

Biles finishes second to Brazil's Rebeca Andrade in floor exercise, takes fifth in beam after fall | P12

THE DAILY tribune



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Beyon reports Q2, H1 profits; revenues increase 7%, declares cash dividend **P5**

Bahrain Urges De-escalation

Cabinet voices deep concern over regional escalation and security risks

Hasina flees as military takes over Bangladesh
 AFP | Dhaka

Sheikh Hasina's 15-year rule as Bangladesh's prime minister ended yesterday as she fled more than a month of deadly protests and the military announced it would form an interim government.

Hasina had sought to quell nationwide protests against her government since early July but she fled the country after brutal unrest on Sunday in which nearly 100 people were killed.

Bangladesh's army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman said in a broadcast to the nation on state television that Hasina had resigned and the military would form a caretaker government.

At least 66 people were killed yesterday, police said. Many were shot.

(Detailed report on World Page)

Base hosting US troops in Iraq hit by rockets
 AFP | Baghdad

Rockets were fired yesterday towards an Iraqi base hosting US troops days after an American strike killed four pro-Iraqi fighters, and amid fears of regional escalation, Iraqi sources said.

"Rockets were launched at Ain al-Assad base" in Anbar province, said the military source.

While some "fell inside the base", one rocket landed on a nearby village without causing any damage, the source added.

TDT | Manama

The Cabinet has expressed deep concern over the potential dangers of escalating tensions in the region, highlighting the risks of increased violence and conflict in the Middle East.

It reiterated the Kingdom of Bahrain's firm stance against political violence, urging all parties to refrain from further escalation and to work towards de-escalation.

The Cabinet also emphasised the crucial role of the United Nations Security Council and the international community in supporting regional efforts to mitigate tension, stressing the severe impact these developments could have on regional security and stability.

His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday chaired the weekly Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya Palace.

Bahrain-UAE ties

The Cabinet affirmed the importance of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa's visit to the UAE, highlighting the discussions held between HM the King and the President of the UAE, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahy-



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



an, on the longstanding Bahrain-UAE relations, their robust partnership, and furthering collaboration between the two countries.

The Cabinet highlighted the strength of Bahrain-Saudi relations and multisectoral collaboration, which reflects the visions of HM the King, and the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

These visions align with the agreements and initiatives signed between the two countries, including the Local Value Programme in Industry (Takamul), which treats the products produced in both

countries similarly.

The Programme is one of the outcomes of the Saudi-Bahraini Coordination Council, led by HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad and the Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud.

The Cabinet noted that the Programme will enhance the national economy and consolidate the sustainability of the strategic partnership between the two Kingdoms.

E-passport praised

The Cabinet commended Bahrain's e-passport for win-

ning the international Reddot Design Award 2024, the most prestigious design competition standard, reflecting the excellence of the Kingdom's e-passport.

The Cabinet directed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to raise awareness among citizens and travellers about travel guidelines, emphasising compliance with regulations, security, and safety procedures in the countries they visit.

The Cabinet emphasised the importance of citizens adhering to warnings issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding travel to countries with unstable security conditions.

The Cabinet stressed the importance of providing young Bahrainis with promising opportunities and investing in them to meet their ambitions and further the Kingdom's development.

The Cabinet noted the efforts of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, led by His Majesty the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sports, His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, in supporting Bahraini youth through several initiatives that enhance their creativity and excellence.

Sustained progress

Bahrain's economy grows by 3.3% in Q1 2024

TDT | Manama

The Kingdom of Bahrain's economy expanded by 3.3% year-over-year (YoY) in real terms during the first quarter of 2024, according to the latest Economic Quarterly Report released by the Ministry of Finance and National Economy.

The report, available on the ministry's website (www.mofne.gov.bh), highlights robust growth in both the non-oil and oil sectors, driven by key industries as part of Bahrain's broader economic strategy.

The Information and eGovernment Authority (IGA) has updated the National Accounts data to align with the fourth revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC 4).

This update aims to improve the grouping of economic activities according to international standards.

Preliminary data from the IGA indicate that the non-oil sector grew by 3.3%

YoY, while the oil sector saw a 3.4% YoY increase.

In nominal terms, Bahrain's GDP rose by 3.4% YoY, with the non-oil sector contributing 2.8% YoY and the oil sector surging by 7.4% YoY.

The non-oil sector, which accounted for 85.9% of Bahrain's real GDP in Q1 2024, was a major driver of economic growth.

The Accommodation and Food Service Activities sector led the way, expanding by 10.7% YoY, supported by a 31.7% YoY rise in inbound tourists and a 1 percentage point increase in hotel occupancy rates for 4- and 5-star hotels, averaging 50.8% in Q1 2024.

The Financial and Insurance Activities sector recorded the second-highest growth among non-oil sectors, increasing by 7.4% YoY.

Key indicators in this sector showed strong performance, including a 14.3%



The report also highlighted Bahrain's improved standing in global competitiveness rankings. It moved up nine places since 2022 and four places since 2023, ranking 21st in the World Competitiveness Ranking 2024 published by the Institute of Management Development (IMD).

and a 10.9% growth in assets within the banking system's aggregate balance sheet.

The Information and Communications sector grew by 6.6% YoY, driven by a 13.8% increase in mobile subscribers and a 3.1% rise in broadband subscribers.

220 fils (includes VAT)



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Banking breakthrough

LMRA facilitates issuance of IBANs for all expatriate employees entering Bahrain

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The Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA), in coordination with the Central Bank of Bahrain and in collaboration with the private sector, announced that it has begun facilitating the issuance of an International Bank Account Number (IBAN) for every incoming expatriate employee in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This step aims to facilitate transactions for employers and raise awareness among expatriate workers about the importance of using bank accounts for contractual transactions to ensure the rights of all parties.

CEO of the Labour Market Regulatory Authority (LMRA) and Chairman of the National Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Mr. Nibras Talib, stated that this initiative is part of the Authority's commitment to raising awareness about the importance of electronic banking transactions to ensure the rights of all parties, especially with regards to facilitating the transfer of wages through banking channels.

The CEO explained that through partnership with



the private sector an IBAN is issued for each expatriate worker entering the kingdom through Bahrain International Airport.

Additional facilities

The CEO emphasised that this initiative aims to provide additional facilities to help em-

ployers comply with paying workers' wages electronically, ensuring the documentation of payment records, reducing wage payment-related legal disputes, and expediting litigation processes.

He explained that upon arrival at Bahrain International Airport, expatriate employees

will be provided with a step-by-step explanation on how to activate the bank account linked to the issued IBAN, should they choose to do so.

For more information and inquiries, please visit the Authority's website at www.lmra.gov.bh or contact the Authority's call center at 17506055.



This initiative is part of the Authority's commitment to raising awareness about the importance of electronic banking transactions to ensure the rights of all parties, especially with regards to facilitating the transfer of wages through banking channels.

NIBRAS TALIB, CEO OF THE LABOUR MARKET REGULATORY AUTHORITY (LMRA) AND CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO COMBAT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Bahrain clinches top 50 global spot in AI readiness



TDT | Manama

Bahrain, alongside four other GCC economies, is ranked among the top 50 worldwide in the Oxford Insight Government AI Readiness Index, which assesses the ability of governments to implement AI technologies within public services.

In recent years, Bahrain has been leading efforts to enhance its AI sector.

A report from the IEEE Computer Society predicts that the economic impact of AI in the GCC, including Bahrain, will surpass \$277 billion by 2030.

GCC governments have incorporated AI into their national strategies. For example, around 70% of the 96 strategic objectives in Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 relate to data and AI.

In October 2020, Saudi Arabia announced its National AI Strategy, aiming to train 20,000 data and AI specialists

and to support an entrepreneurial ecosystem with 300 active startups. By 2030, Saudi Arabia aims to be among the top 15 countries worldwide in AI.

Frameworks

To enhance their AI capabilities, GCC economies have established regulatory and administrative frameworks.

The UAE, for instance, created the world's first Ministry of AI.

In March 2021, Qatar's Cabinet approved the formation of an AI Committee within the Ministry of Transport and Communications to oversee AI-related projects. Bahrain has also launched various initiatives to advance AI and other technologies.

AI integration is especially prominent in the financial services sector, focusing on improving customer experiences.

Barbar Temple inches closer to World Heritage status

BACA and Northern Municipal Council join hands to ramp up preservation efforts

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama



Dr Sayed Shubbar Al Wedai

Blending historical relevance with contemporary necessity, the Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities (BACA) has noted that the Barbar Temple has been on the Tentative List for World Heritage since 2008.

This status opens opportunities for further historical and comparative studies, along with measures to safeguard and enhance this archaeologically vital site.

The Authority has kept in touch with the Northern Municipal Council to spruce up the Barbar Temple site.

Recently, in conjunction with the Council, the site's exterior façade was updated, and several trees were planted around its perimeter.

This initiative follows a proposal to speed up the procedural study for the inclusion of Barbar Temples in the UNESCO World

This is evident in the approval of a partnership proposal to rehabilitate and preserve the historic Barbar Temples, construct essential facilities, and prepare them to become a global centre for cultural and heritage tourism, thereby showcasing Bahrain's cultural standing.

Initiative

This initiative aligns with the interests of visitors from Europe, Latin America, and East Asia who frequent the site.

Dr Al Wedai explained that the proposal involves exploring partnerships with private sector companies and institutions to develop a plan that meets the technical requirements for preserving the Barbar Temples site.

This includes constructing a structure to protect the main components of the temples from erosion and climatic changes,



The rehabilitation and preservation of Barbar Temple are underway

ensuring the site remains a historical treasure for future generations.

The plan also includes ensuring that the building meets technical and display requirements to present the temples' components, history, and cultural value, as well as their place in global cultural and historical heritage.

Additionally, provisions include creating parking spaces

for visitors, constructing a rest area for cultural meetings and activities by visual artists, and hosting school and university students.

The plan also ensures the provision of service requirements and sanitary facilities for visitors, intellectuals, artists, and tourist delegations and stresses the importance of guarding the site to prevent any encroachment or theft of its components.

Strategic cooperation



His Excellency Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, received Air Marshal Martin Sampson, Executive Director of the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in the Middle East. The meeting reviewed cooperation and coordination between the ministry and the institute, and discussed preparations for the 20th of IISS Manama Dialogue to be held in December. The meeting underscored the significance of the Manama Dialogue as a key platform for the exchange of political views and opinions among senior international officials, experts, and specialists on security, peace, and stability in the Middle East region.

MP pushes to abolish business revival fines

TDT | Manama

In a move aimed at easing the financial burden on Bahraini merchants, MP Jalal Kazim has put forth a legislative proposal to abolish the fines currently imposed as a condition for the restoration of business registrations that have been cancelled due to non-payment of fees.

Under the existing Commercial Registry Law, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has the authority to levy fines for every month of delayed payment, as well as to cancel the business registration altogether in case of non-payment.

The explanatory memorandum accompanying Kazim's proposed law states that the goal is to "reduce the financial obligations on the merchant, increase commercial activity, and facilitate the reactivation of cancelled registrations."

The new proposal seeks to rewrite Article 13 of the Commercial Registry Law.

The revised article would stipulate that if a merchant fails to renew their registration within the prescribed period or ceases commercial activity for over a year without an acceptable excuse, the relevant



MP Jalal Kazim

authority can administratively cancel the registration.

Request and payment

However, the registration can be restored upon the merchant's request and payment of the prescribed fees, without the imposition of any accumulated fines.

According to the explanatory note, the proposal aims to eliminate the financial penalty for the period between the cancellation and the restoration of the registration.

Given that merchants are already required to pay the prescribed renewal fees as well as other costs associated with restarting their commercial activities, the additional fine was seen as unduly increasing the financial burden and risking the merchant's ability to sustain their operations.

New dress code system for public hospitals' staff

TDT | Manama

In a move aimed at enhancing the healthcare experience for patients and strengthening the visual identity of their facilities, Bahrain's public hospitals are set to implement a comprehensive new dress code for their medical staff.

This initiative, which is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2024, will introduce a standardised colour scheme for different medical roles, making it easier for patients to quickly identify and differentiate between various staff members.

The implementation of this new dress code system has been under development for several years, stemming from a comprehensive study conducted by the government hospitals.

This in-depth research identified a clear need for

a more organised and visually distinct dress code to improve the overall patient experience and enhance the professionalism of the healthcare system.

Colour scheme

Under the new code, each category of medical staff will be assigned a specific colour



The uniforms represent the visual identity of a hospital's facilities scheme.

Consultants will be required to wear dark blue suits paired with crisp white shirts, while

This measure will ensure a consistent visual identity is maintained across all specialties and departments within the public healthcare facilities.

resident doctors and trainees will don light blue suits with white shirts. Nurses will be outfitted in green uniforms with white shirts, and technicians will don purple uniforms also accompanied by white shirts.

In addition to the differentiated colour schemes for various medical roles, the new dress code also includes a standardised design for lab coats, which will be uniformly white for all medical professionals

Wrong car, right glove

50-year-old man charged with arson after mistaken target

The defendant's lawyer pleaded for his client's acquittal, arguing that he was in an unstable state due to his history of drug use and was undergoing treatment at a rehabilitation center.

TDT | Manama

A 50-year-old man is facing charges of arson after mistakenly setting fire to the wrong car, a case that unfolded with the help of security footage and a discarded glove.

The defendant, who was reportedly under the influence of cannabis, had intended to target a specific vehicle but ended up igniting a different one.

The incident occurred on March 30th, 2024, when the victim discovered his car engulfed in flames while leaving his home.

He quickly extinguished the



Image used for illustrative purposes only

fire and contacted the police.

Security footage from the victim's house revealed a man driving a car with specific characteristics and wearing a glove.

The glove was later found at the crime scene and matched the one worn by the suspect in the video.

Information

A witness, who had been approached by the suspect earlier that day, provided further in-



Reem Al Mahari, defendant's lawyer

formation. The witness described the suspect's car and confirmed that he had inquired about the whereabouts of a specific individual before leaving.

Cannabis

Tests also revealed the presence of cannabis in his system.

The defendant's lawyer, Reem Al Mahari, pleaded for his client's acquittal, arguing that he was in an unstable state due to his history of drug use and was undergoing treatment at a rehabilitation center.

She highlighted his confession and lack of prior criminal record, emphasising his remorse and the potential harm of continued imprisonment to both the defendant and his family.

More trees, less heat for Bahrain: Experts

TDT | Manama

As Bahrain grapples with the punishing summer heat, environmental experts are calling on the government to take bold action to increase the country's tree cover and greenery.

Speaking to The Daily Tribune, Mr. Kai Miethig, an environmentalist, emphasised the vital importance of restoring natural habitats for animals and insects.

"More natural areas, natural growing plants, bushes, and weeds will restore natural habitats for all kinds of animals and insects, which are highly important for a balanced ecosystem," he said.

Miethig urged the government to take a firm stance against cutting down mature, established trees, which he says play a crucial role in providing shade, lowering temperatures, and absorbing carbon emissions from Bahrain's dense traffic.

Trees

"Stop cutting down grown trees, which have grown for decades, would be the first step as trees in public areas, along roads and walkways, and provide shade and cooler resting



A greener landscape serves as Bahrain's natural solution to mitigate the devastating impact of climate change

areas as well as absorb CO2 emissions from the heavy and dense traffic in Bahrain causing one of the worst air qualities in the world," Miethig explained.

Drawing on successful models from other countries, he suggested that Bahrain could implement regulations to incentivise and protect greenery.

"In several countries, cutting down trees of certain sizes, diameter, height, and age are not allowed and heavily fined. For instance in Kuwait, if you build

a house, trees must be planted as part of the building premises."

Looking to the future, Mr. Kai advocated for the establishment of "pocket/Miawaki forests" - dense, self-sustaining urban forests that require minimal maintenance after initial planting.

"Nature knows what is best for the environment and humans, preserving fertile soil, natural gardens and areas rather than concreted parks, or asphaltting or building on it is key," he said.

With Bahrain's extreme heat posing a growing threat, environmental experts believe that bold, innovative greening initiatives could be a game-changer for the country's climate resilience and quality of life.

Increased tree cover and greenery can provide much-needed shade, lower urban temperatures, and help absorb harmful emissions, offering a natural solution to combat the devastating effects of climate change.

Conviction upheld for unauthorised donations



TDT | Manama

The Cassation Court, Bahrain's highest court, has upheld a conviction against two individuals accused of donating funds to organisations outside the Kingdom without obtaining the necessary authorisation.

The court also ordered the confiscation of funds equivalent to the amount illegally donated.

The case involved two individuals who were found guilty of donating funds to entities outside Bahrain between 2022 and 2023, in violation of the country's regulations requiring prior authorisation for such donations.

The Lower Criminal Court

initially sentenced each individual to a fine of BD500 and ordered the confiscation of the funds collected.

Both individuals appealed the verdict, as did the Public Prosecution.

The Court of Appeals subsequently upheld the conviction but amended the amount of confiscated funds to BD76,653, which was the total amount collected by the organisation through the donations.

The individuals then appealed the Court of Appeals' decision to the Court of Cassation. However, the Court of Cassation rejected the appeal on procedural grounds, stating that the appeal was filed beyond the legally mandated deadline.

Kerala Comes Alive in Bahrain: BKS Shraavanam 2024



Bahrain Keraleeya Samajam (BKS) on Monday announced two-month-long 'Shraavanam 2024' to celebrate Onam, the annual harvest festival of Kerala, India in Bahrain. The festivities will begin on August 28th and will conclude on September 28th, a BKS festival committee headed by General Convener Varughese George and President PV Radhakrishna Pillai said. H.E. Dr. CV Ananda Bose, Governor of West Bengal will be the chief guest while guests of honour include KB Ganesh Kumar, Minister for Transport in Kerala; M. Vincent, Member of Legislative Assembly, Kerala; and CR Mahesh, Member of Legislative Assembly, Kerala.

Verdict set for trademark forgery case

TDT | Manama

A 50-year-old man accused of forging commercial documents is awaiting a court decision on his appeal.

The High Appeals Court has scheduled August 18th for the verdict. The defendant had previously been convicted by the lower court and sentenced to three years in prison and a fine of BD5,000.

The case stems from an incident where the defendant, who works as a clearance agent, deceived a shop owner by claiming to register his trademark for a fee of BD800.

However, the defendant forged a genuine trademark registration certificate issued by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce altering the details to reflect the shop owner's trademark.


FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
for the six months ended 30 June 2024

	Unit	2024	2023	Variation %
Gross revenue	BD million	222.9	208.9	6.7%
Expenses	BD million	167.4	155.4	7.7%
Profit attributable to Beyon shareholders	BD million	38.6	37.9	1.7%
Return on net worth (Annualized)	%	13.9	14.0*	(0.7%)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding during the period	Million	1,653	1,653*	0.0%
Basic and diluted earnings per share for the period	Fils	23.3	22.9	1.7%

*Based on actual figures for the year ended 31 December 2023

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2024
BD'000

ASSETS	30 June 2024 (reviewed)	31 December 2023 (audited)
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	377,154	366,838
Right-of-use assets	55,890	55,606
Goodwill	137,770	137,775
Other intangible assets	157,026	162,461
Equity accounted investees	9,400	8,541
Deferred tax assets	6,487	6,375
Investments	57,774	35,371
Other non-current assets	10,834	6,706
Total non-current assets	812,335	779,673
Current assets		
Inventories	8,898	7,433
Trade and other receivables	165,757	142,201
Investments	24,539	291
Cash and bank balances	174,812	235,767
Total current assets	374,006	385,692
Total assets	1,186,341	1,165,365
LIABILITIES		
Non-current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	50,324	60,769
Lease liabilities	45,294	45,776
Loans and borrowings	82,426	244,198
Deferred tax liabilities	5,533	5,729
Total non-current liabilities	183,577	356,472
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	218,386	207,027
Lease liabilities	9,836	8,627
Loans and borrowings	180,803	10,696
Total current liabilities	409,025	226,350
Total liabilities	592,602	582,822
Net assets	593,739	582,543
EQUITY		
Share capital	166,320	166,320
Statutory reserve	88,856	86,188
General reserve	44,000	44,000
Other reserves	(9,725)	(28,173)
Treasury shares	(4,423)	(4,428)
Retained earnings	258,258	268,404
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company	543,286	532,311
Non-controlling interest	50,453	50,232
Total equity	593,739	582,543

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
for the six months ended 30 June 2024
BD'000

	Six months ended 30 June		Three months ended 30 June	
	2024 (reviewed)	2023 (reviewed)	2024 (reviewed)	2023 (reviewed)
Revenue	222,936	208,920	112,477	105,376
Expenses				
Network operating expenses	(81,974)	(71,331)	(41,419)	(36,100)
Staff costs	(28,244)	(27,107)	(14,139)	(13,774)
Depreciation, amortisation and tangible assets impairment	(33,665)	(33,971)	(16,615)	(16,754)
Impairment (loss) / reversal on trade receivables and contract assets	(961)	(318)	(133)	790
Other operating expenses	(22,518)	(22,641)	(11,630)	(11,483)
Total expenses	(167,362)	(155,368)	(83,936)	(77,321)
Results from operating activities	55,574	53,552	28,541	28,055
Finance and related income	4,478	3,902	2,068	1,870
Finance and related expense	(13,240)	(11,271)	(6,509)	(5,705)
Other income (net)	637	673	454	107
Share of profit from equity accounted investees (net)	849	608	481	295
Profit before taxation	48,298	47,464	25,035	24,622
Income tax expense	(4,358)	(4,757)	(2,466)	(2,198)
Profit for the period	43,940	42,707	22,569	22,424
Other comprehensive income:				
<i>Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>				
Foreign currency translation differences - foreign operations	(251)	3,198	50	2,090
Investment fair value changes (debt securities)	-	28	-	28
	(251)	3,226	50	2,118
<i>Items that will never be reclassified to profit or loss:</i>				
Investment fair value changes (equity securities)	18,806	4,497	(2,397)	2,889
	18,806	4,497	(2,397)	2,889
Total other comprehensive income, net of tax	18,555	7,723	(2,347)	5,007
Total comprehensive income for the period	62,495	50,430	20,222	27,431
Profit for the year attributable to:				
Equity holders of the Company	38,585	37,934	19,791	19,889
Non-controlling interest	5,355	4,773	2,778	2,535
	43,940	42,707	22,569	22,424
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to:				
Equity holders of the Company	57,140	45,657	17,444	24,896
Non-controlling interest	5,355	4,773	2,778	2,535
	62,495	50,430	20,222	27,431
Basic and diluted earnings per share (Fils)	23.3	22.9	12.0	12.0

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows
for the six months ended 30 June 2024
BD'000

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2024 (reviewed)	2023 (reviewed)
Operating Activities		
Profit for the period	43,940	42,707
Adjustment for:		
Non-operating items, including tax	12,483	11,453
Share of profit from equity accounted investees, net	(849)	(608)
Depreciation, amortisation and tangible assets impairment	33,665	33,971
Impairment loss on trade receivables and contract assets	961	318
	90,200	87,841
Working capital changes:		
Increase in trade and other receivables	(19,792)	(12,767)
Increase in inventories	(1,470)	(1,936)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	2,631	(2,874)
Cash generated from operating activities	71,569	70,264
Taxes paid	(4,826)	(3,873)
Payment to charities	(1,294)	(1,690)
Net cash from operating activities	65,449	64,701
Investing Activities		
Acquisition of property, equipment and intangibles, net of disposal	(48,421)	(64,519)
Acquisition of business, net of cash acquired	(2,217)	(880)
Net cash from (purchase) / sale of other investments	(9,505)	14,077
Interest and investment income received	4,741	4,212
Net cash used in investing activities	(55,402)	(47,110)
Financing Activities		
Dividend paid	(47,378)	(33,497)
Payment of lease liabilities	(6,159)	(6,114)
Interest paid	(9,602)	(8,446)
Borrowings drawn, net	8,158	18,396
Acquisition of share-based payment treasury shares (net)	(107)	(9)
Sale of market making shares, net	112	741
Net cash used in financing activities	(54,976)	(28,929)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents during the period	(44,929)	(11,338)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	203,390	208,903
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	158,461	197,565

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity
for the six months ended 30 June 2024
BD'000

2024	Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company									Non-controlling interest	Total equity	
	Share capital	Statutory reserve	General reserve	Other Reserves			Treasury shares		Retained earnings			Total
				Foreign currency translation reserve	Investment fair value reserve	Share based payment reserve	Market making shares	Share based payment treasury shares				
At 1 January 2024	166,320	86,188	44,000	(20,261)	(8,471)	559	(3,599)	(829)	268,404	532,311	50,232	582,543
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,585	38,585	5,355	43,940
Other comprehensive income										(251)	-	(251)
Foreign currency translation differences	-	-	-	(251)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Investment fair value changes	-	-	-	-	18,806	-	-	-	-	18,806	-	18,806
Total other comprehensive income	-	-	-	(251)	18,806	-	-	-	-	18,555	-	18,555
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	-	(251)	18,806	-	-	-	38,585	57,140	5,355	62,495
Contributions and distributions												
Final dividends declared for 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(42,195)	(42,195)	-	(42,195)
Donations approved for 2023	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,868)	(3,868)	-	(3,868)
Sale of market making shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	-	-	112	-	112
Acquisition of treasury shares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(335)	-	(335)	-	(335)
Equity-settled share-based payment	-	-	-	-	-	(107)	-	228	-	121	-	121
Transfer to statutory reserve	-	2,668	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,668)	-	-	-
Non-controlling interest recognised on acquisition	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	75	75
Dividends to non-controlling interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,209)	(5,209)
Total contributions and distributions	-	2,668	-	-	-	(107)	112	(107)	(48,731)	(46,165)	(5,134)	(51,299)
At 30 June 2024 (reviewed)	166,320	88,856	44,000	(20,512)	10,335	452	(3,487)	(936)	258,258	543,286	50,453	593,739

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 5 August 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
Chairman

Ali bin Khalifa Al Khalifa
Deputy Chairman

Mikkel Vinter
Chief Executive Officer

Beyon reports Q2, H1 profits; revenues increase 7%, declares cash dividend

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Telecommunications Company reported second quarter and half yearly profits helped by a 7 per cent increase in revenues. Based on which, the board of directors approved an interim cash dividend for shareholders of 13.5 fils per share or 13.5% of paid-up capital for the six-month period of 2024.



Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa



Beyon CEO Mikkel Vinter

Q2 results

Second quarter net profit attributable to equity holders of the company for Q2 2024 of BD19.8 million (US\$52.5M), compared to BD19.9M (US\$52.8M) for the corresponding quarter of 2023. Earnings per share (EPS) are 12.0 fils for both the second quarter of 2024 and 2023.

Revenues increased by 7% to BD112.5M (US\$298.4M) compared to BD105.4M (US\$279.6M)

in Q2 2023.

Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders was reported at BD17.4M (US\$46.2M), a 30% decrease from BD24.9M (US\$66.0M) in the second quarter of 2023, mainly due to exchange and investment fair value changes.

Operating profit increased by 2% to BD28.5M (US\$75.6M) from BD28.1M (US\$74.5M) in Q2 2023. EBITDA stands at BD45.2M (US\$119.9M) in Q2 2024 com-

pared to BD44.8M (US\$118.8M) in Q2 2023, an increase of 1%.

H1 results

For the first six months of 2024, net profit attributable to equity holders of the company of BD38.6M (US\$102.4M) increased by 2% compared to BD37.9M (US\$100.5M) in 2023. Earnings per share (EPS) are 23.3 fils for

the period compared to an EPS of 22.9 fils for H1 2023.

Revenues increased by 7% to BD222.9M (US\$591.2M) from BD208.9M (US\$554.1M) of revenues in H1 2023, mainly due to increases in mobile, datacoms and digital services. Beyon said it was able to grow its overall customer base by 3% YoY with increases in mobile customers

across all its operating companies.

Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders of the company is up by 25% from BD45.7M (US\$121.2M) in H1 2023 to BD57.1M (US\$151.5M) in H1 2024 mainly due to favorable investment fair value changes.

Operating profits increased by 4% from BD53.6M (US\$142.2M) in H1 2023 to BD55.6M (US\$147.5M) in H1 2024.

Beyon Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said, "The Board is pleased that Beyon has maintained strong momentum during the second quarter, leading to a solid performance for the first six months of 2024, reflected by improved revenues and profit of 7% and 2% respectively. Earnings per share are 23.3 fils for the 6-month period, delivered in line with our commitment to providing strong returns on our sharehold-

ers' investments and we remain focussed on increasing shareholder value."

Beyon CEO Mikkel Vinter said that Beyon's management remained focussed on achieving growth across its digital companies while also enhancing telecoms and connectivity services across all operations, with the efforts reflected by the solid financial performance.

Looking at Beyon's digital companies Mr. Vinter continued, "I'm pleased with the good results achieved, driven by the successful implementation of key strategic goals. Among recent achievements, Beyon Solutions made significant progress with its growth aspirations, announcing an agreement to acquire a controlling stake in Link Development, a leading regional provider of software solutions for digital transformation," he added.

BCFC: Get Financed and win two cars, cash prizes worth BD 100,000

TDT | Manama

Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company (BCFC) announced the launch of its financing campaign, providing its customers with the opportunity to win two cars and valuable cash prizes totaling to BD 100,000.

Customers applying for new personal, mortgage and vehicle loans, or top up their existing personal and vehicle loans with BD 3,000, and BD 50,000 for mortgage loans, will be eligible for the chance to win during the campaign, which runs from August 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025. This includes a flexible tenor period and competitive interest rates.

The campaign includes nine draws and a total of 20 winners, including total cash prizes of BD100,000, distributed over BD 5,000 for two monthly winners, over a span of nine months. Additionally, there will be two grand prize winners who will get the chance to win cash prizes worth BD 10,000 each, in addition to a "Chevrolet Tahoe" and "Honda ZR-V". All customers applying for financing, whether by visiting one of the company's



Mazen Sater, Vice President - Head of Consumer Finance at Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company

branches or through the "Sahel" application, will have the chance to win one of the mentioned valuable prizes.

On this occasion, Mr. Mazen Sater, Vice President - Head of Consumer Finance at Bahrain Commercial Facilities Company, stated: "We aim to provide our customers with unique prizes, which strengthens our position within the sector and contributes to improving our valued customers' experience."

Customers can now apply for financing and other services through the "Sahel" application or visit the nearest branch of the company.



ila Bank reveals winners of Al Kanz's May 2024 cash prizes of US\$160,000

TDT | Manama

ila Bank, Bahrain's leading digital mobile-only bank, announces the winners of the Al Kanz May 2024 cash prizes amounting to a total of US\$ 160,000. This encompassed a grand prize of US\$120,000 and four prizes of US\$10,000 each. Under the supervision of officials from the Ministry of Industry & Commerce as well as auditors and senior members from ila Bank, the automated draws were conducted on 10th of July 2024.

The grand prize of US\$120,000, which will be granted as a monthly salary of US\$10,000, was awarded to Ali Al Ansari. The remaining winners; Sameera Yusuf, Sayed Mohamed Hasan, Maryam Ahmed, and Ahmed Aldoy each received a one-off cash prize of US\$10,000.

Nada Tarada, Head of Business & Customer at ila Bank remarked: "My heartiest congratulations to the winners of the May cash prizes."

Commenting on his big win, Ali Al Ansari, said: "I was extremely happy to hear the news as I did not expect to win at all. I have several plans for the prize money; I intend to buy a car for my son and settle my loan." When asked about his experience using Al Kanz and the ila Bank app, Ali noted: "My entire experience has been seamless. The app and all its features are easy-to-use, with minimal effort required on my part."

Upcoming prizes include US\$250,000 for June, US\$50,000 for the months of July, August, September and October, US\$ 120,000 for November and a mega year-end prize of US\$1 million.

BisB opens 3rd Future Leaders Summer camp in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain

TDT | Manama



Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairperson of INJAZ Bahrain



Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairperson of INJAZ Bahrain

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB), the leading provider of innovative Islamic financial solutions for simplifying money matters in Bahrain, has announced the launch of its third Future Leaders Summer Camp, in collaboration with INJAZ Bahrain. Commencing in August 2024, the initiative aims to nurture the next generation of leaders by providing educational and fun experiences for youth aged 7 to 18.

The Future Leaders Summer Camp is designed to offer an insightful glimpse into the professional world through a series of informative trips to some of the largest corporations in Bahrain. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with business leaders, learn about various industries, and develop essential financial management skills. The programme includes a range of activities, such as site visits, innovation challenges, and an exciting treasure hunt with chances to win instant cash prizes.

Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairperson of INJAZ Bahrain, said: "This program is more than an educational opportunity; it is a stepping stone towards shaping visionary leaders who will contribute significantly to our nation's progress and prosperity."

Commenting on the occasion, Ms. Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Retail Banking Officer of BisB said, "This programme

not only provides invaluable learning opportunities but also fosters a spirit of innovation and teamwork among the participants."

Participants will be divided into three age groups to attend specific site visits and engage in tailored activities. The primary level, for ages 7 to 11, will visit King Abdullah Medical City. Meanwhile, the intermediate level, which is for 12 to 14-year-olds, will explore Bapco Refining. Finally, the secondary level, catering to ages 15 to 18, will tour the Gulf Aviation Academy (GAA). Each age group will compete in an innovation challenge, with the winning teams advancing to the final Mysteries Vault. This final challenge will test the contestants' problem-solving abilities and teamwork, culminating in a rewarding experience for all involved. Winners of the Mysteries Vault challenge will have the opportunity to visit BisB's headquarters and meet BisB team to know more about the bank's strategy.

The summer camp will be exclusive to holders of BisB Future Leaders wearable wristbands, with a limited number of places available. Parents interested in registering their children can apply through BisB's website or access the application link provided in BisB's and INJAZ Bahrain's Instagram accounts. A parent or legal guardian can open a Future Leaders account on behalf of their children who are between the ages of 7 to 18, while those older can

Alba Expands OJT Programme to Empower Bahraini Youth



Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) is reinforcing its commitment to developing Bahraini youth through the expansion of its On-the-Job Training (OJT) programme. Alba's CEO Ali Al Baqali emphasised this dedication during a meeting with OJT participants on 05 August 2024 at the Company's Oasis Hall. Since the start of 2024, Alba has provided practical, hands-on experience to 215 students from local and international universities, with a notable 42% female representation. The programme encompasses all company functions, from operations to administration. This summer, Alba witnessed an 86% surge in OJT participants, with 149 students compared to the previous year's 80. Alba has achieved this expansion by forging strong partnerships with local universities, offering students invaluable industrial exposure and preparing them to become key contributors to Bahrain's economy.

QUOTE OF THE DAY
IN THE MIDDLE OF DIFFICULTY LIES OPPORTUNITY
 ALBERT EINSTEIN

TODAY IN HISTORY

1661
 The Treaty of The Hague is signed whereby the Dutch Republic sells New Holland (Brazil) for 63 tonnes of gold to Portugal



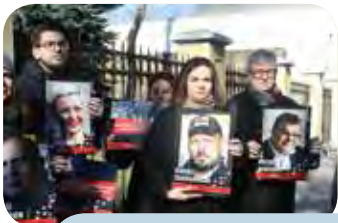
1890
 At Auburn Prison in New York, murderer William Kemmler becomes the 1st person to be executed by electric chair

1945
 Atomic bomb dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima by the US B-29 Superfortress "Enola Gay"

1965
 US President Lyndon B. Johnson signs the Voting Rights Act prohibiting voting discrimination against minorities

News in brief

◆ **The European Union yesterday** added 28 officials and "propagandists" in Belarus to a sanctions blacklist over the repression of opponents of leader Alexander Lukashenko. The 27-nation bloc has imposed repeated rounds of sanctions on the Belarusian government since the authorities launched a crackdown on protests against Lukashenko's rule in 2020. The EU has also ramped up sanctions on Belarus over its role as a key springboard for Russia's invasion of neighbouring Ukraine. The latest measures take the number of individuals sanctioned over the clampdown in the former Soviet country to 261, with the list already including Lukashenko and his family members. Among those subjected Thursday to an EU asset freeze and visa ban were Irina Kulovich, head of national news agency BelTA, and prominent television presenter Nikita Rachilovsky.



EU adds 28 Belarus officials, 'propagandists' to blacklist

◆ **Hurricane Debby landed** in Florida yesterday bringing high winds, pouring rain -- and 25 tightly wrapped packages of cocaine worth more than \$1 million. Debby, which hit the state's northern Big Bend region as a Category One hurricane but has since been downgraded to a tropical storm, washed the trove of drugs ashore along Florida's southernmost tip. "Hurricane Debby blew 25 packages of cocaine (70 lbs.) onto a beach in the Florida Keys," US Border Patrol acting chief patrol Agent Samuel Briggs II wrote on X.



The load of drugs, which Briggs reported was valued at more than \$1 million, was discovered by a good Samaritan who contacted the authorities. In July of 2023, the mayor of Tampa, Florida similarly discovered 70 pounds (31.7 kilograms) of cocaine that had been washed ashore in the Florida Keys, while enjoying a vacation day.

◆ **North Korea deploys 250 missile launchers** to its southern border, with leader Kim Jong Un describing the weapons as a "powerful treasured sword" to defend its sovereignty, state media said yesterday. The olive green mobile launchers were displayed during a special "transferring" ceremony in the capital Pyongyang on Sunday, the official Korean Central News Agency reported. The missile launchers were an "up-to-date tactical attack weapon," Kim was quoted as saying in a speech. It was the first time North Korea had publicised the scale of an arms transfer to its border units, Han Kwon-hee of the Korea Association of Defence Industry Studies told AFP. Each launcher was designed to hold four missiles, Han said, adding that Pyongyang's supply of arms to Moscow might have "interfered with the North's capacity to actually produce 1,000 missiles".



◆ **North Korea deploys 250 missile launchers to its southern border:** KCNA

CURIOSER & CURIOSER

Flurry of diplomacy to ease Mideast tensions as Israel awaits Iran attack
 Jerusalem, Undefined



Diplomatic pressure mounted yesterday to avoid an escalation between Iran and Israel following high-profile killings that have sent regional tensions soaring, while numerous governments urged their citizens to leave Lebanon.

A man drives past a poster of assassinated Hezbollah top commander Fuad Shukur

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said late Sunday that his country was "determined to stand against" Iran and its allied armed groups "on all fronts".

Tehran said Monday that "no one has the right to doubt Iran's legal right to punish the Zionist regime" for Haniyeh's killing. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told his counterparts from the G7 nations in a conference call on Sunday that any attack, which he expected to be a joint undertaking between Hezbollah and Iran, could happen within 24 to 48 hours, as early as Monday, US news site Axios reported.

Blinken asked his counterparts to place diplomatic pressure on Tehran, Hezbollah and Israel to "maintain maximum restraint", it added.

Israel's military spokesman Rear Admiral Daniel Hagari said on Sunday night that "as of now there is no change" in its policy for protecting civilians.

Turkey on Monday joined multiple Western and other

nations calling on their citizens to leave Lebanon, where Hezbollah is based.

Germany's Lufthansa, which has already suspended flights to the region including Tel Aviv, said its planes would avoid Iraqi and Iranian airspace until at least August 7.

The United Nations' rights chief Volker Turk called on "all parties, along with those states with influence, to act urgently to de-escalate what has become a very precarious situation".

Italian Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani, whose country currently holds the rotating G7 presidency, said in a statement: "We call on the parties involved to desist from any initiative that could hinder the path of dialogue and moderation."

On Sunday, Jordan's Foreign Minister Ayman Safadi made a rare trip to the Iranian capital during which he delivered a message from King Abdullah II to President Masoud Pezeshkian. Israel's ally the United States said it was moving additional warships and fighter jets to the region.

Bangladesh PM Hasina flees country, military takes over

According to reports, Bangladesh Army asked her to resign from her post at 1:30 pm and gave her 45 minutes to pack her things and run away to a safer place

◆ **Bangladesh's army chief said the military would form a caretaker government**

● **Hasina, 76, fled the country by helicopter**

● **India reported Hasina had landed at a military airbase near New Delhi, but a top-level source said she was heading to London**

● **Mob looted PM's office, torched TV stations and smashed statues of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**

AFP | Dhaka, Bangladesh



Anti-government protestors display Bangladesh's national flag as they storm Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's palace in Dhaka



Protestors gather inside Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's palace in Dhaka

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 15-year rule ended yesterday as she fled more than a month of deadly protests and the military announced it would form an interim government.

Hasina had sought to quell nationwide protests against her government since early July but she fled the country after brutal unrest on Sunday in which nearly 100 people were killed.

"We want a corruption-free Bangladesh, where everyone would have the right to express their opinion," said Waker, shortly after jubilant crowds stormed and looted Hasina's official residence.

At least 56 people were killed Monday during violence, mainly in Dhaka but also in other cities, police said, saying gangs had launched revenge attacks on Hasina's allies.

Millions of Bangladeshis took to the streets across the South Asian country, many peacefully. Jubilant crowds waved flags, some dancing on top of a tank in the streets, before thousands broke through the gates of Hasina's residence. Others later stormed parliament.

Bangladesh's Channel 24 broadcast images of crowds running into the prime minister's compound, grinning and waving to the camera, looting furniture and books, or relaxing on beds.



Protestors gather at the parliament house in Dhaka

Monirul Islam, a 27-year-old man among thousands celebrating in the streets near the prime minister's palace in the capital Dhaka.

Bangladesh's army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman said in a broadcast to the nation on state television that Hasina had resigned and the military would form a caretaker government.

"The country has suffered a lot, the economy has been hit, many people have been killed -- it is time to stop the violence," said Waker, shortly after jubilant crowds stormed and looted Hasina's official residence.

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Protestors attempt to vandalise a statue of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Waker said he had held talks with the main opposition parties and civil society members but not Hasina's Awami League.

Hasina, 76, fled the country by helicopter, a source close to the ousted leader told AFP.

Media in neighbouring India reported Hasina had landed at a military airbase near New Delhi, but a top-level source said she was only "transiting the country" and was heading to London.

Bangladesh's military said they had shut Dhaka's international airport on Monday evening, without giving a reason.

There were widespread calls by protesters to ensure Hasina's close allies remained in the country. The closure forced multiple international airlines to suspend flights to Dhaka.

Waker said protests should end and vowed that "all the injustices will be addressed". The career infantry officer said he would talk to the president to form a caretaker government in the nation of about 170 million people. It was not immediately clear if he would lead it.

Bangladesh president orders release of jailed ex-PM and opposition chief Khaleda Zia
 Dhaka, Bangladesh

Bangladeshi President Mohammed Shahabuddin had Monday ordered the release of jailed former prime minister and key opposition leader Khaleda Zia, hours after her arch-rival Sheikh Hasina was ousted and the military took power.

The president's press team said in a statement that a meeting led by Shahabuddin had "decided unanimously to free Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia immediately".

A large number of people killed since protests began in early July to at least 356, according to an AFP tally based on police, government officials and doctors at hospitals. Soldiers and police in several cases did not intervene to stem Sunday's protests, unlike during the past month of rallies that repeatedly ended in deadly crackdowns.

Bangladesh has a long history of coups

The military declared an emergency in January 2007 after widespread political unrest and installed a military-backed caretaker government for two years.

Hasina then ruled Bangladesh from 2009 and won her fourth consecutive election in January after a vote without genuine opposition. Hasina's son, US-based Sajeeb Wazed Joy, praised her economic record, telling the BBC she had transformed Bangladesh from a "failing state" to "one of the rising tigers of Asia".

"She's very disappointed," he said. Her government was accused by rights groups of misusing state institutions to entrench its hold on power and stamp out dissent, including through the extrajudicial killing of opposition activists.

"The EU calls for calm and restraint. It is vital that an orderly and peaceful transition towards a democratically elected government is ensured, in full respect of human rights and democratic principles," EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said.

Michael Kugelman, director of the South Asia Institute at the Washington-based Wilson Center, warned that Hasina's departure "would leave a major vacuum" and that the country was in "uncharted territory".

"The coming days are critical, as it moves toward what will hopefully be a peaceful transition," he said. "The key now is to move the process along, to create the interim set-up, to ease uncertainty and reduce the risk of more volatility." Demonstrations began over the reintroduction of a quota scheme that reserved more than half of all government jobs for certain groups. The protests escalated despite the scheme being scaled back by Bangladesh's top court.

Russia shows footage of arrests of swapped US prisoners



Former prisoners released by Russia, US journalist Evan Gershkovich (C) and US-Russian journalist Alsu Kurmasheva (L) walk on the tarmac after landing at Joint Base San Antonio-Kelly Field, Texas

AFP | Moscow, Russia

Russia yesterday for the first time released footage of security forces swooping in to arrest Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich and ex-Marine Paul Whelan, who were returned last week in a landmark swap.

The footage shows security officers roughly grabbing Gershkovich around the neck in what looks like a bar or restaurant.

Gershkovich, a 32-year-old US citizen, was detained in March 2023 in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg and later sentenced to 16 years in a penal colony for espionage.

He pleaded not guilty and the case was condemned by the White House and his employer as fabricated.

He, along with Whelan and others, was returned to the US on Thursday in the largest such prisoner swap since the Cold War, involving 24 prisoners.

The video and audio footage of Gershkovich was posted on social media by Kremlin-funded RT channel.

AFP could not verify the footage's authenticity. RT wrote on Telegram that the footage was "specially for Western sceptics" and that it allegedly showed that "the handover of secret information on Russia's military production is openly discussed".

Gershkovich was shown meeting a contact in a restaurant with his notebook, pen and phone on the table. The footage was filmed from various angles.

In an audio recording that appears to have been edited, a voice purported to be Gershkovich's asks in Russian: "How shall we best do this?" and outlines how he plans to source the story.

The other man says: "Please be very careful because this is secret information." The video shows a group of men rushing into the basement bar.

The security officers seize Gershkovich, one grabbing him roughly by the head, and handcuff him with arms behind his back.

While he is not shown resisting, he is placed face down on the floor and one man knees him in the back.

REN TV, a pro-Kremlin channel, also posted video footage of Paul Whelan washing his hands in a toilet which it said was in Moscow's central Metropole Hotel.

A man comes up and gives him something small which he puts in his pocket.

REN TV said it was allegedly a memory card with "secret information about the staff makeup of the FSB" security service.

Whelan, who has US, UK, Canadian and Irish citizenships, was detained in 2018 and sentenced to 16 years in 2020 on a charge of espionage.

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TOP 4 TWEETS



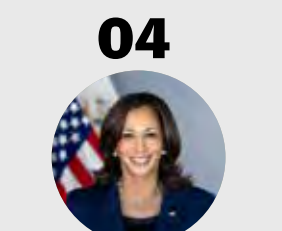
01
 Today we mark 5 years since the Parliament of India decided to abrogate Articles 370 and 35(A), a watershed moment in our nation's history. It was the start of a new era of progress and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.



02
 The Sacramentine Sisters is a community of visually-impaired sisters. They lack sight, but all their other senses are actively engaged for the glory of God and the good of humanity.



03
 Thank you, Minneapolis. Great turnout. Let's re-elect Ilhan Omar. Let's defeat Trump and elect Kamala Harris. Let's take on corporate greed and create an economy that works for all Americans.



04
 President Biden and I have canceled nearly \$170 billion in student loan debt for almost 5 million people -- and we're not stopping there. We will continue our fight to build an economy that works for every American.

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



Sheikh Hasina

celebs

Simone Biles inspires me, says Beyonce

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Beyonce feels inspired by Simone Biles.

The 42-year-old singer has paid a glowing tribute to Simone, 27, after she won her third gold medal in less than a week at the Paris Olympics.

In a video broadcast on NBC, Beyonce explained: "Let's talk about power because, really, that's what this story is about."

"Physical power, its beauty, its wonder, the way it never stops amazing you."

"Then there's spiritual power, the kind that really matters. The power you can't see, only sense. The power you need in those moments when life goes a little sideways on you."

And, of course, lasting power. "Only a select few know what it feels like to get to the top and stay there and somehow keep getting better."

Simone Biles inspires me, and I'm pretty sure she

inspires you, too. Such confidence in her strength, such beauty in her power, such a great lesson in her story. Brilliance, it doesn't come easy.

"Gold can be a hell of a journey, and the greatest of all time is willing to put that title on the line every time she walks out there."

Beyonce actually voiced her support for Team USA prior to the Games.

The Grammy-winning star hailed several American athletes as part of NBC's coverage of the opening ceremony.

Beyonce - who was seen sporting a red, white and blue leotard - said in a video message: "Get a look at America, y'all."

"These hopes and dreams, these superstars that represent us. The people of this big, bold, beautiful, complicated nation. All rooting together for them."

"Come on, you've gotta love Noah [Lyles] and Sha'Carri [Richardson.] The fastest man and woman on the planet. They'll race the world anytime, any place."

"How about Caeleb [Dressel]? Proud papa, back in the drink for more gold. And Katie [Ledecky]?"

The longer the race, the better she swims.

Beyonce



Keanu Reeves to make Broadway debut

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Keanu Reeves will make his Broadway debut next year.

The 59-year-old actor is set to reunite with his 'Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure' co-star Alex Winter in a new revival of Samuel Beckett's 'Waiting for Godot', which will open on the New York stage in autumn 2025.

Keanu will play the role of Estragon opposite his pal as Vladimir in the play, which first premiered in 1953 and follows two acquaintances pondering the meaning of life.

According to Playbill, 'Sunset Boulevard's Jamie Lloyd will direct and produce via his eponymously titled company, along with ATG Productions, Bad Robot Live and Gavin Kalin Productions. An exact location has not yet been chosen for the production, but it will be held at a one of the seven theatres in the city owned by the Am-

bassador Theatre Group.

This will mark the fifth major staging of the show, with previous stars including the late Robin Williams, Sir Patrick Stewart, Sir Ian McKellen and Steve Martin.

While this will be the 'Matrix' star's Broadway debut, Alex has appeared on stage before, stepping out for the first time back in 1979 for productions of 'Peter Pan' and 'The King + I'. Meanwhile,

the 'John Wick' star recently explained he was using crutches a few months ago after fracturing his kneecap when he tripped on a piece of carpet while filming 'Good Fortune'.

During an appearance on 'The Late Show with Stephen Colbert', Keanu explained: "I was filming a scene with Aziz Anzari and Seth Rogen and we were in a cold plunge. I was loving it, man."

I was standing there, and you know when you're cold and you're [shuffling]? I had a bathing suit and a towel, and you put it over your head and you do the cold shuffle?"

"I'm doing the cold shuffle in this room that had protective carpets down and then, just here, there was like a little pocket, and my foot got caught in the pocket in the shuffle, and then I went [down], but [my knee] didn't follow."

"And then, in slow motion, I went falling. My arms came out, but then my knee failed because it's got some stuff, and I spiked it. And my patella - kneecap - cracked like a potato chip."

Initially, Keanu was convinced he was fine following the fall but he later realised something was wrong because his knee was "blowing up".

He quipped: "Comedy's hard, man."

Keanu Reeves



Adele feels under pressure with her Munich residency

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Adele has found preparing for her Munich shows to be a "very, very" stressful experience.

The 36-year-old singer is set to perform ten shows in the German city throughout August - but Adele has admitted that it's been a stressful process.

Adele - who is performing at a purpose-built stadium in Munich - told her fans: "I can't wait to have a drink on Sunday. Oh my God. Putting the show together is crazy."

"It's so high pressure and I get very, very stressed."

During a show, Adele also shared some hangover tips with her fans.

The London-born star told The Sun newspaper's Bizarre column: "Hydrate while you dehydrate is what I like to say because I can really drink."

"I'm British. The key to being able to drink all day and all night is to have a glass

of alcohol, you have a glass of water, you have a glass of alcohol, you have a glass of water. So you're hydrating while you -dehydrate."

Meanwhile, a source recently revealed that Adele plans to "focus on her family" in 2025.

The Grammy-winning star - who has Angelo, 11, with her ex-husband Simon Konecki - intends to put her music career on ice at the end of the year.

The insider said: "She has had a busy few years since releasing her album '30' in 2021, and it has surpassed her expectations.

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Adele

Elizabeth Banks nearly choked to death making new film

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Elizabeth Banks nearly choked to death making her latest film.

The 50-year-old 'Hunger Games' and 'Pitch Perfect' actress was making the movie 'Skincare' when she was hit by "my first choking incident" while alone in her trailer on a break from shooting.

She told 'Good Morning America' the "scary" ordeal happened when she was enjoying lunch and a "little green pea" got lodged in her throat.

Elizabeth Banks

Elizabeth added: "I threw the door open - couldn't make any noise, was so afraid. It was terrifying."

She was spotted by a crew member who came over and asked "Are you choking?" before she was able to croak "Yes" - prompting him to "very calmly" give her the Heimlich manoeuvre.

Elizabeth added: "He had to do it twice. His name is Julius. He is my guardian angel. Julius, I love you."

She said that after he "saved (her) life" she wanted to use her platform to encourage people to learn how to do the Heimlich.

Elizabeth went on: "Make sure you know how to do it. Talk to your friends and family about it."

Ryan Reynolds vows to take advantage of veterinary hospital's offer to give him belly rub

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Ryan Reynolds has vowed to take advantage of a veterinary hospital's offer to give him a belly rub.

The 'Deadpool and Wolverine' actor, 47, shared a post of an advertisement by Okanagan Veterinary Hospital in British Columbia, Canada, on his Instagram Stories, which said on a billboard it was offering "free belly rubs with exams" for pets - "and Ryan Reynolds only".

Ryan responded: "Don't think for a second I won't come in to redeem this offer. "Belly rubs are why I became a golden retriever in the first place."

The long-time dog lover also tagged the animal hospital in his post.

It came after Ryan was in a top mood after his 'Deadpool and Wolverine' movie became the biggest R-rated opening of all time on its release on 26 July after it earned an estimated \$205 million at the domestic box office over the weekend.

The record was previously set by 'Deadpool' and 'Deadpool 2', which earned \$132 million and \$125 million respectively.

Ryan, who produced the movie as well as reprising his 'Deadpool' role, said on his In-

stagram Stories in reaction to the takings: "This is kind of hard to process. But thank you to everyone who went to see the film this weekend... wow."

Ryan also posted a tribute to the hard work that went into his latest superhero flick on Instagram.



Ryan Reynolds

SUDOKU

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Yesterday's solution

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

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.

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Across

1- Dirties; 6- Scramble piece; 10- Travel on; 14- Singer McLachlan; 15- Garage sale sign; 16- Draft classification; 17- Puppeteer Lewis; 18- Catcher's glove; 19- Diplomacy; 20- Ice cream topped with syrup; 22- Ceylon, now; 24- Recipe abbr.; 26- Hams it up; 27- Singer Etheridge; 31- St. crosser; 32- French farewell; 33- Stickum; 36- Actor Erwin; 39- Are you out?; 40- Sierra Nevada lake; 41- Sun. speeches; 42- A Bobbsey twin; 43- Word with panel or energy; 44- For _ sake!; 45- El _; 46- Instructor; 48- Prizes; 51- Biol., e.g.; 52- Wrist band; 54- Punctual; 59- Stop introducing evidence; 60- Kazan; 62- Renter's sign; 63- Westernmost of the Aleutians; 64- _ and rave; 65- Muse of love poetry; 66- Golf pegs, northern English river; 67- Queens stadium; 68- Semisynthetic textile;

Down

1- Flat sound; 2- Pearl Harbor's island; 3- OPEC member; 4- Hog fat; 5- Japanese massage technique; 6- Scot's cap; 7- Sister of Osiris; 8- Petrol unit; 9- Guess; 10- Take turns; 11- Silly; 12- Ship floors; 13- I could _ horse!; 21- Slalom curve; 23- Deep affection; 25- Pertaining to Benedict XVI; 27- Common street name; 28- Dame _ Everage; 29- Large cat; 30- Suffix with cloth; 34- Cry of discovery; 35- Arranges in groups; 36- Clockmaker Thomas; 37- Family diagram; 38- The Beatles' "Back in the _"; 40- Young children; 41- Jiff; 43- Regal address; 44- Artist; 45- Desert plant; 47- Earth-friendly prefix; 48- Mountain ridge; 49- Squander; 50- Psalms interjection; 52- Spoiled child; 53- Fork prong; 55- When said three times, a 1970 war movie; 56- Now _ me down to sleep...; 57- Take _ your leader; 58- British prep school; 61- _ crossroads;

Yesterday's solution

T	U	N	A	A	L	L	P	S	A	R	I	
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S	C	O	R	E	S	E	R	A	A	L	O	G
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GOLDEN ERA SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38843999 or GOLDENERA.S.BH@GMAIL.COM

Real Value Contracting WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36767312 or INFO@REALVALUECONTRACTING.COM

Busco Contracting Company W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33334107 or FAIS-ALKHANSADIQ@GMAIL.COM

HARLEEN SPECIALIZED CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33615001 or BITTUSANDHU530@GMAIL.COM

BSB CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified appli-

cants can contact 33770118 or RIZWAN.SIDHU@YAHOO.COM

VICNEZ FACILITIES MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34482910 or RAN.JANI8012@GMAIL.COM

DARK MOON SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35188197 or DARKMOONBH276@GMAIL.COM

M F S FAYAZ DECORATION CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38900576 or USMANMAJEED33108591@GMAIL.COM

V.K.R GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33234666 or JEEZANGATE.BH@GMAIL.COM

AL AFNAS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33266780 or NAZIRSHUMAILA86@GMAIL.COM

MIRZA SHAHBAZ SUPPORT SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33316063 or MIRZADXB281@GMAIL.COM

NAROO SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(ROAD MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39291660 or AKRAM150470@GMAIL.COM

ROSELY FOR GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33831604 or AASS909@HOTMAIL.COM

MULTIFORM PAPER INDUSTRY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(PAPER PACKER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37000786 or saifee@multiformco.com

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or YAMAMAHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM

SPRINKLEZ GENERAL TRADING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of STORE MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33536117 or STEFFI.DCRUZ@APPARELGROUPGLOBAL.COM

NATIONAL LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33199831 or NATIONAL2023LAUNDRY@GMAIL.COM

KARAK RAE ALROSHINAH has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33314118 or alroshinahkarak@gmail.com

JAN S KITCHEN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36404200 or Janskitchenw.l.l@gmail.com

QASWA RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 32003918 or ABDULHAKEEM094@GMAIL.COM

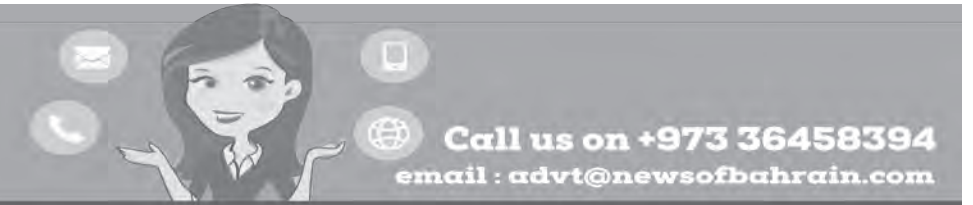
MARK 7 CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39978699 or SH_AMNAH@HOTMAIL.COM

ARRAY INNOVATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COMPUTER SOFTWARE SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39926662 or HALQA-SEER@MUMTALAKAT.BH

LEENA FURNITURE & UPHOLSTERY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of UPHOLSTERER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33882876 or factoryleena@gmail.com

MUHAMMAD SHAHEER SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(SALES), suitably qualified applicants can contact

Classifieds



VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

RED LIGHT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33087278 or HAIDERALI7286983@GMAIL.COM

WASHIO LAUNDRY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of PRESSER (HAND), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33808786 or MALNOOH1973@GMAIL.COM

REWA PUBLICITY AND ADVERTISING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35639011 or BUSINESSBAY05@GMAIL.COM

AL WAFI BUSINESS SERVICE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33539898 or PADMAKUMARIW53@GMAIL.COM

AVENFEILD SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37539255 or KASHIFKPR41@GMAIL.COM

APPLIED SCIENCE UNIVERSITY has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAD / CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT / DEVISION, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16036067 or ZUHOOR.HASAN@ASU.EDU.BH

SALEH ALI MOHAMMED ASHOOR has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(ORCHARD).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38477979 or JSASHOOR@GMAIL.COM

JAAFAR MARZOOQ JAAFAR ALI (KALEEK RABEY /5669) has a vacancy for the occupation of ANIMALS KEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33086106 or JALILSALMANT@YAHOO.COM

ALI KHAMIS MOHAMED ALI YUSUF has a vacancy for the occupation of WATCHMAN / GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17261245 or ALIKHAMIS065@GMAIL.COM

ARCAI W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701900 or hrd@arcai.biz

ALYAMAMA HOUSE FOR CLEANING CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17345569 or YAMAMAHOUSE1@GMAIL.COM SEVEN HILLS SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39976477 or hr@7hills-group.com

REDX INDUSTRIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SENIOR ACCOUNTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33503313 or cfo@REDXINDUSTRIES.COM

AWALI GAS COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536000 or hanif@aic-bahrain.com

MANAMA PRINTING PRESS WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of BOOKBINDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253399 or MANAMAPRINTER@GMAIL.COM

RIO GRILLS & BROASTED has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37799977 or OK101010@GMAIL.COM

RAYMOND INTERNATIONAL COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (COMMERCIAL PLANNING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593978 or zainab@raymondintl.com

SAHAM GENTS TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39211212 or ALHARAN93@GMAIL.COM

ALWAFI SPARE PARTS BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39548970 or ALBARAKACLEARING@GMAIL.COM

CARTEL AUTOMOTIVE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771254 or BASHARBUIBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

LOURANCE CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39826144 or pinoystorebh@GMAIL.COM

AL REEM GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of FIRE & SAFETY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771192 or inter.island.bh@gmail.com

FERNIAS TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37274009 or RINCHUP02@GMAIL.COM

JANAT ALBAHRAN SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33091033 or ABEERALMAHNA@GMAIL.COM

FANCY FRUITS GULF TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33522101 or MTAHIRNAWAZ78@GMAIL.COM

EIGHT TO ELEVEN MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66689868 or ITIAX079@GMAIL.COM

NEW SHINE INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33571560 or VISAANAD@GMAIL.COM

CHICKI CHICKEN BROASTED has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39757571 or MANNAIREALESTATE@GMAIL.COM

TANJAH RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33000044 or Kabdulla2009@hotmail.com

FAWZIA ALMORBATI TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR(LADIES), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39634305 or SFALMURBATY@GMAIL.COM

LAYALY ALDIYRA TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39694130 or YASSI39694130@GMAIL.COM

ALSANA RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 38841525 or alsan3.kitchen@gmail.com

THE RITZ - CARLTON BAHRAIN HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17580000 or rc.bahrz.hr@ritzcarlton.com

INSHA CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17870077 or Admin@inshacontracting.com

ERNST & YOUNG - MIDDLE EAST has a vacancy for the occupation of AUDITOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38899882 or SARA.EBRAHIM@BH.EY.COM

REDX INDUSTRIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33503313 or cfo@REDXINDUSTRIES.COM

AWALI GAS COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASSISTANT OPERATIONS MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17536000 or hanif@aic-bahrain.com

MANAMA PRINTING PRESS WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of BOOKBINDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17253399 or MANAMAPRINTER@GMAIL.COM

RIO GRILLS & BROASTED has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37799977 or OK101010@GMAIL.COM

RAYMOND INTERNATIONAL COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (COMMERCIAL PLANNING), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17593978 or zainab@raymondintl.com

SAHAM GENTS TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39211212 or ALHARAN93@GMAIL.COM

ALWAFI SPARE PARTS BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39548970 or ALBARAKACLEARING@GMAIL.COM

CARTEL AUTOMOTIVE has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771254 or BASHARBUIBRAHIM@GMAIL.COM

LOURANCE CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39826144 or pinoystorebh@GMAIL.COM

AL REEM GATE CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of FIRE & SAFETY SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39771192 or inter.island.bh@gmail.com

FERNIAS TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37274009 or RINCHUP02@GMAIL.COM

JANAT ALBAHRAN SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33091033 or ABEERALMAHNA@GMAIL.COM

FATENAT ALKHALEEJ BEAUTY CENTRE has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can

contact 39332314 or BEAUTY.GULF@HOTMAIL.COM

DAY TO DAY DISCOUNT CENTER has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17441000 or SA1985@LIVE.COM

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALTOBLANI GARAGE has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER (CAR MECHANICAL WORKSHOP), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33442207 or alial-tublani@gmail.com

KHADJIA AHMED ABDULHUSSAIN has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33988884 or ali.marhooni1949@gmail.com

AL QAIDOOM AUTOMOTIVE & CARS YOWING SERVICE has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39744477 or MO-QAIDOOM@HOTMAIL.COM

POULLAIDES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39093137 or PCBBAH@BATELCO.COM.BH

Alnahar bakery has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36713222 or THAN16646ALDOSRI@GMAIL.COM

UNITED CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17300313 or alijahromi09@gmail.com

HRDCO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13303353 or AHUBAIL@BAREEQ.COM.BH

REDX INDUSTRIES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ASPHALT LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33503313 or cfo@REDXINDUSTRIES.COM

PLANNERS GROUP INTERNATIONAL has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17532010 or m.vishal@exibah.com

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCAGLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALADLIYA CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39602882 or alsediq12@outlook.com

AIRMECH COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17768200 or AIRMECH.BAHRAIN@AIRMECH.NET

THE RITZ - CARLTON BAHRAIN HOTEL W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER/BARTENDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17580000 or rc.bahrz.hr@ritzcarlton.com

SEVEN HILLS FACILITY MANAGEMENT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39976476 or SRIRAO@7HILLS-GROUP.COM

URBASER BAHRAIN CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17534342 or sajlmath@urbaser.com

VELAS RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251497 or AMEERAS@HOTMAIL.COM

LAXERA ADVISORY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39511555 or OLEG.V.SLESAREV@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD HAMZA SERVICES CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(MAINTENANCEW).GENERAL, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33382314 or MUHAMMADHAMZABH15@GMAIL.COM

JAHECON W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(HEAVY VEHICLE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17244111 or JAHECON@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALSHELAH RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17877002 or middleeastaluminium@gmail.com

SEVEN LEISURE RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of INSTRUCTOR / COACH, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33338221 or myra@sevenleisure.net

FORMWORK CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SCAFFOLDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33916679 or LEGAL@PROJECTSACCESS.COM

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCAGLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

MOHAMMED SALEH FOR ZARY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17226155 or MOHAMED_ALZARI@HOTMAIL.COM

WALTEN GENERAL TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39681440 or AL_AMEERA25@HOTMAIL.COM

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND MEDICAL UNIVERSITY OF BAHRA has a vacancy for the occupation of TUTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17351450 or visa@rcsi-mub.com

ALRIFFA GATE COPY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39228661 or IBRAHIMADUHAM@GMAIL.COM

Juffair Gate Hotel has a vacancy for the occupation of RECEPTIONIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or NAMALCO@BATELCO.COM.BH

SHAFIQ DECOR W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36511786 or bahrainframes@gmail.com

Nass Corporation B.S.C. has a vacancy for the occupation of SYSTEM ANALYST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39470985 or yousif@aanass.net

ARCAI W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ALUMINIUM TECHNICIAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17701900 or hrd@arcai.biz

HIGH QUALITY LOGISTICS has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17401771 or MJDURAZI@HQLBAHRAIN.COM

HOTLOOK BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17252548 or abbas_aljamri@yahoo.com

LESER GMBH AND CO KG REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE has a vacancy for the occupation of REPRESENTATIVE(COMPANY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39981610 or GOPAL.N@LESER.COM

My construction cleaning contracts will have a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33775373 or MYLAUNDRY.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

EAT PASTA W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39111313 or info@eatco.me

NASSER SAEED AL-HAJRI CORPORATION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17312220 or AHCAGLOBE@BATELCO.COM.BH

GOURMET BURGER W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36020031 or PRINCEBURGER@GMAIL.COM

ALFOUZ CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17774477 or MAJED@FAWAZALZAYANI.COM

PETROJANA CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34688884 or LOAI@PETROJANA.COM

SEE ME CLEANING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33400484 or SAMIJUMAESTABLISHMENT@GMAIL.COM

GLOVER CARGO HANDLING COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37410136 or IQBALGONDAL303@GMAIL.COM

ISA TAREQ I. ALMAJED - WELLD MAJED - 9102 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39625239 or IALMAJED97@GMAIL.COM

Sargoda mini mart shop W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35427453 or noodishan@gmail.com

Noor Al Safa Trading Center has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223392 or ALITAHER3906@GMAIL.COM

33860711 or YAYA_GHULAM@YAHOO.COM

TEA WORLD DRAME CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(FALAFEL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39655383 or HANIBOHAMAD74@GMAIL.COM

GULF SENSES PERFUMES CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39252020 or ESSATOWERS@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

MAGIC SHINE CLEANING CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36509129 or info@magicshinebh.com

PUNJAB CITY CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39252020 or SHAREF.WORKS@GMAIL.COM

ELITE FACILITY MANAGEMENT CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17382228 or MUSTAFA@ELITEFMC.COM

SEVENTIES KARAK has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39664667 or KARAK1977.BAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

I WOOD WORKS has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330082 or ALWASEEMGROUP@GMAIL.COM

ALMOAYYED INTERIORS has a vacancy for the occupation of PAINTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

CYPRUS CYBARCO TABET JV W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of FOREMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17224545 or cct@cct-bh.com

HKH CONTRACTING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER/PACKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33871683 or MK_ALKHALIFA.36@HOTMAIL.COM

ROCKFORD SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17414655 or EBRAHIM.SONDE@GMAIL.COM

Had Enough Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33721754 or AHMEDJAFFARADAM@GMAIL.COM

CLUCKYS RESTAURANT has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66666354 or M.ALMAHMOOD94@GMAIL.COM

MARKOR BUILDING SERVICE & MAINTENANCE COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 66330299 or SAEED.KHANBH@OUTLOOK.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

DAR ALREEF CAR CARE has a vacancy for the occupation of CAR WASHER/CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33223380 or IMATARI986@GMAIL.COM

FASTWAY SERVICES BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39488826 or SURESHNP68@YAHOO.COM

BRIGHT LOOK GLASS AND MIRROR CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of GLAZIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39860700 or BRIGHTLOOKGLASS@GMAIL.COM

BRIGHT LOOK GLASS AND ALUMINIUM CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of GLAZIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37292520 or BRIGHTLOOKGLASS@GMAIL.COM

PADEL KINGDOM W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ADMINISTRATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39986899 or hyateem@thepadelkingdom.com

ARAB DESIGN CONSTRUCTION W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33588101 or arab-designconstruction@gmail.com

SATIS WAY BUSINESS SUPPORT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MARKETING SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33849926 or SATISWAYBH@GMAIL.COM

NOUR JULE SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37733869 or Hussain-367@hotmail.com

A P M H ACCOUNTING & CONSULTANCY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35038628 or MITESH@APMH.IN

FAST QUICK BUSINESS SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35548702 or UZ-ZALROHMAN428@GMAIL.COM

AK BEAUTY SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32006835 or RYHANSHHYD@GMAIL.COM

M K A MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of OPERATOR (FORKLIFT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39611612 or MKA.MC.BAH@GMAIL.COM

ARSHMAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CO W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35954810 or INFO@AITCOBH.COM

TALAL MARKETS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34369200 or HHASHIMPP@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

ROYAL ALUMINIUM CO. W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (PROJECT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35490427 or ROYALALUMINIUM.BH@GMAIL.COM

ABU FATEMA SALE OF SECOND HAND GOODS has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33309216 or RRRRH-HH93@GMAIL.COM

CARTMART W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35179334 or LUXUTYTRAVELBH@GMAIL.COM

AURA FURNISHINGS W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTRY WORKER (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39072549 or UMERAMEER@GMAIL.COM

NEW FILE CONSTRUCTION. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3373016 or ashfograza29@gmail.com

IBTISAMATI FOR REAL ESTATE BAHRAIN PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33791991 or ibtisamatirealestate@gmail.com

Beena cafe & restaurant W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35130618 or KALINGA247@GMAIL.COM

AL MAHAAM REPAIR & MAINTENANCE W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33610689 or ABDOLL-RASHEED5210@GMAIL.COM

WEIVI VAPE TRADING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36008131 or AHMEDJAFFARADAM@GMAIL.COM

NEW GEN WHITE FISH RESTAURANT W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JUICE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35397614 or MINTO-BH76@GMAIL.COM

MY CARE EQUIPMENTS AND SUPPLIES W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33604889 or HADIMOHAMED9393@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD SHARAFAT AND RAMEEZ COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of REPAIRMAN (GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33539898 or SHARAFASUKHA0057@GMAIL.COM

REEMAS PURITY CLEANING W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33969636 or M.MAJEED96@GMAIL.COM

OBIAS MECHANICAL AND CIVIL SITE SERVICES COMPANY W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17793827 or ALMA.LUCERO.OBIAS@GMAIL.COM

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company W.L.L has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(CONSTRUCTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

China clinch first Asian U18 Volleyball Championship title

TDT | Manama

China clinched its first Asian U18 Volleyball Championship title yesterday, overcoming Iran in a thrilling final match held at the Isa bin Rashid Sports Hall Complex in Bahrain.

The Chinese team secured a 3-2 victory with set scores of 23-25, 25-17, 25-19, 20-25, and 15-10, showcasing their resilience and strategic prowess.

The championship, hosted by Bahrain under the patronage of His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, concluded with China earning the gold medals and championship cup.

The closing ceremony featured distinguished guests, including Dr. Abdulrahman Sadiq Askar, CEO of the General Sports Authority, Shaikha Hayat bint Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, and Firas Jawad Al-Halwaji, Chairman of



Officials pose with players of China

the Executive Committee of the tournament, who presented the awards.

The match was officiated by international referee Ahmed Ab-

del-Aal, and China's victory was celebrated on the court.

The tournament's first coronation ceremony included the presentation of a commemorative

shield from the Asian Volleyball Confederation by Kazakh Arbitration Committee Chairman Yermek Sirlibayev to Firas Al-Halwaji.



Officials present awards to an outstanding player

The ceremony also honored Jordanian Federation Jihad Qatashiyat, and Vice President of the Lebanese Federation Ali Haider Khalifa, among others.

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US' Noah Lyles crosses the finish line to win the men's 100m final

Lyles wins Olympic 100m gold in closest finish in modern history

Lyles triumphs in tightest 100m finish, edging out Thompson

● Noah Lyles wins Olympic gold in 9.79 seconds

● Lyles edges Kishane Thompson by five thousandths of a second

● First American to win since Justin Gatlin in 2004

AFP | Paris

World champion Noah Lyles roared to victory in 9.79sec to claim gold in a dramatic men's Olympic 100m final in Paris on Sunday.

Lyles won in the closest Olympic 100m finish in modern history as just five thousandths of a second separated him from Jamaica's Kishane Thompson.

Both were given the rounded-up time of 9.79sec but the American's name carried the all-important (.784) to Thompson's (.789).

It made Lyles the first American, male or female, to win the

event since Justin Gatlin took gold in the 2004 Athens Games.

"It's the one I wanted," said Lyles, whose winning time was a personal best. "It's the hard battle, it's the amazing opponents."

"Everybody's healthy, everybody came prepared for the fight and I wanted to prove that I'm the man amongst all of them. I'm the wolf amongst wolves."

Lyles' victory was only confirmed after a photo-finish.

The American said of the wait for the final results: "I went up to Kishane and I was like, 'I'm going to be honest, bro, I think you had that one'."

"And I was fully prepared to see his name pop up and to see my name pop up, I'm like goodness gracious. I'm incredible."

Lyles added: "It's been a rollercoaster, ups and downs."

"I'm usually a guy who likes to come out blazing in all my rounds, especially in the 200m. But the 100m, it's my first time here on the Olympic stage."

Not 'fresh enough'

The relatively unknown Thompson, the fastest man this

"I went up to Kishane and I was like, 'I'm going to be honest, bro, I think you had that one'. And I was fully prepared to see his name pop up and to see my name pop up, I'm like goodness gracious. I'm incredible"

NOAH LYLES

year with a best of 9.77sec, said he hadn't been "fresh enough" over the final 30 metres.

"I couldn't really see Lyles, I wasn't sure," 23-year-old Thompson said of the photo-finish. "It was that close."

"I'm going to take it and move forward from here," he said. "Everybody loves a winner so I would have loved to win today, but I loved the competition overall."

Lyles' US teammate Fred Kerley took bronze in 9.81sec, just one-hundredth ahead of South African Akani Simbine, who timed 9.82sec.

"I don't feel any frustration

because I'm facing the best in the world," said Kerley, the 2022 world champion and Olympic silver medalist over 100m three years ago at the Tokyo Games.

"At the end of the day, not many people can say they came to the Olympic Games," Kerley said. "Whoever came off the best is the best. It's my second time around and I'm going off with a medal."

In an astonishing race, defending champion Marcell Jacobs of Italy was fifth in 9.85sec, Botswana's Letsile Tebogo sixth in 9.86sec, American Kenny Bednarek seventh in 9.88sec and Jamaican Oblique Seville eighth in 9.91sec.

Starting in lane seven, outside Seville and inside Tebogo, Lyles got off to an average start but was soon into his stride pattern.

Head tucked down through to the 40-metre mark, the American opened up, but the whole field pushed him all the way.

As Lyles dipped for the line with Thompson charging alongside him, the crowd erupted and a photo-finish was called before Lyles was confirmed as gold medalist.

Spain's Badosa, USA's Korda capture Washington Open titles

AFP | Washington

Former world number two Paula Badosa of Spain and American Sebastian Korda each enjoyed the "most special moment" of their careers on Sunday by winning titles at the ATP and WTA Washington Open.

Badosa outlasted Czech Marie Bouzkova 6-1, 4-6, 6-4 to capture her first WTA crown since a severe back injury last year.

"I think it's maybe the most special moment, especially because I went through a lot," Badosa said. "I had to fight through that and I had to keep believing in myself."



Paula Badosa kisses the trophy

Korda won the last 10 games to rally past Italy's Flavio Cobolli 4-6, 6-2, 6-0. It marks the first time in ATP history a father and son have won the same title, Petr Korda having been Washington's 1992 champion.

"One of my biggest goals was one day coming here and hopefully winning the tournament," Korda said. "This is probably the most special moment of my career so far."

Badosa battled through two storm stoppages before taking her first title since January 2022 at Sydney in the US Open tune-up.

"Today was a very tough day for me because I really wanted to win this title no matter what. It was very emotional," she said.

"Finally I got it. I'm super proud of myself after all. I'm very happy with this title."

It was the Spaniard's first title since missing the last six months of the 2023 campaign with a back injury that made Badosa wonder if she would ever win another tournament.

Moments after the triumph was complete, wildcard entrant Badosa lay on her back on the court and cried but later kissed the court in delight.

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Bahrain's Salwa Eid Naser dominates women's 400m heat 1

TDT | Manama

Salwa Eid Naser brought immense pride to Bahrain with her breathtaking performance in the women's 400m Round 1 at the Olympics.

Dominating Heat 1, Naser clocked an impressive 49.91 seconds, securing the top spot and advancing to the next round with ease.

Jamaica's Stacey Ann Williams followed in second place with a commendable 50.16 seconds, while Romania's Andreea Miklos achieved a personal best of 50.54 seconds. Gabby Scott of Puerto Rico finished fourth with a time of 50.74 seconds, narrowly ahead of the United States' Kendall Ellis, who clocked 51.16 seconds.

Other noteworthy performances included Ireland's Sophie Becker (51.84 seconds),



Salwa Eid Naser in action

Czechia's Tereza Petrunková (51.92 seconds), and Lithuania's Modesta Juste Morauskaite (52.00 seconds).

Germany wins illness-affected mixed team relay triathlon

Germany won gold in the mixed triathlon relay yesterday at the Paris Olympics, with the event disrupted by illnesses that saw at least three teams report sick team members who swam in the River Seine last week.

In a thrilling climax to the team race through central Paris, Germany's Laura Lindemann won a sprint finish, narrowly edging out Taylor Knibb from the United States in second and Beth Potter from Britain in third.

The Belgian team did not race at all after their athlete Claire Michel fell sick, reportedly with E.Coli, having swum in the Seine during the women's individual triathlon last Wednesday.

The Swiss team also had to bring in a replacement after their racer Adrien Briffod suffered a gastrointestinal infection, while Norwegian competitor Vetle Bergsvik Thorn told AFP he too had been stricken with a stomach bug after the



Germany's Laura Lindemann (L) crosses the finish followed by Britain's Beth Potter and US' Taylor Knibb, on the Pont Alexandre III at the end of the mixed's relay triathlon race

men's race last week.

"I was sick for about 12 hours, overnight from Friday to Saturday," he said. "I don't know if it was food poisoning or from the Seine. Obviously it wasn't the best preparation for today."

The relay is a four-person sprint triathlon, with yesterday's race seeing two men and two women completing a 300-metre swim in the Seine, a

seven-kilometre (4.3-mile) bike ride through central Paris and a 1.8 km run.

The Seine has been the focus of attention during the Paris triathlon events with the waterway consistently failing water quality tests despite a 1.4 billion euros (\$1.5 billion) upgrade to improve the Paris sewerage and water treatment systems.

Biles claims silver on floor after beam fall

Biles finishes second to Brazil's Rebeca Andrade in floor exercise, takes fifth in beam after fall

● Biles makes two out-of-bounds errors, scoring 14.133

● Italian Alice D'Amato claims historic beam gold

● Jordan Chiles takes bronze on floor after score upgrade

AFP | Paris

US gymnastics superstar Simone Biles polished off a redemptive Paris Olympics campaign with a floor exercise silver yesterday, shrugging off a balance beam fall to finish runner-up to Brazilian Rebeca Andrade.

Biles went into the final day of competition with a chance



US' Simone Biles falls as she competes in the artistic gymnastics women's balance beam final

to push her tally of Paris gold to a record-setting five in one Games.

She had already led the United States to team gold and regained the all-around crown she first

won as part of a four-gold haul in Rio in 2016.

She soared to the vault title with a stellar rendition of her signature Yurchenko double pike vault to take her career tally

of Olympic gold to seven.

But she couldn't find her way back to the top of the podium yesterday, two out-of-bounds errors proving too costly in an otherwise breathtaking final floor routine.

Andrade had already moved into first place with an energetic and elegant routine that garnered 14.166 points.

Biles earned 14.133 for silver ahead of teammate Jordan Chiles, who took bronze with 13.766. Chiles's score was upgraded after a review of her degree of difficulty, a devastating blow for Romania's Ana Barbosu who thought she had earned bronze with her score of 13.700.

Biles' legion of fans gave her a standing ovation anyway, and Biles departed the floor mat with both arms raised in acknowledgement.

Her earlier fall from the beam -- one of several in the final --

was the first major hiccup of her triumphant Olympic return, three years after a bout of the disorientating "twisties" cut short her Tokyo Games campaign.

Biles finished fifth in beam, where Alice D'Amato became the first Italian woman gymnast to claim Olympic gold with a score of 14.366.

Teammate Manila Esposito joined D'Amato on the podium in third, with China's Zhou Yuxin taking silver.

The treacherous nature of the 10cm-wide beam was clear when the first three starters made big mistakes.

China's world silver medalist Zhou lost her balance and had to grab the beam to avoid coming off.

American medal contender Sunisa Lee took a hard fall onto the beam when her foot slipped at the end of an aerial series.

Standings

#	NOC	G	S	B	Total
1	China	21	17	14	52
2	United States	19	29	27	75
3	Australia	13	11	8	32
4	France*	12	15	18	45
5	South Korea	11	8	7	26
6	Great Britain	10	13	17	40
7	Japan	10	5	11	26
8	Italy	9	10	6	25
9	Netherlands	6	5	4	15
10	Germany	6	5	3	14
11	Canada	5	4	8	17
12	New Zealand	3	4	1	8
13	Hungary	3	3	2	8
14	Romania	3	3	1	7
15	Ireland	3	0	3	6

Brazilian Julia Suarez also fell and Romanian Sabrina Manea-Voinea fell twice.

D'Amato had a couple of minor wobbles in an otherwise impeccable routine to seize first place just before Biles competed.

China's Zou Jingyuan defends men's parallel bars title



China's Zou Jingyuan competes in the men's parallel bars final

China's Zou Jingyuan produced a commanding performance on the parallel bars to successfully defend his Olympic title at the Paris Games yesterday.

Zou, only the second ever back-to-back Olympic champion on the apparatus, was joined on the podium by Ukraine's Illia Kovtun in silver, with Japan's Shinnosuke Oka claiming bronze.

Kovtun was first to go and set a high standard with a score of 15.500 points.

He led the pack until Zou took to the stage to win over the judges and the crowd with his faultless 16.200pt routine.

He let out a triumphant cry after an explosive dismount, knowing he had done enough to emulate Japan's Sawao Kato, Olympic champion in 1972 and 1976.

Denmark's Axelsen retains mens' Olympic badminton title

Denmark's Viktor Axelsen retained his Olympic badminton title yesterday, demolishing Thailand's world champion Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the men's singles final in Paris.

Backed by a vocal crowd of Danish fans at La Chapelle Arena, the second-seeded Axelsen battled past his eighth-seeded opponent 21-11, 21-11 in 52 minutes.

The lanky Dane became the first man to retain his Olympic men's singles title since Chinese legend Lin Dan, who won in 2008 and 2012.

Vitidsarn's silver was Thailand's first-ever Olympic medal in badminton.

The Thai made a good start but Axelsen soon settled into his rhythm and built up a commanding lead in the first game.

He closed it out in 24 minutes, raising his hand in apology after winning the game with a shot that hit the net tape and flopped over.

Viktor Axelsen

Japan's Oka wins third gold on horizontal bar

Shinnosuke Oka's fairytale debut Olympics got even better yesterday as the Japanese gymnast added horizontal bar gold to his team and all-around titles.

The 20-year-old, who also has a bronze in parallel bars for good measure, scored the same 14.533 points as Colombia's Angel Barajas, but took gold on the strength of his higher execution mark.

China's Zhang Boheng and Taiwan's Tang Chia-Hung shared bronze.

Oka, basking in the glow of his golden haul, said he felt the pressure drop off once he had helped Japan to the team title. "My favourite one is of



Shinnosuke Oka

course the gold medal in the team final, because that's what we've been working so hard for. It's a collective result," said Oka.

"After the team final, the pressure was off my shoulders. I was just able to perform with less pressure" he commented.