

**Cordoba signs Khulaifat**

Bahraini talent Hisham Al Khulaifat to represent Cordoba's youth team this season | P12

THE DAILY **tribune**



Tom Hanks says he's made only four 'pretty good' movies

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BUSINESS 5 LuLu Exchange unveils Diwali Golden Delight campaign!

**US sailor found not guilty of fire that destroyed ship**



Port of San Diego Harbor Police Department boats combat a fire on board the U.S. Navy amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard at Naval Base San Diego, California

Reuters

A US Navy sailor was found not guilty on Friday of starting a fire that destroyed the amphibious assault ship Bonhomme Richard in San Diego in 2020. Seaman Recruit Ryan Mays was acquitted of charges of arson and the willful hazarding of a ship, Commander Sean Robertson, a spokesman for the US 3rd Fleet, said in a statement.

The decision followed a two-week court-martial in which Navy prosecutors argued that Mays, who was 19 at the time of the blaze, started the fire due to disgruntlement with his work. Defence lawyers said lithium-ion batteries or a spark from a short on a forklift could have been to blame.

"The Navy is committed to upholding the principles of due process and a fair trial," Robertson said.

Had Mays been found guilty, he could have faced life in prison. More than 60 people, including about 40 sailors, were treated for minor injuries during four days of fighting flames on the 844-foot-long (257-meter) warship

**Activate dialogue, negotiations for lasting peace: HM King tells Putin over phone**

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa urged Russian President Vladimir Putin to activate channels of dialogue, negotiations and peaceful solutions to reach peace and development for all during



talks over the telephone yesterday. HM King further reminded Putin of the need

for concerted efforts by all to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace that guarantees the interests and national security of all countries around the globe. The leaders also reviewed the latest development in regional and international arenas and the growing strength of ties between Bahrain and Russia. While tackling OPEC+ Group commitments, HM King Hamad and the Russian President underlined the importance of continuing coordination and adherence to the Group's decisions.

**Annexed, says Putin**  
**Western world differ**

Biggest annexation in Europe since World War II

- Putin proclaims Ukrainian annexation in Kremlin ceremony
- Zelensky announces NATO membership application

TDT | agencies

A defiant Vladimir Putin proclaimed Russia's annexation of a swathe of Ukraine in a pomp-filled Kremlin ceremony, promising Moscow would triumph in its "special military operation" against Kyiv even as some of his troops faced potential defeat.

The Russian president's proclamation of Russian rule over 15% of Ukraine - the biggest annexation in Europe since World War Two - was roundly rejected by Western countries, with the United States and Britain announcing new sanctions.

It comes as Russian forces in one of the four regions being annexed face being encircled by Ukrainian troops after Putin ordered a massive mobilisation drive to get hundreds of thousands of Russian men to the front.



Russian President Vladimir Putin and Denis Pushilin, Leonid Pasechnik, Vladimir Saldo, Yevgeny Balitsky, who are the Russian-installed leaders in Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions, attend a ceremony to declare the annexation of the Russian-controlled territories of four Ukraine's Donetsk, Luhansk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions

Putin signalled he was ready to continue what he called a battle for a "greater historical Russia", slammed the West as neo-colonial and as out to destroy his country, and accused Washington and its allies of blowing up the Nord Stream gas pipelines.

The four Ukrainian regions that he said Russia was absorbing had made a historic choice, he said.

"They have made a choice

to be with their people, their motherland, to live with its fate, and to triumph with it. Truth is on our side. Russia is with us!" Putin told his country's political elite, who had gathered in one of the Kremlin's grandest halls to watch him sign the annexation documents.

"People living in Luhansk, Donetsk, Kherson region and Zaporizhzhia region are becoming our compatriots forever," said Putin, referring to the re-

gions that he said Russia was annexing. "We will defend our land with all our strength and all our means," he said, calling on "the Kyiv regime to immediately cease hostilities and return to the negotiation table".

The ceremony culminated in the 69-year-old leader chanting "Russia! Russia!" as he clasped the hands of the Russian-backed officials he wants to run the annexed regions, which Ukraine is fighting to win back.



Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday blamed the United States and its allies for blowing up the undersea Nord Stream pipelines, raising the temperature in a crisis that has left Europe racing to secure its energy infrastructure and supplies. Putin offered no evidence for the claim. Russia has previously said the United States would profit from attacks on Europe's energy infrastructure.



**Primary Healthcare Centres joins hands with RCSI-Bahrain**



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**Captain falls overboard as boat speeds away**



TDT | Manama

Coast Guard patrols yesterday managed to bring back safely a boat that went out of control after its Captain fell overboard, losing control, in rough seas.

The boat's engine, still in gear, powered ahead uncontrollably at full speed, causing some anxious moments.

However, Coast Guard patrol boats that reached the accident scene managed to bring the speeding boat under control, as one of the ships anchored near the accident site rescued the Captain.

The Interior Ministry, in a tweet, confirmed the accident.

The tweet said the Captain fell over the side when the boat got tossed violently in the rough waves near Khalifa bin Salman port.

**Bahrain International music festival**

**Arab music, culture to the fore as top music festival opens**

TDT | Manama

The highly-anticipated Bahrain International Music Festival kicks off today at the Bahrain National Theatre, bringing together acclaimed musicians of diverse cultures, genres and styles from the Arab world and beyond.

The opening ceremony will



see the launch of the Bahrain Philharmonic Orchestra - the first orchestra in the Kingdom, led by Maestro Mubarak Najem.

Its debut will feature Bahraini orchestral music, in addition to pieces that fuse international classical music with the magic of Arabic music.

(Continued on page 2)

**BAHRAIN COVID-19**

TOTAL TESTED

10379786

ACTIVE CASES

2999

DEATHS

1520

DISCHARGED

676040

NEW CASES

288

CRITICAL

0

220 fils (includes VAT)



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