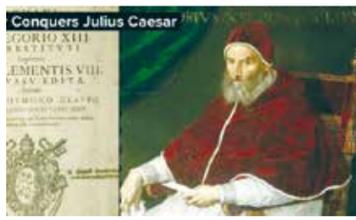


1525

Battle of Pavia: Holy Roman Emperor Charles V's troops defeat the French, killing or wounding 5,000 and capturing French King Francis I

1582

Pope Gregory XIII announces the New Style calendar, commonly known as the Gregorian calendar



1739

Battle of Karnal: Army of Iranian ruler Nadir Shah defeats the forces of the Mughal emperor of India, Muhammad Shah

1868

US House of Representatives votes 126 to 47 to impeach President Andrew Johnson



TOP
4
TWEETS

01



When human rights fall, everything else tumbles. Peace. Development. Social cohesion. Trust. Solidarity. It's more important than ever to translate political engagement into a path towards strengthening human rights everywhere.

@antonioguterres

02



A commendable milestone in India's clean energy journey! Compliments to all those who have benefited from this scheme and embraced rooftop solar power thereby boosting savings, sustainability and self-reliance. This scheme is a part of our efforts to build an energy-secure, green and future-ready India.

@narendramodi

03



The best thing is for Ukraine and Belarus to be members of the European Union. I do not know whether the Belarusian people support this, but from the point of view of the economy, geopolitics, and independence – it is the right thing.

@ZelenskyyUa

04



Popularity is not expertise. When it comes to your health, including use of vaccines, trust experts – not opinions

@DrTedros

Philippines' Duterte authorised murders

ICC hearings open

● Duterte faces three counts of crimes against humanity

● First of three counts concerns alleged involvement as a co-perpetrator in 19 murders

● Second relates to 14 murders of so-called "High Value Targets"

● Third charge covers 43 murders committed during "clearance" operations

AFP | The Hague, Netherlands

Rodrigo Duterte personally authorised murders and hand-picked some of the victims of his "war on drugs", the International Criminal Court heard yesterday, as proceedings against the former Philippines president kicked off.

ICC deputy prosecutor Mame Mandiaye Niang said that the week-long "confirmation of charges" hearings, where judges will decide whether to open a full trial against Duterte, was "a reminder that those in power are not above the law".

The 80-year-old Duterte did not appear after the court granted a defence request for his absence, despite judges ruling he was fit to take part.

Following the hearings, the judges will have 60 days to issue a written decision on whether he should face a full trial.

Niang said Duterte played a "pivotal" role in the extrajudicial killings of suspected drug dealers and users, first as mayor of Davao City then as president.

He "authorised murders and personally selected some of the victims", said Niang. Duterte's defence lawyer Nicholas Kaufman hit back, calling the charges "grievously misplaced and politically motivated."

Duterte "stands behind his legacy resolutely. He maintains his innocence absolutely," said Kaufman.

Kaufman acknowledged that his client was "a unique phenomenon" who was "gung-ho in his ways" and full of "hyperbole, bluster and rhetoric."

However, he accused the prosecution of "cherry-picking" through Duterte's speeches, adding that many of them insist on the importance of sticking to the law.

Rival groups of demonstrators camped outside the court from early Monday. Patricia Enriquez, a 36-year-old researcher, said it was a "historic moment" for victims of Duterte's alleged crimes.

"It is emotional. It is hopeful. It is also very painful," she told AFP.

"I'm hoping that all the Filipinos and everybody in the world will stand with us, stand with truth, stand with justice and stand with accountability."

However, 35-year-old chef Aldo Villarta said it was a "slap in the face" for the Philippines that an international court was trying the country's former leader.

"We've already suffered so long from colonisation," said Villarta, who also argued that Duterte's human rights were being infringed by im-

prisonment. 'High value targets'



Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte (L) listening to Ronald Dela Rosa (R), then-director general of the Philippine National Police (PNP), during a press conference at the Malacanang palace in Manila.

Duterte faces three counts of crimes against humanity, with prosecutors alleging his involvement in at least 76 murders between 2013 and 2018.

The true number of killings during his campaign in the Philippines is thought to be in the thousands, and lawyers for the victims have argued that a full trial could encourage more families to come forward.

Niang said the murders charges were "merely a fraction" of the real numbers killed.

Duterte, who was president from 2016 to 2022, was arrested in Manila in March last year, flown to the Netherlands and has since been held at the ICC's detention unit at Scheveningen Prison.

He followed his initial hearing three days later by video link, appearing dazed and frail and barely speaking.

The first of three counts against Duterte concerns his alleged involvement as a co-perpetrator in 19 murders carried out between 2013 and 2016 while he was mayor of Davao City.

The second relates to 14 murders of so-called "High Value Targets" in 2016 and 2017 when he was president.

The third charge covers 43 murders committed during "clearance" operations of lower-level alleged drug users or pushers across the Philippines between 2016 and 2018.

In Manila, about 60 relatives of those killed in the crackdown gathered around two television monitors to watch the hearing at a Catholic Church-run community centre for the poor.

The mainly elderly and middle-aged women whose husbands or sons were shot dead in police operations told AFP they were disappointed Duterte had not been required to appear.

"Maybe he does not want to own up to his sins," said Gloria Sarmiento, whose boyfriend was found dead alongside his brother in the last few weeks of the Duterte presidency.

"Maybe he is a coward."



Rodrigo Duterte served as president of the Philippines from 2016 to 2022, and his term was widely marked by a controversial "war on drugs" that human rights groups say led to the deaths of thousands of people.

Shaping a Human-Centric Future for AI – AI Impact Summit 2026



NARENDRA MODI, PRIME MINISTER OF INDIA

At a defining moment in human history, the world gathered at the AI Impact Summit 2026 in New Delhi. For us in India, it was a moment of immense pride and joy to welcome Heads of State, Heads of Government, delegates and innovators from across the world. India brings scale and energy to everything it does and this Summit was no exception. Representatives from over 100 nations came together. Innovators showcased cutting-edge AI products and services. Thousands of young people could be seen in the exhibition halls, asking questions and imagining possibilities. Their curiosity made this the largest and most democratised AI summit in the world. I see this as an important moment in India's development journey, because a mass movement for AI innovation and adoption has truly taken off.

Human history has witnessed many technological shifts that changed the course of civilisation. Artificial Intelligence belongs in the same league as fire, writing, electricity and the internet. But with AI, changes that once took decades can unfold within weeks and impact the entire planet. AI is making machines intelligent, but it is even more a force multiplier for human intent. Making AI human-centric instead of machine-centric is vital.

At this Summit, we placed human well-being at the heart of the global AI conversation, with the principle of 'Sarvajana Hitaya, Sarvajana Sukhaya' (Welfare for All, Happiness of All). I have always believed that technology must serve people, not the other way around. Whether it is digital payments through UPI or COVID vaccination, we have ensured that Digital Public Infrastructure reaches everyone, leaving none behind. I could see the same spirit in the Summit, in the work of our innovators in domains like agriculture, security, assistance for Divyangjan and tools for multilingual populations.

There are already examples of the empowering potential of AI in India. Recently, 'Sarlaben', an AI-powered digital assistant launched by Indian dairy cooperative AMUL, is providing real-time guidance to 3.6 million dairy farmers, mostly women, about cattle health and productivity in their own language. Similarly, an AI-based platform called Bharat VISTAAR gives multilingual inputs to farmers, empowering them with information about everything from weather to market prices.

Humans must never become mere data points or raw material for machines. Instead, AI must become a tool for global good, opening new doors of progress for the Global South. To translate this vision into action, India presented the MANAV framework for human-centric AI governance.

M – Moral and Ethical Systems: AI should be based on ethical guidelines.

A – Accountable Governance: Transparent rules and robust oversight.

N – National Sovereignty: Respect for national rights over data.

A – Accessible and Inclusive: AI should not be a monopoly.

V – Valid and Legitimate: AI must adhere to laws and be verifiable.

MANAV, which means 'human', offers principles that anchor AI in human values in the 21st century.

Trust is the foundation upon which AI's future rests. As generative systems flood the world with content, democratic societies face risks from deepfakes and disinformation. Just as food carries nutrition labels, digital content must carry authenticity labels. I urge the global community to come together to create shared standards for watermarking and source verification. India has already taken a step in this direction by legally requiring clear labelling of synthetically generated content.

The welfare of our children is a matter close to our hearts. AI systems must be built with safeguards that encourage responsible, family-guided engagement, reflecting the same care we bring to education systems worldwide.

Technology yields its greatest benefit when shared, rather than guarded as a strategic asset. Open platforms can help millions of youth contribute to making technology safer and more human-centric. This collective intelligence is humanity's greatest strength. AI must evolve as a global common good.

We are entering an era where humans and intelligent systems will co-create, co-work and co-evolve. Entirely new professions will emerge. When the internet began, no one could imagine the possibilities. It ended up creating a huge number of new opportunities and so will AI. I am confident that our empowered youth will be the true drivers of the AI age.

We are encouraging skilling, reskilling and lifelong learning by running some of the largest and most diverse skilling programmes in the world. India is home to one of the world's largest youth populations and technology talent. With our energy capacity and policy clarity, we are uniquely positioned to harness AI's full potential.

At this Summit, I was proud to see Indian companies launch indigenous AI models and applications, reflecting the technological depth of our young innovation community.

To fuel the growth of our AI ecosystem, we are building a robust infrastructure foundation. Under the India AI Mission, we have deployed thousands of GPUs and are set to deploy more soon. By accessing world-class computing power at highly affordable rates, even the smallest startups can become global players. Further, we have established a national AI Repository, democratising access to datasets and AI models.

From semiconductors and data infrastructure to vibrant startups and applied research, we are focusing on the complete value chain. India's diversity, democracy and demographic dynamism provide the right atmosphere for inclusive innovation. Solutions that succeed in India can serve humanity everywhere.

That is why our invitation to the world is: Design and develop in India. Deliver to the world. Deliver to humanity.

At this Summit, I was proud to see Indian companies launch indigenous AI models and applications, reflecting the technological depth of our young innovation community.

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