

Max masterclass in Bahrain!

MONDAY
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 220 FILS
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Formula 1 kicks off 2023 season with thrilling F1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2023 at Bahrain International Circuit in Sakhir | P12

WORLD 6 Pakistan police attempt to arrest former Imran Khan

THE DAILY **tribune**



8 CELEBS Idris Elba won't 'say too much' to avoid social media rows

5 BUSINESS AUB, Mastercard sign strategic partnership

Bahraini film wins award at Russian festival
 TDT | Manama

The "Sheikh Al Tanweer" (Shaikh of Enlightenment) film continued clinching international prizes, the latest of which was the "Best Director" award granted to its Director, Eva Daoud, by HALO International Film Festival, held in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

The film, produced by the Shaikh Ebrahim bin Mohammed Al Khalifa Centre marking its 20th anniversary, was praised by the festival's jury, and appreciated by the audience.

Sponsored by the Economic Development Board (EDB), Batelco, and the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC), the film depicts places as memories of nations.

It reflects the vision of the centre and its management that there are no dilapidated houses, but rather homes whose people have stopped loving them.

Al Qaeda confirms top figure killed in Yemen strike
 AFP | Dubai

Al Qaeda yesterday confirmed the death of a senior figure in the jihadist network's Yemen branch in a suspected US air strike last month, SITE Intelligence Group reported.

Security and local government sources told AFP on Wednesday Hamad bin Hamoud Al Tamimi had been killed, identifying him as a top leader of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), which Washington regards as among the group's most dangerous branches.

Tamimi, who is also known as Abdel Aziz Al Adnani, died in a drone strike on February 26 that targeted his residence in war-torn Yemen's northern Marib province, according to the statement reported by SITE, which monitors jihadist websites.

The statement identified him as a "media official" who "previously managed external operations in the group."

220 fils (includes VAT)



HRH Prince Salman hails Bahrain Grand Prix 'success'
 TDT | Manama

The success of the 2023 Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix is a testament to the Kingdom's capability to host international sporting events and reflects His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's aspirations.

This was emphasised by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, as he attended yesterday the event, where he toured the Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) track to meet with fans and review preparations for the race.

HRH Prince Salman welcomed this year's attendees and commended the efforts of Team Bahrain and their contribution to the



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister attends the Bahrain Grand Prix yesterday

Kingdom's continued success. His Royal Highness was accompanied by the First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme

Council for Youth and Sports, Chairman of the General Sports Authority, and President of the Bahrain Olympic Committee,

His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Isa bin Salman Charity Ed-

ucational Charitable Trust, His Highness Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and a number of senior officials.

'Incredible race'

Sell-out crowd witnesses F1 spectacle at BIC; Verstappen wins first Bahrain GP title

● Record-breaking 36,000 race day crowd

● 99,500 spectators attend weekend events

● Over 10,000 tourists travel to Bahrain

TDT | Manama

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC), "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", announced yesterday a record sell-out crowd for the final day of the Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix 2023.

The 36,000 spectators who witnessed another incredible race under the lights in Sakhir was the highest single day attendance in the race's 19-year history, with a total of 99,500 attending over the weekend.

Commenting on the



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister is joined on the grid ahead of the Bahrain Grand Prix by FIA president Mohammed Ben Sulayem, left, and F1 Group CEO Stefano Domenicali

conclusion of the 2023 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, BIC chairman Arif Rahimi said: "I congratulate Max Verstappen on his first ever victory in Bahrain, for what was an incredible race under the stars of Sakhir."

"Our sell-out crowd over the weekend reflects the incredible popularity of Formula 1 across the world. What is especially encouraging is that we are attracting more fans than ever before from overseas and also bringing in a new generation to the sport. Moreover, the passion of the Bahraini fans is as intense as I have ever seen. "The success of our race would not be possible without the support of so many. I offer a particular thanks to Formula 1 and the FIA for everything that they do for the sport. I also thank the teams, Bahrain Motor Federation, marshals and all those who have supported us to deliver the spectacle of F1."

BIC Chief Executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa said: "Over the course



A section of the crowd at BIC's sold-out Main Grandstand last night

of the racing weekend, fans have been treated to an incredible festival of motorsport and entertainment, creating lifelong memories for those who have joined us at the Home of Motorsport in the Middle East.

"To deliver an event of this nature involves the support of all of Team Bahrain and I thank all those who have worked so hard. I offer a particular thanks to my

team at BIC, who have worked tirelessly to deliver the show for fans.

"As the dust settles on our 2023 race, we are already looking towards the future. Next year represents a landmark 20th anniversary for us as a circuit and our involvement in F1. For that, we plan to step it up another year for our fans with a special celebration. We look forward to welcoming everyone again next year."



Verstappen celebrates his victory