

# DT NEWS

DAILY TRIBUNE

News of Bahrain

Saturday, March 31, 2018

Issue No. 7702

200 Fils

www.newsofbahrain.com

www.facebook.com/nobonline

newssofbahrain

38444680

nob\_bh

Tweet of the Day



Change in the world comes from individuals, from the inner peace in individual hearts. Just as ripples spread out when a single pebble is dropped into water, the actions of individuals can have far-reaching effects.

@DalaiLama

Today's Weather

	Max	Min
	37°C	20°C

SEND MONEY USING THE BFC APP AND WIN WEEKLY PRIZES!

MOIC/PC/6680/2018



Tel: 1722 8888 www.bfc.com.bh



## 11th Hour

### Egypt poll hailed

Cairo

Egypt's presidential election was the best in the country's history, in terms of integrity and commitment to the international standards of the electoral process, Arab Parliament Deputy Speaker and Chairman of its delegation to monitor the Egyptian presidential election, Adel Al-Asoomi, has said.

### Family protection

Manama

Director-General of Muharraq Governorate Police received a delegation from Khamis Police Station to shed light on the services of the Family Protection Office. He said that the office was established to give family members the privacy they need as victims of child or domestic abuse of which they might be hesitant to talk to the police.



Massive participation for 'Bahrain for all' fest

P 6-7

## Shaikh Nasser: Zero tolerance to sedition



Manama

Any malicious attempts on social media to sow sedition by disseminating fallacies and rumours require a decisive stand against suspicious calls to undermine the strong and deep-rooted relationship between the Leadership and the Bahraini people, said Brigadier His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Work and Youth Affairs, Commander of the Royal Guard, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sport and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee.

HH Shaikh Nasser called on all citizens to ignore the tendentious social media accounts as well as the rumours and fallacies posted on them to defame the Kingdom's leadership and people. His Highness underlined the need for the authorities to deal firmly with all attempts to jeopardise civil peace and sow discord. His Highness also pledged zero tolerance of any attempt to tamper with the pillars of the state, defame the Leadership and spread fallacies and rumours.

# Pressure Iran to avoid war



Mohammed bin Salman

New York

Saudi Arabia's crown prince has called on the international community to squeeze Iran economically and politically to avoid a direct military confrontation in the region.

Sanctions "will create more pressure on the regime," Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman told *The Wall Street Journal* this week.

"We have to succeed so as to avoid military conflict," said the Crown Prince. "If we don't succeed in what we are trying to do, we will likely have war with Iran in 10-15 years."

Criticising Qatar for its support of the Muslim Brotherhood, he said: "The Muslim Brotherhood is an incubator for terrorists. We have to get rid of extremism. Without extremism no one can become a terrorist."

Referring to Yemen, the Crown Prince said failure to intervene in Yemen would have caused a bigger crisis.

"If we didn't act in 2015 we would have had Yemen divided in half between the Houthis and al Qaeda," he said.

The Crown Prince dismissed the recent missile attacks by the Houthi militia as a sign of weakness. "They

want to do whatever they can do before they collapse," he said.

The Crown Prince is in the U.S. partly aimed at projecting the country as an investment destination.

The Crown Prince who has taken the initiative to liberalize the the society said more change will follow in Saudi Arabia.

"We can't drag people to live in Saudi Arabia in an environment that is not competitive," said the Crown Prince. "The environment in Saudi Arabia is pushing even Saudis outside Saudi Arabia. That is one reason we want social reforms." - *The Wall Street Journal*



P 03

Proposal for biennial renewal of driving licence rejected



P 10

Russia expels more UK diplomats



P 24

Making history!



15 killed, 1,400 hurt on Gaza border

▶ P02

# 15 killed, 1,400 hurt on Gaza border

A demonstrator holds Palestinian flags during clashes

## Gaza-Israel Border

Clashes erupted as tens of thousands of Gazans marched near the Israeli border in a major protest on Friday, leaving 15 Palestinians dead and hundreds more wounded in the conflict's worst single day of violence since the 2014 Gaza war.

Late in the day, Israel's military targeted three Hamas sites in the Gaza Strip with tank fire and an air strike after what it said was an attempted shooting attack against soldiers along the border that caused no injuries.

Protesters, including women and children, had earlier gathered at multiple sites throughout the blockaded territory, which is flanked by Israel along its eastern and northern borders.

Smaller numbers approached within a few hundred metres (yards) of the heavily fortified border fence, with Israeli troops using tear gas and live fire to force them back.

Israeli security forces used a drone to fire tear gas toward those along the border, in one of the first uses of the device, a police spokesman said.

The health ministry in Gaza said 15 Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces.

More than 1,400 were injured, including 758 by live fire, with the remainder hurt by rubber bullets and tear gas inhalation, it said.

Palestinians accused Israel of using disproportionate force, as did Turkey.

The UN Security Council



A wounded Palestinian woman is evacuated during clashes

was to hold closed-door talks about the situation in Gaza later Friday at the request of Kuwait, a diplomat said.

Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab countries to have signed peace treaties with Israel, denounced the use of force against the protesters while the Arab League condemned what it called Israel's "savagery".

Protesters were demanding hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees who fled or were expelled during the war surrounding Israel's creation in 1948 be allowed to return.

Hamas leader Ismail Haniya attended the protest, believed to be the first time he had gone so close to the border in years.

Hamas and Israel have fought three wars since 2008, the most recent of which in 2014 ended with a fragile truce.

On Friday evening, Gazan leaders called on protesters to retreat from the border area until Saturday, with the demonstration planned to last six weeks, until the inauguration of the new US

embassy in Jerusalem around May 14. Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas declared Saturday a day of national mourning.

Protests along the border are common, often culminating in young Palestinian men throwing stones at Israeli soldiers who respond with tear gas, and rubber and live bullets.

The "March of Return" protest is different because it is intended to include families with women and children camping near the border for weeks.

Five main camp sites have been set up spanning the length of the frontier, from near the Erez border crossing in the north to Rafah where it meets the Egyptian border in the south.

Organisers say the camps will remain in place until May 15 when Palestinians commemorate the Nakba, or "catastrophe", of the 1948 creation of Israel with the exodus of more than 700,000 Palestinians. (AFP)



Israeli soldiers are seen next to the border fence on the Israeli side of the border with the northern Gaza Strip



Palestinians during a tent city protest



Palestinians attend a tent protest along the Israel border with Gaza

mem  
MIDDLE EAST MEDICAL CENTER  
**Santhigiri**  
Ayurvedic Center

MEM Santhigiri Ayurvedic Centre now covered under mednet  
The preferred choice for healthcare solutions



BACAC PAIN TREATMENT

### SPECIALIZED TREATMENTS

Excellent specialized Ayurveda & Siddha treatments are available at MEM for the following diseases:

- ▶ Rheumatism
- ▶ Sports injuries
- ▶ Sinusitis
- ▶ Diabetes
- ▶ Arthritis
- ▶ Spondylosis
- ▶ Low back ache
- ▶ Gastric Disorders
- ▶ Migraine
- ▶ Frozen shoulder
- ▶ Hypertension
- ▶ Cholesterol

### KERALA TRADITIONAL THERAPIES

- ▶ Rejuvenation Massages
- ▶ Stress Management Therapy
- ▶ Eye Care
- ▶ Postnatal Health Care
- ▶ Ladies Special Beauty Therapies & many more.



KIZHI



RELAXATION MASSAGE



NASYAM



SHIRODHARA

HIDD, Kingdom of Bahrain

17 46 48 48

+973 3683 0777

Salmabad, Kingdom of Bahrain

17 21 60 56

+973 3837 8033

Our Hospital

MIDDLE EAST HOSPITAL  
TRUSTED HEALTH CARE FOR LIFE

مستشفى الشرق الأوسط  
مركز الشرق الأوسط الطبي

Near Al Hayat Shopping Centre  
SEGAYA 17 36 22 33

# Proposal for biennial renewal of expat driving licences rejected

The proposal was aimed at compelling expats to renew their licenses along with residency permits

Muhannad Mansour/DTNN  
muhannad@dt.bh

## Manama

The General Directorate of Traffic has rejected a proposal that compels expatriate drivers to biennially renew their driving licences, along with their residency permits, DT News has learnt. Submitted by MPs Jalal Kadhim and Ghazi Al Rahma last August, the bill proposes to “stop the misuse of the Traffic Law by expats”. Both commented back then that “the current legal situation has proved its inability to deter foreigners who misuse the traffic law”.

The bill stipulated amending Law 23 of the year 2014 (Traffic Law) by adding a new article (27) to the existing text, with the aim to impose the biennial renewal of expats’ driving licenses in the near future.

Interior Ministry, represented by the General Directorate of Traffic rejected the bill naming several reasons that include imposing additional financial burdens on expats, violating the rights of drivers and lack of specification.

“The bill didn’t specify which type of driving licenses are to be biennially renewed. The Traffic Law and its regulations mention more than one type of driving licenses, in accordance with the vehicles driven. The traffic system in the Kingdom stipulates that driving licenses must be renewed every five years. A period that is considered appropriate by the General Directorate of Traffic. Renewing driving licenses every two years is an additional financial burden on expats. The bill harms the rights of non-Bahraini drivers to obtain driving licenses,” The General Directorate of Traffic replied to the MPs while stressing that “the bill discriminates between the rights of Bahraini and non-Bahraini drivers, against the Kingdom’s policies to protect rights and freedoms.

The matter was referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee in the Council of Representatives for further studying and discussing. Committee members approved the bill and issued a report that will be reviewed and voted on by



the council during its weekly meeting this Tuesday.

As reported on DT News last year, MP Kadhim Justifying his proposed bill saying, “There are over 60, 000 irregular workers in Bahrain who own driving licenses that are valid

for five years despite the expiration of their residency permits. Linking the validity periods of residency permits and driving licenses would contribute to solving the irregular workers’ issue and increase the state revenues.”

The latest statistics released by the

General Directorate of Traffic shows that there are more than 307, 000 non-Bahrainis who own driving licenses in the Kingdom, including 256, 000 private vehicles licenses, compared to 383, 000 Bahraini drivers and around 5, 000 GCC nationals in Bahrain.

## MPs to vote on bill to cut traffic fines

DT News Network  
news@dt.bh

### Manama

The Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Security Committee in the Council of Representatives has approved a bill to reduce traffic fines by 50 percent if paid within fifteen days of committing violations.

The 40-member council will vote on the bill during their regular weekly meeting this Tuesday in the presence of officials from the General Directorate of Traffic.

The bill, which aims to amend the current Law 23 of 2014 (Traffic Law), was submitted by independent MP Khalid Al Shaer.

In addition to the discount on the fines, the bill also seeks to extend the period granted to violators to pay the minimum fines to 45 days, instead of the 30 days mentioned in the existing law.

The current text of the article mention’s that traffic fines should be reduced by 50 pc if drivers paid them within the next seven days of committing certain violations.

The amendment comes to grant violators an extra eight days to benefit from the

reduction and adds 15 days to the period granted to pay the minimum amounts.

The committee discussed the bill with the concerned officials in the General Directorate of Traffic before issuing its final decision to approve the bill.

The officials also approved the bill and expressed their support for the committee’s decision.

It’s noteworthy that the violations addressed in the bill include transporting passengers in the exterior part of the vehicle, damaging public or private property, driving a vehicle without

a helmet, driving a vehicle without lights, careless driving, endangering the lives of others, posting stickers or advertisements or comments that violate public order and morals in any of the outer or inner parts of the vehicle, closing the road in front of public convoys, using dazzling lights, parking at night in dark places without turning on the lights.

They also include allowing children under the age of 10 to sit in the front seats, using the vehicle in private convoys without permission, not committing to the right lane in two-sided roads,

driving under the influence of alcohol, driving a vehicle that makes noisy sounds or emits excessive exhaust smoke, using the vehicle for a purpose other than that what’s mentioned in the driver’s licence, driving a vehicle without a registration certificate, driving an unlicensed vehicle, driving a vehicle without brakes or with brakes which are unfit to use, driving a vehicle without a driving license, deliberately blocking or obstructing a road, handing a vehicle to someone who does not hold a license to drive it, racing a vehicle, using hand-held mobile phones.



The proposal will grant violators an extra eight days to pay the minimum amount as fine

## No CBSE re-exam for students outside India

### Delhi

There will be no CBSE re-examination for students outside India, the CBSE has announced. Class 10 Maths re-exam will be held only in Delhi and Haryana. The re-examination for Class 12 Economics paper in India will be held on April 25.

Anil Swarup, Secretary School Education in Union Human Resources Development Ministry, said the CBSE Class 10 mathematics question paper was leaked only in Delhi and Haryana as there was no evidence that it was a pan-India affair.

“The leak was restricted to Delhi and Haryana, if at all a re-exam will happen, it will happen only in these states in July. A decision will be taken on this in the next 15 days,” Swarup told reporters at a press conference.

He said the Class 12 Economics re-exam will be held on April 25. But there will be no fresh test outside of India.

In Bahrain, around 2,000 students appeared for the Class

X and Class XII exams.

On Wednesday, the CBSE announced it will hold re-examination for Grade 10 mathematics and Grade 12 economics following reports that question papers were leaked ahead of the exams.

The announcement was made shortly after Grade 10 students completed their maths examination on Wednesday. The Grade 12 economics exam was held on March 26.

In the UAE, nearly 8,474 students appeared for Grade 10 mathematics exam.

**The Class 12 Economics re-examination will be held on April 25. But there will be no fresh test outside of India**

# Bahrain, Russia enjoy strong ties



## Parliamentary delegation headed by Ali Al-Aradi visits Russia

### DT News Network

#### Manama

**B**ahrain and Russia enjoy strong bilateral ties, thanks to the distinguished relations between His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and Russian President Vladimir Putin and clear understanding of each other's interests, said a top Bahraini official.

"This has resulted in an increased number of joint agreements covering various fields, the latest being the signing of a military-technical cooperation agreement between the two sides," said Ali Al-Aradi, the First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, stressing

the Council's efforts to enhance the parliamentary cooperation at the members and Secretariat levels.

He further added that the establishment of a joint Bahraini-Russian business council would increase the volume of trade exchange. Common interests of both countries include all areas of developed cooperation, such as industrial, financial, tourism, cultural exchange and military cooperation fields.

The comments were made during an official visit by a Bahraini parliamentary delegation to Russia from March 28 to 30.

Citing Russia's support

for the quartet's decision against Qatar, Al Aradi, during a meeting, told the Vice-President of the Russian State Duma that Bahrain values highly Russian position in condemning foreign interference in the internal affairs of Bahrain and rejecting any plans to destabilize its security and stability.

During their stay, the delegation held discussions with several high-ranking Russian officials including Vice-President of the Russian State Duma, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov, Deputy Secretary of the General Council of "United Russia", and the Vice-President of the Chamber of

Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation.

The parliamentary delegation includes First Vice-Chairman of the Shura Council Jamal Fakhro, Second Vice-Chairman of the Shura Council Jamila Salman, MP Dr Jamila Al-Sammak, member Dr Saeed Abdullah, member Dr Sawsan Taqwi, MP Mohamed Al-Jodar, and Abdullah bin Khalaf Al-Dosari, Secretary-General of the Council of Representatives.

The Parliamentary delegation participated in the 202nd session of the Governing Council held in Geneva on 28 March, on the sidelines of the 138th Inter-Parliamentary Union.

## Thinking green

Rehan Ahmed



## EARTH HOUR AND BEYOND

**T**he Earth Hour celebrated last Saturday around the world witnessed millions of people across the globe who participated in the event and switched off their lights for an hour from 8:30 pm till 9:30 pm local time to celebrate their commitment for saving the finite resources of the planet. With global temperatures the highest on record, this year's theme was "Let Nature Shine".

Earth Hour was globally celebrated encouraging individuals, communities households and businesses to turn off their 'non-essential lights' for one hour as a symbol for their commitment to the planet.

Earth Hour movement started in 2007 in Sydney, Australia and was conceived by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). On the occasion, 2.2 million individuals and more than 2,000 businesses turned their lights off for one hour to take a stand against climate change. In 2008, the Earth Hour became a global sustainability movement with more than 50 million people across 35 countries participated.

In 2011, more than 5,200 cities and towns in 135 countries worldwide switched off their lights for Earth Hour alone, sending a powerful message for action on climate change. It also ushered in a new era with members going 'Beyond the Hour' to commit to lasting action for the planet.

This year also marked the world largest grass root movement turned into an environmental event, whereby millions of people voluntarily plunged into total darkness for an hour in over 7,000 cities in 187 countries.

Across the world, many iconic structures, global landmarks, buildings and sky-scrapers participated in the event by switching off or dimming their lights. Some examples include the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, London's Big Ben and Houses of Parliament, the Colosseum in Rome, Acropolis in Athens Istanbul's Blue Mosque, Sydney's Opera House, Eiffel Tower, Moscow's Kremlin and Red Square, Empire State Building, United Nations headquarters in New York and the Pyramids of Egypt.

The Kingdom of Bahrain formally joined the Earth Hour movement in 2010 and since then many major buildings had their lights and all illuminations shut for an hour on earth day saving 20 Megawatt of electricity. In Bahrain many organizations and hotels have participated in the event. Many colourful programs have also been organized to mark the occasion.

Among the famous buildings in Bahrain that took part in the drive were The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain, Almoayyed Tower, Westin Bahrain City Centre, Sheraton Hotel Bahrain, Reef Island, Wyndham Garden Hotel and Seef Mall.

The gigantic and overwhelming participation in Earth Hour have shown collective display of our commitment to protect our planet. We need to understand that we have a major responsibility of conserving our planet's resources, since they are fragile, finite and each of us can make a difference if we choose to do so.

Let all of us lead a sustainable lifestyle by not using single-use plastic products, adapting a low carbon life and supporting the establishment of more Marine Protected Areas. We know climate change is happening, and we know that it is caused by our actions. Our support is vital to realize a vibrant future.

After Earth Hour, let us not wait for the next year to come. We want to go beyond the Earth Hour to a day, week, month, year and into our life styles and habit. So let us make a change at individual level which though sounds small but cumulatively will add to significant levels in energy conservation by:

- Turning our computer off when we finish our work and turning the monitor off during our breaks.
- Turn off any unnecessary and additional lighting at our place of work and at residence.
- Using energy efficient lights (LED, CFL etc.).
- Unplugging the electrical and electronic appliances when not in use.
- Judiciously using heating and cooling system.

The message is 'Let us go beyond an hour and do more what we can to reduce the energy consumption and its impact on the environment'.

Remember- Our actions today can change our tomorrow

\* **Head of Waste Disposal Unit, Supreme Council for Environment, Bahrain.** ([rahmed@sce.gov.bh](mailto:rahmed@sce.gov.bh))

(The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this newspaper.)

## UoB holds "Foundation Programs in Higher Education" conference

### Manama

**U**niversity of Bahrain Foundation Programs (UoB) is organising the first international conference in Higher Education: A

Gateway to Success, with the participation of about 150 academic scholars, experts, and practitioners in Bahrain and GCC. Tamkeen is the institution's strategic partner for this milestone collaborative effort.

Commenting on the event, Prof. Riyadh Yousif Hamza, the President of UoB, said that UoB is committed to making the foundation programme a milestone that helps students to actively engage in university as well as fulfil all its requirements, so as to form a sound scientific basis for students.

The conference, the first of its kind in Bahrain and the MENA region, is set to take place on March 31st and April 1st, 2018, at the ART Rotana,

Amwaj Islands, under the patronage of the president of UoB.

The Director of ELC, Dr. Ghada Ahmed Jasim, said that the conference will feature international keynote speakers, along with selected academic scholars presenting the keys to a successful foundation program.

The unique event is expected to involve 150 participants, including academic scholars, experts and practitioners in the Kingdom of Bahrain and the GCC.

"Tamkeen's partnership comes in line with its continuous efforts to train and qualify the Bahraini workforce to position them as the employee of choice," said Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi Chief Executive of the Labour Fund "Tamkeen".

**BEST PRICE**

**BD 72**

**59.000**

**PACKAGE DEAL**



**AQUA COOL**



2 x Empty Bottles  
(Without Deposit)



22 x Refill Coupons



1 x Hot & Cold Dispenser  
(Made in Korea)

**BEST OFFER**

Package Includes: 1 x Hot & Cold Dispenser (Made in Korea), 2 x Empty Bottles (Without Deposit), 22 x Refill Coupons, Free Delivery, 12 Months Warranty on Dispenser

Free Home Delivery

Call Us Now-1778 4101

Jalal Ionics Co. W.L.L.  
P.O. Box 1770, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, Fax: 1778 4370  
C.R. No. 14986, Public Health Registration No. 18/006

# Solar house project a big step: Dr Mirza

**“A step towards 5pc of the energy consumption being renewal by 2025”**

Manama

**E**lectricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr Abdulhussain Mirza yesterday said ‘Solar house’ project was a major step in Bahrain’s renewable energy drive.

“This is a step towards 5 per cent of the energy consumption in Bahrain being renewal energy by 2025,” said Dr Mirza during a discussion with United Nations Resident Coordinator and Resident Representative of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) Amin Al-Sharqawi.

Al Sharqawi congratulated the Minister on the achievement and its connection with the Net Metering system. He discussed with the minister the importance of encouraging the private sector to support and invest in the solar energy market to reduce dependence on natural gas in line with



the goals of sustainable development.

UNDP, Al Sharqawi said, is supporting the Sustainable Energy Unit by providing technical expertise to achieve

the goals of the National Energy Efficiency Plan.

He said this would help support Bahrain in achieving comprehensively sustainable development goals and

constitutes a positive boost towards the achievement of Bahrain’s international commitments, especially energy efficiency and renewable energy.

## Bill seeks to impose BD400 school fees on non-Bahrainis



MP Kadhim

Muhannad Mansour/DTNN  
muhannad@dt.bh

**P**arliamentarians this week will discuss a bill seeking to limit free education in the Kingdom to Bahraini and GCC citizens.

If approved, the bill, proposed by MP Jalal Kadhim in 2015, will impose a BD400 annual fee for non-Bahraini students.

The current law stipulates that “fundamental (primary and intermediate) and secondary education should be free for all in public schools in the Kingdom.

The proposal also calls for exempting students of countries that do not charge Bahraini students for receiving educational services.

This comes as the Services Committee in the Council of Representatives issued a report on the bill for the second time in one year, following a disagreement between MPs and Education Ministry on the bill last March.

The proposed tabled by the MP calls for amending Article 7 of the existing Law 27 of the year 2005 with respect to educational services in the Kingdom.

Education Ministry, after obtaining the Cabinet’s approval, has called for granting Education Minister the authority to issue regulations and decisions necessary to determine the fees for non-Bahraini students and identify cases to be exempt from it.

The National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) suggested the formation of a specialised panel in the ministry to verify exemption requests.

MPs are expected to discuss and vote on the bill, in the presence of Education Ministry officials, during the regular weekly meeting of the House of Representatives on Tuesday.



The bill aims to make free education in public schools exclusive for Bahraini and GCC students

**ACE American Insurance Company**  
CHUBB Bahrain Branch – A Chubb Entity  
Licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain

### Statement of Financial Position

(All amounts expressed in Bahraini Dinars unless otherwise stated)

	As at 31 December	
	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,166,383	3,916,421
Insurance and reinsurance receivables	8,016,433	7,729,055
Reinsurance assets	37,419,186	13,621,882
Due from related parties	1,360,809	1,903,218
Available for sale investments	8,658,071	8,794,264
Deferred policy acquisition costs	989,252	1,005,277
Prepayments and other receivables	95,260	602,077
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>57,705,394</b>	<b>37,572,194</b>
<b>Liabilities and Head Office funds</b>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Insurance liabilities	47,867,626	23,691,332
Reinsurance balances payable	5,075,263	8,439,558
Due to related parties	683,044	845,746
Deferred reinsurance commission	686,287	743,145
Accruals and other liabilities	1,017,567	1,188,411
Employees’ end of service benefits	175,276	142,728
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>55,505,063</b>	<b>35,050,920</b>
Head Office funds	2,200,331	2,521,274
<b>Total liabilities and Head Office funds</b>	<b>57,705,394</b>	<b>37,572,194</b>

### Statement of Comprehensive Income

(All amounts expressed in Bahraini Dinars unless otherwise stated)

	Year ended 31 December	
	2017	2016
Insurance premiums earned – Gross	14,351,609	15,437,050
Reinsurers’ share of insurance premiums earned	(9,175,907)	(11,562,929)
Insurance premium earned – Net	5,175,702	3,874,121
Claims incurred – Gross	(35,285,995)	631,767
Reinsurers’ share of claims incurred	32,843,528	(957,131)
Claims incurred – Net	(2,442,467)	(325,364)
Staff costs	(1,116,602)	(1,090,160)
General and administration expenses	(2,306,471)	(2,373,506)
Acquisition costs incurred	(1,906,525)	(2,033,850)
Commission on reinsurance ceded	1,216,078	1,445,179
Release/(Charge) of provision for doubtful debts	497,863	(1,366,573)
<b>Underwriting results</b>	<b>(882,422)</b>	<b>(1,870,153)</b>
Investment income	254,900	209,605
Foreign exchange loss	(29,556)	(998)
	225,344	208,607
<b>Loss for the year</b>	<b>(657,078)</b>	<b>(1,661,546)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive loss</b>		
<b>Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss:</b>		
Change in fair value of available for sale investments – Net	(42,311)	(10,215)
Realised gain on sale available for investments	-	(1,736)
<b>Total other comprehensive loss for the year</b>	<b>(42,311)</b>	<b>(11,951)</b>
<b>Total comprehensive loss for the year</b>	<b>(699,389)</b>	<b>(1,673,497)</b>

ACE American Insurance Company, Bahrain Branch is a core operating company within the Chubb Group and has a financial strength rating of AA from Standard and Poor’s. As at 31.12.2017 Chubb Group had total assets of USD167 billion.

The complete audited financial statements are available and can be obtained from our office in Bahrain

# Massive participation



## Manama

"Bahrain for all, all for Bahrain Festival" was held yesterday at the Prince Khalifa bin Salman Park in Hadd,

in the presence of more than 55,000 Bahrainis and residents.

More than 45 embassies, foreign communities, social clubs and community associations, civil society organisations, women's associations, special needs as well as 16 departments from the Ministry of the Interior took part in the festivals' activities.

The event, which was held under the theme of "Unity in Diversity", featured a series of performances by Bahraini and non-Bahraini folklore groups from Oman, Jordan, Egypt, Morocco, Palestine, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Jordan, Thailand, Bangladesh, Nepal, Ethiopia and others. The most prominent of these was the most common Bahraini Ardha Dance.

## 250 booths

More than 250 booths were dedicated to Bahraini companies' and productive families to display their products in the fields of clothing, food, baskets, pottery and others. Traditional dishes

of the participating countries were also introduced.

A special tent to showcase the products of the productive families was organised by the Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities (BACA). Kids were given special attention at the event, as they enjoyed playing many of their favourite games and practised their hobbies in

drawing and colouring.

A large number of Bahraini civil society associations and institutions took part in the festival, including the Bahrain Association of Disabled Persons and their friends, the Bahrain Society for Down Syndrome, the Bahrain Centre for International Mobility, Al Hidd Rehabilitation Center for Special Needs,



## Arabia التأمين العربية INSURANCE

### ARABIA INSURANCE COMPANY S.A.L. (BAHRAIN BRANCH) COMBINED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017 BD	2016 BD
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and bank balances	3,580,541	3,922,944
Investment in securities	235,725	-
Insurance receivable	173,225	341,909
Due from related parties	126,995	119,602
Reinsurance contract assets	599,670	1,224,443
Deferred acquisition cost	51,814	98,530
Other assets	105,639	40,531
Furniture and equipment	16,685	18,622
<b>Total Assets – general insurance division</b>	<b>4,890,294</b>	<b>5,766,581</b>
Total Assets of the life division – Appendix I	895,474	908,477
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>5,785,768</b>	<b>6,675,058</b>
<b>HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT AND LIABILITIES:</b>		
Head Office account – general insurance division	386,700	464,106
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Insurance payable and accruals	323,818	316,327
Insurance contract liabilities	4,080,763	4,892,742
Provision for employees' end-of-service benefits	80,096	74,920
Unearned commission from reinsurers	18,917	18,486
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,503,594</b>	<b>5,302,475</b>
Total Head Office account and liabilities – general insurance division	4,890,294	5,766,581
Head Office account – life division	355,635	408,749
Total liabilities of the life division	539,839	499,728
Total Head Office account and liabilities of the life division – Appendix I	895,474	908,447
<b>Total Head Office account and liabilities</b>	<b>5,785,768</b>	<b>6,675,058</b>

### ARABIA INSURANCE COMPANY S.A.L. (BAHRAIN BRANCH) STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME – GENERAL INSURANCE DIVISION YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017 BD	2016 BD
Gross written premium	1,987,642	2,724,466
Less: Premium ceded to reinsurers	(631,646)	(784,235)
<b>Net written premium</b>	<b>1,355,996</b>	<b>1,940,231</b>
Net change in unearned premium	783	227,073
Reinsurance commission	61,154	65,428
<b>Net earned premium</b>	<b>1,417,933</b>	<b>2,232,732</b>
Claims incurred	1,558,403	3,833,744
Less: Share of reinsurance companies	(619,361)	(945,144)
Net claims incurred	939,042	2,888,600
Policy acquisition cost	139,597	344,085
<b>Total insurance expenses</b>	<b>1,078,639</b>	<b>3,232,685</b>
<b>Underwriting profit/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>339,294</b>	<b>(999,953)</b>
Other income	90,143	81,504
General and administrative expense	(411,169)	(468,418)
<b>Profit/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>18,268</b>	<b>(1,386,867)</b>
Other comprehensive income	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive profit/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>18,268</b>	<b>(1,386,867)</b>

### ARABIA INSURANCE COMPANY S.A.L. (BAHRAIN BRANCH) STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME LIFE DIVISION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017 BD	2016 BD
<b>Income:</b>		
Insurance premiums	82,054	185,502
Reinsurers' share of insurance premiums	(25,690)	(36,995)
Net insurance premiums	56,364	148,507
Fee and commission income	2,511	804
Net insurance income	58,875	149,311
Interest received from deposits with banks	12,814	6,500
Change in fair value of investments at fair value through profit or loss	17,743	3,977
Net foreign exchange losses	(589)	(383)
<b>Total income</b>	<b>88,843</b>	<b>159,405</b>

## Expenses:

Claims paid	(6,373)	-
Reinsurers' share of claims paid	4,141	-
Change in insurance contract liabilities	31,533	(37,133)
Change in reinsurers' share of insurance contract liabilities	(4,131)	5,301
Fees, commissions and other acquisition expenses	(13,368)	(31,095)
Other operating and administrative expenses	(85,510)	(103,171)
Contribution to Head Office's overheads	(10,198)	(19,940)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(83,906)</b>	<b>(186,038)</b>

**Profit/(loss) for the year** 4,937 (26,633)

Other comprehensive income - -

**Total comprehensive profit/(loss) for the year** 4,937 (26,633)

### ARABIA INSURANCE COMPANY S.A.L. (BAHRAIN BRANCH) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - LIFE DIVISION APPENDIX I AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017

	2017 BD	2016 BD
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
Cash and bank balances	617,535	669,631
Investments at fair value through profit or loss	177,401	157,412
Insurance and other receivables	82,538	58,800
Reinsurance assets	13,494	17,625
Prepaid expenses and other assets	282	255
Furniture and equipment	4,224	4,754
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>895,474</b>	<b>908,477</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND HEAD OFFICE ACCOUNT:</b>		
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Due to bank	1,884	-
Insurance and other payables	37,955	27,313
Life insurance contract liabilities	414,581	405,962
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	79,990	62,857
Provision for employees' end-of-service benefits	5,429	3,596
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>539,839</b>	<b>499,728</b>
<b>Head Office account:</b>		
Head Office account	350,698	435,382
Retained earnings/(accumulated losses)	4,937	(26,633)
<b>Total Head Office Account</b>	<b>355,635</b>	<b>408,749</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Head Office Account</b>	<b>895,474</b>	<b>908,477</b>

CHAIRMAN  
Mr. Wahbe A. Tamari

GENERAL MANAGER  
Mr. Samer AbouJaoude

BRANCH MANAGER BAHRAIN  
Mr. Alain Georr

AUDITORS  
M/s. Deloitte & Touche -  
Middle East

NB: A full version of the combined financial statements can be obtained from the company at the company at the following address, Arabia Insurance Company s.a.l (Bahrain Branch), Bahrain Tower, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain, P.O.Box 745, Tel: 17211174, Fax: 17213985, Email: aicbn@arabiainsurance.com

# for 'Bahrain for all' fest

Al Amal Institute for Special Education, Al Rahma for Youth Care, Friendship for the Blind, Raya Institute, Bahrain Children's Academy, Dar Al Muharraq for Parents' Care, Dar Al Muharraq for Parents Care, Yoko House for Parents Care, Um Al Hassam House for Parents Care, Discover Islam Society as well as a number of associations that are associated with foreign communities like and Indonesians Ladies Organization (WASCON).

## 'Most prosperous era'

The organisers of the celebration said that Bahrain, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, is living one of the most prosperous eras of openness, co-existence and tolerance, extending appreciation to His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa for patronising the festival, and encouraging its work team to shed light on Bahrain's multiple civilisational achievements in various fields.

## A good opportunity: Palestine envoy

Taha AbdulQader, Ambassador of the State of Palestine to Bahrain, expressed his happiness for the participation of the Embassy and members of the Palestinian community in the event for the sixth time, affirming that Bahrain and its leadership support many activities and achievements that promote rapprochement and mutual respect among the communities.

He said that the Kingdom, under its leadership and good people, embodies the highest values of tolerance and mutual respect among all, generosity,

affection and coexistence.

He pointed out that the event is a good opportunity to get familiar with different cultures and heritage and promote rapprochement between all.

## Deepens ties: Indonesian ambassador

Ambassador of Indonesia, NurSyahrir Rahardjo expressed his congratulations to the Kingdom and all the organisers for hosting "The Bahrain for All" festival, as well as his deepest gratitude for facilitating the participation of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Manama, the Indonesian Ladies Association and the Indonesian community to promote one of Indonesia's cultural diversity through dance performances, crafts exhibitions and Indonesian foods specialties.

He expressed hope that through this event, the audiences can be more familiar with other's culture, so that the existing relations between countries, communities, people and both countries could be strengthened and deepened further.

## Bigger and Better: Philippine Ambassador

Alfonso A. Ver, the Philippine Ambassador to Bahrain lauded the event, saying that on its third year, the "Bahrain for All" is getting bigger and better. He said that the event is a unique celebration of unity in diversity for all peoples in the Kingdom.

"It is a shining symbol of inclusivity in Bahrain where everyone, regardless of background, has the opportunity to realise his or her potential and aspirations in aspects of Bahrain society" said

the Ambassador, adding that he was honoured that the Filipino community in Bahrain took an active part in promoting an inclusive and dynamic society in the Kingdom which the Filipinos have lovingly called their second home.

## 'Reflects the reality'

Basma Saleh Issa, Board Member of Gulf Disabled Society, President of the Executive Office of the Kingdom of Bahrain, and head of Al Hadad Center for Rehabilitation of People with Special Needs, said that the "Bahrain for all and all of Bahrain" annual event was embodiment of the reform project and reflects the reality of the Bahraini society in all its different cultures, sects and categories.

She added that the event was an opportunity to showcase students' talent and creativity in various fields.

"The event also contributed to raising awareness and raising the level of attention to people with disabilities," Basma Saleh said.

## Kudos to PM

Citizens who attended the ceremony expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to His Royal Highness the Prime Minister for his tireless efforts, stressing that the celebration embodies what he is doing in terms of achieving cohesion among all who live on the land of Bahrain.

In this context, Mohammed Zaki Mahjoub Bo Shehab, representative of the Bahrain-Sudanese Cultural and Friendship Society of Nawres in Bahrain (under formation), stressed that they were keen to

participate in this celebration because of its importance in achieving communication and rapprochement.

## Greetings from the Nile

"From the land of the Nile, we send greetings to Bahrain, and we are delighted that our culture and cultural heritage will converge," he said, adding that "Bahrain is a pearl that everyone looks forward to."

Ahmed Mohieldin Ahmed, from the Egyptian community in Bahrain, expressed his thanks and gratitude to HM King Hamad, HRH Premier and HRH the Crown Prince for their great moral support to the Egyptian community and all residents in Bahrain.

## Thai community join hands

The Thai club in Bahrain affirmed in a statement that it has for decades been actively involved with other communities in the events and celebrations held in Bahrain.

"Thai Community in Bahrain actively joins hand in hand with other communities and the local in the events and activities for decades. The Thai Club and all the members of the Thai community in Bahrain have a strong commitment to strengthening the community



to be able to efficiently promote Thailand-Bahrain relationship as well as to contribute to the harmonious society as well as progress and development of Bahrain' the statement said.

## The long history of tolerance

The Shri Krishna Hindu Temple also noted in a statement Bahrain's long history of hospitality

and tolerance for other religions.

"The Kingdom of Bahrain has a long tradition of warm hospitality and tolerance towards other faiths. The multi-faith expatriate community taking part in the Kingdom's development has always been granted religious freedom to follow their individual rites of worship, it said.



# DLS3 Bahrain opens



Shaikh Mohammed Bin Abdullah stressed the importance of the exhibition and conference in exchanging experiences, expertise and skills.

## Manama

President of the Supreme Council for Health Lieutenant-General Dr Shaikh Mohammed bin Abdulla Al Khalifa opened yesterday the DLS3 Bahrain 2018 Dental Conference and Exhibition.

The event organised annually by the BDA Training Center for Medical Training and TARTEB aims to strengthen academic and professional dentists in Bahrain, and support therapeutic tourism.

Shaikh Mohammed Bin Abdullah stressed the importance of the exhibition and conference in exchanging experiences, expertise and skills.

"We look at your effectiveness and similar activities as a guide to the work of the Supreme Council and it is moving ahead with the development of national initiatives to further improve the quality of health services provided to citizens and sustain them in high quality in accordance with the principles of justice, competitiveness and sustainability," he said.

The President of the Supreme Council of Health called on the participants from outside Bahrain to "recognize the Kingdom's quality of health services and cover all areas of the Kingdom according to the best international practices, as reflected in high life expectancy and reduction in infant, under-five and maternal mortality rates."



A session at the conference

DLS3 Bahrain 2018 brings together 22 international medical, dental and lifestyle professionals from the United States, South Korea, Sweden, India, Egypt, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

It is organised by BDA Medical Training Institute and Tarteeb Organization, where Strategic partners include Tamkeen, EDB, National Health

Regulatory Authority "NHRA", Saudi Dental Society, Riyadh ELM University, Vesta Group and Maserati.

The event aims to provide a platform that gathers all dentists in Bahrain to share scientific and technical experience focusing on the importance of social media to strengthen the doctors' relationships with their patients and to view their skills.



Participants during the conference

## Terrorists nearly wiped out of E.Ghouta: Russia

### Moscow

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on Thursday said Syrian forces had "nearly wiped out the terrorists" in the rebel-held enclave of Eastern Ghouta.

Backed by the Russian military since 2015, the Syrian regime in February launched a massive offensive against rebels in the Damascus suburb, killing more than 1,600 civilians.

"As a result of this anti-terrorism operation in Eastern Ghouta, terrorist elements have nearly been wiped out of this suburb of the Syrian capital," Lavrov said at press conference in Moscow after meeting UN Syrian envoy Staffan de Mistura.

"Civilian life is going to be re-established there," Lavrov said, adding that "the majority of the rebels have been evacuated".

Syrian troops have recaptured more than 90 percent of Ghouta, and are draining the last opposition pockets with negotiated pull-outs mediated by Russia.

Moscow has secured two such deals already and has been pressing Jaish al-Islam, the rebel faction in control of the third and final part of the enclave near Damascus, to leave too.

Russia's deputy foreign minister Mikhail Bogdanov said Thursday negotiations with Jaish al-Islam were continuing.

"There are working group contacts. They contact us, they write letters, they talk on the phone, we meet," he was quoted as saying by the Ria Novosti agency.

"There exists" some chance that the negotiations could progress, he added.

De Mistura also met with Russian Defence Minister Sergei Choigu who said over the next few days "we are going to begin to bring the people back to their homes in Eastern Ghouta, and they will be able to lead a normal life".

He added that "more than 130,000 refugees and more than 11,000 armed fighters" had fled Ghouta via humanitarian corridors.

## Cancer warning must for coffee in California: Judge

### Washington

Starbucks Corp and other coffee sellers must put a cancer warning on coffee sold in California, a Los Angeles judge has ruled, possibly exposing the companies to millions of dollars in fines.

A little-known not-for-profit group sued some 90 coffee retailers, including Starbucks, on grounds they were violating a California law requiring companies to warn consumers of chemicals in their products that could cause cancer.

One of those chemicals is acrylamide, a byproduct of roasting coffee beans that is present in high levels in brewed coffee.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Elihu Berle said in a decision dated Wednesday that Starbucks and other companies had failed to show there was no significant risk from a carcinogen produced in the coffee roasting process, court documents showed.

Starbucks and other defendants have until April 10 to file objections to the decision.

Starbucks declined to comment, referring reporters to a statement by the National Coffee Association (NCA) that said the industry was considering an appeal and further legal actions.

"Cancer warning labels on



A woman holds a Frappuccino at a Starbucks store inside the Tom Bradley terminal at LAX airport in Los Angeles (Reuters)

coffee would be misleading. The U.S. government's own Dietary Guidelines state that coffee can be part of a healthy lifestyle," the NCA statement said.

In his decision, Berle said: "Defendants failed to satisfy their burden of proving by a preponderance of evidence that consumption of coffee confers a benefit to human health."

Officials from Dunkin' Donuts, McDonald's Corp, Peet's and other big coffee sellers did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The lawsuit was filed in 2010 by the Council for Education and Research on Toxics (CERT). (Reuters)

### Tesla voluntarily recalls early Model S

San Francisco

Tesla Inc said yesterday it was voluntarily recalling Model S sedans built before April 2016 in order to replace bolts in the power steering component. The bolts, made by German supplier Bosch, can begin to corrode after contact in cold temperatures with road salt. Some Tesla owners had complained about the issue on online forums. Some 123,000 Model S vehicles globally contain the bolts.



### Thieves use French first lady's name

Paris

An aide to French first lady Brigitte Macron has filed a legal complaint over identity theft, after his accounts were apparently used to seek luxury hotel service, Formula One tickets and other VIP treatment. The requests included tickets for the Australian Grand Prix car race, special services at a luxury hotel in Morocco and elite reservations at top-scale Paris restaurants.



All sides must seize the moment, work together, promote smooth meetings that achieve positive outcomes between leaders of South and North Korea, and between North Korea and the US, and in due course reopen a substantive political resolution process to the peninsula issue."

-Yang Jiechi,

Chinese State Councilor



## Where could Kim Jong Un meet Donald Trump?

Speculation is rife over the venue of a potentially historic summit between North Korea's Kim Jong Un and U.S. President Donald Trump.

A visit to Beijing by Kim Jong Un on March 26, reaffirms the close ties with North Korea's biggest ally ahead of the summit.

One of the most likely summit sites being discussed is the Joint Security Area Panmunjom - the only spot along the Demilitarized Zone where North Korean troops stand face-to-face with South Korean and UN Command forces.

Other rumoured sites include Pyongyang, Beijing, and other locations in Asia such as Singapore. Also raised are neutral locations across Europe - such as Finland, Sweden or Switzerland, and international waters.



**1 PANMUNJOM:** One of most likely sites being discussed is *Joint Security Area (JSA)* - only spot along *Demilitarized Zone* where North Korean troops stand face-to-face with South Korean and UN Command forces

But some see JSA as symbol of Korean War rather than place for peace deal

**2 PYONGYANG:** North Korea's capital has seen previous bilateral meetings, including 2000 meeting between Secretary of State *Madeleine Albright* and *Kim Jong Il*

But many observers think summit in either Pyongyang or Washington is unlikely due to security concerns

**4 EUROPE:** Several countries with international reputations as mediators, including Finland, Switzerland and Sweden, have been raised as possible neutral locations for summit

Sweden has an embassy in Pyongyang and represents interests of U.S., Canada and Australia

**6 INTERNATIONAL WATERS:** In 1989, *George HW Bush* met Soviet leader, *Mikhail Gorbachev*, on Soviet cruise ship, *Maxim Gorky*, off coast of Malta

**3 BEIJING:** China is North Korea's main economic supporter, but has toughened up its dealings with Pyongyang in recent months

Meeting between *Kim Jong Un* and Chinese President *Xi Jinping* in Beijing on March 26 reaffirms close ties with North's biggest ally ahead of summit

**5 ASIA:** Other locations in Asia, including Singapore, Hanoi or Jeju Island have been raised as possibilities

*Ulaanbaatar* has held sensitive talks with North Koreans in the past and Mongolia maintains friendly relations with both sides



Pictures: AP, Wiki Commons  
Sources: AP, Reuters, BBC

# Five years of social media history must for US Visa



Washington

The U.S. government plans to collect social media history from nearly everyone who seeks entry into the United States, State Department proposals showed on Friday as part of President Donald Trump's policy of "extreme vetting."

Most immigrant and non-immigrant visa applicants - about 14.7 million people - will be asked to list on a federal application form all of the social media identities that they have used in the past five years - information that will be used to vet and identify them, according to the proposals.

The State Department will publish the proposals in a notice in the Federal Register on Friday seeking approval from the Office of Management and Budget. The public has 60 days to comment on the requests.

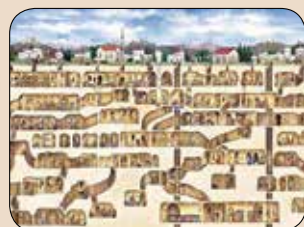
The proposals support President Donald Trump's campaign pledge in 2016 to crack down on illegal immigration for security reasons and his call for "extreme vetting" of foreigners entering the United States.

The department said it intends not to routinely ask most diplomatic and official visa applicants for the social media information.

If approved, applicants also will be required to submit five years of previously used telephone numbers, email addresses and their international travel history. They will be asked if they have been deported or removed from any country and whether family members have been involved in terrorist activities, the department said.

Courts have struck down the first two versions of Trump's travel ban and the current one is narrower in scope than its predecessors. The Supreme Court will consider its legality this spring and a decision is expected in June.

## Did You Know?



In 1963, a man found a mysterious room behind a wall in his home that lead to a huge underground city that once housed up to 20,000 people, complete with schools, livestock pens, and food stores, dating back over a millennium.



## BFC CURRENCIES EXCHANGE RATE

COUNTRY/CURRENCIES BUY SELL

AUSTRALIA	0.2960	0.2935
BANGLADESH	0.00472	0.00452
CANADA	0.2980	0.2948
DENMARK	0.0654	
EGYPT	0.0237	0.0219
EURO	0.4709	0.4684
HONGKONG	0.04967	0.04927
INDIA	0.00588	0.00584
INDONESIA	0.00002941	0.00002810
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000317	
JAPAN	0.00370	0.003630
JORDAN	0.5359	0.5351
KOREA	0.00040411	
KUWAIT	1.263	1.264
MALAYSIA	0.1000	0.1000
NEW ZEALAND	0.2754	0.2755
NORWAY	0.0501	
NEPAL	0.00395	0.00363
OMAN	0.98168	0.98301
PAKISTAN	0.00346	0.00327
PHILIPPINES	0.00748	0.00723
QATAR	0.10381	0.10404
SAUDI ARABIA	0.1006	0.10067
SINGAPORE	0.2918	0.2898
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03340	0.03330
SRI LANKA	0.00273	0.00243
SWEDISH	0.0483	
SWITZERLAND	0.4016	0.3986
SYRIA	0.001740	0.0017
TAIWAN	0.013600	
THAILAND	0.012270	0.012260
TURKEY	0.1004	
UNITED KINGDOM	0.5380	0.5351
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102850	0.102870
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37790	0.37800
YUAN	0.056800	0.056800

Rates are for indication purpose only. For firm rates or for currencies not listed above please call Bahrain Financing Company. Telephone: 17228888, Website: www.bfc.com.bh

## GULF INTERBANK RATES

COUNTRY	1 US DLR	1 UK STG	1 SFR	100 YEN
BAHRAIN	0.3770	0.5738	0.3962	0.3580
KUWAIT	0.2855	30.0632	0.3000	0.2711
OMAN	0.3849	0.3663	0.4045	0.3655
QATAR	3.6420	3.4657	3.8272	3.4587
UAE	3.6730	3.4952	3.8598	3.4881
SAUDI	3.7500	3.5685	3.9407	3.5613

# Russia expels more UK diplomats



Ambassadors' cars with Lithuanian, Croatian and Swedish flags are parked near the Russian Foreign Ministry in Moscow, Russia

## Summons envoys from 23 countries

### Moscow

Russia ordered new cuts yesterday to the number of British envoys in the country, escalating a dispute with the West over the poisoning of an ex-spy in Britain. The massive expulsion of diplomats on both sides has reached a scale unseen even at the height of the Cold War.

Two dozen countries, including the U.S. and many EU nations, and NATO ordered out more than 150 Russian diplomats this week in a show of solidarity with Britain over the poisoning of Russian ex-spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter that London blamed on Russia.

Moscow has vehemently denied involvement in the March 4 nerve agent attack in the city of Salisbury and announced Thursday that it would expel the same number of diplomats from each nation.

The Russian Foreign Ministry further escalated

its response Friday, saying it has ordered Britain to reduce the number of its diplomats in Moscow to the level that Russia has in London. That exact number wasn't immediately clear.

The ministry said it summoned the British ambassador to hand him a protest over the "provocative and unsubstantiated actions by Britain, which instigated the expulsion of Russian diplomats from various nations for no reason." It gave London one month to reduce its diplomatic personnel in Russia.

When Britain expelled 23 Russian diplomats earlier this month, Russian Ambassador Alexander Yakovenko said it represented a 40-percent cut in the number of embassy personnel.

Commenting on the Russian move, a spokeswoman for the British Foreign Office said "it's regrettable but in light of Russia's previous behaviour, we anticipated a response."

"However, this doesn't change the facts of the matter: the attempted assassination of two people on British soil, for which there is no alternative conclusion other than that the Russian state was culpable," she said. "Russia is in flagrant breach of international law and the Chemical Weapons Convention and actions by countries around the world have demonstrated the depth of international concern."

A hospital treating Skripal and his daughter, Yulia, said Thursday that the woman was improving rapidly and was now in stable condition, though her father remained in critical condition.

Speaking to reporters Friday in Moscow, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov insisted that "Russia didn't start any diplomatic wars," and "remains open for developing good ties."

He added that Russia has called a meeting of the international chemical

weapons watchdog next week to press for an "unbiased and objective investigation."

Russia has accused Britain of failing to back up its accusations with evidence and refusing to share materials from the probe. The Foreign Ministry said it told the British ambassador on Friday that Moscow is ready to cooperate in the investigation.

### Expels 60 US envoys

On Thursday, Russia summoned the U.S. ambassador to announce the expulsion of 60 U.S. diplomats in a tit-for-tat response to Washington's move. Scores of Western ambassadors arrived at the Russian Foreign Ministry Friday to receive notices on the expulsions of their diplomats.

In response to the U.S. move earlier this week to close the Russian Consulate in Seattle, Moscow shut the U.S. Consulate in St. Petersburg, giving it until Saturday to vacate the premises. (AP)



Policemen stand guard outside the building of the consulate-general of the US in St. Petersburg

# The mysterious plane crash that killed space pioneer Yury Gagarin

The first man in space, Russian Yury Gagarin, was killed in a mysterious plane crash a half-century ago, just seven years after his historic feat. Gagarin's 108-minute foray into space, which beat the United States' own effort by three weeks, made him a Russian hero even after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Here is a recap of his life, which ended on March 27, 1968.

## - Humble beginnings -

Gagarin was born on March 9, 1934, in the rural village of Klushino, about 200 kilometres (125 miles) west of Moscow, to parents who worked on a Soviet socialist-style collective farm.

His schooling was interrupted by the 1941 Nazi invasion when the family's home was requisitioned and they were forced to move into a mud hut.

Passionate about planes from childhood, Gagarin joined a flying club at the age of 20 and later trained as a military fighter pilot.

## - Selected for space -

As a member of the Soviet air force, Gagarin volunteered in 1959 with 19 others to train to fly what was called a "new type of apparatus".

The group was whittled down to six, including Gagarin.

In April 1961 he was picked for the first manned mission to space, an announcement made just days before the flight.

By then Gagarin was aged 27 and married to a nurse with whom he had two daughters.

## - 'We're off!' -

On April 12 at 9:07 am Moscow time, Gagarin uttered the famous words "Poyekhali!" -- translated as "Let's go!" or "We're off!" -- as his spacecraft blasted off and took him into orbit.

At 9:12 am he said over the radio: "I see the Earth, it's magnificent."

After a flight of 108 minutes that included a single orbit of the Earth, Gagarin landed by parachute, the first man ever to have crossed the frontier with outer space.

Two days later he received a hero's welcome in Moscow. Thousands took to streets decked with flowers and posters as he was paraded in an open top car.

## - Grounded -

The Soviet regime sent the space hero on "missions of peace" and he met world leaders such as Britain's Queen Elizabeth II and Cuba's Fidel Castro.

But he had become too precious a symbol to risk on any other dangerous missions and his career as a cosmonaut

or pilot was halted.

Television footage from a few years after his space flight showed he had put on weight and appeared out of condition.

Soviet general Nikolai Kamanin, head of cosmonaut training at the time, wrote in diaries published in 1995 that Gagarin

had spent a lot of time at receptions.

"Everyone wanted to drink with Gagarin 'for friendship', 'for love' and for a thousand other reasons, and to drink to the bottom of the glass," he said.

Gagarin had to beg the authorities to lift his flight ban and in 1968 he was eventually allowed to return to flying, retraining as a jet pilot.

## - Mysterious crash -

On a training mission on March 27, 1968, his MiG fighter plane entered a high-speed spin and crashed into the ground.

Gagarin and his instructor were killed. The circumstances



Yury Gagarin prepares to blast off into space aboard the Vostok 1 on April 12, 1961

were unclear and the accident was hushed up for days.

The investigation became a state secret, leading to various conspiracy theories.

Documents declassified 50 years later say the most likely cause was a sharp manoeuvre to avoid a weather balloon. Questions remain, nonetheless.

Tens of thousands attended Gagarin's state funeral three days after the crash.

But the space pioneer has become immortal, living on in statues, images and film, as well as buildings and sites named in his honour, including a launchpad at the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan and a crater on the moon. (AFP)



## VW's desert graveyard with 300,000 diesel cars

Volkswagen has taken parking lots to a whole new level in the United States and will not be emptying them soon.

Volkswagen AG has paid more than \$7.4 billion to buy back about 350,000 U.S. diesel vehicles through mid-February, a recent court filing shows. The German automaker has been storing hundreds of thousands of vehicles around the United States for months.

Volkswagen has 37 secure storage facilities around the United States housing nearly 300,000 vehicles, the filing from the program's independent administrator said. The lots include a shuttered suburban Detroit football stadium, a former Minnesota paper mill and a sun-bleached desert graveyard near Victorville, California.

VW spokeswoman Jeannine Ginivan said in a statement on Wednesday that the storage facility in Victorville, California, is one of many "to ensure the responsible storage of vehicles that are bought back under

the terms of the Volkswagen" diesel settlements.

"These vehicles are being stored on an interim basis and routinely maintained in a manner to ensure their long-term operability and quality, so that they may be returned to commerce or exported once U.S. regulators approve appropriate emissions modifications," she said.

In total, VW has agreed to spend more than \$25 billion in the United States for claims from owners, environmental regulators, states and dealers and offered to buy back about 500,000 polluting U.S. vehicles. The buy backs will continue through the end of 2019.

The court filing said through Dec. 31 Volkswagen had reacquired 335,000 diesel vehicles, resold 13,000 and destroyed about 28,000 vehicles. As of the end of last year, VW was storing 294,000 vehicles around the country.

VW must buy back or fix 85 percent of the vehicles involved by

June 2019 or face higher payments for emissions.

The company said in February it has repaired or fixed nearly 83 percent of covered vehicles and expects to soon hit the requirement.

Through mid-February VW has

issued 437,273 letters offering nearly \$8 billion in compensation and buybacks.

In April 2017 Volkswagen was sentenced to three years probation after pleading guilty to three felony counts and paid \$4.3 billion in

federal penalties. The automaker in September 2015 admitted to circumventing the emissions control system in U.S. diesel vehicles for vehicles sold since 2009, prompting the resignation of the company's chief executive. (Reuters)





Minister of Education Dr. Majid Al Nuaimi paid a visit to the Al-Fateh Secondary School for Boys and was briefed about the implementation of three new technical specialisations – electronics, electricity and educational establishment to implement the new plan to expand technical education to include secondary schools



Bahraini Parliamentary delegation headed by First Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Ali Al-Arabi visited Russia. During the visit held from March 28 to 30, Bahraini delegation met with several high-ranking Russian officials and took part in the proceedings of the 202nd session of the Governing Council held in Geneva on 28 March, on the sidelines of the 138th Inter-Parliamentary Union. First Vice-Chairman of the Shura Council Jamal Fakhro, Second Vice-Chairman of the Shura Council Jamila Salman, MP Dr Jamila Al-Sammak, member Dr Saeed Abdullah, member Dr Sawsan Taqwi, MP Mohamed Al-Jodar, and Abdullah bin Khalaf Al-Dosari, Secretary-General of the Council of Representatives were part of the delegation



Deputy President of the National Institution for Human Rights (NIHR) Abdullah Al Derazi received Swiss Ambassador Maya Tissafi on the sidelines of her visit to the kingdom. He lauded strong relations of friendship between both countries, stressing the need to bolster bilateral cooperation regarding the protection of the prisoners and detainees' rights



A cheque of BD 1000 was presented to Migrant Workers Protection Society to support their charitable givings. Marietta Diaz president of the Society received the cheque from AWA Vice President Jeanie Wilson in the presence of AWA executive committee. AWA also presented a cheque of BD500 to Bahrain International Seafarers Society to support their projects. The cheque was received by Captain Ali Hasan Haji President of BISS and was presented by AWA Vice President Jeanie Wilson in the presence of AWA executive committee





computer technology. The Al-Fateh Secondary School has become the first



Electricity and Water Affairs Minister Dr. Abdulhussain Mirza received Arab Open University Assistant Professor Dr. Habil Slade and discussed important specialized studies in the field of renewable energy. The Minister welcomed the cooperation and encouragement of educational institutions to adopt renewable energy education curricula



Chief Executive Officer of the Bahrain Labour Fund "Tamkeen", Dr Ebrahim Mohammed Janahi and President of the AGU, Dr Khalid bin Abdulrahman Al-Ohali, discussed opportunities of strategic cooperation in the field of community work and the development of education and training sectors, in order to include Bahraini and Gulf youth in the economic development process. During the meeting held at Tamkeen's headquarters, Dr Al-Ohali commended cooperation with Tamkeen to build a strategic partnership supporting the establishment of scientific conferences, specialised lectures and training workshops in realisation of the vision GCC leaders



Director-General of Muharraq Governorate Police received a delegation from Khamis Police Station to shed light on the services of the Family Protection Office. He said that the office was established to give family members the privacy they need as victims of child or domestic abuse of which they might be hesitant to talk to the police. The Family Protection Office's role is to encourage domestic violence victims to come forward to file their cases



Bahrain Medical Society, the Royal College of Surgeons (RCSI) and representatives of private hospitals held a consultative meeting during which they discussed to support and develop the medical sector in Bahrain and provide health services to citizens and residents according to the best international standards. The meeting, which was held at the headquarters of the RCSI College, discussed the cooperation between the three parties to organize training programs, joint research projects, scientific conferences, scientific programs, academic plans, curricula and courses



The Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism trained a group of its employees on the new version of the standard ISO9001:2015 during 7-11 of May. This came in line with the Ministry's directives to keep up with the developments of the quality management system



The American Women's Association purchased 35 talking watch for visually impaired students at Saudi Bahraini Institute for the Blind. The presentation took place at Institute premises in Isa Town. AWA Vice President Jeanie Wilson, Laila Hussain AWA community service chairperson and Naz Hussaini AWA volunteer coordinator presented the watches to students at the presence of Abdul Wahid Al Khayyat director of Saudi Bahraini Institute for blind and other officials



The fourth edition of the Bahrain Animal Production Show 2018 (Mara'ee 4) is proving a great success. More than 45,000 people flocked to the International Endurance Village to visit the exhibition since it opened its doors to the public. The 2018 edition opened last Tuesday under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. In a statement yesterday, Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning Ministry Assistant Undersecretary for Agricultural Affairs Dr. Ibrahim Youssef expected the number of visitors to double over the weekend



Ellen DeGeneres @TheEllenShow  
West Coast, now it's your turn! Tune in to the premiere of @SplittingUpABC, and then do it next week, and the week after, and the week after that... #SplittingUpTogether



## I'm literally doing nothing

Los Angeles

**A**ctress Cameron Diaz says she is not doing anything at the moment and is semi-retired.

Diaz, 45, was at the centre of a media storm this month when her "The Sweetest Thing" co-star Selma Blair, also 45, joked that Diaz had retired from acting, reports *people.com*.

Asked if Diaz, Blair and Christina Applegate, 46, would reunite for a sequel to the raunchy film, the three joked that they were "literally doing nothing" and would be up for it.

"I mean, I'm down. I'm literally doing nothing," Diaz said, with Applegate replying that she's "literally doing nothing, too! I'm semi-retired, I haven't worked for years. I'm a mom, that's what we do. So I'm around, man." (IANS)



## MIDDLE EAST MOVIE BUZZ

### The Journey



**T**he distinguishing feature of *The Journey* (Al Rahal), like all the films of Iraqi-Dutch writer-director Mohamed Al-Daradji, is its sober moral perspective on the war that devastated Iraq and reduced its people to orphans, madmen and dispossessed refugees. The story of a girl suicide bomber who roams Baghdad Central Station with glassy eyes is part will-she-or-won't-she thriller and part parade of symbolic characters who represent the country's wounded population. It's the kind of local allegory

that will find its most appreciative audiences in the Mideast and at festival venues like Toronto and London.

The story is set on the first day of the Eid holidays in 2006, when nervous U.S. troops still occupy Baghdad. In reality, there is a timeless quality to the action, which takes place inside the train station in the course of a single day. The nightmarish sounds of confused mosque voices introduce Sara, a girl with dark circles under her eyes and cold determination in them. It doesn't take much

guesswork to figure out that, between her backpack and thick waistline, her body has been weaponized to explode.

Removing her headscarf, she blends into the teachers escorting a bunch of schoolkids to the reopening ceremony of the Baghdad Central Station after years of war and devastation. Some ambassadors are expected to attend, under the surveillance of American soldiers in bulky camouflage uniforms, who ceaselessly scan the crowd. (hollywoodreporter)

## Amber Heard joins Charlie Plummer

**A**ctress Amber Heard will join actor Charlie Plummer in the indie drama "Gully".

Actors Kelvin Harrison Jr., Jacob Latimore, Alice Eve and Jonathan Majors are also on board for the project, reports *variety.com*.

The movie marks the directorial debut of in-demand music video director Nabil Elderkin.

Marcus Guillory has penned the script.

The movie is set in a slightly dystopian version of Los Angeles. It follows three disaffected teenagers, all victims of childhood trauma. Heard plays Plummer's mother.

Heard recently appeared as Mera in "Justice League" and will reprise her role opposite Jason Momoa in "Aquaman" which will release in December. (IANS)

## Now & Then



### Britney Spears

Britney Spears is an American singer, dancer, and actress. Born in McComb, Mississippi, and raised in Kentwood, Louisiana, she performed acting roles in stage productions and television shows as a child before signing with Jive Records in 1997. Spears's first and second studio albums, *...Baby One More Time* and *Oops!... I Did It Again*, became massive international successes, with the former becoming the best-selling album by a teenage solo artist. Title tracks "*...Baby One More Time*" and "*Oops!... I Did It Again*" broke international sales records.

# I never make movies for the sake of technology

Los Angeles

**Three-time** Academy Award winner Steven Spielberg says he doesn't make movies for the sake of technology but uses it to tell a "better story".

"I never make movies for the sake of technology; I only use it to tell a better story," Spielberg said in a statement.

"The technology is there to help this kind of film come into existence, but

then it should disappear, so all you're focused on is the story and the characters," he added.

Spielberg's project "Ready Player One" is also getting lauded for the use of technology to narrate a futuristic story. The Warner Bros. Pictures project is based on Ernest Cline's similarly titled bestseller. The film released in India on Friday. (IANS)



# AFFLECK TAKES DOWN HIS BODY SHAMERS

Los Angeles

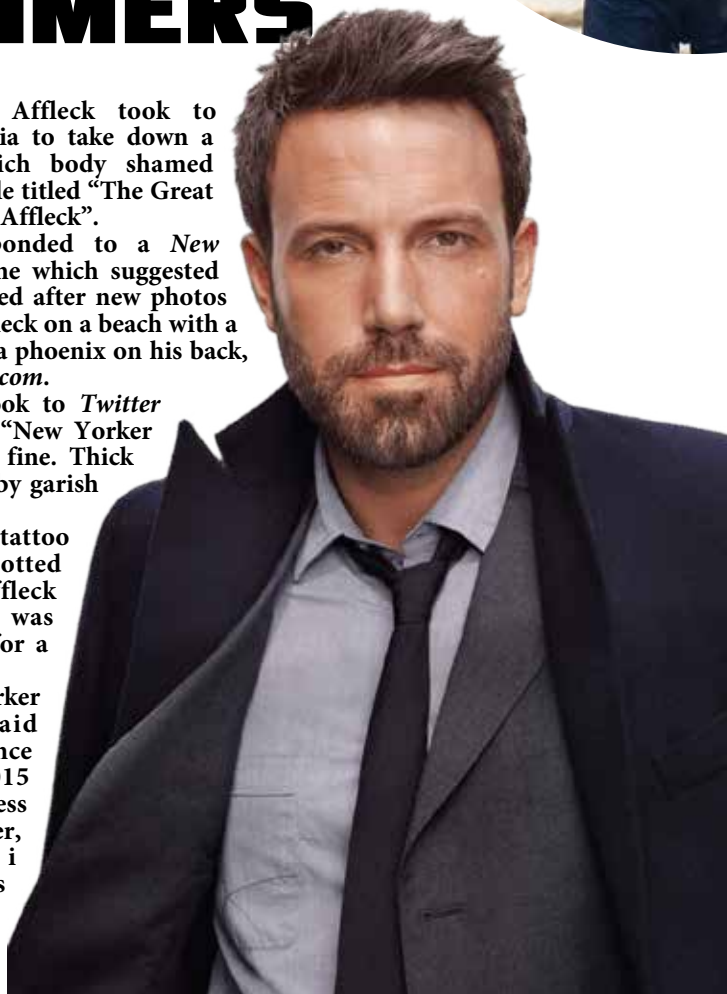
**Actor Ben** Affleck took to social media to take down a magazine, which body shamed him in an article titled "The Great Sadness of Ben Affleck".

Affleck responded to a *New Yorker* magazine which suggested he was depressed after new photos surfaced of Affleck on a beach with a large tattoo of a phoenix on his back, reports *variety.com*.

The actor took to *Twitter* with the post: "New Yorker I'm doing just fine. Thick skin bolstered by garish tattoos".

When the tattoo was first spotted in 2016, Affleck insisted it was fake and just for a movie.

The *New Yorker* article said that ever since Affleck's 2015 split from actress Jennifer Garner, **p a p a r a z z i** photographs have shown a "sad Ben." (IANS)



**STARRY Birthday**  
Ewan McGregor

March 31, 1971

He gained recognition as the young Obi-Wan Kenobi in the *Star Wars* prequel trilogy, and was voted the 36th best actor of all time by *Empire* magazine in 1997. He has also starred in *Big Fish*.

# Barrymore 'survived' Carrie Fisher's parties



Los Angeles

**Actress Drew** Barrymore loved visiting late actress Carrie Fisher and is "proud" that she survived her famous parties.

Barrymore says that she always enjoyed visiting Fisher, who died in December 2016 at her Los Angeles home, but admitted her bashes could be wild, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*.

"I loved going to her house. It was like a hacienda type of like beautiful home off of Coldwater Canyon, very Los Angeles. She just had a very open home. I'd been there for parties, her office in the daytime. It was classic, Spanish, California - sunshine, orange groves and creativity," Barrymore said on a show. (IANS)



## STATE BANK OF INDIA RETAIL BRANCH, KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN RECRUITMENT OF LOCAL BASED STAFF

State Bank of India, the largest commercial bank in India, with its presence across the globe and a leading financial institution in Bahrain is looking at recruitment for the following positions for its Retail Branch in the Kingdom of Bahrain:

### (A) Assistant/ Customer Service Executive (One Position)

#### Eligibility

- ◆ Age : Minimum - 18 years; Maximum – 30 years.
- ◆ Qualification: Minimum – Intermediate (XII<sup>th</sup>std) / HSC. Bachelor's.
- ◆ Degree/ Graduation will be an added advantage.
- ◆ Excellent communication skills (both spoken & written) in English.
- ◆ Knowledge of Arabic would be a plus.
- ◆ Proficiency in Computers.

**Experience :** Minimum 1 year work experience in Bank preferable.

#### Job Description :

- ◆ Main Duties and Responsibilities will include Customer Service and Back office work.

### (B) Office Boy cum Driver (One Position)

#### Eligibility

- ◆ Age : Minimum - 25 years; Maximum – 35 years
- ◆ Qualification: Should have passed 10<sup>th</sup> Standard.
- ◆ Communication skills (both spoken & written) in English. Knowledge of Arabic would be a plus.
- ◆ Should possess valid license for Driving in GCC

**Experience :** Minimum five year Driving experience in GCC

#### Job Description :

- ◆ Main Duties and Responsibilities will be to serve as driver of office vehicle and as Office Boy.

Interested candidates may forward their application

**(in the standard format available at our website [www.sbi-bh.com](http://www.sbi-bh.com))**

with details of present employer, current salary drawn and expected salary etc. to

**The Chief Executive Officer, State Bank of India, Retail Branch, PO Box No. 10763, Office No. 701, Building No. 705, Road No. 1708, Block No. 317, Diplomatic Area, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain**

Last date of application : **10 April, 2018**

THE Copper Chimney RESTAURANT

NOW DELIVERS THROUGH Tauseel

ORDER NOW | اطلب الآن  
13 67 67 65 | ١٣٦٧٦٧٦٥

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google play

## HILL GARDENS

- Ready to occupy villas for sale
- Built up area 6,500 Sq ft and 3,250 sq ft tress work completed with 6 bedrooms with attached bathrooms.
- Roca company fittings
- Built in cupboards
- 15,000 litres water storage. rain water filtering facility

IN ERANAKULAM DISTRICT  
NEAR KANGARAPPADY JUNCTION  
MEDICAL COLLEGE, KAKKANAD

Bahrain. + 973 38444687 | India +91 9846144280

FOR DISPLAY  
ADVERTISEMENT

**SERIES OFFER**

**38444692**



### HOW TO REACH US

"Out & About," a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island. To be included, please send the matter to the following email ID : [news@dt.bh](mailto:news@dt.bh)

# OUT & ABOUT

### FRIDAY BRUNCH AT CUT WITH CHEF WOLFGANG PUCK

**Date: Friday, April 6 from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay**

Celebrity Chef Wolfgang Puck is back in town! Join him for an Asian fusion BBQ and a cutting-edge Friday Brunch. Spend the perfect Friday afternoon in the heart of Bahrain and indulge in a wide variety of delicious homemade comfort food with Wolfgang Puck. Reservations: +973 17115044

### BEST OF WOLFGANG PRE F1 PARTY - SATURDAY BBQ WITH CELEBRITY CHEF WOLFGANG PUCK

**Date: Saturday, April 7 from 8:00 pm – 2:00 am**

**Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay**

Join us for an Asian fusion BBQ party with the celebrity chef himself. Savor an array of special Asian BBQ and street food, while you enjoy the twinkling lights of the Manama skyline and a live DJ in the background.

### EASTER BRUNCH AT BAHRAIN BAY KITCHEN

**Date: March 30 and April 1 from 1:00 - 4:00 PM**

**Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay**

We are celebrating Easter with a grand brunch -

you just hop on over!

Celebrate the timeless tradition of Easter with friends and family at Bahrain Bay Kitchen.

Savor an exquisitely paired menu of mouthwatering favorites like roasted lamb rack, hot cross buns and chocolate treats. The little ones have something to cheer about too with a fun egg hunt and other engaging escapades. Free access to Kids For All Seasons Easter activities.

### FRIDAY SPRING FAIR BRUNCH

**Date: Every Friday from April 6 until May 11 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay**

Spring fairs bring forth many exciting memories to mind. Expect fun, excitement, vivacious colours, floral fragrances and comfortable weather. Every Friday, Bahrain Bay Kitchen's garden will be transformed into a welcoming hive of activity. Lounge in the open air while indulging in new seasonally influenced dishes. Children's hearts will be filled with a sense of delight as they enjoy plentiful fair-style games and activities. Discover pony rides, Ping-Pong, darts and train rides. Throughout these Friday afternoons of indulgence, sip on a refreshing iced tea, chilled milkshake or your desired beverage. The Spring Fair Brunch is a nod to everything that inspires weekend bliss.

### RE/IMAGINE YOUR SATURDAYS

**Date: Every Saturday from 12:30 pm until 3:30 pm**

### Venue: re Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck Asian

Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay invites you to discover the perfect Saturday Brunch at re/Asian Cuisine by Wolfgang Puck. Soak in the immersive views from the 50th floor and feast on mouthwatering Asian selections like Korean Fried Chicken Bao Buns, Wok Fried Shrimp Dumplings and Brisket Wontons for BD 19+.

### HAPPY THURSDAY! MULAN FILM

**Date: 29 March 2018, 6:00pm**

**Venue: Bahrain National Museum**

Happy Thursday! Is where we all meet once a month on Thursday.. This time we are going to watch together Mulan..

Mulan is a girl, and the only child in her family. When the Huns invaded China, they called on each family to take up arms. Mulan's father, who's injured and cannot walk properly, decides to fight for his country and the honor of his family even though it is clear that he will not survive in this battle. Mulan, who has just been rejected by the matchmaker, decided to prove that she deserves something, she wore same as the Chinese army men.

Lots of incidents happens with Mulan as she risks everything in order to save her country China.

### 36 ABBAS STREET, HAIFA

**Date: 4 April 2018, 8:00pm**  
**Venue: Cultural Hall**

This is a story of defiance and endurance in spite of the odds, of diaspora and the right to return. It follows two families whose saga began on May 15th, 1948, when Haifa fell to the Zionist occupying forces: The Rafi family, Palestinians who stayed in Palestine and became hostages to fate, becoming citizens of the Jewish state of Israel, and the Abu Ghaida family, Palestinians who were forced to leave and left to wander the globe in search of a country they could call their own. Both families, however, still consider 36 Abbas Street as their rightful home.

### WHIRLING DERVISHES CEREMONY

**Date: 6 April 2018, 8:00pm**  
**Venue: Cultural Hall**

One of the most important elements of the rich Turkish culture, the Mevlevi Sema Ceremony is an 800-year old tradition known for its whirling dances and dervishes, complex musical repertoire, and rhythmic chants that represent the mystical journey of man's spiritual ascent through mind and love to perfection. Established in 1999, The Whirling Dervishes Mekker Sufi Ensemble carries on this heritage that is among the most enduring and exquisite ceremonies of spirituality in the world.

# Classifieds

Reaching the right audience

classifieds@dt.bh

www.newsofbahrain.com

17579914

38444692



## Buy & Sell

**SALOON FOR SALE** Near Lulu Hypermarket, Riffa. Contact : 35604890, 36089800

**CASIO TONE BANK, KEY BOARD** MT T50 with Stand, Black Color, Contact : 33335690

**MULTI GYM** Rarely Used- in Good condition, Contact: 38950916

**FOR SALE** Various used Household/ Kids items for sale in Isa town, Contact: 33458800



## Automobiles

**TOYOTA COROLLA** 2009 model, White Color, 138000 KMS, Passing until 2019, In good condition for BHD 1850 Contact: 33830591

**TOYOTA YARIS** -Green Color.148000k KM, Passing until 2019 in good condition. 2nd Owner- BHD 1550. Contact : 38185155

**TOYOTA YARIS** Manual Shift, White Color, 120000KM, Passing until 31-05-2018. Good condition BHD 1150. Contact: 36294798

**HONDA CIVIC** Blue Color, 200000KM, Passing until 31-08-2018. Good condition, BHD 750. Contact: 38185155

**TOYOTA ECHO** Manual Gear, White Color, 200000 KM, Passing until 31-08-2018 in good condition BHD 700. Contact : 33830591

**TOYOTA YARIS.** White color, 142000 KM, Passing: 31-10-2018, Good condition BHD 1300, Contact:-36294798

**SHONEEZ MOTORS** LEXUS LX570 (2018) = BHD39,999.000

, GAC- GS8 (2018) = BHD9,500.000 , SUZUKI VITARA = BHD8,150.000, TOYOTA TRD 86 = BHD11,500.000, CHEVROLET SPARK = BHD4,499.000 . And much more favorable offers at the showroom! Contact us on :39668636 -17556862, Address: Al Burhama , Rakan Center, Kingdom of Bahrain, Block 354, Road 5447, Bldg 1974, Shop 18



## Education

**SPECIAL COACHING FOR MATHEMATICS, STATISTICS, PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY** for All Bachelors & Masters Programs including Engineering & Poly Technic For More details & Admission Please Contact: Indian Excellent Educational Centre W.L.L, Villa 855, Road 3315, Block 333, Um Al Hassam, Phone: 32332709, 32332746, 17344971, Website: www.ieecbahrain.com Email: info@ieecbahrain.com

**SAT, JEE & NEET PREPARATION IN BAHRAIN** Regular NEET & IIT-JEE Coaching for XI & XII, Medical and Engineering Entrance Program Crash Course March-April 18, NEET/JEE Intensive Training. Starts immediately after 12th Board Exam SAT-I & SAT-II Preparations .For more details & Admission Please Contact: Indian Excellent Educational Centre W.L.L, Villa 855, Road 3315, Block 333, Um Al Hassam, Phone: 32332709, 32332746, 17344971 Website: www.ieecbahrain.com Email: info@ieecbahrain.com

**INDIAN INSTITUTE FOR PERFORMING ARTS (IIPA)** the pioneering and legally acclaimed Institution of its kind in Bahrain offers systematic classes in Carnatic/Hindustani, vocal , Bharathanatyam, Mohiniyattam , Kuchipudi, Kathak, Violin, Keyboard, Guitar, Piano, Drawing/Painting. Transportaion available.

For Details call: 17231717, Email:iipa@batelco.com.bh

**INDIAN MUSIC AND ARTS CENTRE BAHRAIN, IMAC** pioneers in the field of Music, Dance and Art trainings for a decade in the island , offers a wide range of coaching classes for Music, Classical Dance, Cinematic dance, Western dance, For details contact- 77001508

## ART GURU THE ART OF EXCELLENCE

**ART CLASSES** Classes in **DRAWING PAINTING ENGINEERING DRAWING CARTOON CARICATURE**

For more details Call : 33765757 Log on : www.artguru.in Let us grow together in the artistic way



## Services

## PEST CONTROL

Guaranteed Service For

**Cockroach Bed Bugs Rodent Anti Termite & All Other Pests**



17532210 / 39516721

**WE DO OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY @ REASONABLE PRICE WITH HIGH QUALITY HD CAMERA BY PROFESSIONAL TEAM.** For more Information Contact us: Lensmagic Digital Studio Shop 10 Block 326

Ozama Bin Zaid Avenue Adliya Tel:17179172/ 17621070/17745983 M o b : 3 9 9 4 3 1 1 6

**WHITE DRAGON PEST CONTROL** for eliminating Bed Bugs , Cockroaches, Contact : 39404821 , 17246181

**HIGH BUILDING GATE CONSTRUCTION S.P.C (HBGC)** Interior Design and Construction Company – Interior Decoration, Gypsum Plasterboard & Gypsum Decorative ceilings, Metal and ineral Fiber Ceilings, GRG Ceilings , Aluminum Ceilings Gypsum Partitions, Thermal Insulations, Wall Claddings and Parquet Flooring , Building Maintenance, Civil, Painting and Electrical works. Contact : 17540231 , 33477793 , E m a i l : h b g c s p c @ g m a i l . c o m .

**SHONEEZ MOTORS** We offer you the strongest offers for the New Year 2018 with the latest models of new and old cars. Visit us and get your cars at the best prices and offers from BCFC. Visit us and get the chance to be one of the lucky winners with our latest promotions! Contact us on: 39668636 -17556862, Address: Al Burhama , Rakan Center, Kingdom of Bahrain. Block 354, Road 5447, Bldg 1974, Shop 18

**ROSE PETALS** designer ladies boutique with unique collection for women such as Kurtis , ethnic wears, western designer gowns, branded leggings, patiala, palazzo pants also has a wide range of fabrics and custom made stitching for ladies and kids available. for more info contact 77334499

**DEVES GATE CAR SERVICE** Car washing, lubricants change, all kinds of repairs, computer diagnostic, BG services. Al hajjiyath, Riffa :17760042

**DEVES GATE CAR SERVICES** Car detailing, window tinting, seat upholstery, paint protection film, A/C works, Al hajjiyath, Riffa 17009275

**ROHITH CAR SERVICES** Car washing, all kinds of lubricants, flushing service . Mameer, Sitra road 1 7 7 0 0 5 6 6

**AL TAHALIF CONTRACTING** All kinds of Civil works includes Electrical , Mechanical and Plumbing. Contact : 39656092

**MAGNUM IMPRINT W.L.L.** Large format digital printing. All kind of sign boards, graphic designs, exhibition works, branding, screen printing, and vinyl graphics .Contact 33856330, 39887088 Blue Sea International Company W.L.L. Our Services: Air / Sea / Land Freight. Contact : 35907141

**FILTER AQUAPRO BAHRAIN TRADING W.L.L.** Direct wholesale of factory tools and commodities for the first time in Bahrain, Authorized Factory outlet in Bahrain. Branch office of Aquapro Taiwan . For more info contact - 38852025, 17326744

## COZMO TRAVEL

Amazing & Affordable HOLIDAY PACKAGES TO GEORGIA, ARMENIA, ISTANBUL & More.. Starting from BHD 120(FLIGHT+HOTEL)

For more information visit www.cozmotravel.com OR Call

+973 13350111 +973 17491950

**NEW OPTICAL HOUSE** EYE TESTING AVAILABLE, QUALITY EYE WEARS, SUN GLASSES AND P R E S C R I P T I O N EYE GLASSES AT UNBEATABLE PRICE..!!!WORKING HOURS 9 AM -12.30 PM 4PM -8.00 PM Contact : 39870066, 17210977, Email: newopticalhouse@yahoo.com



## Real Estate / Properties

**FULL BUILDING AVAILABLE FOR STAFF / LABOR ACCOMADATION** in various parts of bahrain. The building can be given as fully furnished, semi-furnished and unfurnished. Also we help clients to get housing furnished semi-furnished or unfurnished flats according to their budget. For further information plz call 38251219.

**LOOKING FOR** corporate office space for Group of Companies with 8 CR, 100sq-mtr each. Contact : 17579918 **FOR RENT** Warehouses, Stores, Workshops, Factories, Restaurants, Office Flats, Villas, Labour & Staff accommodation, Family flats, apartments and Villas - for inquiries call or Whatsapp 39802442

**AVAILABLE FOR RENT** Semi, Full and un furnished flats, villas, apartments and commercial properties in um Al Hassam, Adliya, Mahooz, Segaya, Gufool, Juffair, Hooraa - call or Whatsapp 39802442

**GEETHANJALI 4WALLS** Sq Feet 6,500 + 3,250 tile area - Tress Work completed - Electricity and water connection taken - Roca company furnished - Build inn cupboards - 15,000 liter rain water storage - Place kangarapady near medical college, Kakkanad, Kochi **Contact :** Bahrain- +97338444687 India- +91 98461 44280



## Situation Vacant / Wanted

**ELECTRICAL SUPERVISOR** with GCC experience required. For further details call 39462527.

**ADMIN ASSISTANT REQUIRED** for a Leading company in Bahrain. Female candidate's

preferred. Minimum 3 years' experience & good communication skills mandatory. Send CV to classifieds@dt.bh

**LOOKING FOR** Sales Executive , Van Salesman , Merchandiser and Driver .Preferably all below 28 years of age. Send CV on packaging. bahrain@gmail.com

**LOOKING FOR** a keralite experienced AC technician with added experience in Auto Technics OR Auto technician with added experience in AC Technics. Contact : 39997696 , 36997471

**CAR SHOW ROOM IS LOOKING FOR SECURITY MAN** with experience .Send CV to suitablejobforme@gmail.com

**CASHIERS WAITING STAFF ACCOUNTANTS** required for leading hotel group in Bahrain. For Details Email : job\_101@habaragroup.com

**LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED AC TECHNICIAN** with added experience in Auto Technics OR Auto Technician with added experience in AC Technics. Contact : 39997696, 36997471

**URGENTLY REQUIRED FOR NEWLY OPENED BEAUTY SALOON AND SPA** • 4 experienced beauticians • Massage therapist • Hair dresser • experience in giving Moroccan bath • experience in giving manicure and pedicure. For more details please contact **36639812** Saloon next to MAX shopping mall , Segaya

**TILING AND PLASTERING** contractor for two 7,700 sq m jobs, urgently needed. Contact James 17728340

**URGENTLY REQUIRED** an experienced Play school teacher. Any Nationality Contact: 66639630 396214785

**LINEAGE** 300 fils per word per day (Minimum 10 words)

**DISPLAY COLOUR** BD 12/- per single column centimetre (minimum 4cm)

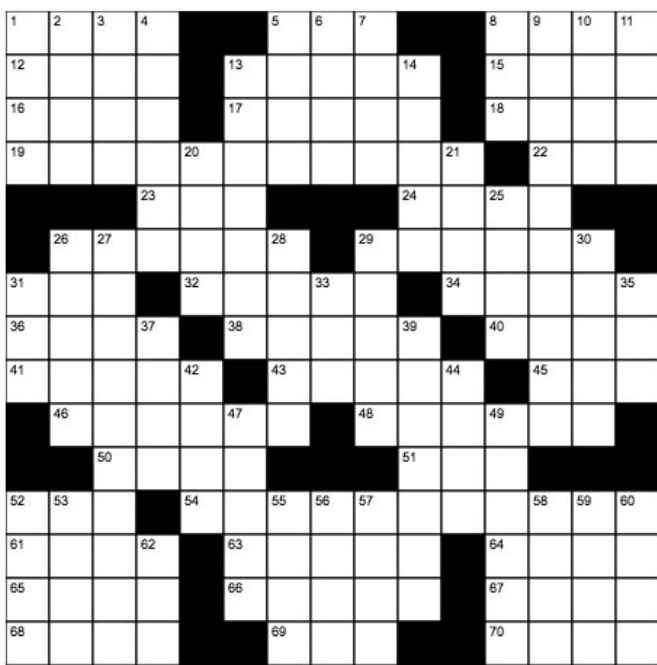
**DISPLAY B & W** BD 6/- per single column centimetre (Minimum 4cm)

**SERIES DISCOUNT** 4 for the Price of 3

**DEADLINE** Lineage 11am Display 9am Cancellation 12pm

**WORKING HOURS** Saturday to Thursday 8 am - 6 pm

# CROSSWORD



**Across**

1- Pampering places; 5- Yelp; 8- Comics canine; 12- Heap; 13- Org.; 15- Proceeded; 16- \_\_\_ impasse; 17- Quit; 18- Send forth; 19- Having the form of a deity; 22- Suffix with Capri; 23- Sprinted; 24- Anjou alternative; 26- Scram!; 29- Excrement used as fertilizer; 31- Spar; 32- Grocery, e.g.; 34- "The Family Circus" cartoonist Bil; 36- Small amount; 38- Goofed up; 40- Word on a red sign; 41- Garr and Hatcher; 43- Take \_\_\_ at (try); 45- Here, in Le Havre; 46- Pertaining to Denmark; 48- Kiss; 50- Abrupt; 51- Fore's partner; 52- Addams family cousin; 54- Capital of Illinois; 61- Mai \_\_\_; 63- Anouk of "La Dolce Vita"; 64- Nicholas II, for one; 65- Cupid's counterpart; 66- Exhausted; 67- Culp-Cosby series; 68- Jazz flutist Herbie; 69- Sun. delivery; 70- Soaks (up);

**Down**

1- Petty quarrel; 2- Old German helmet; 3- Caesar's wings; 4- Lady of Spain; 5- River of Flanders; 6- Pronto!; 7- Fancy-schmancy; 8- Be in debt; 9- Pertaining to democracy; 10- What's \_\_\_ for me?; 11- Kitchen addition?; 13- Plant of the buttercup family; 14- Silk cotton; 20- Wrestling surfaces; 21- Hit on the head; 25- Takes to court; 26- Greeted the villain; 27- Something extracted; 28- Law of Moses; 29- Confronts; 30- Methuselah's father; 31- Mouthpiece of a bridle; 33- Monopoly quartet. Abbr.; 35- Prefix with center; 37- Hokkaido native; 39- Wounded; 42- Letter opener; 44- Box office hit; 47- March honoree, briefly; 49- Inflammation of the ear; 52- Tabloid twosome; 53- Skater Lipinski; 55- Journalist Jacob; 56- Nagy of Hungary; 57- Not e'en once; 58- Canadian gas brand; 59- Reindeer herder; 60- Prohibitionists; 62- Common ID;

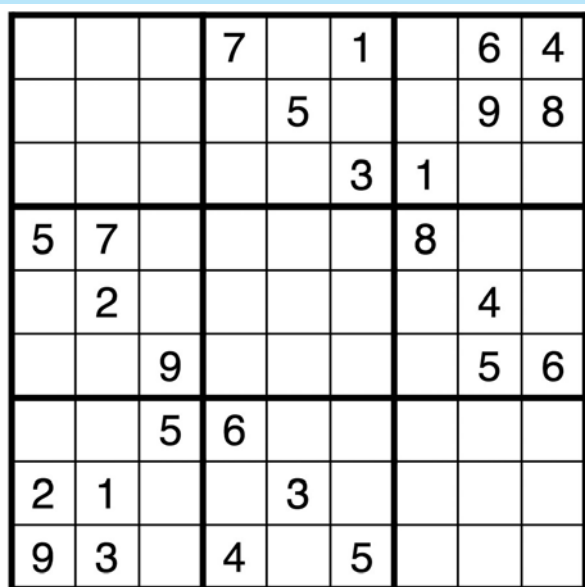
## YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



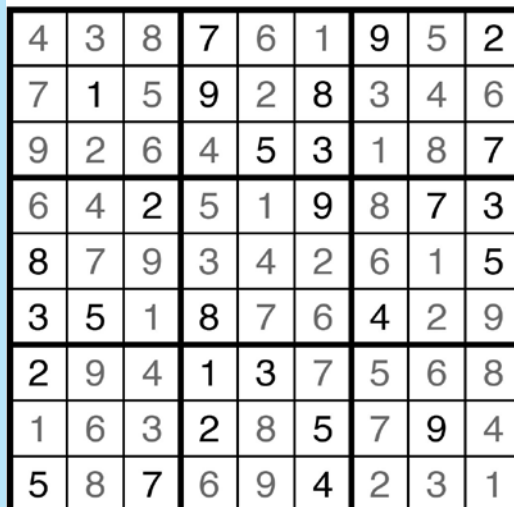
## BEETLE BAILEY



## SUDOKU



## YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION



**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.

## Your star today

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



Is your love interest out of town? If so, you might spend much of the day feeling lonely and gloomy. Your friend misses you, too, so don't think you'll be alone for long. Try to fill the hours until your partner returns with activities that you love, such as reading or artistic pursuits. The time should then go quickly and you'll be back together before you know it. Hang in there!

(Apr 21st - May 21st)



A financial goal you've been hoping to reach very soon might seem right around the corner, but there still seem to be a thousand things you have to do before it's actually realized. This could get you down temporarily, but don't get stuck there. Make a list of whatever needs to be done and then tackle each task one at a time until the goal is reached. Get busy!

(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Expect a hectic pace today. Some of your colleagues may have been procrastinating a little and now everything has to be done at once. Don't get too frustrated, however. There are unspoken reasons for their behaviour that they haven't shared with you. Just do the best you can and hope that others will as well. If some of it has to wait, it won't be the end of the world!

(June 22nd - July 23rd)



Have you been planning to travel, perhaps for business? You might receive word that your trip has to be postponed, which could be disappointing. However, bear in mind that this is only a delay, not a denial. All signs are that you'll make that trip, so don't panic. Think of it as more time in which to prepare. You'll want to be thoroughly ready before you go.

(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



A proposed get-together with a love interest might have to be postponed until much later tonight or perhaps another evening. This could make you a little blue. Your insecurity might even get the better of you. Does your friend not want to meet? Don't fall into this kind of thinking. Accept that there's a reason and go with the flow.

(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



Are you expecting a close friend or love partner to visit you at home? Don't panic if your friend doesn't show up at the allotted time. It doesn't mean that no one is coming! There probably has been a traffic jam, last-minute phone call, long line at the supermarket, or some other mundane delay. Be patient and your friend will show up eventually. Hang in there!

(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



An emotional phone call could come from a close friend or love partner. This person has a lot of worries, and is apt to lay them all on you if you let it happen. You won't want to drop everything that you'd planned to work on today. Tell your friend that you should get together for dinner or coffee and you'll talk about it, and then finish your tasks as quickly as possible.

(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd)



Financial worries could plague you today. This is unfortunate, because your concerns are probably misplaced. There may be a few adjustments to make, but nothing a little belt-tightening for a few days can't fix. Find something inexpensive but fascinating to do like reading or watching a documentary. You'll forget your troubles and learn something in the meantime.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



Love matters could have you feeling uptight and somewhat fearful today. Perhaps this involves a relationship that hasn't really manifested yet, or maybe you and your beloved have had a dispute of some kind. Don't worry too much. You should hear some reassuring words before too long. Try to stay calm when talking to your partner.

(Dec 22nd - Jan 20th)



Idealized romantic feelings could pour out today when talking to your love interest. That's fine, but you should exercise restraint. If it's a new relationship, your partner could be scared off. If it's a long-term involvement, your friend might feel at a disadvantage. Channel the feelings into a poem, song, or painting. If you must voice them directly to your friend, keep the terms general.

(Jan 21st - Feb 19th)



Money worries could cause you to resist attending a group event with some friends. Are you afraid you'll be tempted to spend more than you can afford now? You probably will, but that's no reason to stay away. Leave your checkbook and credit cards at home. Take only a minimal amount of cash.

(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Someone you know from work could suddenly seem to have romantic feelings for you, Pisces. At first this might make you a little uncomfortable, since you've never thought of this person in that way before. Don't do anything rash. Think about it first. Maybe there's potential, maybe not, but don't jump at it or dismiss it out of hand.

# Tiangong 1 to provide 'splendid' show: China

**Beijing**  
A defunct space laboratory that will plunge back to Earth in the coming days is unlikely to cause any damage, Chinese authorities say, but will offer instead a "splendid" show akin to a meteor shower.

China's space agency said Thursday that the roughly eight-tonne Tiangong-1 will re-enter the atmosphere some time between Saturday and Monday. The European Space Agency has a smaller window between midday Saturday and early Sunday afternoon GMT time.

But there is "no need for people to worry", the China Manned Space Engineering Office (CMSEO) said on its WeChat social media account.

Such falling spacecraft do "not crash into the Earth fiercely like in sci-fi movies, but turn into a splendid (meteor shower) and move

across the beautiful starry sky as they race towards the Earth", it said.

The lab was placed in orbit in September 2011 and had been slated for a controlled re-entry, but it ceased functioning in March 2016 and space enthusiasts have been bracing for its fiery return.

The ESA said the lab will make an "uncontrolled re-entry" as ground teams are no longer able to fire its engines or thrusters, though a Chinese spaceflight engineer denied earlier this year that it was out of control.

China sent another lab into orbit, the Tiangong-2, in September 2016 and hopes to turn it into a crewed space station by 2022.

Experts have downplayed any concerns about the Tiangong-1 causing any damage when it hurtles back to Earth, with the ESA noting that nearly 6,000 uncontrolled re-entries of

large objects have occurred over the past 60 years without harming anyone.

The CMSEO said the probability of someone being hit by a meteorite of more than 200 grammes is one in 700 million.

- 'Spectacular show' -  
During the uncontrolled re-entry, atmospheric drag will rip away solar arrays, antennas and other external components at an altitude of around 100 kilometres (60 miles), according to the Chinese space office.

The intensifying heat and friction will cause the main structure to burn or blow up, and it should disintegrate at an altitude of around 80 kilometres, it said.

Most fragments will dissipate in the air and a small amount of debris will fall relatively slowly before landing, most likely in the ocean, which covers more than 70 percent of the Earth's surface. (AFP)

## #PollToday



Tiangong 1 is all set to crash into the Earth some time between Saturday and Monday. Do think, as experts say, the space station will dissipate in the air?

Yes  No  Cant Say



"Those who enter into cooperation and solidarity with terror groups against Turkey...will, like the terrorists, become a target of Turkey. We hope France does not take such an irrational step,"

Recep **Tayyip Erdogan**,  
Turkish President

## Rest in sight

Russia tests new ballistic missile



Russia has successfully tested its latest intercontinental ballistic missile, the country's military said Friday.

Fire on bus in Thailand kills 20 migrant factory workers

A fire on a double-decker bus carrying migrant workers killed 20 people early Friday.

Afghanistan sets October for elections

Afghanistan aims to hold parliamentary and local district elections in October, more than three years late, a senior election official said.

16 injured in hot air balloon heavy landing in Australia

A hot air balloon landed heavily after hitting a tree north of Sydney on Friday, injuring 16 people, officials said.

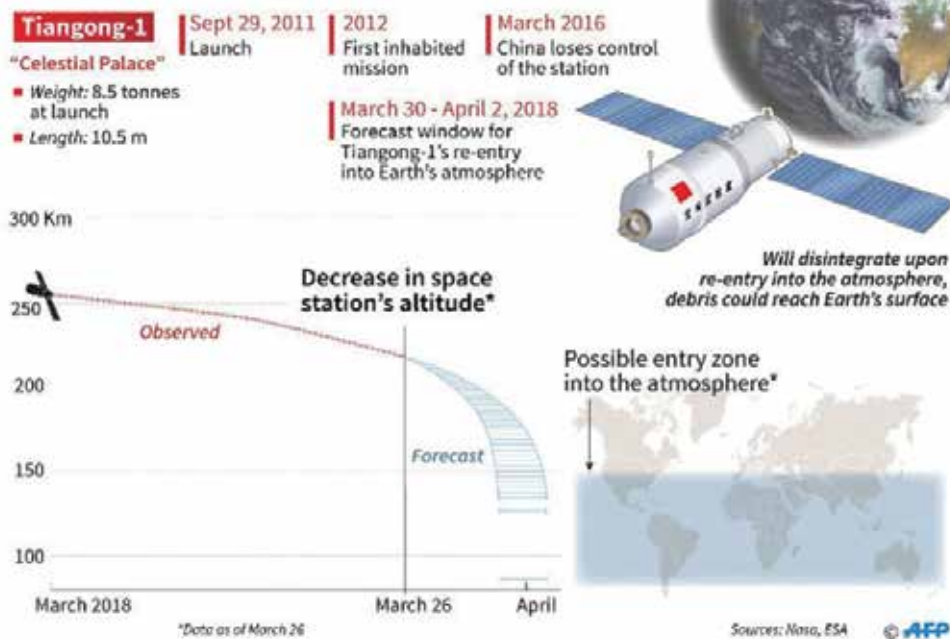
For more, catch us online at:

[www.newsofbahrain.com](http://www.newsofbahrain.com)

[/nobonline](https://www.facebook.com/nobonline)

[/newsofbahrain](https://www.twitter.com/newsofbahrain)

## Fall of the Chinese space station Tiangong-1



# Huge chocolate statues spring up in Belgium

**Durby**

It sounds like a chocoholic's dreamland - giant sculptures of elephants and flamingos all crafted from Belgian chocolate.

The animal creations, up to 3 meters tall, are the centrepiece of an exhibition in Belgium of around 50 chocolate pieces by 40 international artists.

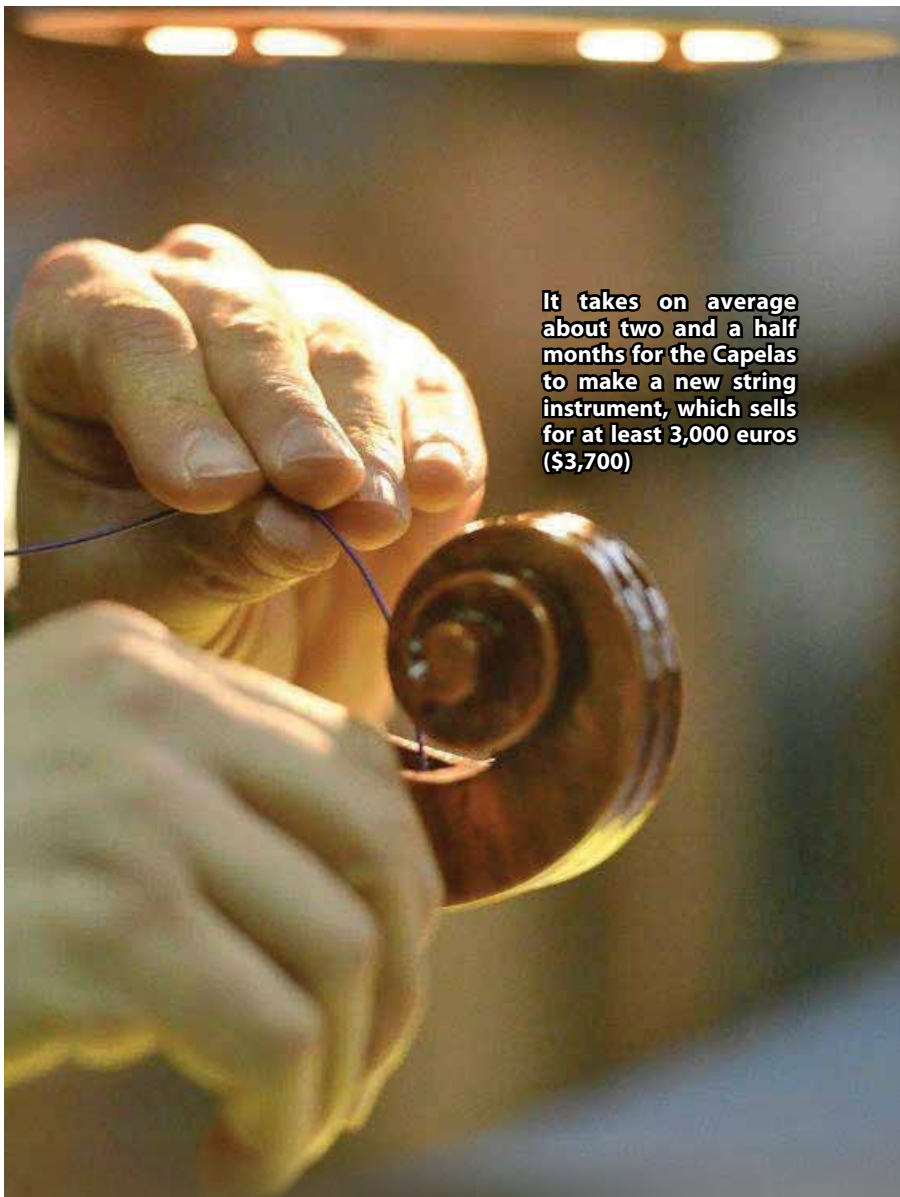
The ChocoPalace festival, in the small city of Durby, southeast of Brussels, also features a chocolate river and stalls selling macarons and boozy chocolate drinks.

The festival has already attracted more than 30,000 visitors and is set to draw in plenty more over the Easter holidays until it closes on April 8.

Durby, with a population of around 10,000, light-heartedly bills itself as "the smallest city in the world", and attracts sightseers from nearby Brussels and Luxembourg.

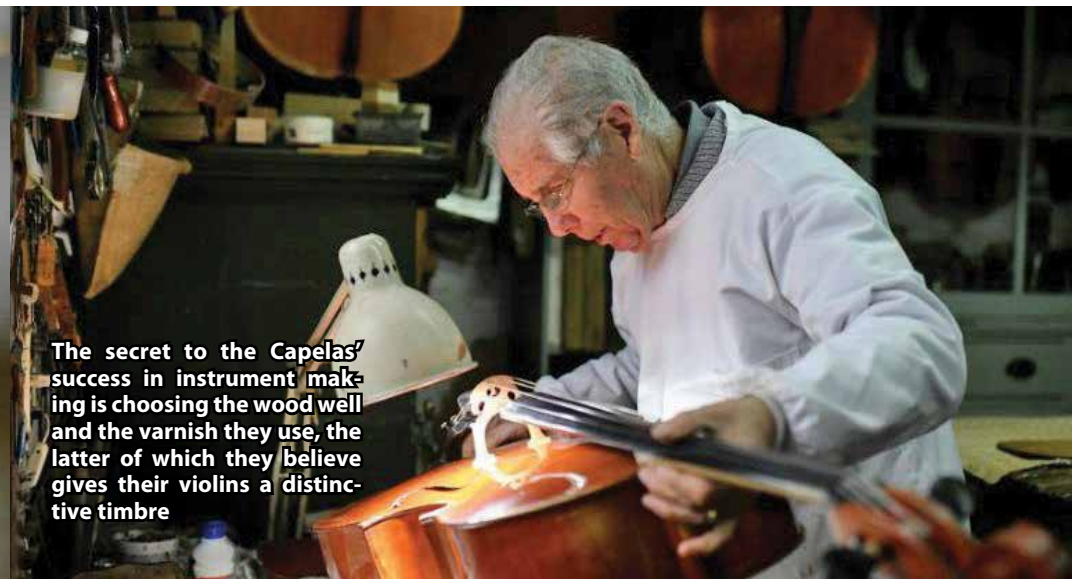
"The idea was to bring the biggest chocolate sculpture festival in the world to the smallest city in the world," said Laura Trommelen, from PLG, the advertising group that has organised the festival.





It takes on average about two and a half months for the Capelas to make a new string instrument, which sells for at least 3,000 euros (\$3,700)

# Celebrated Portuguese luthiers face end of the line



The secret to the Capelas' success in instrument making is choosing the wood well and the varnish they use, the latter of which they believe gives their violins a distinctive timbre

Surrounded by planers and other woodworking tools, Joaquim Capela carefully sculpts a new bridge for a violin at a tiny workshop in northern Portugal as it drizzles outside.

Capela, 51, is a third-generation luthier, whose family's prize-winning instruments have been sought after for nearly a century by top musicians around the world, such as the late Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich.

But he is set to be the last since his 22-year-old son Tiago has no desire to continue the family business, preferring instead to become a surgeon.

The musical instruments "mean a lot to us but it's nothing compared to a son doing what he loves," says Capela, as he holds up the finished bridge, which supports the strings and transmits their vibrations to the body of a violin.

"If he is happy, that is what counts for me. If I am like my father, I still have at least another 30 years to make instruments."

Seated nearby, his father Antonio Capela, 85, quietly goes about changing the strings and turning the pegs of a cello at the workshop in Anta, a picturesque town that is home to around 10,000 people near Porto, Portugal's second-largest city.

"Aside from the two or three days of the year when I have my usual cold, I never stop working, even on weekends," he says in a soft voice.

## 'Many orders'

It takes on average about two and a half months for the Capelas to make a new string instrument, which sells for at least 3,000 euros (\$3,700).

"We have so many orders that it takes us generally two years to honour them," says Joaquim,

who started learning the craft as a child.

Their story as luthiers began in 1924, when Joaquim's carpenter grandfather, Domingos Capela, agreed to repair the violin of an Italian-Brazilian musician, who belonged to the orchestra of the neighbouring town of Espinho.

The musician was thrilled with the results and recommended Domingos to other members of the orchestra.

As time went by the Capelas started to count top musicians as their clients, among them Rostropovich, considered to be among the world's greatest cellists.

Photos of the Russian musician, who died in 2007, are proudly displayed on a wall of the Capelas' workshop, alongside violins, violas and cellos.

The Capelas in 1972 won the top four prizes in the prestigious Henryk Wieniawski international violin making competition, which is held every five years in Poland, as well as the top prize in a highly respected Japanese competition in 1989.

- Balkan maple, Italian spruce - "To make a quality violin, you have to choose the wood well," says Antonio, who studied his craft in Paris and the northern Italian city of Cremona, considered to be the cradle of violin making.

The Capelas use only Balkan maple for the back of their violins and Italian spruce for the sounding board.

"They have great acoustic qualities," says Antonio, taking the first violin made by his father out of its storage case to show AFP.

The other secret of their success is the varnish they use to coat their instruments whose smell fills the workshop in Anta.

The Capelas credit the varnish with giving their violins a distinctive timbre.

"In Cremona in Italy, the village of the violin, the other luthiers often ask me for the formula of my varnish, I simply answer that it is the same as theirs," says Antonio, before breaking out into a mischievous smile.

## 'Name will last'

Ana Mula, a Spanish professional cellist, drove 550 kilometres (340 miles) from Madrid with her father to get her two cellos repaired by the Capelas.

"I saw a luthier in Madrid but his work disappointed me. The Capelas have a great reputation in Spain, so I am ready to stay in Portugal as long as it takes and pay the necessary price for my cellos," she said.

Antonio says he is still very moved whenever he hears a musician play one of his "children of wood" as he likes to call the instruments he makes.

"The problem is that after my son and I, there will be nobody to make violins," he says.

While the Capelas could pass on their craft to someone outside the family, they prefer not to.

"As the proverb says, 'It is better to die honourably than to live dishonourably,'" Antonio adds, suggesting the family would rather stop with their reputation for top-notch quality intact than have someone else continue, with the quality possibly suffering.

"Everything has a beginning and an end," says Joaquim. "Our violins will still be there after several generations as evidence of our craft."

"The instruments can be destroyed, but not the name, it will last." (AFP)



Joaquim Capela, 51, could be the last in his family to run their luthier business as his own son wants to become a surgeon instead



Portuguese luthier Joaquim Capela (r) works with his father Antonio in their northern Portugal workshop in Anta, near Porto

## Warner to address media today

Sydney

**D**avid Warner, who has been identified as the instigator of a ball-tampering scandal that rocked the cricket world, will hold a media conference to discuss the issue today, Cricket Australia (CA) has said.

A CA investigation found opener Warner had instructed junior batsman Cameron Bancroft on how to scuff

up one half of the ball with sandpaper during the third test against South Africa.

Warner suspended from international and state cricket for 12 months and banned from ever holding a leadership position in the test team. Bancroft was banned for nine months for his part, while axed skipper Steve Smith also received a one-year ban. (Reuters)



David Warner (file pic)

## Streak asked to step down as Zim coach

Harare

**H**eath Streak has been asked to step down as Zimbabwe coach or face dismissal after the team failed to qualify for the 2019 Cricket World Cup.

Zimbabwe, which hosted the qualification competition which ended last week, failed to secure two of the slots, which were taken by West Indies and Afghanistan.

It will be the first time Zimbabwe will not be playing in the Cricket World Cup since 1983, a development that has raised alarm in the African country, with fear rife that the game will go downhill.

Streak learned of his fate



Heath Streak (file pic)

through a letter from Zimbabwe Cricket managing director Faisal Haisnan, who said the former national captain must resign together with his entire staff, including batting coach Lance Klusener, the former South Africa allrounder. (AP)



Aiden Markram's glorious cover drive (Pic courtesy: espncricinfo)

### BRIEF SCORE

**South Africa** 313 for 6 (Markram 152, de Villiers 69, Cummins 3-53) v **Australia**

# Markram shines as SA dominate

Johannesburg

**O**peners Aiden Markram led the way with a career-best 152 as South Africa had the better of the opening day of the fourth Test against a much-changed Australia, reaching the close on 313 for six yesterday.

The tourists, reeling from their ball-tampering scandal and led by new captain Tim Paine, had to endure chants of "where is Warner?" and "where is your captain?" from sections of the 17,023 home support as a reminder of the bans handed to captain

Steve Smith, his deputy David Warner and Cameron Bancroft.

Needing a win to grab a share of the series, the tourists kept themselves in the game as the excellent Pat Cummins (3-53) claimed the wickets of Markram and home skipper Faf du Plessis first ball.

Debutant Chadd Sayers (2-64) removed AB de Villiers (69) with the new ball and two deliveries later had nightwatchman Kagiso Rabada caught without scoring.

Temba Bavuma (25) and Quinton de Kock (7) will resume on the second morning, looking for a sizeable total on a wicket already taking turn and showing widening cracks as they seek a first home series win over Australia in almost 50 years.

After losing the toss, Australia's bowlers have found enough in the wicket to dispel the notion of a flat pitch.

But it did not come in the form of reverse swing, which was noticeably absent having

been a feature of the first three Tests, only becoming apparent with the very old ball.

The excellent Markram has been the anchor for the innings, hitting 17 fours and a six on his way to a fourth career century to go with three fifties in 17 Test innings as he scored all around the ground.

His 216-ball vigil ended when he steered Cummins to Mitchell Marsh in the gully, having brought up his 150 the delivery before with a sumptuous drive. (Reuters)



## Wood 'having a laugh' in England fightback

Mark Wood drives on his way to maiden Test half-century (Pic courtesy: espncricinfo)

Christchurch

**E**ngland may have been on the ropes but Mark Wood was having the time of his life as he and Jonny Bairstow regained momentum on day one of the second Test against New Zealand yesterday.

The pair came together with England at 164 for seven and by stumps at Hagley Oval in Christchurch they were 290 for eight.

Bairstow was 97 not out, in sight of his fifth Test century, while Wood was out for a career-best 52 after the pair put on 95 for the eighth wicket.

"When I went out to bat obviously we were in a bit of trouble," Wood said. "Jonny knows that (and said) 'I'll let you have fun and a bit of crack' and it made it easier

and we were just seeing how it goes and having a laugh. I get to 20 and think I'm like Bradman. I think I tried too many shots. It was nice having Jonny there because he kept it fun and kept us calm."

From a position of strength, New Zealand conceded that by stumps the honours were even.

Southee and Trent Boult did all the damage for New Zealand taking all eight wickets with Boult having three for 79 after New Zealand won the toss and elected to bowl first.

After being comprehensively beaten in the first Test, England strengthened their batting line up for Christchurch with the addition of James Vince, while Wood and Jack Leach came

in for bowlers Chris Woakes, Craig Overton and Moeen Ali.

But apart from Wood and Bairstow there was little to enthuse about for England who were in danger of folding for under 200 until the eighth wicket partnership.

Bairstow's 97 off 154 balls included partnerships of 56 with Ben Stokes, 13 with Stuart Broad, the sparkling 95 with Wood and 41 with Leach who was not out 10 at the end of the day. (AFP)

### BRIEF SCORE

**England** 290 for 8 (Bairstow 97\*, Leach 10\*) v **New Zealand**

## Valverde wary of playing Messi



Lionel Messi (file pic)

**London**  
**B**arcelona forward Lionel Messi is still feeling discomfort with his thigh and the club need to exercise caution to ensure he does not tear the muscle, coach Ernesto Valverde said yesterday ahead of his side's La Liga game at Sevilla.

Messi joined up with the Argentina squad after ending Barca's 2-0 win over Athletic Bilbao with a muscle problem but did not feature in the friendlies against Italy and Spain. The Argentine could only complete half Barca's training session on Thursday and even though the club have not issued a medical report on the injury, Valverde

declined to say whether he intended to pick his talisman on Saturday.

"We have to wait," Valverde told a news conference yesterday.

"We are taking care of him, just as Argentina did. He has a little discomfort and we have to bear that in mind, because if it leads to a muscular tear then the situation is far more serious."

Barca are 11 points clear of nearest challengers Atletico Madrid at the top of La Liga and could afford to leave Messi out against Sevilla without the decision significantly impacting their bid for a 25th league title. (Reuters)

## Zlatan departure a big loss: Mourinho



Zlatan Ibrahimovic (file pic)

**London**  
**E**uropean soccer has lost a "huge player" in Zlatan Ibrahimovic but the striker will raise the level of the game in the U.S following his move to LA Galaxy, Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho said yesterday.

Ibrahimovic last week ended a short but successful stint at United - where he won the League Cup and the Europa League - to become the latest high-profile player to move to the MLS, following the likes of David Beckham, Steven Gerrard, Thierry Henry and Frank Lampard.

Mourinho used his news conference ahead of Saturday's Premier League game against Swansea City to

pay tribute to the talismanic Swedish forward who he previously coached at Inter Milan.

"For me it's always sad when the big players move towards the end," Mourinho told reporters.

"I remember Luis Figo's last match with me and Inter, it was one of my saddest moments. The Zlatan goodbye was more in that direction, he's a huge player that European Football has lost.

"But this period with LA Galaxy will be very good for him, he will be good for American football, because of what he can do; his personality, his passion and his professionalism." (Reuters)



Latvia's Jelena Ostapenko returning a shot (Pic courtesy: AFP)

## Miami Open Stephens to meet Ostapenko in final

### Miami

**U**S Open winner Sloane Stephens saw off three-time Miami Open winner Victoria Azarenka to book a place in the final in Florida.

The Belarusian former world number one was given a wildcard into the tournament and had already seen off Karolina Pliskova, Agnieszka Radwanska and Anastasija Sevastova en route to the last four.

Azarenka took the first set 6-3 in 46 minutes, after breaking Stephens twice for a 3-0 lead, but then being broken back twice for 3-3.

The 186th-ranked Azarenka broke the American twice more to seal the set.

Four double faults in the second

brought Stephens back into contention as Azarenka lost three consecutive service games.

Stephens made short work of her opponent in the deciding set taking it 6-1.

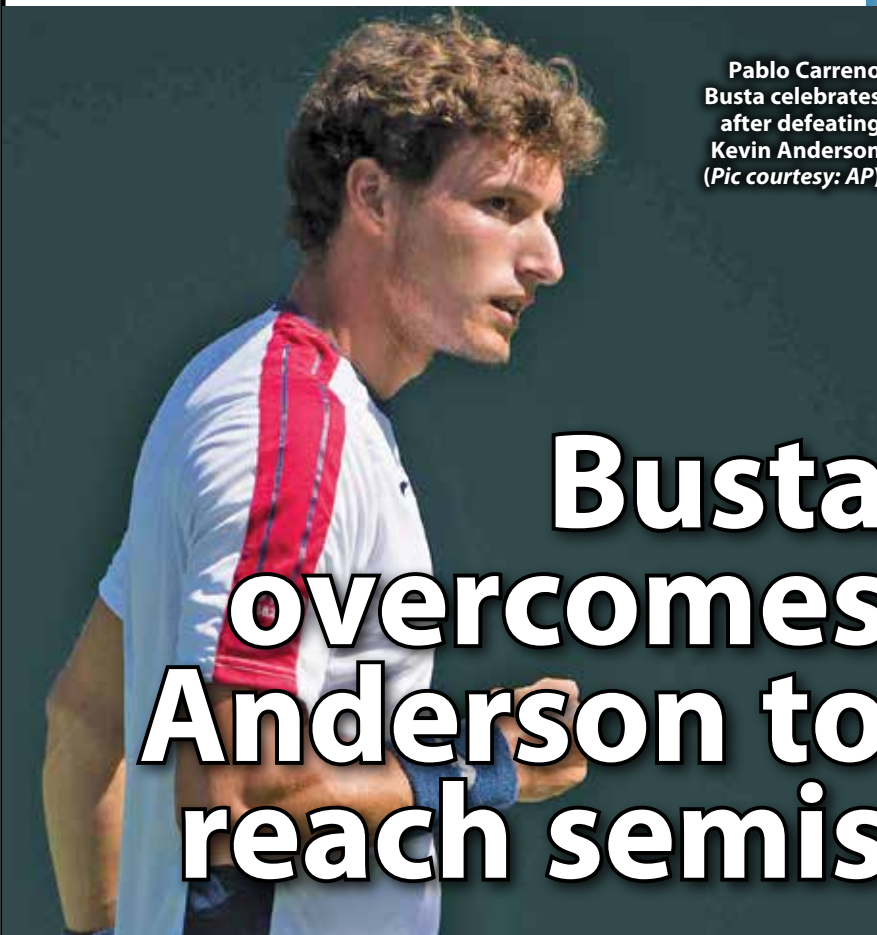
Jelena Ostapenko will be her opponent after she beat qualifier Danielle Collins 7-6 (7/1) 6-3.

Collins had already seen off Venus Williams in the quarter-finals but met her match against the Latvian, who was ruthless in the first set tie-break breaking her four times as Ostapenko took the first set.

The second was less of a dogfight - the world number five breaking Collins in the opening game and closing out the set on the first match point. (PA Sport)



Sloane Stephens



Pablo Carreno Busta celebrates after defeating Kevin Anderson (Pic courtesy: AP)

## Busta overcomes Anderson to reach semis

### Miami

**P**ablo Carreno Busta edged past Kevin Anderson to book a place in the Miami Open semi-finals.

The Spanish world number 19 slogged it out with the South African for two hours and 45 minutes, prevailing 6-4 5-7 7-6 (8/6).

Carreno Busta took the first after breaking Anderson in the seventh game to love and serving out for the set in 44 minutes, and had two match points as he served at 5-4 in the second.

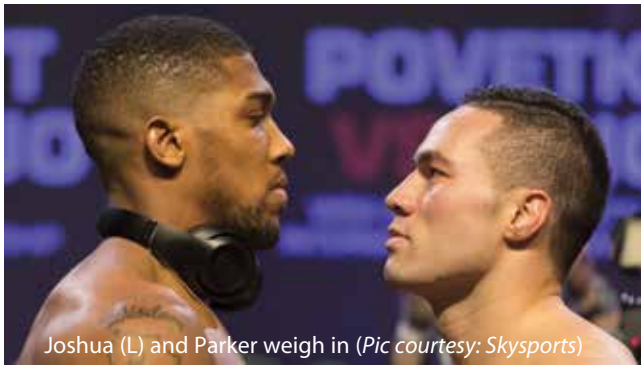
But the 31-year-old broke back on the next two service games to take the second and force a deciding set.

The third set went to serve, forcing a tie-break which saw both players have the chance to book their place in the last four.

Anderson served for the match at 6/5 but Carreno Busta broke twice and made no mistake on his serve at match point.

He will go on to face Germany's Alexander Zverev who beat Borna Coric 6-4 6-4.

Zverev, who won 83 per cent of his first serve points, broke for 3-2 in the first and served out the final game of the set to love, and got a crucial break in the second for 5-4. (PA Sport)



Joshua (L) and Parker weigh in (Pic courtesy: Skysports)

## Joshua weighs in heavier than Parker

London

**A**nthony Joshua cut a lean figure on the Cardiff scales as he weighed in nearly a stone lighter than his last fight for his world heavyweight unification showdown with Joseph Parker.

Joshua, the WBA and IBF king, tipped the scales at 17st 4lbs 2oz for Saturday's fight at the Principality Stadium – 6lbs heavier than New Zealand's WBO champion Parker.

The 28-year-old had shed 12lbs from his 18st 2lbs frame when stopping Carlos Takam in October, while Parker has lost 9lbs since outpointing Hughie Fury a month earlier.

"Taking that bit of weight off makes this fight a little easier," Joshua said on stage after the two men had weighed in.

"I feel better. Training is all about rehearsal and so is sparring, but it has gone well.

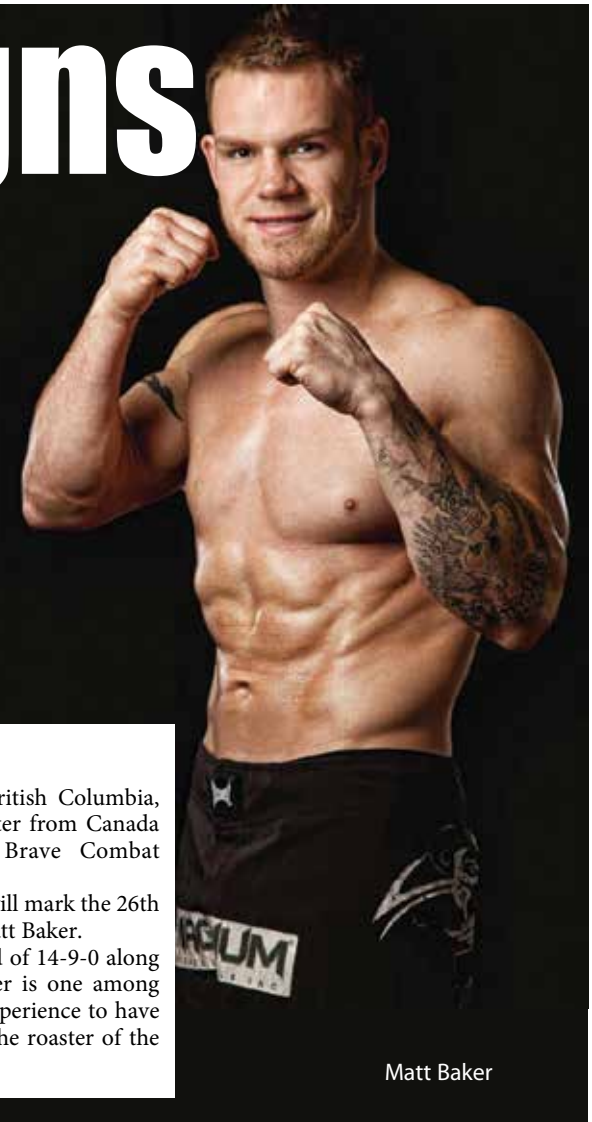
"You will see I will be a lot sharper. "My reflexes will be sharper and my speed will be much sharper."

With both unbeaten champions coming in significantly lighter than their previous fights, the action before a 78,000 sell-out crowd promises to be fast and furious.

The two men looked keen to get down to business as they entered the Cardiff Motorpoint Arena before 4,000 fans.

Parker, at 26 two years younger than Joshua and the first to enter the auditorium, was accompanied by New Zealand Haka dancers and Samoan singers. (PA Sport)

# Baker signs for the co-main event



Matt Baker

Manama

**B**rave Combat Federation has signed Matt Baker from British Columbia, Canada to be featured on the eleventh edition of the event in Brazil. Brave 11 will be hosted in Belo Horizonte, Brazil on 13 April, 2018 at the Mineirao Stadium Terrace.

Baker trains at the Pitbull Brothers gym and will be facing Klidson Farias de Abreu at the co-main event of the promotion for the Light Heavyweight

championship.

Born in Kamloops, British Columbia, Baker is the second fighter from Canada to have signed with Brave Combat Federation.

The bout at Brave 11 will mark the 26th career appearance for Matt Baker.

Having a career record of 14-9-0 along with 2 no-contests, Baker is one among the fighters with most experience to have signed from Canada to the roster of the Bahraini promotion.

## BIC: Last chance to get an instant gift

DT News Network  
Manama

**F**ormula 1 fans looking to attend this year's Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix have only until Saturday to take advantage of Bahrain International Circuit (BIC)'s special offer on tickets with instant prizes.

Anyone who purchases their tickets from the BIC stands in Bahrain City Centre and The Avenues will receive a valuable gift, compliments of BIC, instantly!

Tickets to the Bahrain Grand Prix are already amongst the most affordable in the entire FIA Formula 1 World Championship. These gifts add further value for money to the three-day spectacle of racing and entertainment, scheduled to take place April 6 to 8 in Sakhir.

Ticket prices: Main Grandstand seats cost BD150 each for the three days, while Batelco Grandstand tickets are BD120 and Turn One tickets BD100. University and Victory Grandstand tickets cost BD60.

Furthermore, for the first time, fans will be able to purchase a single Friday ticket for the Batelco Grandstand at BD60, or they can buy a two-day ticket for Saturday and Sunday, also for the Batelco Grandstand for BD100.

There are special discounts for children attending the race weekend with their families. All those younger than three years old will not need a ticket. Those aged three to 12 years old can get a 50 per cent discount on their ticket prices. School students aged 13 to 17 can get 25 per cent off, while university students can get a 10 per cent discount.

For further information on events at BIC, visit [bahraingp.com](http://bahraingp.com) or call the BIC Hotline on +973-17-450000.



## Rivals' Ferrari claims 'based on no facts'

London

**H**aas Formula 1 team principal Gunther Steiner has hit back at suggestions the US-owned team is getting more technical support from Ferrari than the rules allow.

McLaren and Force India have both expressed suspicions about the team's surge in form since last year, while conceding that there is no hard evidence of any wrongdoing [Link].

Steiner says those making allegations have no facts on which to base them, and that everything the team has done has been clear with the FIA.

"Everybody is allowed to have an opinion," said Steiner. "Some people have an opinion, which I think is based on no facts. It does not have a lot of value to me.

"The whole of Haas can be proud of the work done between last year and over the winter to produce the VF-18 and get it into its competitive condition.

"It's merit to them. They can be proud. If people have an issue, fine with me." (Autosport)

## Bahrain on verge of setting futsal record

# Making history!



HH Shaikh Khalid with tournament organisers, players and officials

**DT News Network  
Manama**

**B**ahrain is on verge of making history by setting a World Guinness Record for the longest, one-day, continuous play futsal tournament.

This first-of-its-kind event in the world, which got underway last night at the Bahrain Sports Federation for People with Disabilities Hall, located at Isa Sports City in Riffa, is scheduled to conclude today at 7 pm.

Should Bahrain complete this task as per the conditions set up by World Guinness Record organization, the kingdom will be the first to succeed in setting such record.

Eighteen teams, making up more than 230 players from different ministries, the private sector and other authorities, will compete in non-stop action 24-hour tournament, initiated by Bahrain Olympic Committee and supported a number of entities.

Yesterday's opening ceremony was inaugurated by HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Representative of His Majesty the King for Charity Works and Youth

Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee.

HH Shaikh Nasser delegated HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports, and Bahrain Athletics Association president, to attend the event.

In an official statement, HH Shaikh Nasser said the event is one of the unique initiatives of the Bahrain Olympic Committee for 2018 and aims to promote tourism in Bahrain as well as the civilized face of the nation through sport.

HH Shaikh Nasser said the Kingdom of Bahrain will enter Guinness World Record for the first time on the sports level by hosting such an occasion, which will have a positive influence on Bahrain in the future.

On his part, HH Shaikh Khalid said he was proud to see this event organized in Bahrain, which is in line with the aspiration of HH Shaikh Nasser and underlines the abilities enjoyed by the kingdom in hosting major international sports gatherings.

HH Shaikh Khalid noted the challenge that the Bahraini youth is facing by bringing one of the most daunting activities in the world, but emphasized the determination of the people of Bahrain to raise their nation's flag high in all areas and at different levels, and thanked the organisers for their efforts in an attempt to make this event a success.

Late on, Supreme Council for Youth and Sports assistant general secretary and Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) general secretary Abdulrahman Askar expressed pleasure for bringing this event to Bahrain and setting a record for the longest futsal tournament with continuous play for 24 hours.

He said the tournament is being played in accordance to the rules and regulations of football's world governing body (FIFA), and it took three months of preparations to put the idea of this event into action.

Askar concluded by thanking all the sponsors for their support to the tournament, including platinum sponsors include E.K. Kanoo, Shoot sportswear, GPIC, Ramada City Centre Hotel, Applied Science University, Extra Sports News and Vista International.



HH Shaikh Khalid kicks the ball to declare the tournament open

