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DT News extends its good wishes and congratulations to the Wise Leadership and people of Bahrain on the occasion of the 16th anniversary of the National **Action Charter.**

Tweet of the Day



We are in a pivotal moment in American history. We have a president who is delusional. He is a pathological liar.

@SenSanders



11th Hour

Trump pledges to deal 'very strongly' with **North Korea**

Washington

President Donald Trump vowed yesterday to deliver a strong response a day after North Korea announced it had successfully tested a new ballistic missile.

'We have problems that a lot of people have no idea how bad they are, how serious they are," Trump told a news conference with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau at his side.



PM greets HM on 16th NAC anniv

DT News Network Manama

Prime Minister H R H Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has extended warm greetings to His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa on the 16th anniversary of the National Action Charter (NAC).

"The NAC has created a modernisation approach, provided democratic a atmosphere, consolidated

human rights and become a catalyst for a modern national progress spearheaded by the King," said HRH Prime Minister while chairing the regular weekly Cabinet session, attended by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, at the Gudaibiya palace, yesterday.

"The Charter embodies the

unity of the Bahraini citizens and their rallying behind the leadership to ensure a brighter future for the country," HRH Premier said.

HRH the Prime Minister commended the role of the security authorities, and the courage of their personnel in enforcing security and stability nationwide, lauding the highlevel coordination among security authorities.

(Continued on Page 4)

ثابت الابتدائية لل for non-Bahraini students

Muhannad Mansour/DTNN muhannad@dt.bh

Manama

Education for non-Bahraini students studying in public schools may no longer be free as the country's lawmakers are considering imposing BD400 as annual fees, it is learnt. A proposal in this regard has been submitted by

MP Jalal Kadhim who called for compelling foreign pupils studying in public schools to pay an annual fee.

Kadhim stated on his official Twitter page yesterday that the proposal is to amend the existing Education Law and impose the fees on non-Bahrainis.

He claimed that "the proposal comes in line with

the laws implemented in GCC, which, for years, didn't offer free education to foreigners".

"There are 16,000 non-Bahraini students in public schools and their annual return is BD0. Imposing BD400 fees would generate BD6.7 million for the State," Kadhim tweeted. He confirmed that the proposal would soon be placed on the agenda of the House

of Representatives' weekly sessions.

DT News reported last year that the MP had called for charging non-Bahraini students, excluding GCC nationals and students from countries that offer free education to Bahrainis.

The council's Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee had previously approved the proposal from a constitutional perspective. The proposal aims to edit the seventh article of the existing Law 27 of the year 2005 with respect to educational services in the Kingdom. The current law stipulates that "fundamental (primary and intermediate) and secondary education should be free for all students of public schools in the Kingdom of Bahrain.'



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2016 photographer Burhan Ozbilici (R) speaks during the announcement of prizes

The Hague

Brandishing a gun, his face contorted with rage, the shocking image of an off-duty Turkish policeman assassinating the Russian envoy to Turkey won the prestigious World Press Photo Award.

Judges praised the bravery of Burhan Ozbilici, a photographer for the Associated Press, who stood his ground as 22-year-old policeman Mevlut Mert Altintas pumped nine bullets into ambassador Andrei Karlov at the opening of an Ankara exhibition.

Altintas shouted "Don't forget Aleppo" as he opened fire, vowing those responsible for events in Syria would be held accountable.

"From the moment I heard the shots I knew this was a historic moment," said Ozbilici.

"I knew I had to do my job. As a journalist, I couldn't just run away to save my skin."

The powerful photo went viral and has been viewed some 18 million

photographers from The prize-winning photograph: A man gesturing near the countries. The prize-winning photograph: A man gesturing near the "It was a very, difficult decision, but in body of Russian envoy Andrey Karlov at a gallery in Ankara. very difficult decision, but in body of Russian envoy Andrey Karlov at a gallery in Ankara. very difficult decision, but in body of Russian envoy Andrey Karlov at a gallery in Ankara.

Judges from the

World Press Photo Foundation in

Amsterdam acknowledged it had

been tough to choose the 2017 winner

from over 80,400 images by 5,034

that really spoke to the hatred of our times," said jury member Mary Calvert.

France-Presse also Agence scooped three awards. Manila-based 'Morally problematic'

But the winning photo sparked dissensions on the jury, with president Stuart Franklin, a British photographer, saying: "I voted against. Sorry Burhan."

"It's a photograph of a murder, the killer and the slain, both seen in the same picture, and morally as problematic to publish as a terrorist beheading," he said. Нe argued that "placing the photograph on this

high pedestal is an invitation to those contemplating such staged spectaculars."

Ozbilici, who covered the failed coup bid in Turkey and been sent on mission to Syria, Libya and Egypt, said he always tried to be ready for difficult tests, "to have the courage to confront a world which has been made rotten by the dishonest and corrupt, in order to try to do some good.

He said he was sorry for the death of the envoy, whom he described as a "natural, kind, sincere man" whose death was a direct consequence of the "Syrian catastrophe." -(AFP)



sleep in an over-populated prison

Syrian snappers Abd Doumany

and Ameer Alhalbi won second

prize in the Spot News category

for pictures of children caught up

in the bombardments of Aleppo

and Douma near Damascus. It is the second year in the row

that Doumany's work has been

honoured by the World Press Photo

in the city.

foundation.







DT News Network/DTNN news@dt.bh

The thunderstorms that lashed Bahrain during the past two days have wreaked havoc around town, with flooding, uprooting of trees and chaos created in different parts of the country.

The strong winds, which reached the speed of 35 knots (around 65kmh), uprooted a tree in Salmaniya Avenue in the capital near Al Andalus Park on Sunday night, blocking the right lane of the vital road.

Few kilometers to the west, a lamp post fell on Budaiya Highway near Jidhafs without causing any injuries or damages to any vehicles.

The strong gusts even caused several unstable walls to collapse in Isa Town and Mahooz, damaging a couple of parked vehicels. Meanwhile, the

Meteorological Directorate at the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications has predicted an unstable weather today, with rain showers that may be thundery at times and strong gusts, urging the public to be vigilant and cautious.

Rain water flooding

Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning

Ministry said in a press statement that working it's around the clock to tackle the rainwater flooding issue in different parts of the country.

The ministry's Rainwater Emergency Committee and Works Undersecretary Ahmed Al Khayat stated that 107 water tankers and 23 pumps are excavating the excessive rainwater from all four governorates of the Kingdom.

Al Khayat pointed to the importance of protecting the sewerage networks and not to dispose of rainwater in them, calling upon the public not to open the network's lids and report flooding to the ministry's hotline on 80001810.

More attacks on schools in two days

DT News Network Manama

t least ten attacks on public Aschools were reported during the past two days, the authorities announced yesterday.

Education Ministry described the attacks as "new terrorist attacks on public

schools", clarifying that six schools were targeted in different parts of the Kingdom.

The ministry's Public Relations and Information directorate confirmed that educational institutions were targeted 521 times since the 2011 events.

"A group of terrorists broke



Pictures released by the ministry show the materials used in the attacks and the damage caused to a school

into Malkiya Intermediate Girls' School, one of the new schools built by the State. They threatened the guard and robbed eight fire extinguishers. which were used in carrying out terrorist acts," the directorate said in its statement.

It also revealed that Diraz Intermediate Girls' School was targeted with five consecutive that attacks included sabotaging the school walls, breaking the surveillance cameras and blocking the roads to the school with iron rods and wooden planks.

The directorate more attacks such as arson, explosions and vandalism targeted several schools in Sanabis, Bilad Al Qadeem and

"Such terrorist acts that aim at depriving students from their right of receiving education are condemned. They are against the teachings of Islam and violate all international pacts and humanitarian conventions," the directorate's statement added.





Heart of the Matter



Lamees Alhassar

Don't cry over lost opportunities for there are many more to come

s children we are often told not to cry over spilt milk. The idea behind this is to get As children we are onen told not to try over spit mine. The latest entered with life us used to the fact that there will be many times, when things will not go the way we expected them to, and the best course of action is to move on and get ahead with life. The subject of Economics expands on this beautifully with its concept of opportunity cost. This concept basically tells us that for every opportunity availed of by us, we have lost or let go of another opportunity. This means that we can never have a total profit

For instance if we had the choices of opening a bakery or restaurant and we go with the former choice, our opportunity cost would be the profit we would have made if we had chosen the restaurant business. The reverse of this is also true. This fundamental Economics principle is equally true of our daily life and can help us accept that there will always be opportunities lost and opportunities gained and there is no point in either mourning the former or celebrating the latter.

If you shower more affection on your father than your mother, you will pay a corresponding opportunity cost in the cooling of your mother's affection towards you. A similar choice is available to you at the time of making any significant decision. While the exercise of the right choice will have an impact on how things pan out for you, it is also a fact that in the ultimate analysis, things will balance out. You lose some and you win some.

If you understand this simple principle of life, you would be able to deal with its vicissitudes in a far more equanimous manner. For instance you had your heart set upon becoming a doctor, but were unable to make the cut because you were a few marks short and this has laid you very low. You could either interminably mop about it or take up the offer of a graduation program in a very prestigious university, where you could undertake research, which would one day lead to the discovery of a new medicine, which the doctors of the world would then be prescribing!

The lyrics of a popular American rock band Poison, appropriately say-

Every rose has its thorn, just like every night has its dawn.

Just like everything pleasant has its flip side, every unpleasant experience eventually ends and leads to a happy one. This is the cycle of life. Come to think of it, this is what makes life living-the sheer unpredictability of it. If you knew the story of every book that you read and every movie you watched beforehand, would you really enjoy those experiences? Probably not? Don't we like to read books where we are not sure what the next page will bring or watch a movie, which is a suspense thriller?

So it is with life. Why should a few unexpected turns of events make us sick of our lives. There is so much more to come. Every time you face a situation that is not to your liking, you can motivate yourself by telling yourself, "The best is yet to come." This in fact is the very mantra to a happy and successful life. If you constantly tell yourself and indeed believe that the best part of your life is ahead of you, rather than behind you, not only will you actually achieve more in life, you will forever feel youthful and enthusiastic.

The mind is the most power organ that a man possesses and how he uses it determines how happy and successful he will be. Just like if you stop using a muscle, it will atrophy and go waste, if you don't train your mind to be positive, it won't perform at optimal capacity. In fact the neural pathways that lead out of the brain can be made to perform according to one's desire. This in effect means that we can be who we want to be and do what we want to do.

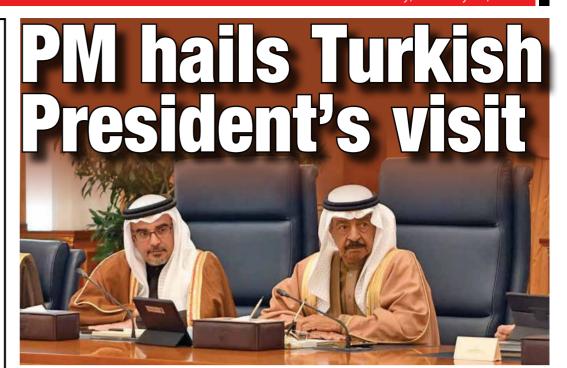
But that is certainly not on the cards, if we are the kind who cry over spilt milk. Such people are not the type, who will be optimally able to leverage the power of their brain to help them achieve exalted life goals. Instead such people will put the neural pathways of the brain on a downward spiral of mediocrity and incompetence.

Considering that we can so easily be on the better path by choosing to focus on the positive side of life rather than the negative one, it is a no brainer, what one's choice should be. When we spend an exceedingly long time moping about one lost opportunity, we are effectively closing the doors upon the hundreds of new opportunities we will get, going forward. In fact till the time the breath of life is in us, we owe it to ourselves to make the most of the limited amount of time available to us. That means that we just can't waste any time on regret.

The more we look forward with positivity the more will be the number of opportunities available to us to fulfil our aspirations. Life is best lived in motion and anticipation of even better times to come. One of course is free to disregard this advice and wallow in sorrow and misery over every misstep of ours. The loss however will only be our own. For no one will give a fig about our tears. It's not for nothing that they say-Laugh and the world laughs with you; cry and you cry alone.

The world applauds the winners and the go getters and not the whiners and perpetual complainers and that is the way it should be. Many are the splendors of this world, and the man or woman who chooses to waste their time in needless sorrow will see none of that. Like they say, Fortune favours the brave. Remember that immortal line from the TV serial Star Trek-To boldly go where no man has gone. Life is all about reaching for the stars.

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



Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa during the cabinet meeting

DT News Network

Manama

is Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa has lauded the security authorities whose role was crucial in ensuring the success of the recent security operations. Chairing the Cabinet meeting at Gudaibiya palace yesterday HRH Premier also lauded the citizens' patriotic and supportive stances, instructions to step up vigilance pre-emptive security, and intensify investigations, research and control to repel and thwart all terrorist and criminal acts.

HRH the Prime Minister lauded the visit of the Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdogan to Bahrain, HM King Hamad's talks with him and the agreements signed between the two brotherly countries on the sidelines of the

The Premier highlighted the importance of President Erdogan's visit to the Kingdom, in terms of goals, timing and results at the bilateral and Gulf Cooperation Council levels, noting that the visit augurs a joint Bahraini-Turkish political, economic and defence strategy, Cabinet Secretary-General, Dr. Yasser bin Isa Al Nasser, said in a statement after the Cabinet session.

reviewing While memoranda on its agenda, the session reviewed the proposed aspects of cooperation with Turkey which will be discussed during the next meeting of the Joint Bahraini-Turkish Committee.

According to the memorandum presented by the Finance Minister, the committee will convene in Ankara on March 2-3, and will discuss cooperation in the fields of bilateral trade, finance and banking, housing and infrastructure, science, technology and industries, small and medium-sized enterprises, tourism, education, health and youth and sports.

The Prime Minister also hailed the Kingdom's hosting of the World Arabian Horse

Organisation (WAHO) Conference, under HM the King's patronage, noting that its goals and outcomes are consistent with Bahrain's efforts to preserve purebred Arabian horses, particularly that the kingdom is one of their world-famous habitats.

HRH Premier congratulated Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of His Majesty the King and President of the Supreme Council for Women, on being granted the Arab Medal by the Arab League in recognition of her support for the institutional efforts to advance Arab women.

Cabinet decisions

- HRH the Prime Minister was informed about efforts taken to meet the citizens' needs on medical services and medicines at all public health facilities. To tackle the health issues, HRH the Prime Minister has directed to take all necessary procedures to ensure the citizens' access to treatment and medicines without delay in all departments, including the Emergency Department at the Salmaniva Medical Complex.
- On economy, HRH Premier has given directives to continue attracting companies and encouraging foreign investments through incentives and facilities in order to generate more job opportunities for Bahrainis. HRH Premier has also directed to continue promoting and marketing national industrial products, attracting local investments and encouraging small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Developing the Bahraini workforce and improving its capabilities are among the key goals set by the government, he said, noting that gualified workers represent value added elements to investment projects.
- The government seeks to attract investment projects for the ultimate goal of creating new job opportunities for the citizens, the Premier said.

HM King greeted on NAC anniversary

DT news Network

Manama

Information Affairs Minister, Chairman of Bahrain Institute for Political Development, Ali bin Mohammed Al-Romaihi, has extended greeting to HM the King, HRH Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, and the people of Bahrain on the 16th anniversary of the National Action Charter and the inauguration of the constitutional monarchy based on justice, equality in rights and duties and without discrimination on the grounds of religion, creed, ethnicity or gender.

He commended the role of the Supreme Council for women chaired by HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, wife of HM the King, in promoting women's participation in political, economic and social fields. He noted the press and media freedom as a milestone achievement accomplished since the launch of the National Action Charter.

He hailed the efforts of security agencies and Bahrain Defense Force in maintaining the homeland's security and stability and their contributions to bringing further national achievements in all areas.

He emphasized Bahrain's keenness on maintaining regional and international peace and stability through bolstering GCC unity and integration, noting Bahrain's efforts in championing Arab and Islamic causes, consolidating regional and international peace efforts.

Sharia court judge dies



Shaikh Ibrahim bin Abdullatif Al Sa'ad

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Manama

High Sharia Sunni Court of Appeal President Judge Shaikh Ibrahim bin Abdullatif Al Sa'ad died yesterday.

Shaikh Ibrahim graduated from the notable Al Azhar University in the late 1960s. Then, he was appointed as the successor of his uncles to become the imam and khateeb of Al Fadhel mosque. He began his journey in sharia judiciary in the early 1970s.

His body was laid to rest in Manama graveyard yesterday. Family members, religious figures, judges and dignitaries attended the burial. Condolences could be offered at Al Fadhel mosque in Manama.



DT News Network Manama

Eight defendants convicted spying for Iran and forming a terrorist organisation in the Kingdom were stripped of their Bahraini nationality.

The jail terms of the defendants were confirmed by the Supreme Appeals Court, except for the sixth defendant whose life sentence was reduced to 15 years in prison.

The High Criminal Court earlier slapped six of the defendants with life sentences, and the seventh and eighth defendants with 15 years in

According to court files,

the defendants reportedly created the terrorist group purposely to smuggle arms and explosives from Iran into Bahrain.

The defendants established their plot after the 2011's unrest, as the first defendant met his sixth co-defendant and they agreed to trigger an armed movement in the Kingdom against the regime.

Two of the suspects are fugitives residing in Iran. They are said to have requested their co-suspects to recruit young Bahrainis to train on using arms and explosives as well as transporting them through the sea.

The first and second

defendants are believed to have travelled to Iran, and the Iran-based fugitives facilitated their flight having provided them with the cost of their tickets.

Upon their arrival in Iran, the pair was taken to a military camp owned by the IranianRevolutionary Guard, where they were trained on using arms including the Kalashnikov. They were also trained in swimming and diving.

The seventh and eight defendants then provided BD7100 for the pair upon their return to purchase a pick-up and a boat to smuggle the arms and deliver them to a cache. The defendants managed to smuggle different types of military weapons and explosives and substances used in making bombs prior their arrest.

Two of the accused were caught trying to smuggle arms into Bahrain. They were nabbed carrying four bags containing arms and explosives as well as substances used to make bombs.

They revealed the identities of their accomplices. The second defendant admitted during interrogations to travelling to Iran and meeting the seventh defendant. He also confessed to being trained on how to use of arms in a military camp.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Bahrain international garden show to be held this month

DT News Network Manama

The Bahrain International The Bahrain internal Garden Show (BIGS) will be held from February 23 -26 under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the support of Wife of His Majesty the King & Supreme Council for Women Chairwoman HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa President of the Consultative Council of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development(NIAD) the Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

This was announced by Shaikha Maram bint Isa AlKhalifa, the Secretary-General of NIAD, at a press conference yesterday.

All agricultural organisations and relevant companies are invited to participate and promote their products and services to a wide local and regional client base of different levels of expertise and interests.

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CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016 (Audited)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2016 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)	****	0045
ASSETS	2016	2015
Cash and bank balances	180.460	198.769
Investments	160,460 554.660	545,459
Accrued income	101.610	71.322
Insurance receivables		
	108,402 28,086	116,022 37.017
Insurance deposits	17.800	20,400
Deferred policy acquisition costs		
Reinsurers' share of technical provisions Other assets	83,818	65,850
	17,991 21,588	21,987 22,236
Property and equipment	1,114,415	1.099.062
LIABILITIES	1,114,415	1,099,062
		070 510
Technical provisions	673,681	679,543
Insurance payables	61,571	44,606
Borrowings	41,000	44,000
Other liabilities	45,349	51,933
EQUITY	821,601	820,082
Attributable to shareholders of parent company	****	
Share capital	220,000	220,000
Treasury stock	(14,793)	(14,793)
Reserves	37,684	33,750
Retained earnings	13,743	5,291
N	256,634	244,248
Non-controlling interests	36,180	34,732
	292,814	278,980
	1,114,415	1,099,062

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016 (In thousands of U	2016	2015
Gross premiums written	245,431	220,442
Net earned premiums	180,503	219,924
Claims and related expenses	(119,412)	(148,259)
Policy acquisition costs	(46,370)	(58,422)
Investment income attributable to insurance funds	11,123	8,542
Operating expenses	(17,508)	(21,012
Underwriting result	8,336	773
Investment income attributable to shareholders' funds	8,166	5,752
Operating expenses – non underwriting activities	(8,042)	(7,544
Borrowing cost	(866)	(416
Other income	5,516	5,945
Other expenses and provisions	(2,959)	(12,134
Profit (loss) for the year	10,151	(7,624
Attributable to:		
Non-controlling interests	989	(3,203)
Shareholders of parent company	9,162	(4,421
	10,151	(7,624
Earnings per share attributable to shareholders (basic and diluted):	US\$ 0.05	(0.02

	2016	2015
Profit (loss) for the year	10,151	(7,624)
Other comprehensive income		
Items that will be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Changes on remeasurement of available for sale investments	1,101	(6,382)
Transfers for recognition of losses on disposal of available for sale investments	2,262	477
Other comprehensive income	3,363	(5,905)
Total comprehensive income	13,514	(13,529)
Attributable to:		
Non-controlling interests	1,128	(3,130
Shareholders of parent company	12,386	(10,399
	13.514	(13.529

	2016	2015
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	-	
Premiums received	250,560	308,434
Reinsurance premiums paid	(38,955)	(58,869
Claims and acquisition costs paid	(232,796)	(250,677
Reinsurance receipts in respect of claims	24,650	31,190
Investment income	89	1,986
Interest received	2,281	2,21
Dividends received	761	1,878
Operating expenses paid	(30,174)	(22,700
Other (expenses) / income, net	(3,911)	(3,332
Insurance deposits received, net	9,079	5,444
Purchase of trading investments	(26,364)	(46,990
Sale of trading investments	44.003	31.34
Directors' remunerations paid	-	(305
Net cash used in operating activities	(777)	(390
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Maturity/sale of investments	293,215	329,98
Purchase of investments	(326,719)	(348,512
Term deposits with bank	21,202	29,84
Interest received	9,738	9,34
Dividends received	-	1
Investment income	3,899	7,49
Collateralised cash deposits	6,858	(10,137
Purchase of property and equipment	(328)	(574
Purchase of intangible assets	(37)	(38
Investment in associate	(63)	
Net cash provided by investing activities	7,765	17,42
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES: Borrowings	(3.000)	34.00
	(- , ,	
Interest on borrowings Dividends paid	(866)	(328
		4-7
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	(3,928)	24,42
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	3,060	41,45
Effect of exchange rate on cash and cash equivalents	(167)	1
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	136.515	95.04
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	139,408	136,51
Term deposits with bank	41.052	62.25
Cash and bank balances, end of year	180,460	198,76

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016 (In thousands of U.S. Dollars)

Net profit for the year

Changes on remeasurement of available for sale investments Transfers for recognition of losses on disposal of available for sale inve Total comprehensive income for the year
Transfer of net depreciation on revalued property
Transfer to non-distributable reserves djustment for minority's share of subsidiar Balances at 31 December 2016 Parent company balances at 31 December 2016
Balances at 31 December 2014 Changes on remeasurement of available for sale investments Transfers for recognition of losses on disposal of available for sale investment Total comprehensive income for the year Dividends paid Transfer of net depreciation on revalued p

Transfer to non-distributable reserves Balances at 31 December 2015

Parent company balances at 31 December 2015

equity	interests			stock	capital
278,980	34,732	5,291	33,750	(14,793)	220,000
10,151	989	9,162	-	-	-
1,101	124	-	977	-	-
2,262	15	-	2,247	-	-
13,514	1,128	9,162	3,224	-	-
	-	184	(184)	-	-
	-	(894)	894	-	-
320	320	-	-	-	-
292,814	36,180	13,743	37,684	(14,793)	220,000
256,634		14,040	37,387	(14,793)	220,000
302,411	37,862	19,485	39,857	(14,793)	220,000
(7,624)	(3,203)	(4,421)	-	-	-
(6,382)	(71)	-	(6,311)	-	-
477	144	-	333	-	-
(13,529)	(3,130)	(4,421)	(5,978)	-	-
(9,902)	-	(9,902)	-	-	-
	-	185	(185)	-	-
	-	(56)	56	-	-
278,980	34,732	5,291	33,750	(14,793)	220,000
244,248		5,445	33,596	(14,793)	220,000

ved by the Board of Directors on 13 February 2017 and signed on its behalf by

Dr. Fouad A A Alfalah Vice Chairman

Yassir Albaharna Chief Executive Officer

to host debut event of March 3

Santhosh Raiendran/DTNN Santhosh@dt.bh

Fashion TV (FTV) will be hosting its debut event, 'White party Edition II" on March 30 as a part of their grand comeback to the Middle East, said Romain Saint Gilles, the Vice President, Middle

Paris-based (FTV) International, the leading fashion and lifestyle television network the world. has signed its contract with Bushido Restaurant and Lounge to host exclusive events in the Kingdom. After the huge success

of FTV parties in 2011, the year-long joint venture will feature and broadcast series of events, showcasing the culture, tradition and fashion

Romain Saint Gilles, during an exclusive interview with DTNews said that the FTV is also

preparing to launch a website to find local talents in Bahrain.

The tentative name for the website will be FTVbahrain, and will be focusing on finding budding talents from the Island. The website will help find designers whose talents will get together with the tradition and culture of Bahrain, and thereby helping them to reach the international audience,"he told.

Saint Gilles, a lawyer and a Journalist by profession started his first Fashion TV singlefranchise at the age of 24 at Geneva, Switzerland. He was later on invited by the owner of Fashion TV, Michel Adam Lisowski to be a part of the global FTV Team. "During my initial days I worked mostly as a TV Producer and have designed and created many programs such as Swiss FTV Tour and Swiss FTV model search. The show was designed to search top models and designers in Switzerland. I started off my career in FTV global team as the Director of Events, and globally I was associated with many fashion events including Cannes Film Festival. Later on, from 2009 to 2014, I worked as the Vice President"

FTV in Bahrain

As the only global 24/7 TV

station focused exclusively on fashion, beauty, trends and style, FTV will focus more on events that will not only promote upcoming designers but also the regional-modern art and the local artists of Bahrain. Saint Gilles will be also promoting FTV branded products and locations like F-Residences, hotel and cafes to Bahrain.

"The Middle East is growing rapidly in term of fashion and it is our commitment to enhance the presence of our TV in the region and show our dedication. Fashion TV in Bahrain is a part of our global expansion. We expect that Bahrain will come up as the regional centre point of FTV. We are also planning conduct fashion rendezvous every year here Bahrain, thereby serving as an incubator to the young and budding talents. Young designers are invited to be

the part of the event," he told.

The White party Edition II

The debut event hosted by FTV scheduled on March 30 at Bushido Lounge will be a fusion of Fashion, Art and Music. The event will cater glamour and music talents from all over the world

including top models

entertainers and from the crème de la crème of the fashion scene in Europe. Glamourous setup, trendy tunes and more will make the event go beyond anything the brand done has in the past. Celebrities, models. fashion industry leaders top performers will be present during event. separate section for FTV branded merchandise will available for the guests during the



ARAB INSURANCE GROUP (B.S.C.)

(Reinsurance Firm regulated by Central Bank of Bahrain)

Dividend Recommendation

The Board of Directors of Arab Insurance Group (B.S.C.) Bahrain, during its meeting held on 13 February 2017, has resolved to recommend to the Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held on 20 March 2017, to approve the distribution of 5% cash dividend amounting to US\$ 9,901,609 (5 cents per share) to the shareholders whose names are recorded in the share register on the day of the AGM.

> For additional information visit www.arig.net



▶ Bank

→ Cinema

> Spa & Saloon

→ Food Court

A New Shopping Experience

Romain Saint Gilles

٠ ىنوك

• سينما

سیا وصالون

عالة المطاعم





At least 13 people were killed and 82 injured when an apparent Taliban suicide blast ripped through a protest in Lahore on Monday, Pakistani officials said, shattering the city's growing sense of security.

Police cordoned off the area near the crowded Mall Road,

one of the city's main arteries. as witnesses fled amid fears of a second explosion, with images of the injured being carried away shown by local

The road had been crowded with hundreds of people, mainly chemists, protesting provincial government plans to regulate the medical sector.

"The blast was so powerful. I saw the injured and bodies, saw flames surrounding the blast site," witness Muhammad Tariq said.

Chief of police in Punjab province of which Lahore is capital, said at least 13 people including six policemen were killed in the attack.

Rescue officials said that at

least 82 wounded people had been rushed to city hospitals.

The attack "seems to be a suicide blast", senior police official Amin Wains said, adding it had apparently targeted police trying to regulate the protest.

"Police at the scene have told me that apparently it's a suicide blast, we are

investigating,"said Sanaullah, the provincial law minister.

The Pakistani Taliban faction Jamaat-ul-Ahrar swiftly claimed responsibility for the blast, which came three days after it announced it would carry attacks on government installations.

A spokesman for the group

warned in an statement that the blast was "just the start".

Incidents such have been rare in the city in recent years, with security across Pakistan improving dramatically in 2015 and 2016 after the military launched a crackdown on extremism backed by a government-led National Action Plan. -(AFP)

UN chief regrets veto of Palestinian ex-PM as envoy

V chief Antonio Guterres said yesterday, he "deeply" regretted opposition to former Palestinian prime minister Salam Fayyad as the organisation's peace envoy to Libya, days after Washington vetoed the appointment.

"I deeply regret this opposition and I do not see any reason for it," Guterres said at the annual World Government Summit hosted by Dubai.

Guterres described Fayyad, a former World Bank official with a track record of fighting corruption, as "the right person



Salam Fayyad

for the right job at the right moment".

"It's a loss for the Libyan peace process and the Libyan people," he said, adding that the United Nations "needs to be able to act with impartiality".

Wednesday had informed the Security Council of his intention to appoint Fayyad as a replacement for German Martin Kobler to conflict-torn

But US ambassador Nikki Haley vetoed the appointment, saying Washington did not support the message the move would send.

The head of the UN requires the unanimous support of all 15 Security Council members for appointments of special representatives to conflict areas. - (AFP)

Chemical weapons One of the deadliest bombings hit the neighborhood of Sakhur on November 20, used in Aleppo: HRW killing six members of the same family including four children whose lifeless bodies were shown on a video taken by the

on a playground, clinics, residential streets, and houses that left scores of people struggling to breathe, vomiting and unconscious.

"The chemicals would affect

The attacks, which may have involved as many as three helicopters operating jointly, took place in areas where government forces were poised to advance, said the rights group. - (AFP)

INTERIM CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Six-month ended 31 December 2016



INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FIN As at 31 December 2016 (Reviewed)	-ACIRL PUSIT	USD 000's	INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT Six-month period ended 31 December 2016				USD 00
31 Dec	ember 2016 (Reviewed)	30 June 2016 (Audited)			onth ended cember 2015	Six-month 31 Decer 2016	
ASSETS			REVENUE				
Balances and placements with banks	9,147	8,282	Income from investment				
nvestments	172,302	188,255					
nvestments in associates and a joint venture	•		banking services - net	687	3,448	1,373	4,3
accounted under the equity method	27,054	28,046	Finance income	2		8	
furabaha financing to investee companies	37,356	40,993	Dividend income	129		129	
eceivables	35,812	38,030	Rental and other income	961	1.480	1.665	1.8
unding to project companies	1,056	4,231					
Other assets	23,851	18,030	Total revenue	1,779	4,928	3,175	6,2
roperty and equipment	8,240	8,434					
OTAL ASSETS	314,818	334,301					
IABILITIES			OTHER LOSSES				
slamic financing payables	101,453	101,734	Fair value losses on				
Employee accruals	3,782	3.746	investments carried at fair value				
Other liabilities	7,797	4,527	through profit or loss - net	(14,851)	(5,241)	(15,340)	(5,3
otal liabilities	113,032	110,007		(13,072)	(313)	(12,165)	
	110,002	110,007		(,)	()	(1-11-17	
QUITY hare capital	190,000	190,000	EXPENSES				
totutory reserve	5,859	5,859	Staff costs	1,548	1.511	3.095	3.1
westments fair value reserve	75		Travel and business	.,	.,	-,	-,-
oreign currency translation reserve	(144)	(127)					
letained earnings	5,996	28.562	development expenses	135	110	205	2
otal equity	201,786	224,294	Legal and professional fees	403	205	638	3
OTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	314,818	334,301	Finance expense	1,349	204	2,473	3
OFF STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL			Depreciation	100	119	217	2
POSITION ITEMS quity of investment account holders	3,524	3.756	Other expenses	1.059	667	2.002	1.1
quity of investment account noiders	3,324	3,730		4,594	2.816	8,630	5.5
			Total expenses LOSS BEFORE IMPAIRMENT PROVISION AND SHARE	4,574	2,010	0,030	- 0,0
			OF LOSS OF ASSOCIATES AND				
xtracted from the interim financial		saulawad bu	A JOINT VENTURE	(17,666)	(3,129)	(20,795)	(4,6
rnst & Young and approved for iss February 2017.	ue by the Bo	ard on	Impairment allowances				
rebiodry 2017.			(provided) / released - net	(1,591)	1,250	(1,591)	1,2
			Share of loss of associates				
			and a joint venture - net	(40)	(127)	(180)	(2
			LOSS BEFORE BOARD OF	,/	,,	,,	(*
			DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION	(19,297)	(2,006)	(22,566)	(3,6
			DIRECTORS REMUNERATION	(17,277)	(2,000)	(44,300)	(5,0

auxiliorati period erided 31 beceriber 2016 (keviewe	٠,	030 000 1
	2016	201
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net loss for the period	(22,566)	(4,02)
Adjustments for non-cash items:		()
Share of loss of associates and a joint venture		
accounted under the equity method	180	265
Impairment allowances	1591	(1,25)
Fair value losses on investments carried		(.,
at fair value through profit or loss	15,340	5.33
Depreciation	217	23
Foreign currency translation difference on inves		
in an associate		(1)
Dividend income	(129)	
Operating (losses) profit before changes	(/	
in operating assets and liabilities	(5,367)	55
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:	,-,,	
Investments	(62)	(6,18
Investments in associates and a joint venture	(02)	(0,10.
accounted under the equity method	812	2
Receivables	1,377	80
Funding to project companies	3,175	(3,05)
Other assets	(5,821)	(1,64)
Employee accruals	36	(37
Other liabilities	3,270	2,50
Net cash used in operating activities	(2,580)	(7,36)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(2,000)	(1,000
Dividends received	129	
Dividends received Available-for-sale investment - net	129	(40)
Property and equipment - net	(23)	(3)
Net cash from (used in) investing activities	106	(43
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Murabaha financing to investee companies	3,637	
Islamic financing payables	(281)	15,200
Net cash from financing activities	3,356	15,20
Foreign currency translation adjustments	(17)	(2
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND		
CASH EQUIVALENTS	865	7,37
Cash and cash equivalents		
at beginning of the period	8,282	2,72
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF		
THE PERIOD	9,147	10,10
Cash and cash equivalents per the statement	t of	
financial position		
	8.620	9,97
Balances with banks		
Balances with banks Placements with financial institutions	527	12

Abdulfatah M. R. Marafie	Abdullatif M. Janahi			-	()		Placements with financial institutions		52/	126	
Chairman	Board Member and Chief Executive Officer	NET LOSS FOR	THE PERIOD	(19,297)	(2,371)	(22,566)	(4,026)			9,147	10,103
INTERIM CONSOLIDATED STA Six-month period ended 31 Decer	TEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY nber 2016 (Reviewed)									USD 000	r's
		Share capital	Unvested shares of employee share ownership plan		Statutory reserve		vestments fair value reserve	Foreign currency translation reserve	Retained earnings	To	tal
Balance at 1 July 2016 Net loss for the period Foreign currency translation of	lifference on	190,000	-		5,859		-	(127)	28,562 (22,566)	224,2 (22,5	
investment in an associate Net movement in cumulative value of available-for-sale in	changes in fair	-			-		- 75	(17)	-		17) 75
Balance at 31 December 20	016	190,000			5,859		75	(144)	5,996	201,7	
Balance at 1 July 2015 Net loss for the period Cash dividends for 2015		190,000	(10,000)		4,931 - -		-	(175) - -	34,711 (4,026) (4,500)	219,4 (4,0 (4,5	26)
Full cancellation of ESOP shar and issue of bonus shares Foreign currency translation of			10,000		-		-		(10,000)		-
investment in an associate Net movement in cumulative value of available-for-sale in			-				(24)	- 11	-		11 (24)

United Nations

Syrian government forces carried out at least eight chemical attacks during the final weeks of the battle for Aleppo, killing nine people, among them four children, and injuring hundreds more, Human Rights Watch said yesterday.

The rights group said

it interviewed witnesses, collected photos and reviewed video footage indicating that chlorine bombs were dropped from government helicopters during the offensive from November 17 to December 13.

Around 200 people were injured by the gases used on opposition-controlled areas of the northern city, said HRW.

Shabha press agency. The report detailed attacks

the children most severely. They inhale these smells and end up suffocating," said a first responder quoted in the report.

Leading experts to speak at forum



Francia Fukuyama
DT News Network

DT News Network Manama

Euromoney Conferences and the Bahrain Economic Development Board (EDB), yesterday announced a stellar line-up of leading international and regional industry experts to speak at the sixth annual GCC Financial Forum in Manama, on 27-28 February 2017. More than 600 high-level delegates will participate and discuss how the GCC region will fund its future.

Minister of Finance S h a i k h Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa will address the forum for the very first time.Delegates will have the unique opportunity to participate in an open 'town-hall' session with Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB)

The illustrious line-up of speakers will include Francis Fukuyama, the world-renowned political commentator, futurist and author of The End of History and the Last Man, as well as Lord Adair Turner, chairman of the Institute for New Economic Thinking and former head of the UK's financial



Khalid Al Rumaihi

regulator, the FSA.

The forum audience will also hear from two of the regions' leading bank chief executives: Adel A. El Labban, chief executive of Ahli United Bank and Bassel Gamal, group chief executive of Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB).

On the second day, keynote interviews will be held with Mahmood Hashim Al Kooheji, chief executive officer of Mumtalakat, and Chris Skinner, a well-known fintech commentator and author.

Commenting on the announcement, Victoria Behn, Head of Middle East and Africa at Euromoney Conferences said, "As GCC countries seek to reduce



Lord Adair Turner

their dependence on oil revenues and to diversify their economies, the region's leaders are setting a new trajectory for the region's future development. At the height of this pivotal phase, we are proud to host such a diverse and high-calibre line-up of speakers who will share their experience and expertise. We believe the presentations, keynote interviews and panel discussions will provide our participants with valuable insights to enable them to find real solutions to the current challenges they face."

For further information and to view the 2017 agenda visit www. euromoneyconferences.com/gcc.

Minister of Finance Shaikh Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa will address the forum for the very first time. Delegates can also participate in an open 'town-hall' session with Rasheed Mohammed Al Maraj, Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB)

Gulf Air signs tech agreement with Sabre

DT News Network Manama

Sabre Corporation, a global technology provider to the travel and tourism industry, has signed a new agreement with the Kingdom of Bahrain's national carrier, Gulf Air, to provide an expanded portfolio of core passenger services technology covering reservations, departure controls and all other aspects that touch passengers directly.

Under this new agreement, Sabre will continue providing the latest development and cutting edge trends in its technology solutions to Gulf Air, giving the airline access to an expanded portfolio of progressive technologies including state of the art passenger re-accommodation and mobile concierge services.

"It is clearly evident that Gulf Air is enjoying much greater success and has a clear path for continued growth over the coming years," said Dino Gelmetti, vice president Airline Solutions EMEA, at Sabre.

"We continue to invest in and focus on enhancing the passenger experience and doing so via a multi-faceted approach that includes cutting edge technology solutions to make the entire travel experience a more convenient and comfortable one for Gulf Air passengers,"Gulf Air Chief Commercial Officer, Ahmed Janahi commented.

Gulf Air Director of Information Technology Dr Jassim Haji said: "At Gulf Air we deploy state of the art technological solutions according to the latest trends in the aviation industry. In such a dynamic environment, e-distribution channels and offer personalization and selfservice features to passengers. We are partnering with Sabre to adopt new trends and realize their benefits and increase the satisfaction of our passengers.



Gulf Air Chief Commercial Officer Ahmed Janahi , Gulf Air Acting Chief Executive Officer Maher AlMusallam and Gulf Air Director of Information Technology Dr Jassim Haji with Sabre officials

Dubai aims to launch hover-taxi by July

Dubai has tested a Chinese prototype of a self-driving hover-taxi, its transport authority said yesterday, with the aim of introducing the aerial vehicle in the emirate by July.

Self driving by 2030

The test of the one-man electric vehicle comes as the city state in the United Arab Emirates seeks to ensure a quarter of its means of transport are self-driving by 2030.



100 kilometres an hour

The EHang 184 can travel on a programmed course at 100 kilometres an hour (60 mph) at an altitude of 300 metres (1,000 feet), the authority said in a statement. A passenger simply needs to

A passenger simply needs to select a destination for the autonomous taxi to take off, fly the route and touch down in the chosen spot monitored by a ground control centre, it said.

Eight propellers

The vehicle, made by Chinese drone manufacturer EHang, can recharge in two hours and make trips of up to 30 minutes. The quadcopter is powered by eight propellers. It has highly accurate sensors and can resist extreme temperatures, it said.

"The autonomous aerial vehicle exhibited at the World Government Summit is not just a model," authority head Mattar al-Tayer said on Monday.

"We have already experimented (with) the vehicle in a flight in (the) Dubai sky," he said in English. The authority was "making every effort to start the operation of the autonomous aerial vehicle in July 2017" to help reduce traffic congestion, Tayer said.(*AFP*)



BCCI lauds Bahraini-Turkish business ties

hairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) Khalid Al Moayed lauded the key visit of the Turkish President Erdogan to Bahrain and the prominent

agreements signed between both sides including an MoU on mutual exemption of visa fees for holders of ordinary passports, an agreement on cooperation in higher education, and an MoU on defense cooperation.



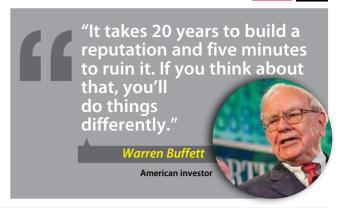
Samsung chief in second grilling

Samsung chief Lee Jae-yong has been questioned for a second time as a suspect in South Korea's biggest political corruption scandal.

Prosecutors are expected to decide based on the hearing whether they will seek an arrest

warrant for Mr Lee. The firm is accused of giving donations to non-profit foundations run by a confidante of President Park Geun-hye in exchange for political favours.(BBC)







to use internet for marketing

Looking for some basic Internet marketing tips for your small business? While there are hundreds of suggestions, here's a list of tips that 90 percent of small business owners will find useful.

"What are you trying to do?"

What is the goal of your website? Ultimately, it should be to drive more business, but how exactly will it do that? Start with one goal – such as increasing the number of phone calls and branch out from there. It's important to set goals, but it's iust as important to come up with a system for measuring those goals.



Content is king

Evaluate your website's content. What does your website say? Is the content unique and useful? Will people learn anything when they visit your site? When was the last time you added new content? Does your website have content worth reading? Does your content match your business goals?



Call tracking and analytics

You can't improve upon what you can't measure. Analytics provide a tremendous amount of incredibly useful data, such as where your website visitors come from, how long they stay, and what they do on your site. Google analytics is free and good and is recommended. Make sure you can track every lead that's generated by your website.

Take advantage of free local **business directories**

There are a few great local business directories that are completely free. Visit GetListed.org, enter your business information, then take a moment to submit your business info to each of the directories shown.



Check out your competition

Visit your competitors' websites. Do searches for keywords related to your business. Find out what others in your vertical are doing and saying. This is a great way to get ideas and take stock of vour own company's online marketing efforts.

Read as much as you

There are hundreds of resources online rife with excellent marketing advice. Some examples are The SEOMoz Beginner's Guide to Complete SEO,The Guide to Link Building with Local Events and Online Video 101 for **Small Businesses**

Every business has something to gain by blogging regularly. The list of benefits is long.

The <title> tag

Visit your website. Look at the very top of your browser window. What do you see? Does it describe the page you're looking at? Is it a unique description? Does it contain the keywords you want people to associate with that page of your website? If you're a local business, does it contain your key local search keywords? If vou can't answer 'ves' to all these questions, research more about title tags.

Arig swings back to \$9.2 m

DT News Nework Manama

rig delivered net profits A of US\$ 9.2 million for the year 2016 compared to a net loss of \$4.4 m in 2015. The Company's reinsurance book and investment income both contributed to the rebound. The underwriting result for the Group recorded a profit of \$ 8.3 m (2015: profit of \$ 0.8 million), while the Group's combined ratio improved to 96.8 percent compared with 106.6pc in 2015. Investments yielded \$ 19.3 m (2015: \$ 14.3 m).

Arig's net profit for the fourth quarter 2016 alone was \$ 5.8 m (Q4 2015: net loss of \$ 5.8 m), while the Group wrote Gross premiums of \$ 18.0 m (Q4 2015: \$ 7.8 m) during the period.

The Group's Gross written premiums increased to \$ 245.4 m over the year (2015:

\$ 220.4 m) mainly, driven by the Company's continued diversification strategy.

Yassir Albaharna, CEO of Arig, commented, "Arig significantly improved its annual result on the back of solid returns from its reinsurance activities and investments, despite the challenging market conditions. I am also pleased to say that our recent upgrade of the Group's Financial Strength Rating to 'A- (Excellent)' by A.M. Best reflects Arig's ability to take strategic decisions and to generate stronger prospective earnings."

Arig's Board of Directors has recommended a cash dividend of 5pc on the Company's paid-up capital, or 5 cents per share. The dividend remains subject to clearance by the Central Bank of Bahrain and shareholders'



approval at the Company's Annual General Meeting to be held on 20th March 2017.

Arig's Shareholders' equity stood at \$ 256.6 m on 31 December 2016 (end of 2015: \$ 244.2 m) with a book value per share of \$ 1.30 (end of 2015: \$ 1.23).

GPIC in record urea export

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Manama

he Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) has exported a record 50,000 tonnes of Urea on board the vessel, Ince Tokyo, from the Company's pier in Sitra, it was announced.

This is the consignment since June 2012, when a consignment was sent to Sudan.

GPIC Managing Director H.E. Ibrahim Al Musaiteer thanked Company President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery and the Board of Directors as well as the Saudi Basic

Industries Corporation and the Petrochemical Industries Company of Kuwait for their significant role in marketing the Company's products around the world.

In a statement, Dr. Jawahery said the GPIC exports Urea all over the world, particularly to Brazil and the United States, and said these markets are

strategically important and have intense competition.

Dr. Jawahery said exports to Brazil in 2016 were more than 348,000 tons, which is the largest amount exported to the country since the start of production. Brazil accounted for 49 per cent of the GPIC's urea exports, followed by 19 pc for the United States.

Exports to Brazil in 2016 were more than 348,000 tons, 49 pc of the GPIC's urea exports which is the largest amount exported to the country since the start of production



Before moving onto making automobiles, during the post-war period, founder Soichiro Honda and a team of twelve men produced engines that could be attached to bikes. By 1964, the Honda Motor Company would grow to become the world's largest motorcycle manufacturer.



COUNTRY/CURRENCIE	ES BUY	SELL
AUSTRALIA	0.2962	0.2937
BANGLADESH	0.00517	0.00476
CANADA	0.2941	0.2909
DENMARK	0.0571	
EGYPT	0.0361	0.0219
EURO	0.4077	0.4056
HONGKONG	0.04983	0.04943
INDIA	0.00586	0.00575
INDONESIA	0.00002997	0.00002897
IRAN TUMAN	0.00010959	
IRAQI DINAR	0.000294	
JAPAN	0.003480	0.003410
JORDAN	0.5365	0.5351
KOREA	0.00037791	
KUWAIT	1.2580	1.242
MALAYSIA	0.087500	0.0871
NEW ZEALAND	0.2753	0.2739
NORWAY	0.0471	
NEPAL	0.00398	0.00353
OMAN	0.97962	0.97962
PAKISTAN	0.00361	0.00360
PHILIPPINES	0.00779	0.00757
QATAR	0.10381	0.10376
SAUDI ARABIA	0.10061	0.26810
SINGAPORE	0.2697	0.2677
SOUTH AFRICA	0.03020	0.03010
SRI LANKA SWEDISH	0.00277 0.0454	0.00251
SWIT7FRI AND	0.3834	0.3809
SYRIA	0.3634	0.3609
TAIWAN	0.001740	0.0123
THAILAND	0.012000	0.010960
TURKEY	0.1074	0.010300
UNITED KINGDOM	0.4802	0.4772
UNITED KINGDOM UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	0.102800	0.102810
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	0.37800	0.37805
YUAN	0.058500	0.0585
	0.030300	0.0303

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

INTERBANK RATES COUNTRY 1 US DLR 1 UK STG BAHRAIN 0.3770 0.4722 0.3770 0.3341 **KUWAIT** 0.2855 32.2158 0.2855 0.2530 **OMAN** 0.3849 0.3849 0.3411 3.6420 3.2276 OATAR 3.6420 3.6420 UAE 3.6730 3.6730 3.6730 3.2551 SAUDI 3.7500 3.7500 3.7500 3.3233

Closing Bell dirhams rights issue, pending slump in shares of investor consent at the next

A Dubai's Arabtec dragged Dubai's stock market lower yesterday after the builder reported a larger fourthquarter net loss, while other markets were mixed.

Dubai's index dropped 1.8 percent, its largest single-day decline since October 2015, after Arabtec plummeted by its 10 pc daily limit having reported a net loss of 2.95 billion dirhams (\$803 m) in the three months to Dec. 31.

The loss was far larger than the loss of 272.8 million dirhams forecast by EFG Hermes and the loss 403.74 m a year earlier.

Arabtec also said its board approved a proposed capital restructuring and a 1.5 billion shareholders' meeting.

Elsewhere commodities shipper Gulf Navigation fell 3.6 pc despite reporting a 20 pc rise in fourth-quarter net profit. Full-year net income came in at 136.6 m dirhams, almost six times the figure for 2015.

Abu Dhabi stock index edged down 0.1 pc, with Eshraq Properties dropping by its 10 pc daily limit after it swung to a full-year net loss of 575 m dirhams in 2016, versus a net profit of 1.61 m

Arabia's index Saudi added 0.5 pc in thin trade advancing shares with outnumbering decliners 95

SAUDI ARABIA rose 0.5 pc to 7,060 points.

DUBAI dropped 1.8 pc to 3,638 points.

ABU DHABI edged down 0.1 pc to 4,564 points.

QATAR gained 0.1 pc to 10,671 points.

EGYPT lost 1.4 pc to 12,740 points.

KUWAIT added 0.3 pc to 6,657 points.

OMAN edged down 0.06 pc to 5,815 points.

BAHRAIN inched down 0.1 pc to 1,308 points.

Most mid-sized petrochemical producers were bid up, as Brent futures traded around \$56.50 a barrel. Saudi Industrial Investment

Group climbed 2.9 pc.

Egypt's main index fell 1.4 pc with 80 pc of the mosttraded shares retreating.

(Reuters)

Loyalty miles for FalconFlyer members

DT News Network Manama

yesterday **G**announced partnership between the airline's FalconFlyer Loyalty Programme and Agoda PointsMax, , allowing Gulf Air FalconFlyer members to earn loyalty miles with every Agoda hotel booking made on agoda.

partnership see Gulf Air FalconFlyer members benefit from Agoda's online global accomodation booking services, and accruing FalconFlyer Loyalty Programme miles with every booking.

"We are delighted to partner with Agoda, and broaden the distinctive offering and privileges available to Gulf Air's FalconFlyer Loyalty Programme members making travel planning a rewarding experience," Gulf Air Chief Commercial Officer, Ahmed Janahi said.

AmCham to host MENA annual business forum



Mary McGinnis, Business Development Consultant AmCham, Sigi Gruber, Board member, Qays Al Zubi, President, Zahraa Taher, Board member addressing the gathering

DT News Network Manama

he American Chamber of Commerce Bahrain (AmCham Bahrain) will host this year's AmCham MENA Regional Council's Annual Forum on March 15-16,it was announced vesterday.

The Forum, which aims to promote the expansion of trade and investment between markets of the MENA region and the US, will focus on 'SMEs: Unlocking Economic Potential in the MENA Region'.

"Working in with cooperation organisations in Bahrain as well as our AmCham colleagues

from across the MENA region, we are proud to have developed a strong program for the upcoming Forum in March," Qays H. Zu'bi, President of AmCham Bahrain said.

300 participants comprising representatives from the U.S. and MENA governments, multilateral financing institutions supporting SME development in the region, are expected to attend.

Participants will benefit from a series of high level discussions and commentary on opportunities and effective strategies for business development that will feature at the Forum

Among the many experts and participants that will be addressing the Forum are Khush Choksy, Senior Vice President, Middle East and Turkey Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Khalid Al Rumaihi, Chief Executive, Bahrain Economic Development Board, Reem El Saady, National Program Manager, Small Business Support at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) based in Egypt, and Mohamed Shalaby, Plant Director, Mondelez (Kraft Bahrain).

For information amcham@finmarkcoms.com.



AJM Kooheji Group Launches Exclusive Yamaha Motorcycle Showroom in Bahrain

DT News Network Manama

he Yamaha XSR 900, is the highlight of a range of motorcycles on display at the new Yamaha showroom launched in association with AJM Kooheji Group in Ma'ameer.

A Style All Its Own

The XSR900 blends Yamaha's worldclass engineering with standout neoretro style, creating a new type of machine for riders looking for an authentic and honest motorcycle that does not sacrifice performance. Drawing influence from Yamaha's classic "XS" series of motorcycles, the XSR oozes class, with exposed aluminum details, retro-influenced bodywork, stepped seat and custom lighting and instrumentation.

Advanced Crossplane Crankshaft Concept Engine

The XSR900 features a thrilling 847cc Crossplane Crankshaft Concept liquid-cooled inline 3-cylinder, DOHC, 4-valve-per-cylinder engine based on the FZ-09[™]. The compact motor offers the best balance of both 2- and 4-cylinder designs, with an exciting, torquey and quick-revving engine character.





Mohammed Kooheji, Director, AJM Kooheji Group with other delegates at the launch of the showroom

Cutting-Edge Electronics

The XSR900 combines a classic heritage with modern performance, featuring ride-by-wire YCC-T[®] engine control, adjustable D-MODE throttle response, and an adjustable Traction Control System, allowing the rider to make the most of the potent engine and chassis.

Powerful Braking with ABS

The XSR900 provides exceptional braking power with confidence thanks to sportbike-spec brakes

backed up with the security of ABS.

Compact, Sporty Chassis

The narrow aluminum frame features sport-oriented geometry to achieve light and nimble handling. Adjustable suspension front and rear allows the rider to customize their XSR900 to match road conditions and personal preferences.

Apart from XSR 900, the latest range of motorcycles on display include the R1M, Yamaha Bolt, MT09, MT10 and the Super Tenere.

The showroom also displays choicest motorcycle trousers, jackets, safety clothing and other accessories. including helmets, boots, riding pants, knee pads, chest & back protector, shin-guards and much

A huge range of custom accessories for all segments of bikes awaits customers at the showroom which also stocks lubricants (2stroke and 4stroke oil), brake fluid, chain cleaners and items for "at home' servicing needs.

This service centre also provides bikers with quick services such as

oil and filter servicing, bike tuning, chain greasing and others.

"We are delighted to open such modern and classy showroom of Yamaha motorcycles in Bahrain. The brand has always been synonymous with biking and with the new range of bikes and more facilities for our riders; we have taken a few steps further to enhance the biking experience," Mohammed Kooheji, Director, AJM Kooheji Group said.



PIC: MOHAMMED THASLEEM





His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa bidding farewell to President Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the Bahrain International Airport yesterday. The Turkish leader wrapped up his visit to Bahrain at the invitation Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa is also seen



Prime Minister, HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa hosted a lunch banquet, in the presence of Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister, HRH Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, to honour the Turkish President Recep Tayyib Erdogan, at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday. Royal Family members, senior state officials and GCC ambassador to Bahrain attended the luncheon. The Premier asserted that the visit will boost the long-standing bilateral relations further, and open up new horizons of joint cooperation in various fields



Prime Minister HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Kha Deputy Prime Minister HRH Prince Salman bin Hama firmed the government's resolve to optimise the kir political fields for the best interests of the nation an



delegation from the University of Bahrain (UOB) College of Applied Studies faculty staff paid a visit to the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Tourism premises in the Financial Harbor yesterday, with the aim to get introduced to the ministry's IT environment and to get insights into the opportunities available to develop different skills for the college graduates by applying theory to real-life IT and eCommerce



Lions Club of Bahrain conducted its monthly Board a K N Singh. Secretary Mahendra Shas and previous Pro for the meeting.





A seminar entitled "Loyalty to Bahrain: The Experience of Expatriates" was held by the Isa Cultural Centre (ICC) to mark the 16th anniversary of the National Action Charter. The Bahrain Federation of Expatriate Associations (BFEA) Secretary-General Betsy B Mathieson gave keynote speech and the seminar highlighted the experience of expatriates of all nationalities in the Kingdom





of HM the King, during which the two leaders held talks on bilateral relations, regional and international developments. Prime Minister, HRH Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and Crown Prince, Deputy



lifa received Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First nd Al Khalifa at the Gudaibiya Palace yesterday. The two leaders afgdom's accomplishments in the development, human rights and dits citizens.



BDF Commander-in-Chief, Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalif yesterday met the Chief of General Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces, General Hulusi Akar, and his accompanying delegation. Minister of Defence Affairs, Lt.General Yusuf Al Jalahma and Chief of Staff, Lieutenant-General Dhiyab bin Saqr Al-Noaimi, were also present. The BDF Commander-in-Chief lauded the outstanding Bahraini-Turkish relations, praising the existing cooperation between the two brotherly countries in various fields, including the military industry



nd Business meeting at Intercontinental Hotel, presided by club President esident Vicky Kamboj, along with other member of the club were present



Awal Gulf Toastmasters Club held its annual club contest 2017 at Alumini Club, Adiliya. The members qualified to move to the Area contest are Javeed (Evaluation), Ramaswamy (Humorous speech& Table Topics), Hari Kumar (International speech)



As part of the activities of the third edition of 'Shop Bahrain', Bab Al . Bahrain Mall hosted 'Draw-A-Smile' photo booth. The event gave the visitors of the old market a chance to take pictures with friends their and family in traditional clothing and to their photos to their personal e-mails or social media accounts



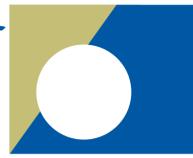
Lanka Club(SLC) won against Rugby Club by points, at the tournament organised by the Bahrain Expatriate Netball League. The score was SLC 16 and Rugby "B" 12



Ellen DeGeneres @TheEllenShow Wow. What a sweep. Congratulations @Adele and of course the incredible @Beyonce. #GRAMMYs



wins big at Azammys



Los Angeles

dele on Sunday triumphed once again at the Grammys with five awards for her latest blockbuster album of ballads, but she used her moment in the sun to heap praise on Beyonce, whom she bested for top

> honours The English balladeer swept up the trio of major prizes at the music industry's biggest night --Album, Record

and Song of the Year -- along with two other pop awards. Beyonce walked away with two trophies. And in a sentimental homage to late rock icon David Bowie, his final album "Blackstar" earned five awards, including four posthumous prizes for the singer.

Adele, who has stood by her winning style of heart-wrenching songs of loss and regret, became the first act ever to sweep the three key categories in two different years.

She won Record of the Year, which recognizes overall song, and Song of the Year, which looks at songwriting, for her ubiquitous hit "Hello" and Album of the Year for "25.

Adele made a similar sweep in 2012 with her last album "21" -- which remains the only album to have outsold "25" in the past decade.

Fighting back tears, Adele took the podium and paid tribute to Beyonce, who had led the night's nominations with nine for her politically edgy "Lemonade."

My idol is Queen Bey and I adore you. You move my soul every day," Adele said as she looked at Beyonce. (AFP)

Chance the Rapper takes three Grammys

Los Angeles Thance the Rapper on Sunday won three Grammys including Best New Artist, validating the rapid rise of the hip-hop star who has released his music only through streaming.

> gala: "I claim the victory in the name of the Lord." "I know people think that independence means you do it by yourself, but independence means freedom," Chance said. The 23-year-old rapper from

Chicago, whose real name is Chancelor Bennett, won Best New Artist, Best Rap Performanceand Best Rap Album, going against -listers including his mentor Kanye West and

chart-

Drake.

eyonce emerges with New Age show

Los Angeles

Beyonce made her performance debut as the expecting mother of twins on Sunday with a New Age celebration of women at the Grammy Awards.

The pop superstar, who leads the night's nominations, appeared for the first time in public since she set the internet ablaze with news that she is

pregnant.

Beyonce chose not to play it safe, instead putting on an extravagant and abstract performance with touches of Indian spirituality and ancient Egypt.

Bevonce was introduced by her proud mother before an image of the 35-year-old singer, her baby bump openly visible, flashed on the screen.



London

Hollywood musical "La La Land" picked up five British Bafta film awards on Sunday, including best director and actress, paving the way for Oscar success later this month.

The dreamy tribute to the

heyday of Hollywood musicals was named best film, while also picking up gongs for cinematography and original music, in the ceremony at London's Royal Albert Hall.

Accepting the award for best director -- beating off competition from the likes of Ken Loach and Tom Ford --Damien Chazelle said it was an "incredible honour" and a pleasure to be there along with those behind the film.

Leading actress Emma Stone, who plays an aspiring actress in "La La Land", took on a political tone in her acceptance speech. "In a time that is so divisive I think it's really special we were all able to come together tonight, thanks to Bafta, and to celebrate the positive," she said.

A throwback to Hollywood's

Golden Age, "La La Land" took home seven Golden Globes



in January and has been nominated for 14 Oscars.

The best actor Bafta award went to Casey Affleck, for his role in the drama "Manchester By The Sea", beating Ryan Gosling who was nominated for "La La Land".

Flying the flag for UK filmmaking was Ken Loach's "I, Daniel Blake", which won the outstanding British film but lost out in four other categories. Set in Newcastle, northeast England, the film tells of one man's battle against

the bureaucracy of Britain's social welfare system.

Accepting the award for outstanding 80-year-old British film, Loach said filmmakers stand "with the people" and took aim at the government. (AFP)



Best Director:

Damien Chazelle, La La Land

Best British Film: I, Daniel Blake

Best Actor: Casey Affleck, Manchester by the Sea

Best Actress:

Emma Stone. La La Land

Best Supporting Actor: **Dev Patel**, Lion

Best Supporting Actress: Viola Davis, Fences

Best foreign film:

Son of Saul (Hungary)

Special Effects: The Jungle Book

Animated Film:

Kubo and the Two Strings

Pictures: Sundance Selects, Lionsgate, Focus Features. Roadside Attractions. Paramount Pictures © GRAPHIC NEWS



Director: Ash Brannon Stars: Luke Wilson, Eddie Izzard, J.K. Simmons, Lewis Black



Tulip Fever

Director: Justin Chadwick Stars: Alicia Vikander, Dane DeHaan, Cara Delevingne, Zach Galifianakis



Bitter Harvest

Director: George Mendeluk Stars: Terence Stamp, Max Irons, Barry Pepper, Tom Austen



Loaan

Director: James Manaold Stars: Doris Morgado, Hugh Jackman, Boyd Holbrook, Dafne Keen

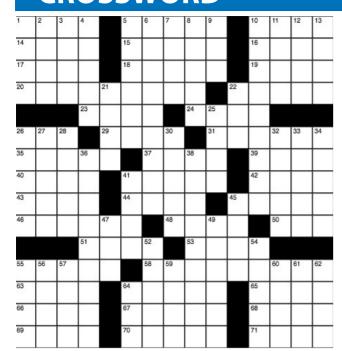


The Shack

Director: Stuart Hazeldine Stars: Sam Worthington, Octavia Spencer, Tim McGraw, Radha Mitchell Keener

(www.imdb.com)

CROSSWORD



Across

1- Not now;; 5- Maker of Pong;; 10- Gift tag word;; 14- Portrayal by an actor;; 15- Miscalculation;; 16- The ____ Ranger rode a horse _;; 18- Mrs. Gorbachev;; 19- Olive genus;; 20called Silver;; 17- Dies _ White-headed raptor;; 22- Not hollow;; 23- Must've been something ;; 24- Dirty Harry's org.;; 26- "The X-Files" extras;; 29- Give up;; 31-Westerns;; 35- Chart;; 37- Woe ___!;; 39- To Live and Die ___;; 40- Title bestowed upon the wife of a raja;; 41- Foundation;; 42- Shootout;; 43- First place?;; 44- Till stack;; 45- Curt;; 46- Mother of Calcutta;; 48-Final Four org.;; 50- Pothook shape;; 51- Env. notation;; 53- Grasp;; 55- Rough files;; 58- Person who promotes disorder;; 63- Over-50 org.;; 64- Laughing;; 65- On the main;; 66- Russian range;; 67- "Fear of Flying" author Jong;; 68- Borscht ingredient;; 69-_-majesté;; 70-Division of the United Kingdom;; 71- Able was

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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1- Chicago paper, for short;; 2- Israeli dance;; 3- Airline to Ben-Gurion;; 4- ____ say more?;; 5- Add fizz;; 6- Writer of tragedy;; 7- Nutmeg coat;; 8- Thorny flowers;; 9- Tax-deferred nest egg;; 10- Rising ocean water;; 11- Drum sound;; 12- Dedicated to the ____ Love;; 13- Anthropologist Margaret;; 21- "From _ __ according to his abilities...";; 22- Hot tub;; 25- Adversaries;; 26- Marsh bird;; 27- Commerce;; 28- More rational;; 30- City on the Ruhr;; 32- Accustom;; 33- Like non-oyster months;; 34- Shops want to achieve high ones!;; 36- Tropical fruit;; 38- Mishap;; _;; 45- After-bath powder;; 47- Ave. crossers;; 49-Main arteries;; 52- Monetary unit of Nigeria;; 54- Abu ___;; 55- Actor Julia;; 56- River in central Switzerland;; 57- Ladies of Spain: Abbr.;; 59- Metal fastener;; 60- Aha!;; 61- Fortuneteller;; 62- London gallery; 64- Remote button;;

WHY DO YOU IT HELPS EAT HOT CHILL PUT THE BEFORE YOU HEAT ON ! CHEW ME OUT

SUDOKU

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YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION

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

How to play:

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

Your star today

hard all at once!

Stick with what comes naturally. If something

feels difficult or abrasive, this is a sign that your energy is better used elsewhere. But don't turn away until you're sure that what you're facing is away until you re sure that what you re lacing is actually a combative force instead of your own skewed sense of reality. You could be overly sensitive about a given situation and thereby making up scenarios that don't even exist.

Your heart may feel extra loving today, which

is good, since you will probably need it. There is most likely someone close to you who needs a lift of some sort. You may be like the tow truck that arrives to pull a car out of

the ditch. Be careful when you hook up the chains. Don't scratch the bumper or pull too

You may feel a bit protective today, and with

good reason. Others are likely to be aggressive when it comes to moving in on your territory. Be strong. Assure yourself as well as those in your charge that everything will be fine. Take

reasonable precautions, but don't completely close yourself off to the outside world. That

You may be a bit confused today. More than likely, it will be hard for you to get an accurate read on your emotions. One of your automatic responses in situations like this is to turn to a

close partner for advice. Unfortunately, this advice may throw you into even more of a

Secure your emotions and make sure you're set in your mind before you take action today.

This is a terrific time to get things started. Following through to completion shouldn't

be a problem. The difficult part is taking that

today, so don't miss this opportunity when your intuitive sense is extra keen.

Break through the potential moodiness of the day. Burst into song while walking down the

street. Encourage others to sing back to you, as if your life were an opera. Your creativity is extra strong at this point, so let it shine in unexpected areas of your world. You have

the wonderful ability to turn even the most mundane situations into something exciting.

first step. This can be easily done on a day

knock at the gate could just.

(Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



(Apr 21st - May 21st)



(May 22nd - Jun 21st)



(June 22nd - July 23rd)



(July 24th - Aug 23rd)



(Aug 24th - Sep 23rd)



(Sep 24th - Oct 23rd)



You may be plaqued with restlessness, to the point that you may not be able to get anything done. If you sense that this is happening to you even in the slightest degree, stop whatever you're doing and take a break. Your work isn't worth the sacrifice of your sanity. Consider going to a spa or call up a friend with a hot tub so you can soak in some warm, relaxing water for a while.



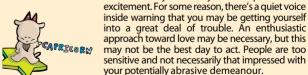
(Oct 24th - Nov 22nd) Be careful of exerting your will too strongly toward someone who really isn't receptive to it. Be conscious of other people's feelings. Be gentle when it comes to love and romance. You have a yellow light, which means that it's OK to proceed. Be careful that the other person is receptive to your advances. Don't come across as too aggressive and end up making a fool of yourself. Overall, this should be a pretty good day for you, as long as you don't get overly sensitive about certain things. Your awareness is bound to be extra sharp today, so use this ability to stay alert and open to what's going on around you. Perhaps you're feeling a bit restless when

it comes to matters of the heart. This is telling you to stop fidgeting and take action.

(Nov 23rd - Dec 21st)



(Dec 22nd- Jan 20th) This is one day in which your heart pounds with





(Feb 20th - Mar 20th)



Be more aggressive when it comes to your intentions in a romantic situation. It would be a great idea to impress your lover with a delicious home-cooked meal on a night like this. Put a bit more passion into the equation and relight the spark that might have recently gone out. Don't hesitate to be the instigator

It would be a good idea to socialize with others today in a comfortable, open setting. Say what you feel instead of just concentrating on what you think. Be just as good a listener as you expect others to be for you. Join a writing circle or take a painting class. Your creativity is looking for an outlet today, so you might as well share this gift among friends.

HOW TO

"Out & About', a ready reckoner for the events taking place on the island, is published from Friday to Tuesday. To be included, please use one of the following:

outandabout@dt.bh, or call 38444680.

TASTE TOUR

Date: Till 18 Feb 2017

Time: Based on each restaurant's operating hours

The 'Taste Tour' will return this year and will include a total of 29 participating restaurants. Participants will be able to sample dishes and vote for their favorite restaurants. They will also have the opportunity to win An Infinity Q50 car from YK Almoayyed & Sons as part of a 'The Taste Tour' raffle draw.

VALENTINE'S DAY SPA PACKAGES & SPECIALS

Date: Today 10 am – 10 pm **Venue**: Downtown Rotana- Manama

Make your sweetheart love you even more with a relaxing spa treatment! From pampering perfect spa packages to muscle melting massages.

VALENTINE'S IN LINKS

Date: Today 6 pm - 11:59 pm **Venue**: Royal Golf Club

Treat your beloved Valentine to a spectacular 4 course set dinner in the award-winning Links Restaurant. BD 35 net per person inclusive of welcome bubbly, a gift and a gift voucher for the lady.

VALENTINE'S DAY AT TEATRO DOWNTOWN

Date: Today 6 pm - 11:45 pm **Venue**: Downtown Rotana- Manama

Teatro Downtown will set the mood as you can enjoy the most romantic Valentine's Dinner that was thoughtfully prepared to bring out the romance in every one on this special occasion. Enjoy a 4 course set menu for only BD 29 per couple including soft drinks or BD 39 per couple including selected beverages. Be mesmerized

OUT ABOUT

HIGHLIGHT

BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW

Date: February 23 - 26

Venue: Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre

Manama: Under the patronage of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the support of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, Wife of the King of Bahrain, President of the Consultative Council of the National Initiative for Agricultural Development(NIAD), the Bahrain International Garden Show (BIGS) will be held from February 23 – 26 at the Bahrain International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Since its establishment in 2004, Bahrain International Garden Show has become a platform for experts and enthusiasts to further develop their expertise and knowledge with the latest best practices in the industry. It is also an occasion for potential investors to seek profitable agricultural investment opportunities.

All agricultural organizations and relevant companies are invited to participate and promote their products and services to a wide local and regional client base of different levels of expertise and interests.



with the live performance of our Date: Today 8 pm

VALENTINE WITH PAUL ADAMS

Date: Today 8 pm - 15 Feb 2 pm **Venue**: La Vinoteca Barcelona-Manama

Join us on Valentine's day for an exlusive & exquisite five-course meal & two delectable desserts. Enjoy a unique ambience & intimate atmosphere as you dine, with love vocals by the renowned Paul Adams.

LOVE IN THE SEA

Saxophonist.

Date: Today 8 pm - 15 Feb 2 pm **Venue**: Fishmania- Manama

Walk in through the doors at Fishmania and leave your date mesmerized as you are greeted with sparkling wine once seated next to our large glass facades that will have you gazing at the shiny stars in the night sky as they reflect onto the Arabian Sea. Enjoy a specially catered set menu along with a bottle of some exquisitely tasting wine for just BD39+ per couple. Love is truly in the sea this Valentine's Day at Fishmania.

THE CASTLE OF LOVE

Date: Today 8 pm - 15 Feb 2 pm **Venue**: Camelot Restaurant & Lounge- Manama

Love is the most powerful force that exists. When in love, your feet are nowhere close to the ground but floating in the clouds. This Valentine's Day, Camelot's mighty chateau will be transformed into a Castle of Love. Romantic dinner with candlelit and complimentary wine to enrich the divine tastes of our classy and delicately prepared dishes for this day of romance, the Castle of Love will be the most romantic hotspot in town to take your date to set his/her soul on fire. Our resident singer Nathalie will sing romantic songs and make you feel the spirit of love.

TE AMO SALSA LADIES NIGHT - VALENTINE'S SPECIAL

Date: 15 Feb 7:30 pm - 16 Feb 2 pm **Venue**: Meisei Bahrain

Why stop at one night out for Valentine's this year? Enjoy a romantic dinner with your loved one on Tuesday 14th Feb. Then turn up the tempo with our Salsa Red Party 'Te Amo' on

Wednesday 15th Feb! Ladies dining will receive a Meisei flower and special gift.

CUPIDS BALL POST VALENTINE CELEBRATION

Date: 16 Feb 9 pm - 17 Feb 2 pm **Venue**: Kabayanz- Jufair

It's that time of the year once again! The perfect time to rediscover the myriad shades of your romance! This Valentine's Day we bring to you the perfect setting for a memorable romantic experience; so drop in at KABAYANZ. INSIGNIA Band & DJ Francis will surely make your night epic.

MAX IN BAHRAIN: A TRANSFORMATIONAL YOGA AND WELLBEING

Date: 16 Feb 6 pm - 18 Feb 5 pm **Venue**: Namaste Bahrain- Manama

This workshop deals directly with the modern plague of sleeplessness and stress. In America, the Center for Disease Control has declared sleep disorder an epidemic, with millions suffering some form of sleep disorder that results in excessive daytime sleepiness. This workshop will help you re-think your priorities and give you knowledge to take home with you to help you sleep and live more at ease. Class includes lecture, gentle yoga postures, breath work, and self-enquiry. Bring your mat and writing materials.

FOOD IS CULTURE

Date: Ongoing till February 19 **Venue:** Bahrain National Museum

Following a successful first edition last year, Food is Culture returns as a two month collaboration between artists, chefs, 'foodies' and experts discussing, creating and showcasing the link between Food, Art and Culture.

Join us at the Bahrain National Museum where 5 artists and 6 chefs from Bahrain have paired not only share their creative process but produce one of a kind creations of food and art to sayour with the audience!





2017 FORMULA 1 GULF AIR BAHRAIN GRAND PRIX

Date: April 14-16 **Venue**: Bahrain International Circuit (BIC)

Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) announced its highly anticipated launch of ticket sales for the 2017 Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix. Tickets are being sold with an 'Early Bird' discount of up to 20%. The offer is available only until January 27 and it covers tickets to BIC's Main Grandstand and Turn One Grandstand. There is also a 10% reduction on ticket prices to the Batelco Grandstand, University Grandstands and Victory Grandstands. Children aged 12 years old and younger can get their tickets for half the price. The Bahrain Grand Prix is set to be the third race on the Formula 1 calendar for 2017 and it will be the fourth Grand Prix hosted under floodlights in Sakhir. With the previous night races hailed as the most enthralling and actionpacked ever seen at "The Home of Motorsport in the Middle East", the exciting build up for next year's event has already begun. Tickets can be purchased online at www.bahraingp. com or by calling the BIC Hotline on +973-17-450000.



MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH AT BAHRAIN BAY KITCHEN

Date: March 17, 12:30pm to 3:30pm **Venue**: Four Seasons Hotel

Personalized giveaway will be prepared for all mothers during Mother's Day Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen. Reservations: +973 17115500

FRIDAY BRUNCH

Date: Every Friday from 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Venue: Four Seasons Hotel

Friday Brunch: The known lavish culinary offerings, including five unique food stations serving Arabic, Western, Indian, Japanese and Chinese delicacies. Reservations: +973 17115500

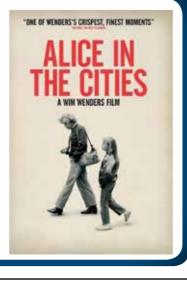
HIGHLIGHT ...

FILM: ALICE IN THE CITIES

Date: Wednesday 15th February 2017,7pm **Venue**: Bahrain Cinema Club

Alice in the Cities is a 1974 German road movie directed by Wim Wenders. This was the first part of Wenders' "Road Movie trilogy" which included The Wrong Move (1975) and Kings of the Road (1976). The film is shot in black and white by Robby Müller with several long scenes without dialogue. The film's theme foreshadows Wenders' later film Paris, Texas.

German journalist Philip Winter has a case of writer's block when trying to write an article about the United States. He decides to return to Germany, and while trying to book a flight, encounters a German woman and her nine year old daughter Alice doing the same. The three become friends (almost out of necessity) and while the mother asks Winter to mind Alice temporarily, it quickly becomes apparent that Alice will be his responsibility for longer than he expected. After returning to Europe, the innocent friendship between Winter and Alice grows as they travel together through various European cities on a quest for Alice's grandmother.



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SEALED QUOTATIONS ARE INVITED

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METHOD

- Put the onion, garlic, ginger, chillies and coriander stalks in a small food processor and blitz to a paste.
- Heat a large, non-stick frying pan over a medium heat. Add the cashews and toast for 1-2 mins until light golden. Set aside and return the pan to the heat. Add the oil and stir-fry the paste for 5 mins to soften. Add the garam ala and cook for a further 2 mins.
- Add the tomatoes and stock to the pan. Mix well, then tip into a blender with the cashews and blitz until smooth. Return to the pan.

CHEF CORNER CASHEW CURRY

season and bring to the boil, then lower to a

- Cook for 30 mins until the sauce has thickened then add the chicken, cover with a lid and simmer for another 15 mins, until the chicken is cooked through. Add the yogurt and cream (if using), and stir well to make a
- Scatter with the coriander leaves and serve with the greens

INGREDIENTS

- 1 small onion, chopped 3-4 garlic cloves
- 3-4 garlic cloves thumb-sized piece
- ginger, peeled and roughly chopped 3 green chillies, deseeded small pack coriander, leaves picked and stalk roughly chopped 100a unsalted cashews
- 2 tbsp coconut oil 1½ tbsp garam masala 400g can chopped
- tomatoes 450ml chicken stock 3 large chicken breasts (about 475g), any visible fat removed, chopped
- into chunks 155g fat-free Greek yogurt 10ml single cream (optional)
- 165g boiled or steamed greens (choose from spinach, kale, runner beans, asparagus or broccoli)

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BAHRAIN AIRPORT COMPANY wishes to invite proposals for the following Public Tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Tender Doc. Fees	Initial Bond	Tender Closing	
				Day/ Date	Time
Provision of Sewerage System Cleaning and Cesspit Emptying Services at Bahrain International Airport	BAC/FMI/32/2016	BD 15 non- refundable	BD 500	Monday 13 March 2017	1:30 pm

- Companies with the required experience are kindly requested to collect the appropriate tender documents between Tuesday 14th February 2017 and Tuesday 21st February 2017 at Bahrain Airport Company (Building 124, Road 2403, Muharraq 224 Gulf Air Building 1st Floor Wing B) - Procurement Department Tel: 17353286, 17353296 during the following working hours (8:00am - 2:00pm) after payment of tender fees specified above.
- Deposit each Tender Submission in the tender box provided at the Bahrain Airport Company, Procurement Department on the above closing date before 01:30 pm. Along with an initial bond for the amount specified above or at the rate of 1% of the quotation value whichever amount is the lesser provided that no initial Bond's value shall be less than BD 500/-, in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents
- Articles of the Decree by Law No. 36 for 2002, regarding the regulation of Government Tenders and Purchases, together with its executive regulations issued in Decree No. 37 for 2002, must be observed www.tenderboard.gov.bh
- The following conditions must also be observed:
 - Enclose a copy of the Commercial Registration Certificate for the current year, which must include the Tender Subject as one of its activities.
 - 2 Submit their Proposed Minimum Annual Guarantee and Proposed Fee Percentage (according to conditions) as per the criteria outlined.
 - Enclose a copy of a valid Certificate of Compliance with the Employment Percentage for Bahraini Manpower issued by Ministry of Labour.
 - All documents submitted as part of the tender (original or copies) must bear the stamp of the bidding Company / Establishment
 - The submitted application shall be in the arrangement of one original hard copy and two electronic copies (pdf format).
- This advertisement is considered as complementary to the Tender Documents.



TENDER

Kingdom of Bahrain

Bahrain Authority for Culture & Antiquities Directorate Of Human Resources & Finance



The Directorate of Human & Financial Resources invites quotations for the following tender:

Tender Title	Tender No.	Initial Bond	Tender Fees	Closing Date		
				Day	Date	Time
Regular Maintenance of Archaeological Sites	02/2017	1000	50	Wednesday	01 Mar 2017	13:30

- Those who are Capable and want to participate in the above tender (whom Licensed to practice engineering professions by the organizing committee of the engineering professions in Bahrain) has to call the Administration Services Section (Tel: 17299878) or (17299876) or (17299875) or (17298734) during the working hours; and log in the website (https://etendering.tenderboard.gov.bh) to purchase the documents using the company's user name and password, on 14/02/2017 and to Enclose with his offer the Initial Bond for the amount specified above, or at the rate of 1% of the tender value whichever amount is lesser, provided that no initial bonds value shall be less than BD. 100/- .The initial bond should be in the form of a Certified Cheque, Bank Guarantee, cash or Insurance Policy valid for the duration specified in the tender documents.
- For assistance in using the website mentioned above, participants can call help desk (17566617) or (17566641).
- Offers should be deposited in the tender box provided at Tendering submission office, Tender Board's Office at Al Moayeed Tower, Seef Area, (7th Floor).
- This tender/Auction should comply to the provisions of the General Tenders Regulations, no. (36) for the year 2002, and it's executive Regulations No. (37) for the year 2002.
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 - Form no. (TB 02) is to be filled completely, mentioning the Total Tender Value and Unit Price (accordingly).
 - Enclose a certificate of compliance with the employment percentages for Bahraini manpower issued by the Ministry of Labour.
 - All tender documents (Original / Copy) which has been submitted with the offers should be stamped with the companie's Stamp.
- This advertisement is considered to be a supplementary to the Tender Documents.



San Francisco

Almost 200,000 people were under evacuation orders in northern California yesterday after damage to the overflow channel of the tallest dam in the United States raised fears the spillway could collapse.

The reservoir of the Oroville Dam, located 75 miles north of the state capital Sacramento, had been completely full after several weeks of heavy rain.

The 770-foot (235-meter) dam itself was not in danger of collapse, the California Department of Water Resources said, but there were major fears over the emergency spillway due to erosion damage on its concrete top after water began pouring over it on Saturday.

Authorities were releasing 100,000 cubic feet of water per second from the main spillway, bringing down the level of reservoir so that there was no flow into the emergency channel, said Department of Water Resources spokesman Doug Carlson.

Although the immediate threat had passed, the evacuation order remained in place as authorities evaluated the state of not just the auxillary spillway but also the concrete-lined main spillway, which was damaged as well with a large gash caused by recent heavy volume.

"Now that there is no more water going over the emergency spillway, though it brings stability to the situation, there are still a lot of unknowns," said Butte County Sheriff Kory Honea.

About 188,000 people in downstream communities had been ordered yesterday to flee as water was still gushing over the top of the auxiliary spillway.

In a Facebook post ordering the "immediate evacuation" of low-lying areas of the city of Oroville as well as downstream communities, the Butte County Sheriff's department warned that a "hazardous situation is developing with the Oroville Dam auxiliary spillway."

"Failure of the auxiliary spillway structure will result in an uncontrolled release of flood waters.," it said.

To the south, Yuba County also ordered residents to move to safety. -(*AFP*)

#PollToday



Has Bahrain unsettled weather affected your daily life?

\(\) Yes \(\) No \(\) Can't Say



The N.Korea leadership must return to full compliance with its international obligations and to the path of denuclearization

Antonio Guterres

Rest in sight

Doctors prepare world's heaviest woman for surgery



Indian doctors put an Egyptian believed to be the world's heaviest woman on a special liquid diet as they prepared her for an emergency weight-loss operation.

Alleged murder plot shakes Georgian Orthodox Church

Georgia's Orthodox Church was rocked yesterday after police announced the arrest of a priest over a suspected poisoning plot targeting a high-ranking Church figure.

Hammer murder surgeon jailed for life in Australia

A former surgeon who bludgeoned to death five relatives with a "hammer-like object" was jailed for life yesterday, for one of Australia's most ferocious killings.

Dozen dead in intercommunal clashes in Mali

A dozen people were killed in clashes between herders and farmers from separate ethnic groups over the weekend in central Mali, as jihadist tensions drive conflict in rural communities.

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Avalanche kills at least four in French Alps

Lvon

Rescuers searching for victims at the avalanche

At least four people died in the French Alps yesterday when an avalanche engulfed nine people who were in an off-piste area near the ski resort of Tignes, rescue services said.

"Five people are still buried under a huge mass of snow," said a rescue official from nearby Albertville.

The rescue workers initially said they had found two people dead and two alive, but later reported four dead.

The police said the two

people found alive appeared to have died shortly after being rescued.

The avalanche, some 400 metres (yards) wide, was apparently set off by a group of skiers higher up, the ski station said in a statement.

Two helicopters, rescue workers and sniffer dogs were searching for those missing, in the worst accident in France since the start of this year's ski season.

The accident near Tignes, a major resort near the Italian border, occurred at an altitude of 2.100 metres.

Sri Lanka arrests 550 army deserters in clean-up act

Colombo

Sri Lanka arrested nearly 550 soldiers in a single day as it reins in the mass desertion that's plagued the armed forces since the end of the civil war, an official said yesterday.

The military has been pursuing nearly 43,000 deserters who refused to voluntarily turn themselves in under a government amnesty designed to clean up the ranks.

Arrests have begun in earnest since the grace period expired in December, ending

any hope soldiers had of avoiding a court martial.

The mass apprehension of 546 soldiers during a sweep on Thursday was "the largest ever", said brigadier Roshan Seneviratne.

"Those who surrendered during the one-month amnesty period could either rejoin the service or be legally discharged," he added.

Sri Lanka's army, navy and airforce have a combined strength of just over 275,000 personnel, but desertion has been a serious problem throughout its history.

School students protest Valentine's Day fete

Surabaya

Indonesian school students staged a protest yesterday against Valentine's Day, denouncing what they said was a Western celebration.

While teenagers in many countries treat the day as an occasion to declare love for their classmates, in the Indonesian city of Surabaya it was a different story as students from one school held a noisy demonstration.

"Say no to Valentine!" chanted the students, who were aged between 13 and 15.

"This protest was organised as we have seen on television that Valentine's Day tends to be associated with foreign



culture," said Pandu Satria, organiser of the demonstration that was attended by scores of students. "That makes us afraid."

Ida Indahwati Waliulu, headmaster of the school, added: "There is a certain pride about this positive action carried out by the students."

UN to meet after N. Korea claims successful test

Seou

The UN Security Council is to hold an urgent meeting after North Korea announced it had successfully tested a new ballistic missile, a launch seen as a challenge to President Donald Trump.

The North's leader Kim Jong-Un "expressed great satisfaction over the possession of another powerful nuclear attack means which adds to the tremendous might of the country", state news agency KCNA said.

Security Council members China and Russia joined a chorus of criticism of Sunday's launch by the



nuclear-armed nation.

Photos released by KCNA showed the missile blasting into the sky with a smiling Kim watching from the command centre, and surrounded by dozens of soldiers and scientists.







Sameer Abbas **DT News Network** Manama

CC defeated Public Security Bahrain by 78 runs in the HBL Premier league organised by Cricket Bahrain Association (CBA) at the Hunainiya Valley Grounds in Riffa.

Batting first, BCC notched up 229 runs with Wasif Iqbal (60) top scoring and Hamad claiming three



Noor ul Sheikh



Sarfraz Ali

wickets

In reply, Public Security fell short of the target on 151 despite a fine effort by Rafeey Mohammed (64).

In another match, BCC A defeated ABM Climax by 93 runs after scoring 207 runs thanks to a fine knock by Sarfraz Ali (79).

In reply, ABM Climax were restricted to 114 with Sameer Abbas picking up four wickets.



Rafeey Mohammed



Wasif Iqbal

Other results:

1. Public Security Red 175/8 (Umar Iqbal 61, Imtiaz Mubarak 3 wkts) bt Lanka Lions 174 (Denver 54, Zulfiqar Ali 4 wkts) by two wickets.

2. Young Boys 186 (Adnan Rasool 48, Abdul Salam 3 wkts) bt Titans 120 (Khaja

3. Indian Club 144/2 (Noor ul Sheikh 57) bt Asian Lions 143 (Ramzan 50) by 8 wkts.

Sam Hobday crowned **Muscat Open champion**

DT News Network Manama

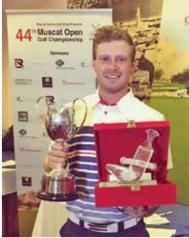
ong time Bahrain resident and Royal Golf Club Member Sam Hobday was crowned the winner of the 44th Muscat Open, the Sultanate of Oman, at the weekend.

Hobday, who is competing on the MENA Golf Tour this season, carded a respectable score of 73 on day one of the 36-hole tournament and then went on to set a new championship course record score of 70 on the second day, giving him a combined gross score of

Defending champion Yaseen Le Falher (147), who is also a long time Bahrain resident and young Royal Golf Club Member, clinched the runners up spot while Bahrain national golf team player Nasser Yaqoob (153) came

Bahrain golfers dominated the gross division, which was hosted by Ras Al Hamra Golf Club.

"It's wonderful to see two of our



Sam Hobday

young players doing so well over in Oman," commented Phil Waine, the Royal Golf Club's Director of Golf.

Both have been receiving regular tuition from our PGA Teaching Professionals for a number of years and obviously all their hard work.

British Club closer to victory

Aidan Payne/DTNN aidan@dt.bh

Manama

British Club A took a big step towards regaining the DHL Bahrain Expatriate Netball League title following a comprehensive 26-17 victory on Sunday evening over two-time defending champions Rugby Club A in a rearranged Division A match at the Bahrain Rugby Football Club in Saar.

Players of the match were goal shooter Claire Van Minen for the British Club and goal attach Sheron Hujair for Rugby Club.

The win for the British Club means after three matches in the roundrobin second phase, the British Club three and finishing on nine points, Rugby Club A came in second on seven points, followed by Dilmun Club A (4) in third and British Club B (2) fourth.

The semi-finals are scheduled for 28 February at the Bahrain Rugby Football Club, with British Club A taking on Dilmun Club A and Rugby Club A facing off with British Club

In Division B, Dilmun Club B (nine points) lead the standings after three wins from three in the second phase, followed by Sri Lanka Club (7), Rugby Club B (5) third, Dilmun C (5) fourth, British Club C (5) fifth and St Christopher's

Sparsh Parmer wins quarters

Aidan Payne/DTNN Aidan@dt.bh

Heavy rains allowed only the completion of three matches and a further three were suspended and fourth others postponed on the third day of the 22nd Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait (BBK) Juniors Open Tennis Championship 2017 yesterday at the Bahrain Tennis Club (BTC) premises

In the quarter finals of the Boys singles 12 years and under, the top seed Sparsh Parmar was a 6-0, 6-4 straight sets winner against Vineesh Mittal, second seed Sai Raghav Balakrishnan eased past Ervin Godinho 6-4, 6-2 and Abdulla Nass got the better of Fares Hajjar 6-3, 6-1.



The remaining quarter final is set for today at 4.30pm between Mohammed Al Shehabi and Mohammed Kamran. Three matches were suspended due to the rain, in the semi-finals of the Girls singles 18 years and under Sai Rama Balakrishnan was leading 5-4 against top seed Manni Zhang, while Nazley Nader was 15-0 up in the opening game of the first set against second seed Aleina Alex.

In the semi-finals of the Boys singles 14 years and under, top seed Isa Al Essa and Anshuman Sonawane were tied at 30-30 in the opening game. The quarter finals of the Girls singles 14 years and under, all washed out and will be played from 4pm

Meanwhile, BTC is organising a tennis competition from 6pm followed by dinner for members and their guests to celebrate the 16th anniversary of the National Action Charter Day.

Al Anasari leads Bapco bowling first round



Standings (after 6 games)

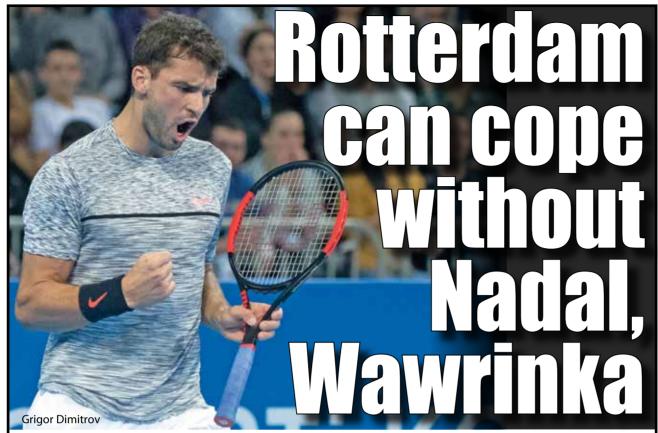
- 1. Yaseen Al Ansari (1,378 pins)
- 2. Essa Akbar (1,330)
- 3. Ebrahim Abdulla (1,308)
- 4. Meteb Mubarak (1 256)
- 5. Hassan A. Oaeid (1,241)
- 6. Abdul Aziz Al Madani (1,218)
- 7. Nabeel Al Obaidli (1,214)
- 8. Abdul A. Al Bu Falah (1,210)
- 9. Abdulla Al Aadi (1,179) 10. Ali Al Heloo (1,130)
- 11. Abdulla M.Abbas (1,093)
- 12. Khaled Abdulla (1,025)

aseen Al Ansari (1,378 pins) leads in the Bapco Interdepartmental Bowling first round of the Master Tournament with H/C at the Ozone Centre in Sitra Mall Essa Akbar (1,330) clinches second place with Ebrahim Abdulla (1,308) in a healthy third position.

Each player played six of their opponents with the winner receiving a 10 pin bonus, while a draw was worth a 5 pin bonus for both players.

This each player plays the five remaining opponents and one game on their own to complete the 12 games.

The top five will qualify for the step ladder, with fifth playing fourth, the winner then goes on to play third, followed by the winner taking on second place.



Rotterdam

Rotterdam World Tennis boss Richard Krajicek said the entries of weekend title-winners Alexander Zverev and Grigor Dimitrov would soften the box office blow after Rafael Nadal and Stan Wawrinka withdrew due to injury.

The indoor showpiece was left to feature former US Open winner Marin Cilic as top seed, with the 2014 finalist at the Ahoy stadium starting his current campaign against quirky Frenchman Benoit Paire on Tuesday.

The seventh-ranked Cilic aims to escape a run of bad

luck which handed him second-round defeats at his last three events in Chennai, the Australian Open and Montpellier.

Krajicek, the 1996 Wimbledon winner, said that the presence of highly-rated German teenager Zverev and Bulgarian Dimitrov, who is 14-1 this season, was a stroke of fortune for his audience.

Both of the young guns claimed titles at the weekend, with Zverev winning in Montpellier over Richard Gasquet while Dimitrov beat Belgian David Goffin at home in Sofia.

"Zverev's here. Dimitrov is

here and they both won titles," Krajicek told local media. "There are a lot of good players, highly ranked, in our field. We are all assuming Zverev (now into the top 20) will soon be in the top 10."

Fourth-seeded Czech Tomas Berdych was the only seed on stage for Monday's opening day, with the number four facing Romanian qualifier Marius Copil.

"I'm trying to bring more consistency to my serve and make it more unpredictable," Berdych said in the tournament run-up. "That would be good for me - not for the others.

"I'm also trying to come to the net a bit more," he said as he works under a coaching relationship from last season with 2001 Wimbledon champion Goran Ivanisevic.

In the first round, Frenchman Pierre-Hugues Herbert booked the first of the second-round spots, beating Spanish veteran Feliciano Lopez 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (7/5).

The tournament also lost Spanish seventh seed Roberto Bautista Agut, who was replaced by lucky loser Denis Istomin, the Uzbek who knocked Novak Djokovic out in the Australian Open second round. (*AFP*)

Pick my opponent, Pacquiao asks fans

Manil

anny Pacquiao yesterday asked his legions of *Twitter* followers to choose his opponent after announcing his next world title defence will be in the United Arab Emirates.

"See you in UAE for my next fight. #TeamPacquiao" the WBO world welterweight champion tweeted, appearing to scupper reports that he would next fight Australia's Jeff Horn in Brisbane in April.

Pacquiao then posted a poll on his official *Twitter* feed asking his 108,000 followers to choose either Horn, Terence Crawford, Amir Khan or Kell Brook as his next opponent in the UAE.

The poll had received more than 10,000 votes by yesterday morning. A spokesman for Pacquiao said he was due to meet his manager Michael Koncz later yesterday and a statement about his next fight would be issued.

Pacquiao's promoter Bob

Arum had been widely quoted last month in international media as saying that the boxing icon would be getting into the ring with the unbeaten Australian Horn in April and the Queensland tourism minister said they were in negotiations to host the bout.

But Pacquiao, 38, posted on his social media accounts that he would be fighting instead in the Middle East and seemed to indicate that while his opponent could still be Horn it could also be one of three other world-class boxers -- American Crawford or Britons Khan or Brook.

Reports of a bout between Pacquiao and Horn had begun circulating last month but the Filipino southpaw said contracts had not been signed.

"We are still negotiating about that. Nothing is really final, the date, who is the opponent. There are a lot of offers from other countries," Pacquiao said last month. (*AFP*)



Spieth rolls to four-stroke win

San Francisco

Two-time major champion Jordan Spieth fired a bogey-free two-under par 70 Sunday to win the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am and capture his ninth career US PGA Tour title.

The 23-year-old American birdied the second and second-to-last holes in the final round at Pebble Beach Golf Links, the only course used Sunday after three layouts were played over the tournament's first three rounds. Spieth finished on 19-under par 268, having

seized a six-stroke lead after 54 holes with back-to-back 65s Friday and Saturday that allowed him to cruise to a fourstroke triumph over fellow American Kelly Kraft.

"It's unbelievable. We had just a fantastic weekend," Spieth said. "I hit 17 greens today. It was just kind of a dream round when you are leading by a bunch. Finally got one to go in at 17."

In his 100th career PGA event, Spieth birdied the par-5 second hole after reaching the green in two shots and tapping

in and then made 14 pars before sinking a 30-foot birdie putt at the par-3 17th.

"Î kept saying, 'I don't like playing boring golf,'"
Spieth said. "But that's what was needed today and that's how we closed it out."

Spieth, who won the 2015
Masters and US
Open, captured his first title of the year and became the first player 23-or-under to win by three or more shots five times.

Only 14-time major winner
Tiger Woods has won nine PGA titles at a younger age, about a month quicker than Spieth, who also became the second-youngest Pebble Beach champion after compatriot John Cook in 1981. (AFP)



Estrella celebrates three in a row in Quito

Ouito

ominica's Victor Estrella, 36, won his third successive Quito ATP title on Sunday with a 6-7 (2/7), 7-5, 7-6 (8/6) victory over 35-year-old Paolo Lorenzi of Italy.

Estrella, ranked 156 in the world, needed more than two and a half hours to defeat world 46 Lorenzi.

The Ecuador tournament has given Estrella all three of

his career titles.

"It's a great achievement for me to win three titles here. The recipe for my success here will be revealed when I retire. I'll play in Quito every year until I retire," said Estrella who saved a match point in the final set tiebreak

"Without any doubt, this final has been the toughest. Paolo doesn't give away anything because he is a great fighter." (AFP)



SCORES

268 - Jordan Spieth 68-65-65-70

272 - Kelly Kraft 69-70-66-67

273 - Dustin Johnson 70-69-66-68

274 - Brandt Snedeker 68-69-67-70

275 - Gary Woodland 70-73-67-65, Jason Day (AUS) 69-64-75-67, Jon Rahm (ESP) 73-67-67-68

278 - Noh Seung-Yul (KOR) 68-71-69-70, Rob Oppenheim 69-69-68-72

279 - Cameron Percy (AUS) 73-66-71-69, Kevin Kisner 72-67-71-69, Nick Taylor (CAN) 70-70-68-71, Mackenzie Hughes (CAN) 70-70-68-71



Joe Root

Lyon keeper banned over shirt antics **Anthony Lopes**

goalkeeper Anthony Lopes will miss Sunday's visit of Dijon in Ligue 1 with a one-match ban for scribbling out the name of arch rivals Saint-Etienne on his jersey.

Teams in this year's French Cup are wearing special commemorative shirts to mark the 100th anniversary of the competition, with each featuring the names of all the former winners.

But during Lyon's 2-1 extra-time defeat at Marseille in the last 32 last month, television cameras showed Portugal international Lopes had crossed out the reference to six-time champions Saint-Etienne.

Not only did the stunt fall foul of the French federation, but Lyon then finished with nine men in a 2-0 loss to Saint-Etienne in an ill-tempered Rhone derby five days later. (AFP)

Cristiano Ronaldo injury scare for Napoli clash

ristiano Ronaldo trained apart from the team yesterday just two days ahead of Real Madrid's Champions League last 16 home leg against Napoli.



The Portuguese goal machine with a record 96 Champions League strikes to his name suffered a heavy tackle in a 3-1 win over Osasuna at the weekend.

And as the rest of the Real Madrid squad trained on ball skills Monday "Ĉristiano Ronaldo and Fabio Coentrão trained inside the facilities' the Real website reported. Ronaldo suffered a knock to his right leg, according to press reports, adding he was expected to shake off the injury in time to play Wednesday.

On a happier note Welsh forward Gareth Bale took full part in training Monday, looking fresh, sharp and upbeat after three months out with a heel injury.

Bale will take no part in tomorrow's game but could well be back in the line up for the February

22 return leg in Naples.(AFP)

ROOttakes Charge

oe Root has been named as the new Test captain of England, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced yesterday.

Yorkshire batsman Root, previously England's vice-captain, had been the overwhelming favourite to take over from Alastair Cook, who resigned as Test skipper last week after a national record 59 matches in charge.

Root, who made his England debut under Cook, is now widely regarded as England's leading batsman.

"It is a huge honour to be given the England Test captaincy," the 26-year-old Root said in an ECB statement. "I feel privileged, humbled and very excited." The ECB added all-rounder Ben Stokes

would succeed Root as vice-captain of the

Cook, England's all-time leading Test run-scorer, is set to continue his England career, with Root also able to call upon the experience of senior fast bowlers James Anderson and Stuart Broad, as well as coach Trevor Bayliss.

"We have a very good group of players, and I'm looking forward to leading them out in the summer -- building on Alastair's achievements and making the most of our talents in the years ahead," said

"The senior guys in the changing room play a very influential role -- and while there's a natural progression for me, it's a huge support to know that they are there to help and advise."

Root will have several months to prepare for his first match as captain given England's next Test does not start until July 6, when they face South Africa at Lord's.

England will be looking to bounce back after a difficult 2016 in Test cricket, with Cook resigning following a 4-0 series defeat in India at the end of last year.

Prior to the South Africa series, England's programme will consist solely of limited overs fixtures, including June's Champions Trophy one-day tournament on home soil

Last week, Strauss made it clear he wanted Eoin Morgan to remain as England's one-day and Twenty20 captain. (AFP)



Gunners'

'Bayern

must raise

game for

Evergreen Arjen Robben says Bayern Munich must raise their game for tomorrow's key Champions League clash against Arsenal with time running out for him to again lift the

European trophy.

The 33-year-old scored Bayern's winning goal in the 2013 final at Wembley to seal the 2-1 victory over Borussia Dortmund.

He has a Bayern contract until June 2018, but time is running out for the injury-prone Dutch winger to get his hands on the Champions League trophy again.

"I am happy to play Bayern one more year," he said in January after signing a one-year extension.

"The team is one of the best in the world."

After winning the English and Spanish league titles at Chelsea and Real Madrid respectively, Robben has been with Bayern since 2009, lifting the Bundesliga trophy on five occasions and the German Cup four times. (AFP)

Daris Saint-Germain host Barcelona in the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie today with their Spanish coach Unai Emery desperate to improve his awful personal record against

Emery was brought to the French capital last year as the successor to Laurent Blanc in order to help take PSG to the next level in Europe after four consecutive quarter-final exits in the Champions League.

But finishing second in their group behind Arsenal exposed PSG to a tougher draw in the first knockout round and now they must beat the Spanish champions -- the second leg will be at the Camp Nou next month -- just to make it to the last eight again.

Paris, meanwhile, have been knocked out of the Champions League by Barcelona twice in recent campaigns, losing in the quarter-finals in 2013 and again in 2015 to Lionel Messi, Neymar and co.

"For me this is a good opportunity," Emery told reporters at the Parc des Princes on Monday.

There is certainly a new-found confidence at the Parc des Princes after a fine start to 2017 which has seen them win 10 and draw one of their last 11 games in all competitions. (AFP)





Hvderabad

India issued a battle cry to Australia yesterday as they wrapped up a comprehensive 208-run victory over Bangladesh after a devastating

BRIEF SCORE

India 687 for 6 dec. (Kohli 204, Vijay 108, Saha 106*, Taijul 3-156) and 159 for 4 dec. (Pujara 54*) beat Bangladesh 388 (Mushfigur 127, Umesh 3-84) and 250 (Mahmudullah 64, Ashwin 4-73, Jadeja 4-78) by 208 runs

display of spin bowling by Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeia

Chasing 459 for victory on the final day of their first Test on Indian soil, Bangladesh were bowled out for 250 in an extended afternoon session after stubborn resistance from their lower order.

Ashwin and Jadeja shared eight second innings wickets to help India extend their record unbeaten run to 19 Tests and leave them in prime form for

a series against arch rivals Australia later this month.

India skipper Virat Kohli, man of the match for his 204 in the first innings, paid tribute to Bangladesh for their fighting performance but made clear that his thoughts had already turned to Australia.

"Everyone's minds and hearts are on that series and we are keen to start the first Test," said Kohli after seeing off Bangladesh in Hyderabad.

Australia, currently number two in the Test rankings, land in Mumbai on Monday for a four-Test series against Kohli's top-ranked team.

Kohli, second only to Australian skipper Steve Smith in the batting rankings, will go into the series in red-hot form after hitting his fourth double century since July.

The Indian skipper said he had been making sure that he does "not get ahead of myself" but acknowledged that he was in top form -- albeit in understated fashion.

Yesterday's result had appeared in little doubt after Bangladesh had been set such a massive total in their second innings and the tourists began the final day on 103-3.

Mahmudullah shrugged off poor form to register his 13th Test 50 while young spinner Mehedi Hasan made a gutsy 61-ball 23 to delay the inevitable against the world's number Test side.

But the match ended when Ashwin, who in his 45th Test had become the fastest bowler to claim 250 Test wickets on Sunday, trapped Taskin Ahmed lbw to finish with figures of four for 73. (AFP)



