

Bahrainis outclass Nepal

Kingdom's national team take one step closer to advancing in FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers and securing berth in AFC Asian Cup 2027 | P16

WORLD 10 Gaza teens hoping to be killed to end their 'nightmare': UN

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HM King Hamad thanked by Putin

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa received a cable of thanks from Russian President Vladimir Putin, in response to HM's cable of congratulations on winning the presidential elections.

President Putin affirmed the keenness on further promoting cooperation between the two countries in various domains, wishing HM the King abundant health and the people of Bahrain further progress and prosperity.

HRH Prince Salman names LMRA director



HRH Prince Salman

TDT | Manama

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday issued Edict (17) of 2024, appointing a director at the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), based on a proposal by the Minister of Labour and Chairman of the Board of Directors of the LMRA.

Under Article (1), Saud Abdullah Abdulrahman Ya-teem shall be appointed as the Director of Protection and Grievances Centre Directorate at the LMRA.

220 fils (includes VAT)



HM King invites Syria, Iraq to Arab Summit in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa has invited Syrian President Bashar Al Assad and Iraqi President Dr. Abdul Latif Rashid to attend the 33rd Arab Summit, set to be hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain on May 16.

HM the King extended an invitation through written messages to the two Arab leaders.

President Al Assad was handed over the written message by His Excellency Waheed Mubarak Sayyar, the Bahraini Ambassador to Syria, whom he received at the Al-Muhajireen Presidential Palace in Damascus.

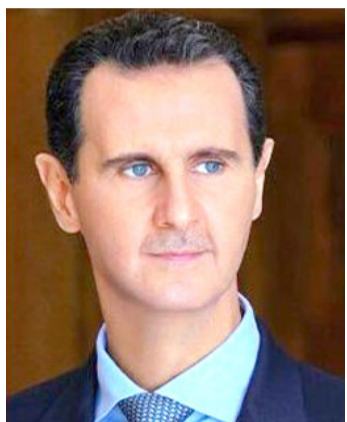
Ambassador Sayyar conveyed greetings from HM King Hamad to President Al Assad, as well as



HM the King

HM's wishes for further progress and prosperity to Syria's leadership and people.

The Syrian President requested the Ambassador to convey his greetings to HM the King, in



President Al Assad

addition to his wishes for continued progress and prosperity to Bahrain's leadership and people.

President Rashid was handed over the written message by the



President Rashid

Chargé D'Affaires of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain to Iraq, H.E. Khalid Ahmed Al Mansour, whom he received at the Al-Salam Palace in Baghdad. The Chargé D'Affaires con-

veyed greetings from HM King Hamad to President Rashid, as well as HM's wishes for further progress and prosperity to the Iraqi leadership and people.

The Iraqi President requested Chargé D'Affaires Al Mansour to convey his greetings to HM the King, in addition to his wishes for continued progress and prosperity to Bahrain's leadership and people.

President Rashid affirmed Iraq's keenness to ensure the success of the upcoming Arab Summit in coming up with resolutions that would strengthen joint Arab cooperation and action to face the challenges facing the peoples of the region, in a way that would meet their aspirations to live in security, stability and peace.

'Safety over food'

Hamas urges end to Gaza airdrops after deaths, and allow more aid trucks' entry

AFP | Jerusalem

Hamas yesterday urged foreign nations to stop parachuting aid into war-torn Gaza after officials and humanitarians said 18 people died trying to reach food packages in the starving north.

Instead, the Palestinian group that rules the Gaza Strip demanded that Israel allow more aid trucks to enter the besieged territory, which the United Nations has warned is on the brink of a "man-made famine".

Fighting raged on unabated a day after the UN Security Council passed its first resolution calling for an "immediate ceasefire" in the bloodiest ever Gaza war, sparked by Hamas's October 7 attack on Israel.

The resolution also demands that Hamas fighters free the roughly 130 hostages Israel says remain in Gaza, including 33 captives who are presumed dead.



Parachutes of humanitarian aid dropping over Gaza. (AFP)

Jordanian, US and other planes have airdropped food into Gaza, even as UN officials and aid agencies have warned this falls far short of the dire needs of its 2.4 million people and is far less effective than en-

suring overland access.

Rushing crowd

Yesterday, as Jordanian, Egyptian, Emirati and German planes again airdropped relief goods, with the sight of food packages

floating down on parachutes sending Palestinian crowds rushing toward them.

Six people were killed in stampedes and 12 others drowned off the territory's Mediterranean coast, the Hamas government

and the Swiss-based Euro-Med Human Rights Monitor said.

Hamas in a statement called for "an immediate end to airdrop operations" and "the immediate and rapid opening of land crossings to allow humanitarian aid to reach our Palestinian people".

'Imminent famine'

The UN children's fund, UNICEF, said vastly more aid must be rushed into Gaza by road, rather than air or sea, to avert "this imminent famine".

Food aid is usually only airdropped in crises where "people are cut off for hundreds of kilometres", said UNICEF spokesman James Elder, speaking via video link from Gaza.

But "the lifesaving aid they need is a matter of kilometres away", he said, as trucks loaded with aid have been waiting across Gaza's southern border with Egypt.

"We need to use the road networks."

Overnight attack

Syria strikes kill 14 pro-Iran fighters, WHO worker

AFP | Beirut

Strikes in Syria yesterday killed 14 pro-Iran fighters including an Iranian Revolutionary Guard, a war monitor said, while the World Health Organization also reported one of its workers was killed.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights did not say who carried out the air strikes in the

eastern province of Deir Ezzor, which has been targeted by both US and Israeli raids in the past.

A US defence official told AFP the United States "did not conduct any airstrikes" overnight.

The Observatory said "an Iranian Revolutionary Guards adviser, his two Iranian security escorts, two Syrian fighters" and five other combatants belonging to pro-Iran groups were

killed in a villa in Deir Ezzor city.

It said the villa "served as a communications centre" in the area, reporting that the building was destroyed and that a Syrian civilian was also killed.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus later announced on social media "the tragic loss of another one of our own in an airstrike in Syria this morning".

It identified him as Emad Shehab, an engineer who it said "served as the WHO water and sanitation focal point" in Deir Ezzor.

Iran's state news agency IRNA reported the attack was "carried out by the Zionist regime", its term for Israel.

It identified the dead guard as Behrouz Vahedi, saying he belonged to the Quds Force, the

foreign operations arm of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

Four other fighters were killed in a separate strike in the town of Albu Kamal on the Iraqi border, said the Britain-based Observatory, which has a network of sources inside Syria.

It said in total nine of the dead in the strikes were Iraqi national-