets."

The 35-year-old called it his "best match of this year so far" and of his hamstring said: "I did not feel anything today, so today was great."

Rublev admitted he was "lucky" after saving two match points against Rune, in energy-sapping heat.

He described beating the 19-year-old as "not like a rollercoaster, it's like they put a gun to your head. A rollercoaster is easier."

In a men's draw decimated by shocks, including the sec-

ond-round exit of reigning champion Rafael Nadal, there will be a last-eight clash between two unseeded Americans.

The 20-year-old Ben Shelton, on his first trip outside the United States, emerged from another five-setter against friend and fellow American JJ Wolf.

Shelton is only the fourth man in the past 20 years to reach the Melbourne quarter-finals on debut.

"I really focused in the fifth set, just being energetic, trusting my fitness and just hustling, being courageous and I thought I did a really good job of competing at the highest level in the fifth set," said the 89th-ranked Shelton.

He plays Tommy Paul, who defeated 24th seed Roberto Bautista Agut.

**'Not comfortable' Garcia**

In the women's draw, Garcia became the latest top-10 seed to fall, with a shock defeat to Magda Linette, ranked 45 in the world.

This is the first Grand Slam since the Open era began in 1968 to lose the top two seeds in both

**It was Djokovic's 38th consecutive win on Australian soil and the fewest number of games he has dropped in a match at the year's first major since he lost four against Lucas Pouille in the semi-finals in 2019**

the men's and women's draws before the last eight.

Unseeded Pole Linette stunned Garcia 7-6 (7/3), 6-4 and the French player admitted that expectations and nerves got the better of her.

Asked if being one of the favourites for the title had been too much to handle, she replied: "Yes, I think so.

"It's one of the things I'm not comfortable with."

Linette said she "couldn't believe it" as she reached her first Grand Slam quarter-final at the age of 30.

She faces Karolina Pliskova after the former world number one romped past China's Zhang Shuai 6-0, 6-4.

Sabalenka never really looked like she would follow top seed Iga Swiatek, Garcia and the rest out of the first major of the year.

The Belarusian Sabalenka and third-seeded American Jessica Pegula -- both chasing a maiden major crown -- are now the women to beat.

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S/d Dileep.V.S

## 'Disgrace' if Djokovic not allowed to enter US and compete, says Haas

Reuters | Melbourne

Novak Djokovic could end the year as the world's top-ranked player but it would be a "disgrace" if his chances are affected by not being able to compete in the United States due to his unvaccinated status, Indian Wells tournament director Tommy Haas said.

Djokovic missed last year's



Tommy Haas

Australian Open and was deported from the country due to being unvaccinated against

COVID. His three-year visa ban was overturned in November and he is back at the Grand Slam looking to win a 10th crown and 22nd major.

The Serbian was, however, not able to travel to New York for the 2022 US Open without proof of vaccination, the same reason that forced him to skip ATP 1000 events at Indian Wells and Miami earlier in the year.

US authorities said this month the requirement for foreign air travellers to be vaccinated against COVID would be in place until at least April 10, meaning Djokovic will miss out on Indian Wells and Miami again.

Haas, also a former world number two player, said he hoped the rules would be relaxed sooner to allow Djokovic to compete.

**Pioli calls for 'big response' from AC Milan players amid winless run**



Stefano Pioli  
Reuters | Milan

AC Milan manager Stefano Pioli urged his players to bounce back and produce a "big reaction" in Tuesday's Serie A match away to Lazio as the reigning Serie A champions look to end a four-game winless streak.

AC Milan lost 3-0 to rivals Inter in the Italian Supercup final and suffered a 1-0 defeat to Torino in the Coppa Italia last 16, while they drew 2-2 with AS Roma and 2-2 with Lecce in their last four games in all competitions.

Pioli's side sit second in the league standings on 38 points after 18 games, 12 points behind leaders Napoli who have played a game more.

"We have to face these difficult moments, it will be another test to overcome with unity and humility," Pioli told reporters yesterday.

"The criticism is fair because our performances in this period are below our expectations, which are very high because we are AC Milan.

# Manama power past Nassr in West Asian basketball

Bahrain champions secure third Group B victory in Gulf sub-zone of FIBA West Asia Super League

● **Bahrain league champions rise to top of Gulf sub-zone group with win**

● **Manama return to WASL action with final two assignments in March**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain league champions Manama flexed their muscles against Al Nassr of Saudi Arabia last night to claim an impressive 105-74 victory in the FIBA West Asia Super League (WASL).

The contest was Manama's fourth in Group B of the WASL's Gulf sub-zone, and the Bahrainis improved to a 3-1 win-loss record.

After leading 24-19 at the end of the first quarter, Manama stretched their advantage with a 30-point second period and headed into the half up 54-41.

They continued their strong play after the break, enjoying



Manama's Elijah Robinson looks to take a jump shot against the defence of Al Nassr's Antonio Campbell

leads as big as their final 31-point winning margin en route to the final buzzer.

Charles Wayne Garcia led a balanced Manama attack in which six players scored in double figures. Garcia had 18 points and seven rebounds, while Lamonte Ulmer contributed 16 and 12 boards. Hasan Nowrooz chipped in with 13 markers, while Mustafa Hussain and Elijah Robinson each scored 12 and Ahmed Salman finished with 10.

For Nassr, Kenneth Brown Jr was their leading scorer with 27 whole Brandon Austin added 20. They received little help from the rest of their squad.

The Saudis were handed their fourth loss as they remained winless so far in the competition.

Manama return to the hardwood for their final two games of this round in March. They first travel to Kuwait City to face Kuwait Club on 13 March, and

**Standings**

	P	W	L	+/-	Pts
Manama (BRN)	4	3	1	36	7
Kuwait Club (KUW)	3	3	0	32	6
Al Sadd (QAT)	3	1	2	-10	4
Al Nassr (KSA)	4	0	4	-58	4

then will be back home to take on Al Sadd of Qatar on 21 March. Kuwait and Sadd are scheduled to face off tonight in Doha.

Manama are one of 16 teams in the inaugural WASL. The competition has been divided into two sub-zones, the Gulf and West Asia, comprising eight teams each. Each sub-zone is further divided into two groups.

Group A of the Gulf sub-zone features Al Hilal of Saudi, Shabab Al Ahli of the UAE, Al Basheer Club of Oman and Kazma SC of Kuwait.

In the West Asia sub-zone, Beirut First Club of Lebanon, Ittihad Ahli of Syria, Orthodox Ramallah of Palestine and Zobahan Isfahan BC of Iran are in Group A; and Shahr-dari Gorgan of Iran, Al Naft SC of Iraq, Al Karamah SC of Syria and Al Riyadi Beirut of Lebanon make up Group B.

Each team plays the other



**Charles Wayne Garcia scores 18 points to spearhead a balanced Manama attack, in which six players scored in double figures against Al Nassr**

home-and-away. The top team from each group will then advance to the semi-finals, while the second and third will face-off in a qualification to the last four.

Eventually, the top three teams from the Gulf and West Asia sub-zones will qualify for the WASL Final 8, where they will be joined by Champions of South Asia and Central Asia.

The WASL Final 8 will qualify for FIBA Asia Champions Cup 2023, on the road to FIBA Intercontinental Cup 2023, FIBA's highest club competition.

## Al Nassr coach Garcia praises Ronaldo for his influence on team

Reuters | Riyadh

Al Nassr coach Rudi Garcia said that Cristiano Ronaldo was instrumental in helping his new team secure victory over Al Ettifaq on Sunday even though he was not involved in the only goal of the match.

Anderson Talisca earned Al Nassr a 1-0 home win over Al Ettifaq, with Ronaldo making his Saudi Pro league debut as captain of the team.

"It's a positive addition when you have a player like Ronaldo as he helps to distract the defenders, which is what happened with our goal," Garcia told reporters.

"Today we created opportunities for him and asked the players to diversify the game be-



Al Nassr's Cristiano Ronaldo in action with Al Ettifaq's Saeed Al-Mowalad

tween him and Talisca, and we must not forget that he participated in the (exhibition match against) Paris St Germain and did not get enough rest. "Even with the presence of

**It's a positive addition when you have a player like Ronaldo as he helps to distract the defenders, which is what happened with our goal**

RUDI GARCIA

Ronaldo, it is not easy to win the Saudi League because of ... the strength of the competitors."

Al Nassr's win moved them back to the top of the league standings with 33 points from 14 matches. They are a point ahead of second placed Al Hilal, who have played one game more.



Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports (SCYS), Ayman bin Tawfiq Al-Moayyed, received yesterday Member of the Board of Directors of the Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC), Women's Sports Committee Chairperson and President of the Bahrain Table Tennis Association, Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa. Al-Moayyed congratulated Shaikha Hayat following her nomination to be a member of the International Olympic Committee's Gender Equality Diversity and Inclusion Commission, wishing her every success. He commended the distinguished role played by Shaikha Hayat to serve Bahraini sport through the local and international posts she holds, citing her success in leading the Bahrain Table Tennis Association to clinching Arab and Asian titles and hosting championships and training sessions. Shaikha Hayat congratulated Al-Moayyed on the precious royal trust bestowed upon him by appointing him to his post.

## It doesn't get much better says Arsenal's Arteta after late win

AFP | London

Apart from picking up a yellow card Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta enjoyed the perfect Sunday afternoon as his side completed the first half of their Premier League campaign by reaching 50 points with a 3-2 win over Manchester United.

Two goals by Eddie Nketiah and one from Bukayo Saka -- both products of Arsenal's academy -- sealed the win that lifted Arsenal five points clear of champions Manchester City.

It is their best ever start to a Premier League campaign and while there is a long way to go, Arteta's young side are growing in belief that they can stay the course.



Arsenal's Oleksandr Zinchenko in action as manager Mikel Arteta looks on

No wonder the Spaniard said "it doesn't get much better than this" as he evaluated a deserved victory over a United side who now find themselves 11 points

**YOU KNOW WHAT**

It is Arsenal's best ever start to a Premier League campaign and while there is a long way to go, Arteta's young side are growing in belief that they can stay the course

come against this team and play the way we played. The second half especially, the performance was incredible," he said.

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# HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad attends World Youth Fencing Championship

TDI | Manama

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, First Vice President of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, President of the General Authority for Sports and Chairman of the Olympic Committee, patronized the closing ceremony of the World Youth Fencing Championship "Epee".

The tournament which was organized by the Bahrain Fencing Federation under the supervision of the International Federation, was held on January 21-22 at the Khalifa Sports Town.



HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa (R) is presented with a souvenir

**“**  
The hosting of the World Youth Fencing Championship reflects the confidence of the International Fencing Federation in Bahrain's standing, its pioneering role, and in holding various sporting events

HH SHAIKH KHALID BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

The event was also attended by General Sports Authority (GSA) Deputy Chairman HH Shaikh Salman bin Mohammed

Al Khalifa, GSA Chief Executive Officer Dr. Abdulrahman Askar and Shaikh Ibrahim bin Salman Al Khalifa, chairman of the Bahrain Fencing Federation.

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa attended the final of the championship, during which the Arab Republic of Egypt beat the Republic of Kazakhstan.

“The hosting of the World Youth Fencing Championship reflects the confidence of the International Fencing Federation in Bahrain's standing, its pioneering role, and in holding various sporting events”, he

said. He highlighted the directives of HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs and SCYS Chairman, to host sporting events which consolidate Bahrain's standing.

He congratulated the top three winners three places, praising the success of the Bahrain Fencing Federation in hosting the global championship. He expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Asian and International Federations for granting Bahrain the organization of the tournament.

# Bahrain wrap up best handball worlds

Kingdom's senior men's national team claim their highest-ever final classification in history of IHF Men's Handball World Championship

● Bahrain finish as best-ranked Asian national team in tournament, ahead of Qatar, Iran, South Korea and Saudi Arabia

● Qassim Qambar scores seven for Bahrain, Hussain Al Sayyad and Mohammed Habib Mohammed add six apiece

TDI | Manama

Bahrain wrapped up their campaign in the 28th International Handball Federation (IHF) Men's Handball World Championship last night with a 32-43 loss to European giants Croatia, but still managed their best-ever final classification in the biennial global competition.

The nationals are ranked 16th overall amongst the 32 compet-



Ali Mirza attempts to score against the Croatians

ing nations—their highest placing in their five appearances at the handball worlds.

The Bahrainis were previously 23rd in 2011 and 2017, 20th in 2019 and 21st in 2021.

In addition, Bahrain finish as the top-ranked Asian side in this year's world championship. Qatar are 22nd, Iran 24th, while South Korea and Saudi Arabia are to be ranked between 25th and 32nd overall.

It is another fantastic achieve-

ment for the Kingdom's senior men's national handball team in the IHF tournament. They had earlier qualified for the main round for only the second time in the worlds, and then also won a match in that stage for the first time—a 32-27 victory against the US.

Last night's defeat to Croatia gave the Bahrainis a final win-loss record of 2-3 on the Group IV table. They are ranked behind Egypt, defending world



Bahrain's Hussain Al Sayyad attacks the Croatia defence during their game last night

champions Denmark and the Croatians, but are above the US and Belgium.

In their match yesterday, the nationals had a strong first half when they led on multiple occasions before the Croatians took

control right before the interval. Back-to-back Igor Karacic goals gave them a 17-14 advantage, but then conversions from Hussain Al Sayyad and Mohammed Habib Mohammed brought Bahrain back to within 16-17 at the break.

Bahrain are ranked 16th overall amongst the 32 competing nations—their highest placing in their five appearances at the worlds. They were previously 23rd in 2011 and 2017, 20th in 2019 and 21st in 2021

In the concluding 30-minute period, the Bahrainis struggled to match their rivals, who built a double-digit lead with under 10 minutes remaining en route to securing the comfortable winning margin.

Qassim Qambar had seven goals to pace Bahrain while Al Sayyad and Mohammed each contributed six. Komail Mahfoodh and Ali Mirza scored four apiece, while Ali Eid had two. Also finding the net once in the game were Ahmed Fadul, Mohammed Mirza and Mahmood Mohammed.

Croatia enjoyed a high-scoring attack, with Ivan Martinovic and Filip Glavas each registering 11 goals in the win.

# Leaders Muharraq held, Manama triumph against Khaldiya

● Muharraq concede own goal in stoppage time to hand rivals Al Ahli a share of the points

● Mahdi Abduljabbar scores brace to spearhead Manama to fine victory over Al Khaldiya

TDI | Manama

Leaders Muharraq were held to a thrilling 1-1 draw by Al Ahli while Manama edged past Al Khaldiya 2-1 last night in the 2022/2023 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier Football League.

Muharraq took an early lead in their match with a 21st minute goal fired in by Hisham Al Aqabi on a brilliant free-kick. That looked to be enough to sep-



Muharraq's Moses Atede, left, battles for possession with Al Ahli's Vinicius Vargas Dos Santos during their match

arate the two sides in the match, which is known as Bahrain's version of "El Clasico" based on the long history between the two rivals.

But Ahli had different plans and their push for an equaliser was rewarded in the seventh minute of second-half stoppage time when Muharraq's inter-

national defender Waleed Al Hayyam inadvertently headed the ball into his own net.

Al Hayyam's gaffe cost Muharraq crucial points on the league standings, as they registered their fourth draw in 10 matches. They continued to top the table, however, with 22 markers. Ahli, on the other hand, settled for

Standings	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Muharraq	10	6	4	0	12	22
Al Khaldiya	10	5	3	2	9	18
Manama	10	5	3	2	8	18
Sitra	10	4	4	2	3	16
Riffa	10	5	1	4	2	16
Al Ahli	10	4	3	3	3	15
Hidd	9	4	1	4	-4	13
Al Hala	10	2	6	2	-1	12
East Riffa	10	2	5	3	-3	11
Bahrain Club	9	2	3	4	-1	9

their third stalemate as they improved to 15 points in the middle of the standings.

Meanwhile, in Manama's narrow win, the victors took the lead in the 23rd minute with a Mahdi Abduljabbar header from inside the box off a free-kick supplied by Isa Moussa. Teammate Mohammed Al Marmour then had a goal disallowed in the 32nd minute for a foul against Khaldiya goalkeeper Sayed Shubbar Alawi.



Al Khaldiya's Sayed Dhiya Saeed looks to make a pass as Manama's Mahdi Abduljabbar defends

Khaldiya then equalised six minutes after the re-start when Ahmed Bughammar tapped the ball in from close range following a mad scramble in the six-yard box.

But Abduljabbar showed why he was the leading scorer from last season when he netted the

winner for Manama in the 76th minute off a quick counter-attack.

With the result, Manama went level with Khaldiya on the league standings with 18 points apiece. Manama registered their fifth win while Khaldiya suffered their second loss.