

Man City can write another chapter in European history, says Guardiola

**11** **SPORTS**

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Twitter set to accept Musk's \$43 bn offer

**Labour Day and Eid Al-Fitr holidays set**

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday issued a circular on the upcoming Labour Day and Eid Al-Fitr holidays.

According to the circular, ministries and all other public institutions will be close on 1 May, Sunday, marking Labour Day.

The circular also stipulates that the Kingdom's ministries and public institutions will be close on the day of Eid Al Fitr and the two days that follow.

If any of the three Eid days coincides with an official holiday, an extra day will be given in lieu, the circular added.

**Arab nations slam Israel over Al Aqsa violence**

London

Arab nations criticised Israel during a heated meeting of the UN Security Council (UNSC) yesterday that focused on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Representatives of several Arab states spoke out against the actions of Israeli forces against Palestinians, especially violence over the weekend in East Jerusalem and at Al Aqsa Mosque.

Israel criticised the UNSC for ignoring the activities of Palestinian groups and the rising threat from Iran.

**BAHRAIN COVID-19**

**TOTAL TESTED**

**9703058**

**ACTIVE CASES**

**3556**

**DEATHS**

**1475**

**DISCHARGED**

**561648**

**NEW CASES**

**407**

**CRITICAL**

**1**

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# Support for frontliners

HRH Prince Salman directs Civil Service Bureau to transfer annual leave surplus to COVID-19 heroes

- Cabinet extends congratulations to royal leadership and citizens on upcoming Eid Al-Fitr**

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, has directed the Civil Service Bureau to transfer the annual leave surplus to frontline health professionals and other support staff.

The bureau was also directed to transfer the excess annual leave for employees whose annual leave balance exceeded 75 days on 31 December 2021.

This came following the weekly Cabinet meeting chaired by HRH Prince Salman yesterday at Gudaibiya Palace.

The Cabinet extended its congratulations to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, and the citizens of Bahrain on the occasion of the upcoming Eid Al-Fitr holiday.

To mark the coming Bahraini Press Day and World Press Freedom Day, the Cabinet wished media professionals and journalists success and highlighted the active role of media in supporting the Kingdom's national development.

For Labour Day, the Cabinet emphasised the dedication and contribution of the Kingdom's workforce to Bahrain's successful achievements, which has increased their attractiveness to employers.

ful achievements, which has increased their attractiveness to employers.

**The Cabinet approved the following:**

- A memorandum by the Civil Service Bureau regarding



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister chairs the weekly Cabinet meeting



**For Labour Day, the Cabinet emphasised the dedication and contribution of the Kingdom's workforce to Bahrain's successful achievements, which has increased their attractiveness to employers.**

restructuring and developing the work of several government agencies in order to increase efficiency and improve their performance.

- A memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs and Fiscal Balance regarding the

Kingdom's contribution to several international organisations to enhance expertise in humanitarian, training, professional, and labour fields.

- A memorandum by the Minister of Industry, Commerce, and Tourism on the inclusion of the Arab Republic of

Egypt to the 14 countries listed as partners for the air-sea freight service in the Kingdom of Bahrain. Companies based in these countries are allowed to apply for accreditation as operators of these services.

◆ A memorandum by the Ministerial Committee for Legal and Legislative Affairs on the government's response to 4 proposals and a law proposal submitted by the Council of Representatives.

The Cabinet also reviewed a memorandum by the Government Executive Committee on the updated Government Priority Framework 3.1 and what has been implemented to achieve financial sustainability and support the Kingdom's investment environment.

The Cabinet took note of a report submitted by the Minister of Finance and National Economy regarding his participation in the Spring Meeting of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

**The world mourns**

## It's official: Elon Musk buys Twitter for \$44bln

Washington



Elon Musk reached an agreement to buy Twitter for roughly \$44 billion yesterday, promising a more lenient touch to policing content on the platform where he promotes his interests, attacks critics and opines on social and economic issues to more than 83 million followers.

The outspoken Tesla CEO, who is also the world's wealthiest person, has said he wanted to buy and privatise Twitter because he thinks it's not living up to its potential as a platform for free speech.

Musk said in a joint statement with Twitter that he wants to make the service "better than ever" with new features, such as getting rid of automated "spam bots" and making its algorithms open to the public to increase trust.

"Free speech is the bedrock

of a functioning democracy, and Twitter is the digital town square where matters vital to the future of humanity are debated," he said.

The deal was cemented roughly two weeks after the billionaire first revealed a 9% stake in the platform. Musk said last week that he had lined up \$46.5 billion in financing to buy Twitter, putting pressure on the company's board to negotiate a deal.

Twitter said the transaction was unanimously approved by its board of directors. The 11-member board includes Twitter co-founder and former CEO Jack Dorsey.

## World's oldest person, Japanese Kane Tanaka, dies aged 119

Tokyo



Kane Tanaka, the world's oldest person, has died in Japan aged 119, according to a statement released by the country's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.

Tanaka, who was born Jan. 2, 1903, died April 19, the ministry said.

Guinness World Records said they were saddened to hear of Tanaka's passing, and said the news of her death had been confirmed by senior gerontology consultant Robert Young, who also helped confirm her record as the oldest person alive back in 2019.

Tweeting about her death,

**Born Jan. 2, 1903, Kane Tanaka was the second oldest person ever recorded.**

Guinness World Records said: "She became the oldest living

person in January 2019 at the age of 116 years and 28 days.

"She is also the second oldest person ever recorded, behind only Jeanne Calment who lived to the age of 122."

Tanaka's family said in a tweet this month that she had been frequently sick recently and "in and out of hospital."

Born in 1903, Tanaka married a rice shop owner at the age of 19, and worked in the family store until she was 103.

She twice survived cancer and lived through a multitude of historical events, surviving two world wars and the 1918 Spanish flu — as well as the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Bahrain thanked by Serbian leader



HM the King

TDT | Manama



the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, received cables of thanks from Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic in reply to their congratulations on Serbia's Independence Day.

## Cable for Tanzania

TDT | Manama

Hassan on her country's Union Day.

HM King Hamad wished President Hassan abundant health and happiness on this national occasion.

## Biban TV show preparations begin

TDT | Manama

Al Moayyed held a meeting with the board members.

They discussed the ongoing preparations for the launch of Biban TV show's second season.

# Dust storm sweeps across the Kingdom

Horizontal visibility affected as dust-laden winds thickened the air

Staff Reporter  
TDT | Manama

**V**isibility was severely affected as a dust storm swept across the Kingdom yesterday.

The Meteorological Department within the Ministry of Transport and Telecommunication has alerted of fast gusts, reaching up to 30 knots.

The maximum temperature recorded yesterday was 34 degree Celsius while the minimum temperature stood at 23 degree Celsius.

The atmosphere yesterday was thickened by dust-laden winds, leading to a low level of horizontal visibility, even partially masking many buildings in Manama.

A recent international study found that sand storms remained one of the reasons behind poor air quality in the Kingdom.

The Kingdom is among the 10 nations having the worst air quality. Conducted by Swiss firm IQAir, the 2021 World



Low levels of horizontal visibility across all major highways in the Kingdom yesterday

Air Quality Report is based on measurements of particulate matter obtained by ground-level monitoring stations worldwide.

PM2.5, the size studied, consists of fine aerosol particles measuring 2.5 microns or smaller in diameter and is thought to be the most harmful to health of the air pollutants monitored by international bodies.

PM2.5 concentration in Manama yesterday was 20.2 times above the WHO annual air quality guideline value.

The Kingdom came in at eighth, with 49.8 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

Bangladesh was rated the worst at 76.9  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , followed by Chad, Pakistan, Tajikistan and India. The readings for Bahrain were higher than in 2020.

A score over 50 means the level of PM2.5 exceeds the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines by at least 10 times. In September, the WHO updated the guidelines for the first time in 15 years to push countries to do more to combat the problem. The researchers behind the report used the new guidelines to return its results.

A much severe dust storm was reported in the eastern part of

Saudi Arabia and many areas across Jordan.

Jordanian Public Security Department (PSD) urged citizens, especially those living in the eastern, southern and central regions, to remain vigilant in light of the dust storm and the accompanying low-visibility conditions.

A large plume of Saharan Desert dust was reported to be blowing over Egypt and the Eastern Mediterranean, shrouding many parts of the region with a heavy sheet of grey and orange dust.

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Nine disciples of Guru Chitralekha Ajith will be performing their 'Bharathanatyam Arangetram' on Friday 6:30 pm at Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam Diamond Jubilee Hall. The event has been titled Nupur Dwani. Bharatanatyam is a major Indian form of classical dance that originated in the modern-day province of Tamil Nadu. It is one of the most popular performing art forms of India. Above from left, students Avani Sharma, Ananya Mahesh, Jyotsna Subash, Bhavani Menon Pullat, Guru Chitralekha, Rishika Ravikumar, Shreya Vinod, Ridhika Govil, Anne Rebecca and Naishada Nair.

## Gulf Air praises royal support



Captain AlAlawi with Gulf Air staff

TDT | Manama

Gulf Air Captain Acting Chief Executive Officer Waleed AlAlawi has hailed His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, for constantly supporting all frontline workers in the Kingdom's fight against the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Captain AlAlawi also commended the healthcare professionals, Bahrain Defence Force, Ministry of Interior, and relevant

authorities who all support national efforts to cushion the impact of the pandemic.

He praised the airline's efforts to provide services without interruption or disruption.

Captain AlAlawi recently handed the "Prince Salman bin Hamad Medal for Medical Merit" to numerous batches of the national cadres of the airline's employees.

This was in line with the royal order and in the context of the directives of HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minis-

ter to all concerned authorities to hand the medal to frontline workers across various sectors.

Captain AlAlawi congratulated the recipients of the "Prince Salman bin Hamad Medal for Medical Merit", expressing his thanks and appreciation to them for this medal, which represents a great honour.

He praised their strenuous efforts during the past period, and wishing them all success and encouraging them to put in further efforts towards the interest and prosperity of the Kingdom.

# Rigorous selection process

Crown Prince's International Scholarship Program begins assessing applications of 1,254 young Bahraini students

● Final 10 scholarship recipients will be announced in April next year

● Program evaluates candidates' English language and critical reasoning skills

● Applicants abroad to take tests under supervised conditions at appropriate location

TDT | Manama

The Crown Prince's International Scholarship Program (CPISP) has started the assessment process for 1,254 scholarship applicants from governmental and private schools, and Bahrainis studying abroad.

The program cooperated with Bahrain Institute of Banking and Finance (BIBF) to assess candidates' English language and critical reasoning skills.

CPISP Director of Finance and Administration Affairs Shatha

Ahmed Ali noted that the assessment included a computer-based test of English Proficiency, in addition to three critical reasoning tests to assess verbal, numerical, and diagrammatical reasoning.

For applicants currently studying outside of Bahrain, the program arranged for applicants to take the tests under supervised conditions at an appropriate location.

Ali highlighted that the next step will be to select a minimum of 60 candidates based on the results of the qualifying tests and their Grade Point Average (GPA).

The candidates will then undergo various training and preparation courses for standardised testing throughout the summer and the next academic year until the final 10 recipients, five males and five females, are selected in April 2023.

## Nurturing minds

The Crown Prince's International Scholarship Program aims to nurture the minds of future generations through education.

The Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime



Evaluation of applicants' credentials is underway

Minister, established the CPISP in 1999 to guide Bahrain's young people into the 21st century.

Under the programme, the most able high school students from Bahrain are awarded scholarships to continue their higher education overseas, and return to productively contribute to the development of Bahrain.

The program provides Bahrain's most gifted and talented youth the opportunity to learn at the finest international educational institutions.

Further, it provides its scholars with career development support and training; equipping

them with the necessary tools to become effective decision makers who contribute to Bahrain's development, both nationally and globally.

The program is privately funded by HRH Prince Salman and various local and international sponsoring organisations and individuals who share HRH's vision of equipping outstanding young Bahrainis with the necessary tools to excel and achieve their aspirations and contribute to the building of a modern Bahraini state.

## Selection criteria



To qualify, Bahraini students set to graduate in 2023 should have a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 97% over the course of Grade 10 and the first semester of Grade 11.

Ten fully funded university scholarships are awarded on an annual basis to young men and women from both governmental and private secondary schools, based on their academic merit. The selection criteria include SAT and IELTS scores, Grade Point Average (GPA), and results of training programs organised by the CPISP.

Since its inception, over 160 of Bahrain's brightest high school graduates have been selected to pursue higher education degrees at top international universities around the world.

The program provides its scholars with training and a solid international educational foundation, in addition to continuous opportunities to gain work experience and international cultural exposure.

HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister meets with all scholars sponsored by the CPISP during their holiday breaks in Bahrain to personally follow up on their progress.

Scholars choose their own desired field of study and accredited university they gain acceptance to, provided that it is outside of the Kingdom of Bahrain and the region, to ensure international cultural exposure.

The CPISP provides its scholars with internships and career development guidance, and facilitates them with job placement after graduation. The program organises courses and training for all qualifying candidates applying for scholarships, as part of the overall selection process.

## CSB stresses temporary employment rights

TDT | Manama

The total number of temporary employees in ministries and government agencies under the Civil Service Law is 87 in a number of different government agencies.

This was confirmed by the Civil Service Bureau (CSB), adding that the temporary employee's contract renewal or shifting to permanent employment is referred to the government agency.

## AI and renewable energy virtual conference is set

Staff Reporter  
TDT | Manama

Bahrain's first International virtual conference of 'Artificial Intelligence in Sustainability and Renewable Energy' will be held on Thursday in association between International Group of Artificial Intelligence and the Indian Embassy.

In a statement issued to media, Jassim Haji, Chairman of the Conference and President of International Group of Artificial Intelligence, stated: "We are grateful to the Indian Em-



Dr Haji Mr Srivastava

He added: "We are also delighted to organise the conference during the 50th year anniversary of Bahrain-India Diplomatic relation."

The conference will be moderated by Arun Shanker from GEC, Dubai and participation of Dr Chiranjiv Roy and Vineet Agarwal from SG, India and Dr Shahnawaz Khan and Sini Raj Pulari from Bahrain Polytechnic with Dalal Buhumeida as MC.

The conference will discuss AI in Sustainability Analytics, AI in Agriculture and AI for Sustainable Future.



their bonuses.

The ministry commended all national efforts which were exerted by frontliners to serve the nation and citizens, combat the pandemic and protect people's health and safety.

It noted that it had paid financial dues and bonuses rewards to multiple groups of volunteers and national cadres who contributed to combating the pandemic, after all lists of recipients had been subjected to evaluation and review, in coordination with the competent authorities.

## Court drops embezzlement charge against exchange company employee

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court of Appeal acquitted an exchange company employee of embezzlement of funds, in a case where eight employees were convicted of stealing BD346.

Lawyer Zuhair Abdul Latif, who represents the only defendant found not guilty, stated that the incident occurred between 2018 and 2019, and that the first defendant used his position to steal the money.

"He supplied the remaining defendants with customer information for transferring sums to India without the customers attending the exchange. They

would add a letter, number or symbol to the name of the beneficiary to avoid name repetition which alerts the money laundering control system," the lawyer explained.

"Then the first defendant approved the transfers from the account of the aggrieved company, embezzling these funds instead of depositing them to the company."

Lawyer Zuhair stated that the third defendant was tasked with falsifying financial reports in order to conceal a budget shortfall while the remaining defendants put the data into the company system.

However, regarding the Public Prosecution referring to his

client among the accused, he argued that the elements of criminal contribution were missing by way of agreement and assistance, indicating the lack of connection between his client and the main defendant in the case. He noted the accounting report that suggests the unlikelihood of his client having any role in the embezzlement.

The court declared the case papers to be absent of certain evidence to confirm the guilt of the second defendant of the accusation attributed to him, excluding for hearsay. There is no material evidence which proves the second defendant's involvement, thus his innocence was ruled.

## COURT STORIES

TDT | Manama

The Lower Criminal Court acquitted a young man of embezzling movables belonging to a company after questioning the authenticity of the accusation against him.

The court asserted that criminal rulings are based on certainty rather than guesswork.

The Public Prosecution accused him of embezzling the movables described in the report, owned by an electronics company and given to him on a free-to-use basis, to the detriment of the right holders.

The defendant's lawyer, Dr Mohamed Al Kooheji, said his client was accused of stealing two computers, a hard disk con-

taining sensitive information, an external hard drive for the company's storage, a controller with a USB memory stick, company keys, a key to the outer fence and the main office key.

The accusation was directed against him by his employer after the end of their contractual relationship.

## Review

Dr Al Kooheji pleaded the civil nature of the dispute before the court, urging to review the statements of the aggrieved party's attorney, since the report concerns equipment that was in the custody of the defendant which he allegedly did not return, challenging the validity of this false claim.

Since the relationship between the two parties is a professional relationship, the dispute is thus coloured by the civil aspect, in addition to the fact that the defendant did not receive the equipment nor is there a record of such, he described.

Dr Al Kooheji added that the report contains a contradiction that confirms the aggrieved party's intent to frame the defendant.

"The violation was reported more than seven and a half months after the termination of the working relationship on 30 November 2020, which indicates the aggrieved party's scheme to accuse the defendant of embezzlement," Dr Al Kooheji explained.

## Young man acquitted of embezzlement due to lack of evidence: Lower Criminal Court

# ‘Efforts to uncover buried rich treasures in full pace’

Excavations continue to offer archaeological and anthropological materials and data

● Artefacts reflect richness of Bahrain civilisational heritage

Staff Reporter  
TDT | Manama

Best efforts are on to uncover the archaeological treasures buried, artefacts that reflect the richness of Bahrain's civilisational heritage and the prosperity of its people throughout the ages, according to Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA) officials.

Since 2017, the French Archaeological Mission in Bahrain has been engaged in a research project at Abu Saiba, a major necropolis from the Tylos archaeological period of the island.

The site of Abu Saiba is a hill tomb dating back to the Middle Tylos period (50 BC-150 AD), with a maximum diameter of 70 metres, and a height of 4 to 4.5 metres. Indeed, since 2017 until today, about a third of the total area of the mound has been uncovered, and 93 burials have been identified.

During this year 2022, 23 new tombs were discovered, while 11 were completely excavated, and out of these 11 burials that were excavated, three were intact, the others were deliberately looted and robbed, most likely in antiquity, though they still yield



The site of Abu Saiba is a hill tomb dating back to the Middle Tylos period

sometimes interesting archaeological and anthropological materials and data.

Julien Cuny, Head of the French Archaeological Mission Team, earlier asserted that the main goals and objectives of excavation at the Abu Saiba site is to study the material culture of the people of Bahrain during the Tylos period, looking for accurate information on chronology, the different materials and manufacturing process, funerary rituals, and trade relations.

During this year, Julien added, an interesting intact tomb was excavated. The body was laid on its back in a built burial chamber covered with stone slabs. "The burial chamber was not filled with sediment, as is usually the case when tombs are looted. The skeleton was well preserved and in good conservation conditions. The dead is a male over 50 years

old, who was buried with few things: only a bowl placed in his right hand and parts of an animal, possibly a chicken, as an afterlife offering."

A pair of ancient dice, considered to be the first ever found in the country and probably used for gaming or fortune telling rit-

uals, was also discovered during the excavation at the archaeological site of Abu Saiba.

"Many details are not known about the story of the dice's origin, but it is considered the first dice discovered in Bahrain. It was part of a game or ritual of fortune-tellers," Dr Salman Al Mahari, Director of Antiquities and Museums, had told Al Arabiya TV.

"What looks like a hill cemetery was found dating back to the middle Tylos period (50 BC to 150 AD), with a maximum diameter of 70 metres, and a height between 4 and 4.5 metres," Mr Al Mahari said.

In 2019, the Unesco World Heritage Committee voted to add Bahrain's Dilmun Burial Mounds to the World Heritage List.

The landmark comprises 21 archaeological sites, in the western part of the island. They were built

between 2050 BC and 1750 BC.

It provides evidence of the Early Dilmun civilisation, in about the second millennium BC, when Bahrain became a trade hub.

Last month, archaeologists discovered a 4,500-year-old highway network in Saudi Arabia lined with well-preserved ancient tombs.

Researchers from the University of Western Australia have carried out a wide-ranging investigation over the past year, involving aerial surveys conducted by helicopter, ground survey and excavation and examination of satellite imagery.

In findings published, the researchers said the "funerary avenues" spanning large distances in the northwestern Arabian counties of Al 'Ula and Khaybar had received little examination until quite recently.

**Bahraini training to approve foreigner employment**

TDT | Manama

Civil Service Bureau (CSB) has required the training of Bahraini employees to approve the employment contracts of non-Bahrainis as an essential part of their duties and responsibilities.

The bureau said the rule applies to professions in rare specialties in government entities.

The majority of such professions occupied by non-Bahraini employees fall within the health sector, educational sector, higher education institutions and some other specialisations.

The CSB said that the implementation of the instruction refers to each government organisation independently, due to their ability to assess their need to fill vacancies and the possibility of developing a training mechanism that enables the replacement of foreigners with Bahraini employees according to the necessary qualifications and experience.

**Philippine Embassy Head of Mission graces PTAB event**

TDT | Manama

The new Head of Mission of the Philippine Embassy, Charge d'Affaires, ad interim, Anne Jalando-on Louis, attended the oath-taking and turnover ceremony of the Philippine Teachers Association-Bahrain (PTAB) on 22 April at the Unitag House in Manama.

Louis inducted into office PTAB's newly-elected Executive Committee for the year 2022-2023 and also delivered an inspirational message.

In her message, she commended the officers and members of PTAB for their spirit of volunteerism and dedication in promoting the interests of its members, including advancing their knowledge and skills as educators.

As a former clinical instructor herself, the Charge d'Affaires conveyed her affinity with the teaching profession and expressed her joy over meeting the group of Filipino teachers.

## Bahrain Red Crescent Society holds annual Ramadan meeting

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Red Crescent Society held its annual Ramadan meeting at its headquarters in the diplomatic area, under the patronage of its chairman, Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, in the presence of several board members and executive management, as well as about 100 of its members.

Mr Ali Mohammed Murad, Deputy Chairman of the Society, delivered a speech in which he thanked Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah for his support, which enabled it to continue its successes and promote relief and humanitarian work both inside



Deputy Prime Minister Shaikh Khalid bin Abdullah at the event

and outside Bahrain.

He also extended thanks to the members of the Society's Board of Directors and the General Administration, represented by Mr Mubarak Al-Haddi, as well as all

other affiliates and volunteers, while emphasising the Society's eagerness to strengthen partnerships with various governmental and private organizations and donors in order to carry out its

ambitious initiatives.

Several members and voluntary organisations were honoured during the meeting for their efforts and support of the Society, notably during the pandemic, as

well as their distribution of aid to needy families in various parts of Bahrain. A video was also displayed, showcasing the activities and programs of the Society's different volunteer committees.

## Grand Iftar



Over 1,000 people took part in the Grand Iftar held at Manama Central Market yesterday. Dignitaries, leading officials and eminent personalities were present at the event, which was attended by workers and traders at the market.

# NBB, Exotic Cars join hands

TDT | Manama

The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has partnered with Exotic Cars to provide auto finance solutions to their customers, helping them purchase their new vehicles.

The MoU signing ceremony was held at NBB's headquarters in the presence of Nabeel Ameen from Exotic Cars, alongside Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani and Ahmed Al Maskati from the National Bank of Bahrain.

NBB said its Auto Loan product is designed to provide customers with a seamless and quick approval process while purchasing their desired cars at low interest rates.

In addition, the bank will be offering its customers the opportunity to win a cash prize of BHD 1,000, as part of the newly introduced Auto Loan campaign that will continue until 2nd June 2022.

Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive Retail Banking



The MoU signing ceremony was held at NBB's headquarters in the presence of Nabeel Ameen from Exotic Cars, alongside Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani and Ahmed Al Maskati from the National Bank of Bahrain.

at NBB, said: "We at the National Bank of Bahrain look forward to a collaborative relationship with Exotic Car Centre to extend our auto loan solutions and design specially catered offers to prospective car buyers. We trust that our personalised ser-

vices and expedited processes will enhance the customer's experience while purchasing their dream car. We look forward to further extending our auto loan product with dealerships across the Kingdom."

Nabeel Ameen, Chief Execu-

tive Officer at Exotic Cars, said: "With this partnership, customers will be able to purchase their dream car through a smooth and expeditious process. We look forward to more enhanced partnerships with NBB in the future."

# Abu Dhabi licences Kraken to operate crypto exchange

Reuters | Dubai

Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) said yesterday it has licenced the Kraken group to operate a regulated virtual asset exchange platform in the financial free zone.

Kraken is the first global virtual assets exchange group in the United Arab Emirates to receive a full financial licence from the ADGM, it said.

Kraken MENA (Middle East and North Africa) aims to provide access to virtual assets through regulated funding, trading, and custodial services in dirhams, UAE's currency.

ADGM introduced a virtual asset regulatory framework in 2018 and has since established itself as a leading global hub and business platform for virtual asset activities for lo-

cal, regional and international firms.

UAE's main business hub, Dubai, has also been attracting crypto-currency firms as it issued its first law governing digital assets and formed the Virtual Asset Regulatory Authority (VARA) to oversee the sector in March.

The Kraken group, founded in 2011, serves more than 9 million customers across 60 countries.

**60**

The Kraken group, founded in 2011, serves more than 9 million customers across 60 countries.

# Twitter set to accept Musk's \$43 bn offer

Twitter may announce the \$54.20-per-share deal once its board has met to recommend the transaction

Reuters | New York

Twitter Inc (TWTR.N) is poised to agree a sale to Elon Musk for around \$43 billion in cash, the price the chief executive of Tesla Inc (TSLA.O) has called his "best and final" offer for the social media company, people familiar with the matter said.

Twitter may announce the \$54.20-per-share deal once its board has met to recommend the

transaction to Twitter shareholders, the sources said. It is always possible that the deal collapses at the last minute, the sources added.

Musk, the world's richest person according to a tally by Forbes, is negotiating to buy Twitter in a personal capacity and Tesla is not involved in the deal.

Twitter has not been able to secure so far a 'go-shop' provi-



sion under its agree-

ment with Musk that would allow it to solicit other bids

once the deal is signed, the sources said. Still, Twitter would be allowed to accept an offer from another party by paying Musk a break-up fee, the sources added. The sources requested anonymity because the matter is confidential. Twitter and Musk did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Twitter shares were up 4.5% in pre-market trading in New York on Monday at \$51.15.

**BETTER YOU KNOW**

Musk's negotiating tactics - making one offer and sticking with it - resembles how another billionaire, Warren Buffett, negotiates acquisitions. Musk did not provide any financing details when he first disclosed his offer for Twitter, making the market skeptical about its prospects.

Musk has said Twitter needs to be taken private to grow and become a genuine platform for

free speech.

The deal would come just four days after Musk unveiled a financing package to back the acquisition. This led Twitter's board to take the deal more seriously and many shareholders to ask the company not to let the opportunity for a deal to slip away, Reuters reported on Sunday.

The sale would represent an admission by Twitter that its new chief executive Parag Agrawal, who took the helm in November, is not making enough traction in making the company more profitable, despite being on track to meet ambitious financial goals the company set for 2023. Twitter's shares were trading higher than Musk's offer price as recently as November.

# ASRY sets new 10-million-man-hours safety record



On 13 April 2022, ASRY surpassed 10 million manhours, without an LTI

TDT | Manama

founded in 1977.

ASRY Managing Director, Mazen Matar, said, "On this occasion, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and congratulations to all our employees, in particular HES team, our subcontractors, clients, agents, stakeholders and all other parties for their wholehearted support, efforts and contributions to this major and remarkable

achievement".

Matar added, "We are extremely proud of the achievement considering the strong volume and diversity of work that has occurred throughout the forgoing period. Safety success does not come from a single initiative, but from a multi-faceted cultural shift on an institutional level, that has only been

possible through the hundreds of initiatives, process-changes, procedural updates, integrity of processes and procedures, teamwork, and personal commitments to safety guidelines".

"This is an ongoing and permanent improvement process to the entire way ASRY operates and will continue to evolve to keep our 5,000+ staff as safe as possible for the foreseeable future."

# Most Gulf bourses fall

Reuters

Most stock markets in the Gulf ended lower yesterday, tracking global shares, as oil prices tumbled nearly 5% on concerns over the impact of rising interest rates and China's COVID-19 lockdowns on global economic growth.

Asian markets suffered their worst session in over a month as worries that Beijing could soon be back in a lockdown sent Chinese shares back to 2020 lows, and as the effects of Wall Street's 2.5% slump on Friday lingered.

The Qatari benchmark (QSI) ended 1.6% lower, extending losses from the previous session, as all stocks but one on the index were in negative territory.

The Abu Dhabi index (FT-FADGI) dropped 0.9%, hit by a 2.1% fall in the United Arab Emirates' largest lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB.AD).

Dubai's main share index (.DFMGI) declined 0.8%, snapping a four-day winning streak, with blue-chip developer Emaar Properties (EMAR).

## Closing bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.6% to 13,543
ABU DHABI	▼ 0.9% to 10,043
DUBAI	▼ 0.8% to 3,654
QATAR	▼ 1.6% to 13,764
BAHRAIN	▼ 0.6% to 2,068
OMAN	▼ 0.6% to 4,195
KUWAIT	▲ 1.1% to 9,243

DU) losing 0.8%. Crude prices, a key catalyst for the Gulf's financial markets, hit a near two-week low on demand worries.

Saudi Arabia's benchmark index (.TASI), however, bucked the trend to close 0.6% higher, led by a 2.1% jump in Islamic lender Al Rajhi Bank (1120.SE).

The Saudi stock market was mixed as investors' sentiment tilted between the strong fundamentals and international concerns, said Wael Makarem, senior market strategist at Exness.

On other hand, Saudi Kayan Petrochemical Company (2350.SE) plunged 8.7% after the company reported a steep fall in quarterly net profit.

Egypt was closed for a public holiday

## News in brief

◆ **Russia said yesterday it would investigate** the cause of a large fire that erupted in the early hours of the morning at an oil storage facility in the city of Bryansk 154 km (96 miles) northeast of the border with Ukraine. Unverified social media footage showed what sounded like two explosions followed by a tower of flames, with one unverified video showing a fire raging around a giant fuel reservoir. Russia's Ministry of Emergency Situations said nobody had been hurt in the incident. The ministry said in a statement that the fire had broken out at a facility owned by oil pipeline company Transneft at 0200 Moscow time (2300 GMT), and that there had been no need to evacuate any parts of Bryansk, a city of 400,000 people.

**Biden names veteran career diplomat Brink as US ambassador to Ukraine**



as the new US ambassador to Ukraine, the White House said yesterday, moving to fill a crucial position that was vacant for nearly three years and at a time when Washington is ramping up its support to help Ukraine fend off a Russian invasion. Brink, who is currently serving as the US ambassador to Slovakia, has been a career diplomat for 25 years and has worked in Uzbekistan and Georgia as well as at several senior positions across the State Department and White House National Security Council. A Michigan native who speaks Russian, Brink's "decades of experience make her uniquely suited for this moment in Ukraine's history," a State Department statement said.

◆ **Iran and Saudi Arabia held a fifth round of "positive" talks** in Baghdad last Thursday on normalising bilateral relations, Iran's foreign ministry spokesperson Saeed Khatibzadeh confirmed yesterday.

"The fifth round of talks between Saudi Arabia and Tehran were held in Iraq and the talks were progressive and positive," Khatibzadeh told a televised weekly news conference. On Sunday, Iraq's Foreign Minister Fouad Hussein said Baghdad would host a new round of talks. Khatibzadeh said "initial talks were underway between Tehran and Riyadh on sending 40,000 Iranian pilgrims to the haj in Mecca" this year.

◆ **US President Joe Biden will visit Israel in the coming months following an invitation** from Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, Bennett's office and the White House said on Sunday. The two leaders spoke on Sunday and Bennett briefed Biden on efforts "to stop the violence and incitement in Jerusalem," Bennett's office said in a statement, in reference to Israeli-Palestinian clashes at the holy city's Al-Aqsa mosque. At least 57 Palestinians were injured in clashes with Israeli police within the mosque compound on Friday, raising concern of a repeat of last year's war between Israel and the Hamas Islamists ruling Gaza. US officials have been engaged with Israelis, Palestinians and Arab

**Biden to visit Israel in coming months after Bennett invitation**

representatives in the region amid the tensions. Biden "took note of ongoing efforts between Israeli and Palestinian officials to lower tensions and ensure a peaceful conclusion to the holy season of Ramadan" and affirmed "his unwavering support for Israel and its defense needs," the White House said in its statement.

### Russia investigates large oil depot fire in region near Ukraine

# Russia warns US against

◆ **Russia warns West over arms supplies to Ukraine**

◆ **US pouring oil on fire of Ukraine conflict - ambassador**

◆ **US pledges more security aid**

◆ **Blinken, Austin visit Kyiv**

Reuters | London

Russia told the United States to stop sending more arms to Ukraine, warning that large Western deliveries of weapons were inflaming the conflict and would lead to more losses, Moscow's ambassador to Washington said.

Russia's Feb. 24 invasion of Ukraine has killed thousands of people, displaced millions more and raised fears of a wider confrontation between Russia and the United States - by far the world's two biggest nuclear powers. The United States has ruled out sending its own or NATO forces to Ukraine but Washington and its European allies have supplied weapons to Kyiv such as drones, Howitzer heavy artillery, anti-air



U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin attend a meeting with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy

## US to reopen Kyiv

◆ **Washington pledges \$713 mln in military aid**

◆ **Russia demands Washington stop sending arms**

◆ **US diplomats to return to Ukraine in sign of support**

◆ **Huge fire hits Russian fuel depot near border**

Reuters | Kyiv

The United States will reopen its embassy in Ukraine soon, Secretary of State Antony Blinken said yesterday after he and Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin visited Kyiv, promising more military aid and hailing the fight against Russia's invasion.

Both men said the fact they were able to come to Kyiv was proof of Ukraine's tenacity in forcing Moscow to abandon an assault on the capital last month.

"What you've done in repelling the Russians in the battle of Kyiv is extraordinary and inspiring quite frankly to the rest of the world," Austin told President Volodymyr Zelenskiy at a meeting overnight after a train journey from Poland. "We are here to support you in any way possible."

Said Blinken: "The reason

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin visited Kyiv on Sunday.

They told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy of more than \$322 million in new military

## 800m

US President Joe Biden pledged \$800 million in more weaponry for Ukraine on Thursday and said he would ask Congress for more money to help bolster support

craft Stinger and anti-tank Javelin missiles.

Anatoly Antonov, Russia's ambassador to the United States, said such arms deliveries were aimed at weakening Russia but that they were escalating the conflict in Ukraine while undermining efforts to reach some sort of peace agreement.

"What the Americans are doing is pouring oil on the flames," Antonov told the Rossiya 24 TV channel. "I see only an attempt to raise the stakes, to aggravate

the situation, to see more losses."

Antonov, who has served as ambassador to Washington since 2017, said an official diplomatic note had been sent to Washington expressing Russia's concerns. No reply had been given, Antonov said. "We stressed the unacceptability of this situation when the United States of America pours weapons into Ukraine, and we demanded an end to this practice," Antonov said. The interview was replayed on Russian state television throughout Monday.

## COVID-1:9 Countries worst affected

	Country	Total cases	Total deaths	Global tally
1	USA	82,662,748	1,018,335	509,691,132
2	India	43,060,086	522,223	
3	Brazil	30,349,463	662,701	
4	France	28,303,931	145,060	
5	Germany	24,173,897	134,683	
6	UK	21,933,206	173,352	
7	Russia	18,144,788	375,061	
8	S. Korea	16,929,564	22,243	
9	Italy	16,161,339	162,781	
10	Turkey	15,018,547	98,691	
11	Spain	11,786,036	103,908	
12	Vietnam	10,563,502	43,013	
13	Argentina	9,060,923	128,344	
14	Netherlands	8,040,607	22,227	

Figures as of closing

## Middle East

Country	Total cases	new cases	Total deaths	New Deaths	Total recovered	Active cases
Egypt	515,645		24,613		442,182	48,850
Saudi Arabia	753,526	+109	9,079	+1	740,871	3,576
UAE	897,351	+215	2,302		880,145	14,904
Kuwait	631,294		2,555		627,899	840
Oman	389,074	+21	4,258	+1	384,172	644
Qatar	364,300	+113	677		362,776	847

## Funerals held in Tripoli after shipwreck, dozens still missing

◆ **A seventh body was found yesterday morning**

Reuters | Tripoli, Lebanon

The families of migrants killed who died when their vessel capsized Lebanon's northern coast held funerals in the port city of Tripoli yesterday while rescue efforts continued to find dozens still missing.

A dinghy carrying Lebanese, Syrian and Palestinian migrants sank late on Saturday off the coast near Tripoli when naval forces collided with the vessel as the smuggler tried to evade capture.

The United Nations' refugee agency (UNHCR) estimates the dinghy was carrying 80 people at the time it capsized. The authorities say 47 people were rescued, leaving around two dozen unaccounted for.

A seventh body was found yesterday morning, the head of the Tripoli port authority told Reuters.

In Tripoli's Bab al-Tebbaneh



People stand near stretchers that are prepared for dead bodies after a boat capsized off the Lebanon coast of Tripoli overnight, at port of Tripoli, northern Lebanon

**I tried to grab my son but I got a blanket instead. The water took him from me**

AMID DANDACHI

neighbourhood, large crowds gathered for funeral processions of the victims, including a boy

and a young man from the Dandachi family who buried their loved ones while desperate to hear the fate of another eight still missing, among them children. Amid Dandachi, 38, said he and his wife had barely survived the shipwreck. Their children likely hadn't.

"I tried to grab my son but I got a blanket instead. The water took him from me," he told Reuters, his eyes red from crying. His brother Bilal was also still

waiting to know what happened to his two children and wife, whose bodies he suspects are trapped in the sunken dinghy.

In the same neighborhood, another funeral was being held for two more victims of the disaster - a young girl and a woman from the Sammaki family. Men on foot and atop motorcycles fired rifles in the air in mourning as they accompanied the bodies to the cemetery.

In a press conference on Sunday, the army said naval forces had collided with the dinghy as the smuggler in charge tried to evade the military. It previously said the boat had left the coast of Lebanon illegally.

Breaking down into tears, Bilal Dandachi said Lebanon's naval forces had not done enough to rescue those drowning.

"I only have one request from the army command - a transparent investigation. It's the right of my children and the children of my brother and the children of all these people," he said.

In addition to the sunken dinghy, three boats carrying a total of 64 migrants had departed Lebanon this year, of which two were intercepted, according to UNHCR.

1945

Marshal Philippe Pétain, leader of France's Vichy collaborationist regime during World War II, arrested for treason

1956

First modern container ship, the Ideal X, leaves Port Newark, New Jersey for Houston, Texas



1986

World's worst nuclear disaster: 4th reactor at Chernobyl nuclear power station in USSR explodes, 31 die, radioactive contamination reaches much of Western Europe

2005

Under international pressure, Syria withdraws the last of its 14,000 troops from Lebanon, ending its 29-year military domination of that country.

TOP  
4  
TWEETS

01



Congratulations to @EmmanuelMacron on his re-election. France is our oldest ally and a key partner in addressing global challenges. I look forward to our continued close cooperation – including on supporting Ukraine, defending democracy, and countering climate change.

@JoeBiden

02



Congratulations to @EmmanuelMacron on your re-election as President of France. France is one of our closest and most important allies. I look forward to continuing to work together on the issues which matter most to our two countries and to the world.

@BorisJohnson

03



Congratulations to my friend @EmmanuelMacron on being re-elected as the President of France! I look forward to continue working together to deepen the India-France Strategic Partnership.

@narendramodi

04



Malaria is preventable & treatable - yet it continues to claim the lives of more than 600,000 people every year. On #WorldMalariaDay, I urge countries to step up investments and innovation to accelerate progress towards a malaria-free future.

@BorisJohnson

# sending more arms to Ukraine

U.S. embassy soon, says Russia has failed in war aims



Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskiy poses for a picture with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin

now US ambassador in Slovakia, to be the new envoy to Kyiv.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said Moscow had thwarted an attempt to assassinate a high profile Russian journalist by Ukrainian agents backed by the West. The FSB security service said it had arrested a group planning to kill Vladimir Solovyov, host of a talk show on Russia's main state television station and one of the most prominent voices in support of the invasion.

In a daily update on the conflict, Britain's defence ministry said Russia had made only minor advances in parts of Donbas.

"Without sufficient logistical and combat support enablers in place, Russia has yet to achieve a significant breakthrough," it said.

The relative calm in Kyiv is a contrast with the south and east of the country, where the war grinds on relentlessly.

Some 320 km (200 miles) southeast of Kyiv, Russian missile strikes on an oil refinery and power plant in Kremenchuk killed one person and wounded seven, the governor of the Poltava region said. Moscow said it had destroyed oil production facilities.

Russia also fired rockets at two towns in the central Vinnytsia region, causing an unspecified number of deaths and injuries, regional Governor Serhiy Borzov reported.

United States was using Ukraine to threaten Russia and Moscow had to defend against the persecution of Russian-speaking people.

Putin, who says Ukraine and Russia are essentially one people, casts the war as an inevitable confrontation with the United States, which he accuses of threatening Russia by meddling in its backyard and enlarging the NATO military alliance.

Ukraine says it is fighting an

imperial-style land grab and that Putin's claims of genocide are nonsense. Putin warned in February that there would be no

winners in a conflict between NATO and Russia, which has the world's biggest arsenal of nuclear warheads.

## Panic buying in Beijing stores amid COVID lockdown fears

Reuters | Beijing/Shanghai



A staff member takes notes of goods at a half empty freezer for fruits at a supermarket in Beijing

Knowing how Shanghai residents struggled to source food and other essentials while locked indoors, shoppers in Beijing crowded stores and online platforms to stock up on vegetables, fresh meat, instant noodles and toilet paper.

Authorities in Chaoyang, home to 3.45 million people, late on Sunday ordered those who live and work there to be tested three times this week as Beijing warned the virus had "stealthily" spread for about a week before being detected.

Authorities in Chaoyang, home to 3.45 million people, late on Sunday ordered those who live and work there to be tested three times this week as Beijing warned the virus had "stealthily" spread for about a week before being detected.

In the financial hub, the lack of enough couriers to make deliveries to homes has been the main supply bottleneck, fuelling widespread anxiety and anger.

Research by Gavekal Drag

onics published on Friday

estimated that out of China's top

100 cities by economic output,

57 had "relatively tough" COVID-19 restrictions in place last

week, down from 66 the week before.

Beijing's case load is small compared with those globally and the hundreds of thousands in Shanghai. Most Chaoyang

schools, stores and offices remained open.

The district is home to many wealthy residents, most foreign

embassies as well as entertain-

ment venues and corporate headquarters. It has little manufacturing.

In Shanghai, draconian restrictions were still enforced widely across the city, but officials raised hopes of some respite by saying they would look into reserving the harshest curbs for smaller areas around confirmed cases.

"Every compound, every gate, every door must be strictly managed," Qi Keping, vice-head of Shanghai's northeastern commercial district of Yangpu, told a daily news conference, describing the new, more targeted approach, and saying it would "better achieve differentiated prevention".

Over the weekend, authorities sealed off entrances of many public housing blocks and even entire streets with two-metre-tall green wire mesh fences, with videos online showing residents protesting from their balconies as frustration reached new heights among the city's 25 million residents.

Police in hazmat suits have been patrolling the streets, setting up road blocks and asking pedestrians to go home.

## Israel's Strauss recalls chocolate after salmonella found

Reuters | Jerusalem

Israeli foodmaker Strauss Group said yesterday it was recalling more than a dozen types of Elite brand chocolate after a routine inspection at its plant in northern Israel found traces of salmonella.

Strauss disclosed in a regulatory filing the discovery of the bacterium, which can cause intestinal disease.

Strauss recalled products made after Feb. 20 and the Nazareth-area plant has been shut to find the source of the problem, the company said, adding it was coordinating with Israel's Health Ministry.

The company said it was not aware of any customer contracting salmonella from one of its products.

It said that while it was not yet able to assess the impact of the recall and plant shutdown on its financial results, it may have a material effect on 2022 profits.

Earlier this month, Belgian health authorities ordered Italian confectionary group Ferrero to suspend production at its plant in Belgium, after an investigation into dozens of cases of salmonella linked to the company's Kinder chocolates.

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

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# Classifieds



Call us on +973 36458394

email : [advt@newsofbahrain.com](mailto:advt@newsofbahrain.com)

## VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

**AL MUADHEN TOWERS SERVICES** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36641686 or [ALMUADHENBH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ALMUADHENBH@GMAIL.COM)

**AREENA CONTRACTOR GROUP CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION). GENERAL , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17245222 or [ALANSARI@ARENAGROUP.COM](mailto:ALANSARI@ARENAGROUP.COM)

**ANWAR ABDULLA CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36262227 or [ANWAR123@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ANWAR123@GMAIL.COM)

**AL MUADHEN TOWERS SERVICES** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36641686 or [ALMUADHENBH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ALMUADHENBH@GMAIL.COM)

**MISTER MACHINE B.S.C** has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17708166 or [TAHABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM](mailto:TAHABDULLA@MISTER-MACHINE.COM)

**FABTECH INDUSTRIES W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36288848 or [idawani@fabtechbahrain.com](mailto:idawani@fabtechbahrain.com)

**THE BRITISH SCHOOL OF BAHRAIN/** has a vacancy for the occupation of TEACHER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17610920 or [hrcv@thessb.com](mailto:hrcv@thessb.com)

**NATIONAL EXCAVATING EST. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17621168 or [NEEWL@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:NEEWL@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**ATLAS FISH COMPANY W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of QUALITY INSPECTOR , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703866 or [SADIQ\\_Y5\\_65@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SADIQ_Y5_65@HOTMAIL.COM)

**NATIONAL MOTOR COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(CARS ENGINES) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17787209 or [RAMZI.BARAKAT@NMC.COM.BH](mailto:RAMZI.BARAKAT@NMC.COM.BH)

**ATLAS FISH COMPANY W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (RISK CONTROL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17703866 or [SADIQ\\_Y5\\_65@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:SADIQ_Y5_65@HOTMAIL.COM)

**MARMAH REAL ESTATE** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 34026687 or [ASMAADAM040@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ASMAADAM040@GMAIL.COM)

**Eat To Fit Restaurant W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 39888138 or [BENSU@EATTOFITDIET.COM](mailto:BENSU@EATTOFITDIET.COM)

**ALHAJ HASSAN GROUP B.S.C CLOSED** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or [VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM](mailto:VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM)

**ALHAJ HASSAN GROUP B.S.C CLOSED** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17551111 or [VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM](mailto:VIJESH.NAIR@HAJIHASSAN.COM)

**Sayed Kadhem aldurazi & sons B.S.C.** close has a vacancy for the occupation of SHOVEL OPERATOR , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17624116 or [sayedshubar@skaldurazi.com](mailto:sayedshubar@skaldurazi.com)

**AL MOAYYED LANDSCAPES AND SWIMMING POOLS** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or [ameer@almoayyedc.com](mailto:ameer@almoayyedc.com)

**DADABHAI CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17255209 or [hrd@dababhaconstruction.com](mailto:hrd@dababhaconstruction.com)

**DREAM PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700211 or [HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH](mailto:HRD@DREAMGROUP.BH)

**RAMEE PALACE HOTEL W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17811688 or [hrg.bh@rameehotels.com](mailto:hrg.bh@rameehotels.com)

**ALAALI CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17566444 or [alaalico@batelco.com.bh](mailto:alaalico@batelco.com.bh)

**Stiller Agency for the Supply Workers** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552211 or [jobcfmbah@gmail.com](mailto:jobcfmbah@gmail.com)

**w. I. I** has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17717730 or [ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM](mailto:ALAZZAMGROUP@YAHOO.COM)

**GMI MANPOWER W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400909 or [karimyazi@askventures.net](mailto:karimyazi@askventures.net)

**MOHAMED ALI ABDULLA ALASHEERI** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 77132211 or [jobcfmbah@gmail.com](mailto:jobcfmbah@gmail.com)

**TASHYEEED HOSPITALITY W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17729935 or [AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM](mailto:AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM)

**I-GYM W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36254545 or [IGYM.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:IGYM.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM)

**AMER ZIA PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING COMPANY W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33656657 or [MMALIK694@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MMALIK694@YAHOO.COM)

**EAST ARAB CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17713731 or [EASTARABCON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EASTARABCON@GMAIL.COM)

**TEBIYAN CONSTRUCTION** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36813122 or [NASSER.AWACHI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NASSER.AWACHI@GMAIL.COM)

**NASS CONTRACTING COMPANY** (W.L.L) has a vacancy for the occupation of A/C MECHANIC , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727925 or [yousif@aanass.net](mailto:yousif@aanass.net)

**UNIVERSAL ROLLING W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL FITTER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17467477 or [amin.hameed@unirol.com](mailto:amin.hameed@unirol.com)

**ALAHAMAD CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226618 or [ACKR007@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ACKR007@GMAIL.COM)

**AL JAZEERA GAS** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or [S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH](mailto:S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH)

**GFL CARGO** has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANT , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17663271 or [IALSUBAEI@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:IALSUBAEI@HOTMAIL.COM)

**Eastern Asphalt & Mixed Concrete Co. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226935 or [DELTA.SS@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:DELTA.SS@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**TASHYEEED HOSPITALITY W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR(CUSTOMER SERVICES) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17229935 or [AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM](mailto:AHMED@PANORAMABH.COM)

**Delta Security Services Co. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17262725 or [MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM)

**LANTERNS RESTAURANT W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591807 or [MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM)

**Mohammed Zainudin Sanitary Ware Construction** has a vacancy for the occupation of DRAFTSMAN , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17769888 or [lewan@lewan-bh.com](mailto:lewan@lewan-bh.com)

**ADEL ALASHAAR READY MADE & SHOES CENTRE** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON , suitably qualified applicants can contact 39667447 or [FZAYED10@GMAIL.COM](mailto:FZAYED10@GMAIL.COM)

**HOUSE OF UNIFORMS H.O.U** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN , suitably qualified applicants can contact 36660577 or [UNIFORMS@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:UNIFORMS@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**DOWN TOWN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17404866 or [DOWNTOWN@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:DOWNTOWN@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**TOP HIMALAYA readymade and phones** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17212988 or [ALQANOON@WINDOWS LIVE.COM](mailto:ALQANOON@WINDOWS LIVE.COM)

**GRID SOLUTIONS SAS - FOREIGN BRANCH** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17165435 or [adhan.alam@ge.com](mailto:adhan.alam@ge.com)

**ALBADO RESTAURANT** has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17001842 or [wbsfas.fb@gmail.com](mailto:wbsfas.fb@gmail.com)

**ALWADAEI GATE CLEANING** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33973838 or [ALWEDAIE85@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ALWEDAIE85@GMAIL.COM)

**PARVAIZ INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 77160001 or [ALBADOOASIS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ALBADOOASIS@GMAIL.COM)

**SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS- SIMPLE COMMANDITE COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or [SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**CORRAL MEDIA W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 77117677 or [ikan.bahrain@gmail.com](mailto:ikan.bahrain@gmail.com)

**TWO B GENTS SALON** has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 38479048 or [NEXUSGROUPBH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NEXUSGROUPBH@GMAIL.COM)

**MADINA ABBAS KADHEM AHMED** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT , suitably qualified applicants can contact 32141119 or [RABAB9898@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RABAB9898@GMAIL.COM)

**M I CONTRACTING** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or [SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**DOWN TOWN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L.** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17005911 or [jobcfmbah@gmail.com](mailto:jobcfmbah@gmail.com)

**17009161 or M.I.75@HOTMAIL.COM** **ASK REAL ESTATE W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR OF HOUSES AND FLAT , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17404866 or [DOWNTOWN@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:DOWNTOWN@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 39434425 or [LAXMEENA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:LAXMEENA@GMAIL.COM)

**CAPITAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT** has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or [zainabhr@aldoorbh.com](mailto:zainabhr@aldoorbh.com)

**ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877246 or [zainabhr@aldoorbh.com](mailto:zainabhr@aldoorbh.com)

**SIYANA INDUSTRIAL SERVICES & SIAM SCAFFOLDS- SIMPLE COMMANDITE COMPANY** has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17552722 or [SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:SIAM7373@BATELCO.COM.BH)

**ALDOOR EXCAVATION & BUILDING CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 38920526 or [algatanservice@gmail.com](mailto:algatanservice@gmail.com)

**WINNERS PACK TRADING CO WLL** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33009736 or [BU-KHALID@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:BU-KHALID@HOTMAIL.COM)

**MONISH CONSTRUCTION W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 33664969 or [ANANTHMONISH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ANANTHMONISH@GMAIL.COM)

**SANAR LINE CAFE W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17490090 or [MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM](mailto:MISHAL@ALFANARINVESTMENT.COM)

**Chemco Plastic Bahrain W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (MAINTENANCE) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17464159 or [MMALIK694@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MMALIK694@YAHOO.COM)

**SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or [SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH](mailto:SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH)

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**SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or [S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH](mailto:S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH)

**BHASKAR DEVJI CO. W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of JEWELRY GOLDSMITH (GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17229824 or [arjun@devji.com](mailto:arjun@devji.com)

**I TECH COMMUNICATIONS W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN , suitably qualified applicants can contact 34509498 or [RASHIDSADHAM0@GMAIL.COM](mailto:RASHIDSADHAM0@GMAIL.COM)

**LANTERNS RESTAURANT W.L.L** has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL) , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17591807 or [MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MR.LALIT@GMAIL.COM)

**MOHD ALI YOUSIF ALMEZAL CONSTRUCTION&SER B.S.C** has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER , suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252078 or [S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH](mailto:S.RADHI@EAMCO.BH)

**SHAWTYNAH** has a vacancy



RAMADAN  
◆ KAREEM ◆



# Sweet smell of Ramadan tempts as South Asia's believers fast

AFP | Karachi

Mosques and market streets teem with evening crowds tempted by the scent of syrupy sweets and hefty rice plates, as more than half a billion believers across southern Asia break the day's Ramadan fast.

The fast is conceived as a spiritual struggle against the seduction of earthly pleasures -- but for the nightly "iftar" meal, festive meals traditionally bring families together and there is intense social activity.

The centuries-old Chawkbazar market in Bangladesh is a traditional centre for evening meet-ups during Ramadan, with hundreds of makeshift food stalls selling traditional grilled meats and delicacies.

Huge crowds returned to the neighbourhood this year for the



first time since the coronavirus pandemic put a pin in large public gatherings.

"I am so happy to see people here," said Ramzan Ali, who has sold barbecued quail at the market for around four decades. "The last two years were painful."

Traditional dishes of pakoras

and lentil soup were on offer alongside more esoteric fare, like kebabs made from the meat of bull genitalia and the ever-popular fried goat brain served to accompany roast meats and vegetables.

"It felt so good to come here again," said businessman Mohammad Ashrafuddin.

"Without Chawkbazar's iftar items, I feel like my Ramadan isn't complete."

Pakistan's believers are also basking in the opportunity to again break fast in company and out from under a Covid crowd, with the government lifting restrictions on public gatherings weeks earlier.

Mosques have been lit up with lanterns and nearby markets are bustling as crowds stop for fried sweet pastries and stock up on meals to distribute to the poor.

In India, crowds flock to stalls which line a street in the shadow of New Delhi's resplendent Jama Masjid, one of the country's largest houses of worship, snacking on wrinkled dates and seasonal sweet buns baked with infusions of coconut or cherries.

More subdued evening gatherings are underway in Afghanistan, where people are still reckoning with an acute humanitarian crisis in the wake of last year's US withdrawal and the Taliban's return to power.

The most popular fast-breaking local dish is Kabuli pulao -- rice sprinkled with saffron and mixed with dry fruits, especially black raisins.

Special spicy pickles and jalebis -- a calorific sphere of deep-fried batter soaked in sugary syrup -- are also relished by families during their evening meals after breaking the dawn-



A vendor selling jalebis waits for customers in Kandahar

to-dusk fast. "For the first time I'm seeing that food prices have risen so much in Ramadan," Kabul resident Shahbuddin said on the weekend.



Volunteers distribute food plates in Lahore



People buy food at a market in Dhaka

## Ramadan cooking



### Kulfi

#### Ingredients

- Milk
- Cardamoms
- Sugar
- Blanched almonds

#### How To Make:

- Boil 2 liter milk in a heavy pot.
- As soon as the milk begins to rise, turn the heat down to allow the milk to simmer vigorously without over boiling.
- Add 10 cardamoms.
- The milk has to reduce to about a third of its original amount. Stir frequently.
- Whenever a film forms on top of the milk, just stir it in.
- Discard the cardamom pods and add 5 tbs sugar and 10 blanched and chopped almonds.
- Stir and simmer gently for 2 to 3 minutes.
- Pour the reduced milk into a bowl and cool completely.
- Stir in some chopped unsalted pistachios and stir in.
- Cover and place in the freezer.
- Stir the ice cream every 15 minutes or so to break up the crystals.
- When it becomes difficult to stir, divide the ice cream into 6 small cups or yoghurt pots. Cover and freeze.
- Unmould to serve.

## SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

#### How to play

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

## CROSSWORD

#### Across

- Toward the mouth; 2- Rain hard; 3- When said three times, a 1970 war movie; 4- Staying power; 5- Soft subdued color; 6- Opposed; 7- Employ; 8- Internet writing system that popularized "pwn3d" and "noob"; 9- Eight-time Norris Trophy winner; 10- Candid; 11- Hard to find; 12- Secluded spot; 13- Ferrara family; 21- Affirm solemnly; 22- Actress Bain; 24- Exile isle; 25- Destiny; 26- Perform or portray; 27- Kidney-related; 28- Rescues; 29- Sucker; 30- Wave-related; 31- Diciembre follower; 32- Like some arts; 35- Oysters \_ season; 38- Looked at; 41- Diplomatic; 43- Primordial substance; 44- Most strange; 46- Brillo rival; 48- System of social perfection; 51- Enervates; 52- Words of understanding; 53- \_ song (cheaply); 54- Attention getter; 55- Nota \_; 56- Tapered seam; 57- Final Four org; 58- \_ extra cost; 59- A pitcher may take one; 61- X to Xanthippe;

Yesterday's solution

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

# Man City can write another chapter in European history, says Guardiola

Pep Guardiola is preparing his Manchester City team to face Real Madrid in the Champions League semi-finals

● Guardiola urges players to relish the occasion

AFP | London

Pep Guardiola admits Manchester City cannot compete with Real Madrid's European pedigree but says they can write a new chapter in the club's history in their Champions League semi-final against the Spanish giants.

La Liga leaders Real, who face City in the first leg at the Etihad Stadium on Tuesday, are the most successful team in European Cup history, having lifted the trophy 13 times.

In contrast City, who have been the dominant force in English domestic football over the past decade, appeared in



Pep Guardiola reacts during a match (file photo)

the Champions League final for the first time last year, losing to Chelsea.

City and Real also met in the semi-finals in 2016 when the Spaniards won 1-0 on aggregate, while City avenged that loss with a last-16 triumph in 2020.

"If we had to compete with history, we wouldn't have a chance," Guardiola said at his pre-match press conference yes-



We have to have the desire to compete against them. To play against Real Madrid is an incredible test. We want to try it. We need to suffer, to stick together, when we have the ball, try to attack

PEP GUARDIOLA

terday. "Their history speaks for itself.

"We have to have the desire to compete against them. To play against Real Madrid is an incredible test. We want to try it. We need to suffer, to stick together, when we have the ball, try to attack.

"It would be the same if we face Bayern Munich or Barcelona, the teams who have been



City and Real also met in the semi-finals in 2016 when the Spaniards won 1-0 on aggregate, but City avenged that loss with a last-16 triumph in 2020

iple Champions League titles.

"We play against players who have been in this position many times," he said.

"That's why they have things that maybe still we don't have. But maybe there are things we have they don't have, I don't know. At the end it is 11 v 11."

Despite the pressure, the City boss also urged his men relish the occasion.

"Being in the semi-final is so good," he said. "One day we will not be here because it's so demanding -- look at the big teams who are not here."

"I say to the players 'enjoy that moment'. You never know if we will be back here at any stage."

Guardiola said he would make a final decision on the fitness of defenders Kyle Walker and John Stones on Tuesday, admitting the pair were "doubts".

Joao Cancelo will miss the game through suspension.

## Lampard 'more positive' of Everton's Premier League survival despite derby defeat



Juergen Klopp, Manager of Liverpool embraces Frank Lampard, Manager of Everton after the Premier League match

AFP | London

Everton slipped into the relegation zone with Sunday's 2-0 defeat to Liverpool but manager Frank Lampard said the game had left him "more positive" about the club's chances of Premier League survival.

Everton are now 18th and trail Burnley, who have played one game more, by two points.

Despite the defeat, Lampard said he was delighted with the attitude of his players and that he was "more positive" about their chances of staying up.

"I was pleased with the way we competed in this game and in terms of performance, I am more positive. There are 18 points to fight for, that is a lot of points. It is important for the players and fans and club not to get sucked into that in a negative way



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FRANK LAMPARD

since 1948.

Lampard said his players have to be "spot on" in their remaining six matches, where they face top four sides Chelsea and Arsenal.

"The whole club has to do that, there will be some negative chat (externally), but we've been in this fight since I've been here," Lampard added.

"There are 18 points to fight for, that is a lot of points. It is important for the players and fans and club not to get sucked into that in a negative way.

"Be realistic, yes -- but there are a lot of games for us to try to win."

Everton have lost eight consecutive away matches in all competitions for the first time

## Bahrain Cricket Federation hosts Iftar get together

TDT | Manama

The new organising committee of Bahrain Cricket Federation (BCF) hosted an Iftar get together which was attended by all Cricket Captains playing Khalid Bin Hamad League.

Several dignitaries from BCF's board including Advisory Chairman - Mohammad Mansoor, Gurumurthy Palani (Cricket Development Officer), Waqar Rasheed (Board Advisor), Prachur Shukla and the new organising team headed by Naushad Hidayatullah were present for the event which was held on Saturday at Juffair Boulevard.

On his address to the gathering Mohammad Mansoor emphasized the importance of Ramadan and how it brings people of various cultures together. He appreciated all the captains joining in for this iftar meet and it was important for the team captain to convey the message



Players of Al Masry attack a match official after the match

to the team that the new board is working hard to develop the game and promote the game at the highest International level possible.

He also promised that the board is keenly working harder on improving the infrastructure of Cricket in Bahrain, and reflected the fact that His Highness Shaikh Khalid Bin Hamad

Al Khalifa (Patron) of Bahrain Cricket Federation (BCF) would like to see this sport grow in locals. The board are in immediate search of a land dedicated to playing cricket in Bahrain on a turf wicket.

Gurumurthy and Naushad explained via presentations what key milestones the team aims to achieve at and seeks support

of all teams / players / administrators to preserve the sanity of the game at the highest level possible.

All captains had a good interactive session with the board officials, and Shukla answered most of the queries of players on the new ICC processes followed by Iftar, prayers and dinner.

## No hard feelings with Ricciardo, says unlucky Sainz

Reuters | Imola

Carlos Sainz said there were no hard feelings with Daniel Ricciardo after the Australian apologised for a collision that ended the Ferrari driver's race on the opening lap at Imola on Sunday.

Sainz spun into the gravel two corners into his team's home Emilia Romagna Grand Prix after being hit from behind by Ricciardo's McLaren at Tamburello.

It was the Spaniard's second successive retirement in four Formula One races.

In Australia two weeks earlier, he had retired on the second lap and Sainz also crashed in Friday's sprint qualifying at Imola.

"That's why there's no hard feelings with Daniel. What happened with him could have



Ferrari's Carlos Sainz Jr. and McLaren's Daniel Ricciardo after they crashed out of the race

happened to anyone out there today but unfortunately it had to happen to me.

"It's how it is. The incident has really no mystery to it. What happened is very clear to everyone."

Sainz had been second to his

championship-leading team mate Charles Leclerc in the standings before the race but slipped to fifth overall with 38 points to the Monegasque's 86 from four rounds.

Leclerc could have been even further ahead but also spun off while chasing Red Bull's Sergio Perez, dropping from third place to eighth before recovering to sixth while Max Verstappen won from pole.

Leclerc made a slow start, dropping from second to fourth on the damper side of the track, and said he had been too greedy as he fought back later in the race and would learn from his costly mistake.

"Third was the best result we could have secured today, as our competitors were very strong," he said.

## Teenager Alcaraz mirrors Nadal with Barcelona crown



Spain's Carlos Alcaraz holds a trophy as he celebrates after his win

Reuters | Barcelona

Spanish teenager Carlos Alcaraz captured the fourth title of his young career by beating eighth seed Pablo Carreno Busta 6-3 6-2 in the Barcelona Open final on Sunday, hours after winning a gruelling semi-final that was postponed due to rain.

The 18-year-old will enter the top 10 of the world rankings yesterday at the same age, on the same date and after a triumph in the same tournament as compatriot and 21-times major winner Rafael Nadal did in 2005.

The U.S. Open quarter-finalist joins countrymen including Nadal, coach Juan Carlos Ferrero and Carlos Moya in lifting the trophy in the ATP 500 clay-court tournament.

"It means a lot. I've watched this tournament since I was a kid. I always wished to play in this tournament and of course be able to win this tournament," Alcaraz said. "I'm really happy to be part of the (historic) Spanish list."



**Carlos Alcaraz singles tally stands at four titles following triumphs at Miami and Rio de Janeiro this year and a victory at Umag last July, when he became the youngest tour-level champion since Kei Nishikori claimed the title at Delray Beach in 2008**

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# 'Three-peat' for Ahli

Al Ahli capture Khalifa bin Salman Cup for third successive season after defeating arch-rivals Manama in tournament final



Al Ahli players and officials celebrate at the awarding

● **Mohammed Qurban buries crucial three-pointer with 35.3 seconds to play to give Ahli late five-point lead**

● **Adrian Uter and Hesham Sarhan combine for 42 points to spearhead balanced attack for newly crowned champions**

TDT | Manama

Al Ahli captured an unprecedented "three-peat" last night after winning the Khalifa bin Salman Cup for the third successive season.

Ahli were crowned the 2021/2022 champions of the

prestigious tournament after defeating Manama 84-76 in the final, played at the Khalifa Sports City Arena in Isa Town.

Veteran Ahli skipper Mohammed Qurban buried the biggest basket of the game—a three-pointer from the left corner that gave his team an 81-76 lead with just 35.3 seconds to go.

Free-throws from Ahmed Aldurazi and Hesham Sarhan then pegged the final score.

Ahli claimed their 15th overall title in the annual competition. Last night's final was a re-match of the title-decider from the past two seasons, both clinched by Ahli.

In attendance were Bahrain Olympic Committee vice-president His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, General Sports Authority CEO Dr Abdulrahman Askar and Bahrain Basketball Association president Captain Waleed Al

Alawi.

They presented Ahli team members and club officials the coveted Khalifa bin Salman Cup, as well as the medals for both finalists.

American professional Adrian Uter and Sarhan combined for 42 points of Ahli's game output.

Uter finished with 22 to go with an impressive 16 rebounds. Sarhan had 20 with eight boards.

Aldurazi contributed 18 markers while Maitham Jameel had 14, both with two three-pointers apiece.

Qurban had five points, including his crucial triple for the victors.

Devin Ebanks from the U.S. paced Manama with 26 points, while Mohammed Ameer chipped in with 21 and Ahmed Salman had 13. Manama were playing without their other American import, Davion Berry, who was suspended for the

game.

It was a tight finish to the contest but Ahli came up with the big baskets down the stretch.

An Uter power move in the paint gave Ahli a 76-72 lead, but Ebanks scored on the other end before Sarhan had a reply for Ahli. Ameer then had a put-back for Manama to make it 76-78 with just under a minute remaining, setting the stage for Qurban's huge three-pointer.

Earlier in the game, Ahli were able to go ahead by as many as eight in the third quarter, and after Manama got back to within a single point, Sarhan helped Ahli head into the final canto up 65-59.

Manama rallied to begin the fourth and it was a see-saw affair until the finish.

Manama held a 22-17 lead at the end of the first quarter, but Ahli were able to get within 41-42 at the interval.

## Norris shocked to be on podium again

Reuters | Imola

McLaren's Lando Norris said he was shocked to be back on the Formula One podium after his team had seemed so far off the pace at last month's season-opener in Bahrain.

Norris finished 15th in Bahrain while Australian team mate Daniel Ricciardo was 14th after running last at the end of the opening lap, but McLaren have been improving steadily since then.

"I genuinely didn't think we would be on the podium all year after Bahrain. So it's quite a shock," the Briton, who has now scored points in his last three races, told reporters after finishing third at Imola.

"Maybe not surprising after the kind of progress we've made over the last month but yeah, definitely not a podium you know, with how much quicker the Red Bulls and the Ferraris are."



McLaren's Lando Norris celebrates third place on the podium



**Maybe not surprising after the kind of progress we've made over the last month but yeah, definitely not a podium you know, with how much quicker the Red Bulls and the Ferraris are**

LANDO NORRIS

Norris poked fun at friend and Mercedes rival George Russell whom he has accused of playing down his car's speed to make himself look good.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen, another friend, advised him to talk himself up.

"You should say it's all the driver, mate. All the driver," said the world champion and race winner.

"It is," replied Norris.

"You had the worst car," exclaimed Verstappen, getting into the spirit.

"Yeah, we're ninth or tenth but my driving this weekend has been pretty amazing," said Norris, who felt his car had been slightly quicker than Russell's fourth-placed Mercedes but maybe slower than the Alfa Romeo.

"It doesn't really matter: we beat two cars who are probably a second a lap quicker than us," he added, referring to the Ferraris of Carlos Sainz and championship leader Charles Leclerc.

## Final week of Nasser bin Hamad football league set

● **Defending champions Riffa to take on AFC Cup winners Muharraq on Thursday night, needing just a point to retain title**

● **Manama need to beat Al Khalidiya, also Thursday, and hope that Riffa lose their game to go level on points and force winner-take-all contest**

TDT | Manama

The Bahrain Football Association has announced the match dates for the final round of action in the 2021/2022 Nasser bin Hamad Bahrain Premier League.

The title race has gone down to the last day of play between defending champions Riffa and chief title rivals Manama, with only three points separating the two teams heading into Week 18.



Riffa and Manama...engaged in tight, two-horse race for title (File photo)

Both teams will be in action on Thursday, the league's concluding day.

Riffa will face off with AFC Cup champions Muharraq at the National Stadium in Riffa, and will need at least a point to retain their crown.

Manama will go head-to-head with Al Khalidiya that same evening, and Manama will need to win and hope that Riffa in order to go level on points.

In that scenario, both teams will play a single-game, winner-take-all match to decide the 2021/2022 champions.

Both fixtures are scheduled

for 9.30pm kick-offs Thursday. Meanwhile, tomorrow night, relegated club Al Najma will face off with Budaiya, while Al Ahli and Hidd face off. Both matches are crucial as Budaiya and Hidd are also threatened to be relegated.

Budaiya are currently eighth while Hidd are ninth with just two points separating them. The team that finishes eighth will have a play-off against a second division side for the right to claim a Premier League spot, while the ninth-placed team will drop down to the second division with Najma.