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The Arab Answer



HM the King with Egypt President Abdel Fattah El Sisi. (AFP)



● Heads of state and high-ranking officials from across Arab world arrive

● Palestinian-Israeli conflict expected to dominate discussions

HM King, HRH Prince Salman welcome Arab leaders for today's 33rd Arab Summit



HRH Prince Salman welcomes Jordan's HM King Abdulla II. (AFP)

Leaders of the Arab world are gathering today in Manama for the 33rd regular session of the Arab Summit. The world is watching keenly to know the answers of the Arab world to key issues affecting the region, including the Palestinian cause

TDT | Manama

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, yesterday welcomed top regional leaders to the Kingdom of Bahrain for today's important 33rd Arab Summit.

Among those in attendance were heads of state and high-ranking officials from across the Arab world, reflecting the significance of this gathering for the region.

HM the King received Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El Sisi at Al Sakhir Palace. Earlier, HRH Prince Salman welcomed President El Sisi and His Majesty King Abdulla II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan upon arrival at the airport.

HM the King and HRH Prince Salman wished Their Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, leaders of the Arab countries, success in achieving the objectives of serving the Arab nation and promoting peace, security and stability in the region.

HM King Hamad reaffirmed Bahrain's

commitment to advancing Arab unity and solidarity.

The presence of top regional leaders set the stage for today's summit proceedings, where critical issues such as regional security, economic development, and political reform are expected to be addressed.

With leaders convening to address pressing challenges and explore opportunities for collaboration, the 33rd Arab Summit promises to be a significant milestone in shaping the future of the Arab world.

Geopolitical landscape

The agenda for the Summit encompasses a wide range of topics reflecting the complex geopolitical landscape of the Middle East.

Key issues expected to dominate discussions include the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, counterterrorism efforts, economic development, and political reforms.

Amidst ongoing conflicts and tensions in the region, discussions on regional security are likely to take center stage.

Leaders will address the threats posed

by terrorism, extremism, and foreign intervention, while exploring avenues for enhancing collective security measures and strengthening intra-Arab cooperation.

Focal point

The enduring Palestinian-Israeli conflict remains a focal point of Arab Summit deliberations. Leaders are expected to reaffirm their support for the Palestinian cause, denounce Israeli aggression and occupation, and explore diplomatic avenues for advancing a just and lasting solution to the conflict.

In light of the economic challenges facing many Arab nations, discussions on economic development and diversification are expected to feature prominently.

Leaders will explore strategies for promoting sustainable growth, fostering innovation, and addressing socio-economic disparities within the region.

The Arab Summit provides an opportunity for leaders to address calls for political reforms and greater democratisation within their respective countries.

Discussions on political inclusivity,



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, with Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas. (AFP)

human rights, and governance are likely to reflect evolving dynamics across the Arab world.

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Commemorative stamp for HM King's 25th anniversary

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The Ministry of Transport and Communications has announced the issuance of a special commemorative stamp on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the assumption of the important historical occasion in the country's march.

The memorial stamp is characterized by a unique design bearing the slogan of the silver jubilee, and the image of HM the King to contribute to the efforts to document this auspicious march, which was established by His Majesty.

The memorial stamp is scheduled to be placed at all post offices distributed in various governorates and at the Post Museum, where it can be acquired and retained by the public as a valuable souvenir



reflecting the important historical era of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

This special version will be available for a limited time, and those wishing to acquire it should go to the mentioned sites within the official working hours from 7 a.m. to two in the afternoon, and for more information, please visit our website www.mtt.gov.bh.



Morocco Prime Minister Aziz Akhannouch with HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa

'We're with you'

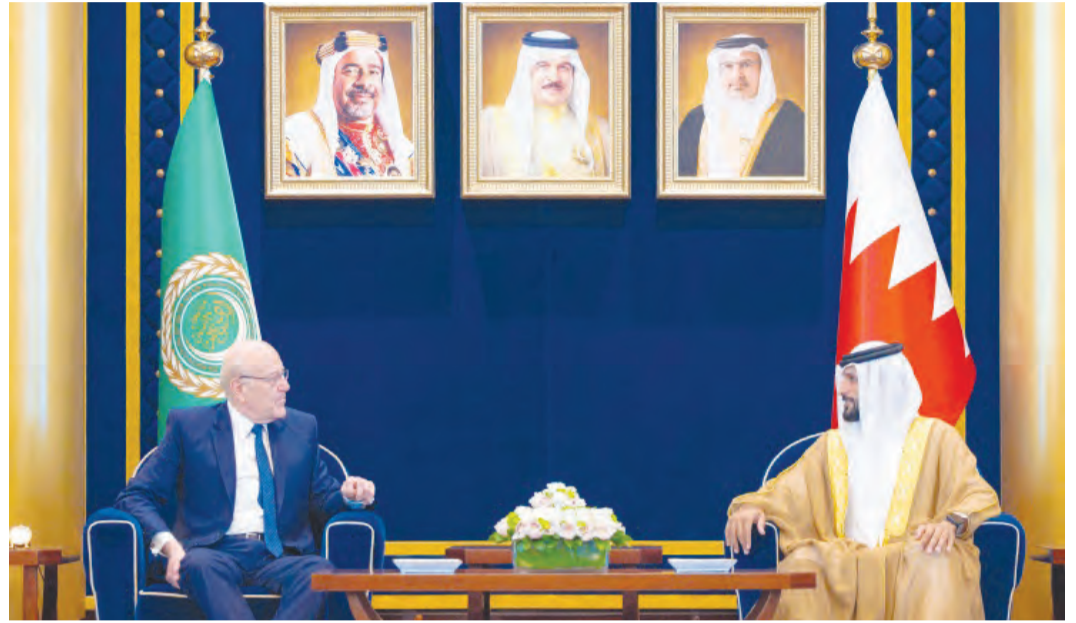
Arab leaders arrive in Bahrain for 'summit of unity' and to tackle regional challenges

TDT | Manama

Distinguished leaders from across the Arab world arrived yesterday in the Kingdom of Bahrain, setting the stage for today's 33rd Arab Summit, poised to address pressing regional challenges and foster greater cooperation among neighboring countries.

The arrival of the heads of state and high-ranking officials signals a powerful message of solidarity and unity, with Bahrain extending a warm welcome to its fellow Arab nations.

Amidst a backdrop of regional turmoil and ongoing conflicts, the summit serves as a beacon of hope for collective action and dialogue aimed at advancing peace, stability, and prosperity in the Middle East.



His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, HM the King's Representative for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, with Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, led the royal reception, greeting leaders with gestures of hospitality and camaraderie.

Solidarity and support

As leaders touched down on Bahraini soil, they were met with expressions of solidarity and assurances of support from the host nation, reinforcing the bonds of brotherhood and cooperation that unite Arab nations.

They come together to confront complex challenges facing the Arab world. From the enduring Palestinian-Israeli conflict to regional security threats and economic instability, the agenda for the Summit is vast and multifaceted.

Among the notable attendees are heads of state and high-ranking officials representing a di-

verse array of Arab nations, each bringing their unique perspectives and priorities to the table.

Dialogue and cooperation

Their presence underscores the shared commitment to dialogue and cooperation in addressing common challenges and advancing mutual interests.

Throughout the summit, lead-

ers will engage in frank and constructive discussions aimed at forging consensus on key issues impacting the region.

From strengthening security cooperation to promoting economic development and addressing humanitarian crises, the summit promises to be a forum for meaningful dialogue and strategic collaboration.



Libya President Mohamed Al Menfi with HH Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa



The Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Dr. Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, meets the UN Secretary-General



Congratulations and Best Wishes to

His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

on the occasion of Bahrain's hosting of the 33rd Arab Summit and a warm welcome to

Their Majesties, Excellencies and Highnesses, Leaders of the Sisterly Arab countries, to the event.



YOU
KNOW WHAT

With leaders converging in Bahrain, the 33rd Arab Summit offers a pivotal opportunity to chart a course towards a more peaceful, prosperous, and interconnected future for the Arab world.



United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres with H.E. Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, the Advisor to His Majesty the King for Diplomatic Affairs

Strokes of solidarity

Artist Mai Alkaabi showcases strong women of Palestine through painting

Zahra Ayaz
TDT | Manama

Local artist Mai Alkaabi is using her paintings to showcase the strength and resilience of women in Palestine, while also expressing her support for the Palestinian cause.

In an interview with The Daily Tribune, Mai explained her motivation behind her artwork, stating, "As an artist, I find it to be my duty to speak about humanitarian issues using my brush. Historically, art has always been a medium that was utilized to address such matters."

Mai emphasised the plight of women and children, who have been the most affected by the ongoing conflicts in Palestine.

"Women and children have always been the majority affected in Palestine, with over 20,000 of them being impacted since October 7th," she said. "As a woman myself, it felt natural to have the protagonist in my paintings be a woman too."

Art has been a passion of Mai's

since childhood, and as she grew older, she realized that being an artist was about more than just creating aesthetically pleasing images.

History

"Art is about the history it captures, the statements it makes, and the emotions it conveys," she explained. "It became my mission to use my art to send a message and help people connect and feel heard. I can gladly say that my art has been influential in speaking about important topics, especially the Palestinian cause, and sharing it through various media channels."

When asked about the prevalence of women in her paintings, Mai responded, "I paint what I know best. As a woman myself, I am able to express diverse ideas through the women I paint. Women are usually seen as beautiful subjects and are often used as symbols of beauty



It became my mission to use my art to send a message and help people connect and feel heard. I can gladly say that my art has been influential in speaking about important topics, especially the Palestinian cause, and sharing it through various media channels

MAI ALKAABI, LOCAL ARTIST

in art, but we are more than just our looks.

"Women are the foundation of society and the lifeblood of humanity. I am proud to be a woman in a generation that recognizes the diverse roles of women, which makes me confident in the impact of my paintings in this day and age," she added.

Paintings

Mai's paintings have been exhibited and are available for purchase. She is currently participating in the Entrepreneurial Training Program Technical Qualification for Young Entre-

preneurs held by the Bahrain International Federation of Business & Professional Women at Al Andalus Center.

Her paintings for sale are displayed at Alandalus garden and AlFriedh Dar AlFonoon, where art enthusiasts can appreciate and support her work.

Mai Alkaabi's paintings not only celebrate the strength and resilience of Palestinian women but also serve as a reflection of the artist's dedication to raising awareness about the Palestinian cause and promoting dialogue through her art.



Mai Alkaabi's brilliant paintings shine a light on Palestinian women's strength



Bahraini legislators optimistic about united Arab action

Mohammed Darwish

TDT | Manama

Several Bahraini legislators have expressed that hosting the 33rd Arab Summit in Bahrain for the first time reaffirms the Kingdom's commitment to joint Arab action, solidarity, and cooperation.

The Kingdom's embrace of this event is a strategic play to bolster Arab capabilities to tackle the headwinds of regional and international challenges.

It is a philosophy championed by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, with the support of His Royal Highness Shaikh Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Hosting the Arab Summit also underscores the status and credibility that Bahrain enjoys in the Arab world.

The 33rd Arab Summit in Bahrain heralds a new dawn of unity and progress for the Arab world signalling a future where cooperation and solidarity are the cornerstones of a prosperous and stable region.

His Excellency Ahmed Al-Musallam, Speaker of the Council of Representatives, emphasised that the summit is exceptional and not merely a media appearance.

Considerable influence

He stressed that its statements and decisions will wield considerable influence on the global stage, particularly given the current sensitivity and unfolding events in Gaza.

"Bahrain has consistently



Speaker Ahmed Al-Musallam



Chairman Ali Al-Saleh



MP Redha Munfaredi



MP Ejlal Bubshait



MP Hesham Alqassab

been a trailblazer in the Arab world, actively seeking substantial solutions to the region's most pressing issues and beyond," Speaker Al-Musallam affirmed.

His Excellency Mr. Ali Al-Saleh, Chairman of the Shura Council, echoed these sentiments, commending Bahrain's remarkable track record of initiatives aimed at strengthening Arab efforts. These include the Kingdom's embrace of the Joint Arab Bourse project, His Majesty the King's initiative to establish an Arab court for human rights, and His Majesty the King's call to develop intra-Arab trade and achieve Arab economic integration.

Arab strategies

He further remarked, "Amidst the ongoing developments in Gaza, the summit will prioritise deliberations on the Palestinian plight, the quintessential Arab issue, as it remains a pivotal element for stability in the Arab territory. Furthermore, the discourse on collabo-

ration Arab strategies is crucial in mitigating external meddling in Arab nations' internal matters, and the unequivocal rejection of any support for the establishment of armed factions and militias beyond the jurisdiction of state entities is of utmost significance."

Shura Member Mr. Redha Munfaredi stated, "Selecting Bahrain as the host nation for the Arab Summit exemplifies a resolute commitment to peace as a cornerstone of strategic advancement, aimed at fostering Arab cooperation and solidarity across all domains."

He lauded Bahrain's distinguished reputation as an oasis of peace and its relentless efforts to propagate a culture of tolerance and coexistence among diverse religious and sectarian communities, a noble aspiration shared by all Arab nations.

Profound aspirations

Shura member Hesham Alqassab stated, "We have profound aspirations that the outcomes and resolutions of this summit will indelibly fortify joint Arab

cooperation across all domains, with particular emphasis on the economic arena. Through redoubled endeavours to refine our economic framework and augment joint Arab economic capabilities on both regional and international stages, we seek to usher in an era of unprecedented prosperity and development for all Arab peoples."

H.E. Ejlal Bubshait, member of the Shura Council, stated, "The prevailing challenges can only be surmounted through solidarity, prioritising the collective welfare above individual gains, and devising tangible, pragmatic solutions for implementation on the ground."

From kitchen to summit

TDT | Manama

Renowned Bahraini chef, Roya Saleh, has showcased the rich tapestry of Bahraini cuisine on the world stage as she took charge of crafting delectable dishes for the esteemed guests of the Kingdom of Bahrain at the 33rd Arab Summit.

Through captivating images shared on her Instagram account, Chef Saleh unveiled her pivotal role in curating the culinary offerings for the Summit, currently underway in the capital city of Manama.

Reflecting on her profound experience, Chef Saleh expressed her delight and honor in representing her beloved country's cuisine.

Chef Saleh said in a post on her Instagram account: "What a day, I was happy and honored to be present and represent the cuisine of my dear country in preparing and presenting the special menu for the Arab Summit in its 33rd session, which is currently being held in the capital of the Kingdom of Manama."

She emphasized her personal involvement in supervising the preparation of an exclusive menu featuring 100% Bahraini dishes, tailored specifically for the distinguished guests, including Foreign and Finance Ministers from Arab nations.

Praise

In a conversation with Al-Ayyam, Chef Saleh shared, "All ministers praised Bahraini cuisine and its quality, appreciating the distinctive flavors and textures presented."

The meticulously curated menu showcased iconic Bahraini delights such as harees, madrouba, thareed, tikka, al-musali, khabisa, luqaimat, shrimp kebabs, jareesh kibbeh, and Bahraini majboos.

Chef Saleh expressed her overarching goal of introduc-



Chef Roya Saleh shows a taste of Bahraini tradition

ing the Arab world to the unparalleled taste of Bahraini cuisine, which resonated profoundly with the esteemed guests.

"Our goal in all of this is to introduce the Arab world to the distinctive Bahraini cuisine and its good taste, and it was a successful experience, as all the Arab ministers expressed their admiration for the authentic Bahraini taste," she said.



Bahrain has consistently been a trailblazer in the Arab world, actively seeking substantial solutions to the region's most pressing issues and beyond

H.E. AHMED AL-MUSALLAM, SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Freedom at last

Wife granted divorce after husband's attempted murder and years of abuse

TDT | Manama

A Bahraini woman has been granted a divorce by the High Islamic Court after enduring years of physical and verbal abuse from her husband.

The woman filed for divorce after her husband allegedly attempted to kill her by ramming her car, beat her with electrical wires and a cigarette, threatened her with a hammer, and hurled insults at her honor.

The court heard testimony from the woman's father, mother, and two sisters, who corroborated her claims of abuse. The

woman's father testified that he had witnessed the husband beating her with an electrical wire while she was pregnant with their first child. He also said that the husband had burned her with a cigarette and threatened her with a hammer.

The woman's mother testified that the husband came once with his brother to their house, and the latter assaulted the victim and dragged her out of their home by her hair and beat her, while the defendant chased her down the street trying to hit her. She also said that the husband had kicked her out



of their home after insulting and spitting on her.

Credible

The husband denied the allegations, but the court found the woman's testimony and the witness statements to be credible. The court also noted that the

husband had been convicted of assault against the victim.

In its ruling, the court granted the woman a divorce and ordered the husband to pay her financial compensation. The court also awarded the victim custody of the couple's two children.

Bahraini businesses flourish amidst Israel economic fallout

Mohammed Darwish
TDT | Manama

Since the start of the Israeli military campaign on Gaza in 2023, a growing global movement has called for boycotts and divestment from businesses with ties to the Israeli military.

This campaign has resulted in estimated losses of billions of dollars for companies supporting the Israeli war machine. Interestingly, these economic pressures have also led to a surge in sales and profits for many local Bahraini businesses as consumers increasingly seek out alternatives to Israel-backing food chains.

This complex situation highlights both the promise and challenges of grassroots economic activism in response to geopolitical tensions.

However, some consumers have reported a decline in the quality and size of certain local products, accompanied by price increases.

Observers speculate this may be due to local businesses

leveraging their market position, and consumer reluctance to switch back to large multinational brands with ties to Israel.

Positive outcomes

Najma Abdulwahab, a local food truck owner, stated, "The conflict had many unfortunate consequences. However, among the few positive outcomes was that it gave local businesses a chance to shine. This opportunity, though, was accompanied by a rise in the price of ingredients."

She added, "Although we are witnessing a clear pattern of shrinkflation in the market, we remain committed to the quality of our products that our customers have come to expect. We did, however, have to implement a small price increase to keep our business afloat."

She also attributed the slight difference in flavour to switching to ingredients from different suppliers, as the usual ones are now on the boycotted list.

Revitalizing inter-Arab tourism cooperation and growth

TDT | Manama

The Minister of Tourism, Her Excellency Fatima Al Sairafi, has emphasized several key initiatives to unlock the region's vast tourism potential, including enhancing cooperation in tourism education and training, promoting inter-Arab tourism, attracting investment in Arab destinations, and streamlining travel procedures between countries.

In addition to advocating for enhanced regional cooperation, Minister Al Sairafi underscored the urgency of implementing the Arab Tourism Strategy and dismantling barriers to inter-Arab travel and emphasized the significance of the meetings and discussions held during the Bahrain Summit in fostering tourism integration among Arab countries and boosting inter-Arab tourism rates.

This came as the Tourism Minister and Chairman of the Bahrain Tourism and Exhibitions Authority (BTEA), met with Dr. Bandar bin Fahad Al Fhaid, President of the Arab Tourism Organization (ATO), in the presence of Her Excellency Sarah Buhijji, CEO of the BTEA on the sidelines of the 33rd Arab Summit in Bahrain to discuss revitalizing the Arab tourism sector through strengthened regional collaboration.



H.E. Fatima Al Sairafi with Dr. Bandar bin Fahad Al Fhaid and H.E. Sarah Buhijji

Attention

The Minister further noted the considerable attention given by Arab governments to the tourism sector, citing various incentives, grants, and facilitated entry procedures implemented to support the industry. The meeting also highlighted previous Arab summits that have yielded numerous decisions aimed at promoting integration and coordination among Arab countries to maximize the economic benefits of tourism in the region.

Minister Al Sairafi emphasized that Arab-level tourism coordination is essential for promoting and disseminating Arab culture, showcasing the

rich heritage and historical sites found throughout the Arab world, and implementing collaborative programs and initiatives designed to advance Arab tourism and tourism investments.

Arab media

Her Excellency also stressed the significance of enhancing the role of Arab media in promoting tourism, engaging Arab influencers and media professionals to showcase the region's unique offerings through their platforms. This strategic approach aims to bolster the visibility and development of Arab tourist destinations, both regionally and internationally, with the goal of positioning them among the leading nations

in the global travel and tourism industry.

Furthermore, Tourism Minister reaffirmed the commitment of the Ministry of Tourism and BTEA to collaborate with the Arab Tourism Organization in strengthening the Arab tourism framework and equipping it with the necessary capabilities for growth and development.

This commitment includes ongoing cooperation in organizing tourism events, providing comprehensive training and qualification programs for individuals working within the tourism sector, and devising strategic action plans to enhance all types of tourism and elevate the overall yield of Arab tourism revenues.

50-year-old man sent to jail for setting fire to trash can

● Six months in prison

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced a 50-year-old man to six months in prison for setting fire to a trash can in a residential area, causing damage to a nearby home.

According to court documents, a patrol responding to a report of a fire at an abandoned house witnessed a burning trash can near a building with no address.

Investigating the incident, they reviewed security footage from a nearby store, which showed the defendant walking past the trash can, gathering the surrounding waste, and

setting it on fire. The authorities were able to identify the defendant as the 50-year-old man.

The court found that the defendant had a history of arson offenses. His actions in this case caused damage to the wall of a nearby home.

A report from a three-member committee of psychiatric consultants, submitted to the court, concluded that the defendant was responsible for his actions at the time of the incident.

The court sentenced the defendant to six months in prison for the arson offense and ordered him to compensate the homeowner for the damage caused to their property.

African woman punished for trafficking and forced labour

TDT | Manama

The High Criminal Court has sentenced an African woman to five years in prison and fined her BD5,000 for human trafficking and forced labour.

The woman, who lured young women from her home country to Bahrain with false promises of employment, was also ordered to pay for the victims' repatriation and will be deported after serving her sentence.

The court found the woman guilty of exploiting the victims' vulnerable situation and coercing them into working without pay.

As per the case records, the African woman had advertised fake job opportunities on Facebook and then confiscated the victims' passports and money upon their arrival in Bahrain. The women were then forced to work in the defendant's home without proper com-

penation or identification documents.

One of the victims testified that she had seen an ad on Facebook offering a well-paying job in Bahrain. She contacted the defendant, who promised to sponsor her work visa.

Physical abuse

However, upon arriving in Bahrain, the defendant confiscated her passport and money and forced her to work without pay. The victim was also subjected to physical abuse.

An investigation revealed that the defendant had committed similar offenses against other young women. She would lure them to Bahrain with false promises of employment and then exploit them for financial gain.

The court documents, however, didn't mention how the victims reported the incident to the police or who had rescued them.

Contractor ordered to pay for 13-year-old construction supplies

● Partial payment sparks dispute with company

TDT | Manama

A contractor in Bahrain has been ordered by the court to pay BD1,320 to a construction materials company for concrete and nails he purchased 13 years ago.

The contractor, who has not been named, had only partially paid for the materials he purchased in 2011. Despite repeated attempts by the company to collect the remaining amount, he failed to respond.



The company filed a lawsuit against the contractor seeking payment of the outstanding amount, along with legal interest from the date of purchase.

During the court hearing, the company presented two witnesses. The first, a relative of the company owner, testified that

the contractor had admitted to owing the company BD1,320 for the materials.

He also stated that the contractor had requested his assistance in negotiating a payment plan with the company, but no agreement was reached. The second witness, an em-

ployee of the company, confirmed that the contractor was a customer and had purchased materials worth BD1,988 in 2011.

He further stated that despite numerous attempts to collect the outstanding amount, the contractor remained unresponsive. The contractor did not present any witnesses to refute the claims.

The court, citing Article 1 of the Law of Evidence, which states that "the creditor must prove the obligation, and the debtor must prove its discharge," ruled in favour of the company. The contractor was ordered to pay the outstanding amount, along with legal interest and court costs.

Al Salam Bank completes acquisition of Kuwait Finance House Bahrain

TDT | Manama

Al Salam Bank, a leading financial institution listed on the Bahrain Bourse and the Dubai Financial Market, has announced yesterday that it has completed the acquisition of Kuwait Finance House Bahrain from Kuwait Finance House Group.

The strategic transaction marks the Bank's fifth Merger and Acquisition (M&A) transaction in its growth journey, reinforcing its position as the fastest growing bank and the most active M&A player in Bahrain.

The acquisition of KFH Bahrain follows the successful integrations of Bahrain Saudi Bank in 2009, BMI Bank in 2014, Ithmaar Bank's consumer business in 2022 and the acquisition



Shaikh Khalid bin Mustahil Al Mashani, Chairman of Al Salam Bank



Rafik Nayed, Group CEO of Al Salam Bank

of a majority stake in Al Salam Bank-Algeria in 2023 showcasing Al Salam Bank's ability to achieve significant growth whilst ensuring a seamless cus-

tomers journey. The consolidation of KFH Bahrain, with an asset base of more than BD 1.49 billion, will substantially increase the Bank's balance sheet by 28%,

accelerate market share acquisition, and enhance offerings.

Al Salam Bank and KFH Group have collaborated closely and extensively to swiftly achieve financial close. The two parties will continue to work together to execute a seamless integration plan whilst ensuring an uninterrupted banking experience for customers. Banking operations, customer engagement, and branch services will continue to operate as usual.

Shaikh Khalid bin Mustahil Al Mashani, Chairman of Al Salam Bank commented: "The acquisition of KFH Bahrain marks a pivotal step in our growth journey, setting a new standard for M&A excellence in the region. The transaction also underscores our commitment to bolstering Bahrain's position as a leading

Islamic financial center in the region. We will continue to implement initiatives to expand our portfolio, cement our position as the fastest growing bank, and achieve our profitability aspirations."

On this occasion, Rafik Nayed, Group CEO of Al Salam Bank, said, "The transaction represents a significant milestone in realizing our strategic objectives of achieving significant scale and maximizing shareholder value. Our customers will continue to benefit from best-in-class banking products and services, now enhanced by our combined expertise, digital capabilities, and an expanded banking network. We remain dedicated to elevating our product and service offerings leveraging advanced technologies

and crafting tailored products to meet the evolving needs of our clients. Our people are integral to realizing this vision. The combined commitment and expertise of our teams, both from Al Salam Bank and formerly KFH Bahrain, will be the key driver of our future successes."

Customers can continue to access all services currently being provided by KFH Bahrain, including but not limited to: cards, cheque books, online banking, mobile banking services, branches, ATMs, and the call center. Al Salam Bank will keep customers informed about transaction updates as well as relevant developments in the integration process.

Al Salam Bank was advised by KPMG Fakhro while Trowers and Hamlins acted as legal counsel.

Kuwait Finance House - Bahrain names second winner of 100,000 Ma'ashi Grand Prize

TDT | Manama

Kuwait Finance House - Bahrain has announced Osama Ali as the winner of the second Ma'ashi Grand Prize taking home \$100,000.

The winner was received at the Bank's headquarters in presence of the Bank's representatives.

In addition, KFH-Bahrain announced the 10 recipients of the \$25,000 Ma'ashi Monthly Prizes, with each winner taking home \$2,500.

On the occasion, Mr. Hamed Mashal, Executive Manager - Head of Retail Banking at KFH



Officials and winner during the prize distribution

- Bahrain, stated, "With great pleasure, we announce the second winner of the Ma'ashi Salary Account Grand Prize of \$100,000. We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate Kuwait Finance House - Bahrain's unwavering commitment to its customers. Our sincerest congratulations extend to Mr. Osama Ali, alongside all the fortunate beneficiaries of this month's draw.

"Our valued clients can enjoy great benefits with the Ma'ashi Salary Account including zero-fee partial early salary withdrawals and the chance

to win great prizes like this one. We are always looking for ways to build a better banking experience and the Ma'ashi account does just that" he added.

Osama Ali expressed his gratitude stating: "I still can't believe that I am the winner of \$100,000 Ma'ashi Grand Prize. It is truly a great surprise! The Ma'ashi account has already played a big role in making my financial journey smoother and I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to all KFH-Bahrain representatives for this outstanding prize."

Russia economy resilient; Gaza war weighs on neighbours: EBRD

AFP | London, United Kingdom

Russia's economy will grow further this year despite Western sanctions over its Ukraine invasion, while Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza will weigh on neighbouring nations, Europe's development bank forecast yesterday.

The London-based European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) issued fresh GDP projections for the regions in which it operates on the second day of its annual meeting, held this year in the Armenian capital of Yerevan.

Russia's resilient economy is

set to expand 2.5% in 2024, the EBRD predicted, adding that it was back above levels seen prior to its 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

That represented a major upgrade from the prior guidance of 1.0 percent that was given in September, as Moscow offsets the impact of sanctions with vast expenditure on its war machine. However, it still marks a significant slowdown from the 3.6% growth it registered in 2023.

Economic growth in war-ravaged Ukraine is meanwhile expected to slow to 3.0% this year.

That compared with a 5.3% expansion in 2023, following a

29.1% collapse in 2022 after Russia launched the invasion of its neighbour.

The institution forecast Wednesday that Mediterranean countries will be hampered due to delays in public investment projects in Egypt and the war in Gaza.

Lebanon's economy was forecast to expand by just 0.2% this year. That marked a vast downgrade from 3.0%.

Egypt's economy suffered due to slumping Suez Canal fees after shipping attacks by Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels who are protesting over Israel's war in Gaza. But this

was partially offset by pledges of multi-billion-dollar funds from the IMF and other international partners.

Despite simmering geopolitical tensions, the EBRD issued a bright forecast for its entire operating zone.

The region's economy is predicted to accelerate with 3.0% growth this year thanks to easing inflationary pressures. That was however weaker than its September forecast of 3.2%.

The bank blamed the downgrade partly on Gaza war fallout, as well as slower-than-expected growth in Central Europe and the Baltic States.

Garuda Indonesia flight makes emergency landing after engine fire

AFP | Jakarta, Indonesia

A jetliner taking 468 people from Indonesia to Saudi Arabia made an emergency landing Wednesday due to an engine fire, the Garuda Indonesia airline said, in the latest incident in the archipelago's poor safety record.

The Indonesian flag carrier said the Garuda-1105 flight to Madinah -- operated by a Boeing 747-400 -- returned to its original airport in the Indonesian city of Makassar at 17:15 local time (0915 GMT) with all passengers unhurt.

"The decision was made by the Pilot in Command immediately after takeoff, considering engine problems that required further examination

after sparks of fire were observed in one of the engines," said Garuda President Director Irfan Setiাপutra in a statement.

There were 450 passengers and 18 crew members on the flight, Irfan said, including pilgrims for the hajj, the days-long Muslim pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia.

They were all redirected to accommodations before boarding a replacement flight later on Wednesday to Saudi Arabia, he said.

Footage posted on social media, which has not been verified by AFP, purported to show the plane's engine catching fire as it took off.

This plane was grounded for a safety probe, Irfan said.

IEA lowers global oil-demand growth forecast for 2024

AFP | Paris, France

Global oil demand will grow slower than anticipated in 2024 following a first-quarter drop in developed economies due to a mild winter and a declining diesel car fleet, the IEA said Wednesday.

Demand is expected to in-



Representative picture

crease by 1.1 million barrels per day, or 140,000 fewer than forecast in the International Energy Agency's previous monthly report.

Global demand is forecast to reach 103 million bpd for the year, it said.

Demand in OECD countries contracted by 70,000 barrels per

day in the first three months of the year, the Paris-based organisation reported.

"A historically mild winter acted as an additional weight on OECD heating fuel use," the report said.

Demand was also affected by "structural headwinds such as rising vehicle efficiencies and

the declining share of diesel in the car fleet", it added.

"These drags are especially evident in Europe, but gasoil (diesel) demand was weaker than expected in several other key markets."

China, the world's second biggest economy, is set to lead demand gains with growth

of 510,000 bpd in 2024 and 360,000 bpd in 2025, though that is much lower than the 1.7 million bpd recorded last year.

The IEA's forecast for 2025 remain relatively unchanged, with global demand expected to grow by 1.2 million bpd to 104 million bpd.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

YOU WILL FACE MANY DEFEATS IN LIFE, BUT NEVER LET YOURSELF BE DEFEATED
MAYA ANGELOU

TODAY IN HISTORY

1868

US Senate fails to impeach President Andrew Johnson by one vote



1920
French heroine Joan of Arc is canonized as a saint by Pope Benedict XV

1989

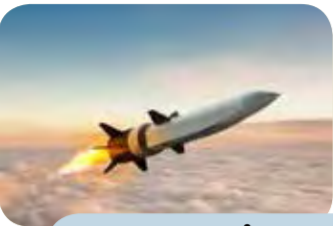
Soviet president Mikhail Gorbachev and Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping meet in Beijing and formally end a 30-year rift

2013

Human stem cells are successfully cloned

News in brief

Japan and the United States are planning to develop interceptors to shoot down hypersonic missiles by the 2030s under a contract signed by the two countries on Wednesday. The plan, which reportedly cost more than \$3 billion, was first announced in August when the nations' leaders met at a summit with South Korea in Camp David outside Washington. The Japanese government has already included 75 billion yen (\$480 million) in its 2024 budget for development of the interceptors. Hypersonic missiles fly at more than five times the speed of sound and have irregular trajectories, making them difficult to intercept.



Japan, US sign agreement to develop hypersonic missile interceptor

Italian authorities said yesterday they had seized 2.1 million doses of illegal drugs used to improve sexual performance and build muscle mass, with a street value of 20 million euros. In the largest haul of its kind in Italy, the shipment was found in a lorry arriving from Greece in the Adriatic port of Ancona, the financial crimes police said. They said the seizures of the drugs -- which are not legally available in Italy -- averted a "serious and immediate threat to the health of potential consumers". The shipment, registered on customs documents as cosmetics, included 1.7 million doses of drugs used for erectile dysfunction. There were also 400,000 doses of drugs containing hormones to promote pregnancy, "often used in the world of bodybuilders to increase muscle mass", and an anti-epileptic drug used to enhance the effect of other drugs.

Italy seizes 2 mn doses of sex, bodybuilding drugs



Raw sewage pumped into England's largest lake due to fault

Raw sewage was released into Windermere, England's largest and best-known lake, over a 10-hour period after a fault caused pumps to stop working, according to documents seen by the BBC and reported yesterday. The documents from United Utilities, the group that manages the waste water network in northwest England, revealed that a telecoms fault on February 28 caused the main pumps to stop. Emergency back-ups then took over and pumped raw sewage intermittently over 10 hours into the lake, which is located in the Lake District national park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. As well as being a natural beauty spot that attracts millions of visitors each year and a popular swimming spot, it has long been a muse for artists.

SPOTLIGHT

Guitar-playing Blinken sparks criticism in Ukraine



Blinken took to the stage of a Kyiv bar on Tuesday

Kyiv, Ukraine

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken was trying to send a message of defiance and hope when he took to the stage of a Kyiv bar on Tuesday night for a guitar performance of "Rockin' in the Free World". But some Ukrainians have reacted angrily, chastising Washington's top diplomat for an ill-judged jam session in the capital while Ukrainian troops are fighting in trenches, struggling to hold back a Russian advance amid a shortage of weapons. "One word is enough to describe US Secretary of State Antony Blinken's evening in Kyiv yesterday: inappropriate," said Svitlana Matviyenko, head of the Agency for Legislative Initiatives NGO. Blinken is on a surprise trip to Kyiv weeks after Washington approved a \$61 billion package of aid for the country following months of delays in Congress. In a speech earlier on Tuesday he said the United States would back Ukraine until its security was "guaranteed". A guitar player who has launched a musical diplomacy initiative at the State Department, Blinken later joined Ukrainian musicians at a famed Kyiv bar, Barman Dictat, for a rendition of Neil Young's 1989 "Rockin' in the Free World". "I know this is a really, really difficult time. Your soldiers, your citizens, particularly in the northeast in Kharkiv are suffering tremendously," he said on stage, holding a red electric guitar. "But they need to know, you need to know, the United States is with you... They're fighting not just for a free Ukraine but for the free world," he added. Ukrainian lawmaker Bogdan Yaremchenko, a former diplomat and MP from President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's party, said the performance was ill-timed, coming after delays to US aid cost Ukraine lives and territory.

Ireland to recognise Palestinian statehood 'this month': minister

AFP | Dublin, IRL

Ireland is certain to recognise Palestinian statehood by the end of May, the country's Foreign Minister Micheal Martin said yesterday, without specifying a date. "We will be recognising the state of Palestine before the end of the month," Martin, who is also Ireland's deputy prime minister, told the Newstalk radio station. In March the leaders of Spain, Ireland, Slovenia and

Malta said in a joint statement that they stand ready to recognise Palestinian statehood. Ireland has long said it has no objection in principle to officially recognising the Palestinian state if it could help the peace process in the Middle East. Last week, EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said Spain, Ireland and Slovenia planned to symbolically recognise a Palestinian state on May 21, with others potentially following suit.

Jordan says foils foreign state-backed arms smuggling

AFP | Amman, Jordan

Jordan's security services have thwarted a bid by a foreign state-backed militia to smuggle arms to a cell in the kingdom, an official said yesterday. The official quoted by state news agency Petra said suspected members of the cell, who were Jordanians, were arrested when the weapons were seized at the end of March. "The Jordanian security services have foiled an attempt by militias backed by a foreign state to smuggle weapons into the kingdom for the benefit of a cell in Jordan," the official said, without identifying the country involved. The number of people detained was not specified.

Putin heads to Beijing seeking greater support for war effort

AFP | Beijing, China

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrives in China today to meet his "dear friend" Xi Jinping as he seeks to win greater support from Beijing for his war effort in Ukraine and his isolated economy. It will be Putin's first trip abroad since his March re-election and his second in just over six months to China, an economic lifeline for Russia after the West hit it with unprecedented sanctions over its military offensive in Ukraine. Xi, who returned last week from a three-nation tour of Europe, has rebuffed Western criticism of Beijing's ties with Moscow, enjoying cheap Russian energy imports and



Xi, Putin (file)

access to vast natural resources, including steady gas shipments via the Power of Siberia pipeline. It is a relationship the leaders described in 2022 as one of "no limits". Trade between China and Russia has boomed since the Ukraine invasion and hit \$240 billion in 2023, according to Chinese customs figures.

Biden, Trump agree to election debates in June, September

Washington, United States

Joe Biden and Donald Trump agreed Wednesday to hold presidential debates in June and September after the Democratic incumbent challenged his rival to "make my day" and the scandal-plagued Republican replied he was ready to "rumble". News channel CNN announced it will hold the first debate on June 27 in Atlanta, Georgia. Trump and Biden both said they had agreed on a second debate on the ABC network on September 10. Biden, 81, set out his own terms including having no studio audience, seeking to avoid a repeat of the often chaotic debates with political showman Trump in the 2020 election

Child mascots and bun towers: Hong Kong keeps island traditions alive

AFP | Hong Kong, China

Supporting costumes ranging from Cinderella dresses to Dragon Ball Z outfits, children were hoisted onto metal poles as unofficial mascots of a boisterous parade as Hong Kong celebrated its annual bun festival yesterday. Thousands of visitors flocked to Hong Kong's outlying island of Cheung Chau to watch the "Piu Sik" or floating colours parade, which used to be performed with statues of deities before costumed youngsters replaced them. The elaborately dressed young children were raised above the crowds for the iconic spectacle on the island, which is steeped in cultural traditions and a popular tourist destination. Temperatures soared to 29 degrees Celsius (84 degrees Fahrenheit) during the parade. "Last year I was a firefighter... I've always wanted to be a cop," "We've always had a queue



Performers participate in the "Piu Sik" parade on the island of Cheung Chau during its annual Bun festival in Hong Kong

said Wu, 9, who was dressed as a police officer -- complete with sunglasses and a baton. "It's cool." A popular local bakery saw long queues of festivalgoers eager to sample the island's favourite sweet buns, which are stamped with the Chinese character for "peace and safety". "I really want to maintain the

tradition of making buns and to keep the spirit of the bun festival alive," Kwok told AFP. In a nearby playground, a 14-metre-high (45-foot-high) tower covered with imitation steamed buns loomed over the crowd, the site of a midnight contest where 12 athletes will speed-climb their way to the top. Janet Kung, a former winner who is competing again this year, said the bun scrambling competition has a "sense of grandeur" given its long tradition and live audience. "The biggest challenge for bun scrambling is how to get over the pressure from the crowd, as well as from my own expectations,"

Slovakia PM shot, fighting 'life-threatening' injuries



Slovakia Prime Minister Robert Fico

AFP | Bratislava, Slovakia

Slovakia Prime Minister Robert Fico was yesterday shot multiple times and rushed to hospital with life-threatening injuries after a cabinet meeting, officials said, in an attack condemned by EU chiefs. Fico, a populist leader accused of being Kremlin-friendly, has been prime minister since last year. "Today, after the government meeting in Handlova, there was an assassination attempt on the



Police had detained the suspected gunman.

Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic, Robert Fico", the government said in a post on social media. "He is currently being transported by helicopter to Banská Bystrica in a life-threatening condition, because it would take too long to get to Bratislava due to the necessity of an acute intervention", it said. Fico was shot multiple times, said a post on his official Facebook page. "We confirm the attack on the prime minister," police spokes-

man Matej Neumann told AFP. Handlova local hospital director Marta Eckhardtova said "Fico was brought into our hospital and he was treated at our vascular surgery clinic". She was unable to describe his injuries. The Dennik N daily said its reporter heard several shots fired and then saw security guards lift the premier off the ground and into a car. The newspaper also reported that police had detained the suspected gunman.

Erdogan says Israel will 'set sights' on Turkey if Hamas defeated

AFP | Istanbul, Turkey

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday claimed that Israel would "set its sights" on Turkey if it succeeded in defeating Hamas in the Gaza Strip. Erdogan, a vocal critic of Israel's war in the Palestinian territory following Hamas's attack on October 7, has often expressed support for the Palestinian group as defenders of their homeland. "Do not think that Israel will stop in Gaza," Erdogan told his party lawmakers in the parliament in the capital Ankara.



Palestinians transport their belongings on the back of a van as they flee Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip to a safer location

"Unless it's stopped... this rogue and terrorist state will set its sights on Anatolia sooner or later," he said, referring to the large Turkish peninsula also called Asia Minor that comprises more than half of Turkey's territory. "We will continue to stand by Hamas, which fights for the independence of its own land and which defends Anatolia," added Erdogan. The Turkish leader on Monday said more than

1,000 members of Hamas were being treated in Turkish hospitals amid the ongoing war in Gaza. The October 7 attack on Israel resulted in the deaths of more than 1,170 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on Israeli official figures. Hamas also seized some 250 hostages, 128 of whom Israel estimates remain in Gaza, including 36 the military says are dead. Israel's bombardment and offensive in Gaza have killed more than 35,000 people, mostly women and children, according to the health ministry in the Hamas-run territory.

Israel PM says no 'humanitarian catastrophe' in Rafah as almost 500,000 evacuated

AFP | Jerusalem, Undefined

Israel's prime minister said yesterday that nearly 500,000 people had been evacuated from Gaza's far-southern Rafah city and dismissed widespread fears of a "humanitarian catastrophe" there. "Our responsible efforts are bearing fruit," Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement. "So far, in Rafah, close to half a million people have been evacuated from the combat zones."

The international community, including Israel's top ally Washington, had urged Israel to refrain from launching a ground offensive in Rafah, where 1.4 million people have sought shelter. But Netanyahu insisted that "the humanitarian catastrophe that was spoken about did not materialise, nor will it". Israel last week defied a chorus of warnings -- including from the United States, which paused a shipment of bombs -- and sent troops and tanks



A young boy sits amid the debris of a building destroyed by Israeli bombardment in the al-Zaitoun neighbourhood of Gaza City in the northern part of the Palestinian territory

into the east of Rafah. The United Nations said Tuesday that nearly 450,000 people had been displaced from Rafah since Israel first began issuing evacuation orders for eastern areas of the governorate on May 6.

Jaishankar expresses confidence in India-EU partnership growing further



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his wife Kyoko Jaishankar attend Europe Day celebrations (Image Credit: X/@DrSJaishankar). Image Credit: ANI

ANI | India

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar along with his wife Kyoko Jaishankar attended Europe Day celebrations in Delhi. He noted that the ties between India and the European Union are not only consequential for the two sides but also for the world. He expressed confidence that the partnership between India and the European Union will grow further in the times ahead. In a post on X, Jaishankar stated, "Pleased to attend Europe Day celebrations in New Delhi today. India-EU relations are consequential not only for us but also for the world. Our expanded exchanges, deeper economic ties, stronger technology cooperation and increased people-to-people connect tell their own story. Confident that this partnership would grow further in the times ahead." Notably, the External Affairs Minister was the chief guest at the event commemorating Europe Day, which is celebrated on May 9 every year to celebrate peace and unity in Europe.

Describing the relationship between India and the European Union as "consequential for the world as well," EAM Jaishankar said the EU is not only "our largest economic partner," but the ties run "very deep, spanning many domains." Extending felicitations to EU's Ambassador to India, Herve Delphin, Jaishankar said, "I think today the relationship between India and the European Union is not only consequential for each one of us but also for the world as well. The EU is our largest economic partner, but it is more than that."

In his address at the Europe Day celebrations, Jaishankar said, "It is an entity with which we have, really, a very deep relationship spanning many domains...not just in the relationship between New Delhi and Brussels but in the regional and sub-regional formats in which we engage each other and in a range of institutions that we both are members of and where we collaborate with each other. And of course, an important element of that is economic relationship." Jaishankar said that it is the need of the hour to have more "resilient and reliable" supply chains. He said, "A fact that we are one of, I think, your two partners for trade and technology council, that, in many ways underlines not just the present of our relationship and the importance as well."

"When one looks at the challenges the world faces, the need for more resilient and reliable supply chains, the need for a stronger digital cooperation based on trust and transparency. The need, really, in many ways, to risk the global economy, I think India and the European Union can both make contributions, but particularly for the world. He expressed confidence that the partnership between India and the European Union will grow further in the times ahead. In a post on X, Jaishankar stated, "We certainly attach importance to it and look forward to taking it forward." "Among the welcome developments for us in recent years has been the greater interest that the EU, and individual European states, have taken in the Indo-Pacific. Many countries, and the EU, as a whole, today have an approach to the Indo-Pacific that we welcome very sincerely," he said. Recalling the G20 Summit which took place under the chairmanship of India in September last year, he said, "We also see today a much more serious engagement in the domain of security; it is for us a great pleasure to welcome, from time to time, the defence presence of Europe in this part of the world. As a country that chaired the G20, we very much appreciated the value and contribution that the EU, and individual European states made to the G20."

"I reiterate my appeal for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza and for the release of all hostages. I call for the Rafah crossing to be re-opened immediately and for the unimpeded humanitarian access throughout Gaza." @antoniogetteres

TOP 4 TWEETS

01



I reiterate my appeal for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza and for the release of all hostages. I call for the Rafah crossing to be re-opened immediately and for the unimpeded humanitarian access throughout Gaza.

02



Health is one of the strongest arguments to accelerate the transition to clean sources of energy, especially for cooking. Not only would it protect people's health, the promotion of clean household fuels is a step towards mitigating the #ClimateCrisis.

03



I've come to Ukraine with a message: You are not alone. America is with you.

04



The true battle is: Extinctionists who want a holocaust for all of humanity. - Versus - Expansionists who want to reach the stars and Understand the Universe.

YOU KNOW WHAT Legend has it that in the 1800s, Cheung Chau's fisherfolk drove away pirates and the plague by parading a statue of Taoist sea deity Pak Tai, inspiring today's five-day bun festival.

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

CELEBS

celebs

George Clooney is making his Broadway debut

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

George Clooney is finally set to make his Broadway debut.

The 63-year-old actor has is taking on his first acting and playwriting project in a stage adaptation of 'Good Night, and Good Look', which will be performed in spring 2025 at a yet to be announced Shubert theatre.

He said in a statement: "I am honored, after all these years, to be coming back to the stage and especially, to Broadway, the art form and the venue that every actor aspires to."

He will play journalist Edward R. Murrow, who was originally played by David



George Clooney

Strathairn in the 2005 film, while Clooney actually played his collaborator Fred W. Friendly.

He penned the journalism drama with Grans Heslov, and the pair will once again collaborate on the Broadway adaptation, although David Cromer is stepping into direct instead of the Hollywood star.

Cromer added: "Edward R. Murrow operated from a kind of moral clarity that feels vanishingly rare in today's media landscape."

"There was an immediacy in those early live television broadcasts that today can only be effectively captured on stage, in front of a live audience."

Ryan Gosling calls for Oscars to recognize stunt performers

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Ryan Gosling is launching a campaign to establish a new category at the Oscars to recognize the work of stunt performers.

The 43-year-old actor plays a stunt man in his new movie 'The Fall Guy' which shines a spotlight on the work of the movie set action heroes and Ryan insists he wants bosses at the Academy Awards to bring in a new prize to honour their achievements.

Speaking to Deadline.com at the film's Los Angeles premiere on Tuesday night, Ryan explained: "They are the hardest working peo-



Ryan Gosling

ple in show business. This movie is just a giant campaign to get stunts an Oscar.

"We are the face of these films, but the crews really make the movies, and this is a love letter to them."

Ryan previously opened up about his respect for stunt performers, telling the BBC: "They dress like us, they do the dangerous things for us. They take the hits for us, they put themselves in harm's way for us."

"They play our characters as well, they're actors too, in the same union. But they hide their face and disappear into the shadows and everyone pretends they weren't there. The better they are at their job, the more they disappear in a way. It ends now. We're flipping the script ...

Chris Hemsworth raging at reports he has Alzheimer's and was thinking of retiring from acting

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Chris Hemsworth is infuriated by reports he has Alzheimer's and was thinking of retiring from acting.

The 'Thor' actor, 40, made headlines worldwide in 2022 when his National Geographic series 'Limitless' featured a segment where he went for genetic testing that revealed he has two copies of the APOE4 gene.

It's been flagged as a marker of risk for developing Alzheimer's



Chris Hemsworth

disease - and even though carrying the gene is far from a diagnosis of the condition, the web was soon flooded with theories the reason Chris had moved to Byron Bay in his native Australia with his family was to retire from Hollywood.

A head of being seen on the big screen in George Miller's 'Furiosa: A Mad Max Saga' - the much-anticipated prequel to 2015's Oscar-winning 'Fury Road' - Chris told Vanity Fair about hating the gossip: "It really kind of (annoyed) me off

because it felt like I had been vulnerable with something personal and shared this.

"No matter how much I said, 'This is not a death sentence,' the story became that I have dementia and I'm reconsidering life and retiring and so on.

"I did read a really funny comment at the bottom of one article: 'I hope Chris forgets he's retiring and comes back.'" Chris, who has three children with his wife of 14 years, the Spanish actor Elsa Pataky, 47, plays biker gang leader Dementus in the 'Fury Road' follow up alongside Anya Taylor-Joy.

Despite declaring he is very much back in Hollywood, Chris did open up about his run of doing 27 films - eight of them Marvel blockbusters - in just over 12 years left his mind and body such a wreck he would zone out at family meetings and spend his time complaining.

He added: "I'd been trying to muscle and beat things into existence for so long, out of obsession and desperation to build this career, and I was just exhausted. "I was worried about everything. Nothing was as enjoyable as it once was, or I had imagined it was.

"I was making back-to-back movies and doing the press tours, and I was married and had three young kids, and it was all happening at the same time in a very short window.

"You're sort of just running on fumes, and then you're showing up to something with little in the tank and you start to pick things apart: 'Why am I doing this film?' 'Why isn't this script better?' 'Why didn't that director call me for that,' or, 'Why didn't I get considered for this role?' 'Why don't I get the call-up from Scorsese or Tarantino?'"



Joaquin Phoenix

Joaquin Phoenix 'didn't belong' in Doctor Strange

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Joaquin Phoenix "didn't really belong" in 'Doctor Strange'.

The 49-year-old actor was once eyed to play the lead role in the Marvel movie - but director Scott Derrickson now admits that Benedict Cumberbatch is much more suited to the part.

Scott, 57, told SlashFilm: "I met with a bunch of actors, and Joaquin was the one that I spent the most time with.

"As we continued to talk, it became

clear to me that Joaquin didn't really belong in that movie and probably never belonged in the MCU.

"He's a very specific guy with very specific goals as an actor, and a very specific way of performing. I think it became clear to both of us that this might not be a good fit, really is what it came down to."

Scott "spent a couple of long afternoons" with Joaquin, but Benedict was always his number one choice for the role.

The director - whose other credits include 'The Exorcism of Emily Rose'

and 'Sinister' - shared: "I spent a couple of long afternoons with him and really was really impressed with him personally and his thought process.

"This is what I'll say: I think he was giving, I think he was opening his mind to the possibility. I think he was investigating the possibility.

"What happened, just to be clear, we offered the movie to Benedict. I wanted Benedict. That was my choice for the role.

Isla Fisher thanks friends and fans for 'love and support' in wake of divorce news

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Isla Fisher has thanked friends and fans for their "love and support" in the wake of the news she is divorcing Sacha Baron Cohen.

The actress and children's book writer, 48, revealed in April she and 'Borat' creator Sacha, 52, had quietly filed for a split in 2023 after 14 years of marriage - amid accusations from Rebel Wilson that he had asked her to perform a lewd act for his 2016 film 'The Brothers Grimsby'.

She has now posted a picture of herself on Instagram holding a glass of wine, alongside the caption: "Thank you for all the kindness and support."

Isla also announced her divorce from Sacha on the platform, saying alongside an image of them wearing tennis outfits: "After a long tennis match lasting over twenty years, we are finally putting our racquets down.

"In 2023 we jointly filed to end our marriage. We

have always prioritized our privacy, and have been quietly working through this change."

Isla, whose films include 'The Wedding Crashers', said she and Sacha will always share their "devotion and love" for their two daughters and one son - adding: "We sincerely appreciate your respecting our family's wish for privacy."

She revealed her marriage was over after it was reported Isla and Sacha had been living separate lives for some time.

The former couple met at a party in Sydney in 2001 where they bonded over making fun of other attendees.

Three years later, they got engaged and got hitched in an intimate 2010 wedding in Paris.

They have kept their daughters - aged 15 and 13, and their eight-year-old son - largely out of the spotlight for privacy reasons.

Sacha has denied the accusation from actress Rebel Wilson, 44, he acted inappropriately with her on the set of 'The Brothers Grimsby'.



Isla Fisher

SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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Across

1- Jacob's first wife; 5- Watched warily; 9- Rub the wrong way; 13- Beige; 14- Baseball commissioner Bud; 16- Salt Lake City hoopers; 17- Ages; 18- Hard to call; 19- Castle ring; 20- Oscar Madison, for one; 21- "Rope-a-dope" boxer; 22- Donny or Marie; 24- Cairo cobras; 26- Adamson's lioness; 27- Psychics claim to have a sixth one; 29- Stretch; 33- Looks after; 34- Not a dup; 35- Footnote abbr.; 36- This was produced by Van Gogh, for example; 37- Bother; 38- Opposite of WSW; 39- Singer Burl; 41- Run into; 42- Delete; 44- Snakes; 46- Adversary; 47- Bread spread; 48- Invitation request; 49- New Zealand natives; 52- Worked (up); 53- Meadows; 57- Landed; 58- Angry; 60- Competent; 61- Manuscript enc.; 62- Hawk's home; 63- Cod, Good Hope, or Canaveral, e.g.; 64- Highly ranked competitor in sporting events; 65- Consider; 66- Slaughter of baseball;

Down

1- Wine sediment; 2- Environmental sci.; 3- River under the Ponte Vecchio; 4- Married man; 5- Get away; 6- Shouts; 7- "The Time Machine" race; 8- Put down, in slang; 9- Fossick; 10- Langston Hughes poem; 11- The Tower of Pisa does this; 12- Cornerstone abbr.; 15- Study of rocks; 23- Nine-digit ID; 25- Conspiration org.; 26- "Silas Marner" author; 27- Open a tennis match; 28- Computer key; 29- Sea eagles; 30- First-stringers; 31- Aromatic herb; 32- Waiting for the Robert ...; 33- Mail ...; 34- ... a customer; 37- Loss of memory; 40- Had on; 42- Ltr. holder; 43- Provide a substitute for; 45- Yale student; 46- Respect; 48- Fasten again; 49- Church service; 50- Winglike parts; 51- River to the Seine; 52- Tortoise's rival; 54- Israeli statesman Abba; 55- Iams alternative; 56- Meets with; 59- Blushing;

Yesterday's solution

C	L	O	D	S	P	E	N	T	A	B	E	L
L	I	N	O	A	E	R	I	E	G	A	L	A
O	M	E	N	T	R	I	L	L	A	T	L	I
P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E	T	A	S	T	E
R	E	T	R	E	E	T	A	S	S			
A	R	R	O	W	A	O	R	T	A	E	E	
R	A	I	N	A	M	O	R	E	M	A	S	T
E	S	E	S	C	A	L	E	R	A	N	O	N
R	E	S	T	L	E	S	S	T	E	S	L	A
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S	W	E	E	P	F	R	O	S	T	I	N	G
M	E	T	A	E	P	E	E	S	O	L	E	O
E	R	A	T	T	O	N	N	E	S	E	R	E
E	E	L	Y	C	E	D	E	D	O	D	O	R

Classifieds



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email : advt@newsofbahrain.com

VACANCIES AVAILABLE

Seven Energy W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of GUEST ARRANGEMENT SPECIALIST, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17500791 or hr@seven-energy.com

GULF AIR B.S.C. (C) has a vacancy for the occupation of CABIN CREW / FLIGHT STEWARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17337804 or recruitment@gulfair.com

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or CAREERS@BH.LULU.MEA.COM

I A Q CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36677672 or AZZANALQARAAN50@GMAIL.COM

AL SABAHYA RESTAURANT, has a vacancy for the occupation of SANDWICHES MAKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39060666 or ISSAA.ZAINAL@GMAIL.COM

BATSCO CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33644886 or hr@batSCO.net

NESTO HYPERMARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227206 or WESTERNAHRAIN201@GMAIL.COM

Commissioning specialist services co s.p.c Owned by **RUAIRI THO** has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANICAL TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36663995 or OFFICE@CSSMIDDLEEAST.COM

NOTRE DAME CONTRACTING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 35618402 or ANTONYCSC@GMAIL.COM

SAEEDA ISA BUILDING COMPLETION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33051349 or SAEEDAISABH@GMAIL.COM

AL MINAR CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36651823 or EBRAHIMMASUD90@GMAIL.COM

RAAWBH COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 394448904 or chrm@bonpal.me

GUJRAT GENTS SALOON has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17326262 or MAJAJ101@HOTMAIL.COM

Red carpet car care has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33187188 or MOSTAFAMOHAMAD25@YAHOO.COM

SUPER WELDING & ALUMINUM WORK SHOP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33886033 or SUPERWASPC@GMAIL.COM

PKS TRADING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39394646 or SHAMSPARAYIL@GMAIL.COM

MASHAHED TRAVEL AND TOURISM has a vacancy for the occupation of RESERVATIONS CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13114884 or MAHMOOD.KADHEM@GMAIL.COM

NUR AL KHAIR CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38888256 or nuralkhairconstruction@gmail.com

TEA TIME W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36960999 or HASHZH2@GMAIL.COM

PLAY RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HOUSEKEEPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 16666661 or hrm@sevensholding.com

BUPARSU CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39548214 or B.PARSU.CONSTRUCTION@GMAIL.COM

Shanyool Ateele Trading has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32313131 or HAMEEDAHASAN95@GMAIL.COM

I 7 VAPE has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39229222 or ISATHEKING2@GMAIL.COM

GENERAL TRADING BEST SEASON has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33344352 or JHUBAISHI@GMAIL.COM

FAISALABAD CARGO HANDLING - BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33982812 or USMANGHANI257257@GMAIL.COM

PAK ELEGANT INTERNATIONAL BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably

qualified applicants can contact 77082332 or malikasilflawa05@gmail.com

RISING STAR ADVERTISING CO WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of GRAPHIC DESIGNER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33601173 or RSADVERTISINGBH@GMAIL.COM

STAR MANPOWER SUPPLY has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17000585 or HRSUPPORT@ALSHAMMARYGROUP.COM

SULTAN BAHADAR AUTO PARTS & SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34560888 or SULTANBAHADAR132@GMAIL.COM

AMOR SUI BEAUTY LOUNGE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BEAUTICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66615177 or AMORSUIBH@GMAIL.COM

COINMENA B.S.C CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (RISK CONTROL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33505554 or dina@coinmena.com

ABU QASIM MIDDLE EAST INTERNATIONAL AIR CONDITIONING has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN(MAINTENANCE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33311247 or AMIR.ALINIAZI@GMAIL.COM

GBL GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CHEF, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33666198 or hr.admin@gbL-group.com

REFRESHING FLOW CONDITIONING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39922208 or JOHNPOUL99@GMAIL.COM

SOHAIL AND MOHAMED JEWELRY CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36552617 or SOHAIL_SHAIKH786@HOTMAIL.COM

PLATINUM FURNITURE WORKSHOP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33995453 or MIM.KHAN321@YAHOO.COM

CORROSION CONTROL MIDDLE EAST W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 32012133 or KEITH.FITZPATRICK@CCMEBH.COM

INDO BAHRAIN FOR MAINTENANCE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722742 or SADEQCONSTRUCTION@GMAIL.COM

ERTH has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34592030 or QANAIEI8@HOTMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or CAREERS@BH.LULU.MEA.COM

ALMOAYYED CONTRACTING GROUP W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17400407 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

JASMI'S CORPORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of FOOD SERVICE WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17588787 or Imra@jasmis.com

Almoayyed Air Conditioning W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

Security Solutions Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or GOVERNMENT@MRE.CO

ALAAI CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17566444 or alaaico@batelco.com.bh

Secure Me W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77090999 or SECURE.ME@LIVE.COM

The K - Hotel has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17360000 or abbas.fardan@thekhotel.com

ASFI CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39464122 or ROYAL_SIMO@HOTMAIL.COM

First Choice Cleaning Services Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36491411 or MURTAZAWAL100@GMAIL.COM

RED APPLE ELECTRONICS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39966465 or WASH.SQUARE.LAUNDRY@GMAIL.COM

RASHID PERVAIZ MARKETING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36682412 or LAJBAR624@GMAIL.COM

RUPINDER AND NAEEM ELECTRONICS REPAIRING BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36944344 or NAEEMSHAHZAD4344@GMAIL.COM

ITALIAN KITCHENS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66648668 or

ALAAEMO93@GMAIL.COM

ZEESHAN CARGO HANDLING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36408685 or ZEESHANRIZWAN1653@GMAIL.COM

QN CONSULTANCY CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE ASSISTANT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33110864 or QAISER.NADEEM786@GMAIL.COM

MR. CUT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of BARBER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39661894 or ABDUL33883621@GMAIL.COM

LABADIAMA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of DIRECTOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38279999 or MOOSAALDHAIF@YANDEX.RU

I TAZZ TRADING has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36447432 or INVASION.AR@GMAIL.COM

GARBAGE TO GOLD SCRAP CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39399980 or GARBAGETOGOLD.BH@GMAIL.COM

SASI PLACEMENT AND SERVICES CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34368799 or EEZEEMPLOYMENT@GMAIL.COM

JAMAL HOSSAIN SUPPORT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36675632 or MR.MJANNATUL@GMAIL.COM

VICTORIOUS ADVERTISING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36307319 or GQS.CLEARANCE@HOTMAIL.COM

TEBITS MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP COMPANY has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38136998 or TEBIT97@GMAIL.COM

LINKED CARE CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36008131 or AHMEDJ.AFFARADAM@GMAIL.COM

ADNAN SAYED SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34690477 or ADNAN.SCONSULTANCYBH@GMAIL.COM

LYALLPUR RESTAURANT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 36778780 or UMARFAROQQ651993@GMAIL.COM

WOODPECKER JOINERY has a vacancy for the occupation of CARPENTER(FURNITURE), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33509911 or woodpeckbh@gmail.com

RANJIT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33179673 or RANJITSERVICES9@GMAIL.COM

BORA BLOCK CONSTRUCTION CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33191006 or NA3885478@GMAIL.COM

GLOBE TRUST SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33516858 or AYWAK908@GMAIL.COM

WTD CAFE has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37771557 or SHAIKHA.HAMADA@HOTMAIL.COM

ZESHAN STAR AUTO PARTS CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39855737 or HAMIDQURESH89@GMAIL.COM

AL WATAN EVENT PLANNING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PURCHASING EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39812665 or MOHAMMEDAL18705@GMAIL.COM

JAGWINDER INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33422370 or gqs_clearance@hotmail.com

IMDAD ZONE CARGO HANDLING COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33059022 or IMDADZONE.BH@GMAIL.COM

WORLD CLASS INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17556777 or CHAINAPUNJABI2013@GMAIL.COM

GLAMOR ABAYAT has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES AGENT, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35073070 or FATIMABALALL70@GMAIL.COM

ALI AHAMMAD CONSTRUCTION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35434910 or ALI.BH8712@GMAIL.COM

NOUR CARGO HANDLING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33243624 or SAFEHULLAH@GMAIL.COM

LEVEL 2 TECHNOLOGIES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of PROGRAMMER(COMPUTER), suitably qualified applicants can contact 13300044 or ZAMANZ@GMAIL.COM

MARS ROCK CONTRACTING W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably

qualified applicants can contact 33353070 or CHAINAPUNJABI2013@GMAIL.COM

STAIN AWAY CLEANING AND LAUNDRY SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of LAUNDERER/PRESSER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39991305 or MADEENASP@GMAIL.COM

CHAMINDA INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33249820 or MASIMMAHI743@GMAIL.COM

MUHAMMAD ADNAN INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34585622 or RIMONMIAH728@GMAIL.COM

JEBRAN CLEANING SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35146693 or FAHADBAHRAIN88@GMAIL.COM

BLUEZEST CO W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37504077 or BHARON845@GMAIL.COM

HASEEB JUTT SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34395038 or JAN.WAQAS764@GMAIL.COM

ABDULMAJED ALMDAR ZAINAL / DAFER ALBHAR - 8810 has a vacancy for the occupation of SEAMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33355528 or ZAINAL.ESSA@GMAIL.COM

Almoayyed Air Conditioning W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of AIR-CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39770606 or profice@almoayyedcg.com

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

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or hr@jaradahfish.com

PAN ARAB CONSULTING ENGINEERS has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39444355 or BASSEM@3CSBAHRAIN.COM

ALNEMRAN CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456488 or info@alnemranch.com

AL NESR ELECTRICAL WORKSHOP has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 34449227 or ADRAJ1@YAHOO.COM

Golden Diyar construction has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33390007 or HWBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

BATSCO CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33644886 or hr@batSCO.net

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

CAPITAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 77132211 or operations@cfmbahrain.com

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

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

THE GROVE HOTEL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39456616 or hasan@solarealestate.com

REEF AL YEMEN RESTAURANTS COMPANY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 34000422 or WHAIDARAH@GMAIL.COM

GCS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SERVICES HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 37722884 or government@mre.co

Mechanical Contracting & Services Company RIGGER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36937988 or MCSC@MCSCWLL.COM

R&B Fashion Bahrain W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SALES EXECUTIVE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17564451 or ahmed.alqassab@apparelglobal.com

ROSHAN TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33410014 or ROSHAN_BH@YAHOO.COM

CHUBBARA SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331290 or CHUBBARASERVICES@GMAIL.COM

AL SANA INTERIOR DECORATION W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER,

suitably qualified applicants can contact 37497868 or QURASHIAKRAM858@GMAIL.COM

HABIB ABAS ABDULLA SALMAN*ADWAA ALFAUR*8780 has a vacancy for the occupation of FISHERMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38100400 or Work.bh95@gmail.com

Ahmadi Industries B.S.C Closed has a vacancy for the occupation of DRIVER(FOOD DISTRIBUTION), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17271333 or hr@ahmadipepsi.com

HOLE N ONE W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of KITCHEN AIDE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17727200 or info@rumcogroup.com

ARAD CONSTRUCTION ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17256338 or ACE.5391@GMAIL.COM

KOOHEJICONTRACTORS W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ESTIMATOR(COST), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17786500 or careers@kcbahrain.com

JOZ CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39999887 or JOZGROUP@BATELCO.COM.BH

SHUTDOWN MAINTENANCE SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17742961 or SMSWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

THREE DULPHINE SWIMMING POOL has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323523 or 701005@bapoo.net

GOLD IRON LAUNDRY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66994556 or M.BINHUIJI@GMAIL.COM

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or hr@jaradahfish.com

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

ALMAS GENTLEMEN'S HAIRDRESSING has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39607243 or MAQSOOD@BATELCO.COM.BH

ALADLIYA CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39602882 or alsediqiqi12@outlook.com

CELLMEC W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 13670033 or MD@CELLMEC.COM

NATIONAL EXCAVATING EST. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39455537 or NEWWLL@BATELCO.COM.BH

AL-NAMAL MECHANICAL CONTRACTING CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17251444 or namalco@batelco.com.bh

UNITED GULF CONTRACTING & ASPHALT CO. has a vacancy for the occupation of MASON, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17700116 or hr.admin@hajihassan.com

ALJAMAHER TAILORING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33009909 or ALJAMAHEER.BH@GMAIL.COM

ALTOOLA ACCESSORIES has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39660063 or nadhomalkhor@yahoo.com

AVRAN PHOR has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39434444 or alashraf46@gmail.com

HAMAD TOWN PHARMACY has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39118999 or hr@hip.com.bh

SHOE MART B.S.C. - CLOSED has a vacancy for the occupation of TRAINEE, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17116223 or info@nh.com.bh

UMM ALSUBBAN MECHANICAL CONTRACTS has a vacancy for the occupation of ELECTRICIAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17491190 or usmc@batelco.com.bh

MARHABA LAUNDRY has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(LAUNDRY), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39651616 or ALIALOLAIWAT68@HOTMAIL.COM

YOKOGAWA MIDDLE EAST & AFRICA B.S.C. (CLOSED) has a vacancy for the occupation of PROJECT LEADER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17358169 or sumedha.munasinghe@yokogawa.com

YAQUB INTERNATIONAL has a vacancy for the occupation of MANAGER (MARKETING & SALES(EXCEPT WHOLESAL)), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39633813 or adam@yaqub-international.com

THE DIFFICULT CAR SERVICES has a vacancy for the occupation of MECHANIC, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33031962 or K-ALAMER64@HOTMAIL.COM

TAIBAH PICKLES PLANT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39457556 or

MOHDALJASIM24@GMAIL.COM

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

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or hr@jaradahfish.com

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

BREEZEE SECRET CARS SPARE PARTS has a vacancy for the occupation of CASHIER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39445823 or NASSERBREEZEE@GMAIL.COM

SHAKER & ADEL S/O ABBAS KHALAF JEWELLERS has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER(JEWELLERY & PRECIOUS METAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17822550 or Fatimakhala@shakeradeljewellers.com

CHICKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 35114403 or DPASIF@YAHOO.COM

GEEPAS INTERNATIONAL W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17227206 or GEEPASBAHRAIN@GMAIL.COM

HAIRPORT SALON has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 3661882 or M.66661666@GMAIL.COM

Thailand Gate Restaurant has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33331508 or janchnonana16@gmail.com

RASHEED CAFETERIA has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 39331599 or olwynp@gmail.com

SWISS-BELSUITES ADMIRAL JUFFAIR W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 33596111 or RECRUITMENTS@SWISS-BELHOTEL.COM

ALMAHROOS CURTAIN DESIGNING has a vacancy for the occupation of TAILOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39441048 or MAHROOSDESIGN@GMAIL.COM

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or hr@jaradahfish.com

A - KARIM ALJAHROMI CONTRACTING COMPANY WLL has a vacancy for the occupation of LABOURER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17831000 or akjcont@gmail.com

ALMATALA CONTRACTING ESTABLISHMENT has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39458212 or ABDULAZIZJABER4455@HOTMAIL.COM

LULU BAHRAIN HYPER MARKET W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of RETAIL TRADE SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17558558 or CAREERS@BH.LULU.MEA.COM

MAID CLEAN W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of CLEANER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39006460 or AAYFAN@BINFAQEEH.COM

Combitec Contracting Co. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17002669 or MOHD AKTER@YAHOO.COM

SABRO METALS CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WELDER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 38885801 or MARTINKATTAKAYAM@YAHOO.COM

A A & A SERVICES W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33808453 or ARSHADAQIB186@GMAIL.COM

DAR ALARAB CONSTRUCTIONS has a vacancy for the occupation of SUPERVISOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17478287 or ISAIL1956@GMAIL.COM

New Marble City W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SAFETY OFFICER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33881933 or MUSTAFACHALIL@GMAIL.COM

MASHAIER MARKET has a vacancy for the occupation of SALESMAN, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36363259 or MASHAERMARKET4@GMAIL.COM

EASY BAKE BAHRAINI PARTNERSHIP CO has a vacancy for the occupation of BAKER(GENERAL), suitably qualified applicants can contact 17691212 or modbake@gmail.com

Farm food trading co wll has a vacancy for the occupation of TRENCH DIGGING MACHINE OPERATOR, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33663340 or STEPAND@BATELCO.COM.BH

FLORIDA GULF CONSTRUCTION has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33323995 or hr@jaradahfish.com

PEBBLES GATE SUPPORT ACTIVITIES has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33330363 or MAHMOODESA151@YAHOO.COM

Classifieds

VACANCIES AVAILABLE CONTINUED

JABAL SAND BUILDING CLEANING CONTRACTING has a vacancy for the occupation of HEAVY DRIVER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33029829 or jabalsand@gmail.com

MOROJO MAY CAFETERIA W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WAITER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 66677733 or FOODWORLD.WLL@GMAIL.COM

EAGLE FOR SAFE AND SECURITY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of SECURITY GUARD, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17270140 or aliattmimi@yahoo.com

ROSARIO FIXED MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of WORKER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 39795999 or ROSARIO@GMAIL.COM

DAR BU ABDULLA AL WALAEM has a vacancy for the occupation of COOK(ASSISTANT), suitably qualified applicants can contact 37355624 or SHOWWATER212@GMAIL.COM

House of stones 2 has a vacancy for the occupation of ACCOUNTANTS, suitably qualified applicants can contact 33085196 or FADHEL.HASSAN@HOTMAIL.COM

DEVIJ AUURUM GOLD AND DIAMOND FACTORY W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of OFFICE HELPER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17162244 or hr@devijaurum.com

BETTER LIFE HAIR DRESSING has a vacancy for the occupation of HAIR DRESSER, suitably qualified applicants can contact 36511997 or 007ALMAHRIN@GMAIL.COM

TVS TRAVELS CO. W.L.L. has a vacancy for the occupation of TICKETING CLERK, suitably qualified applicants can contact 17003499 or NADER39915510@GMAIL.COM

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Head injury charity criticises Ederson substitution delay



Manchester City's Brazilian goalkeeper #31 Ederson (L) argues with manager Pep Guardiola following his decision to substitute him

AFP | London

A brain injury charity has questioned why Manchester City goalkeeper Ederson was not replaced immediately following his collision with Tottenham Hotspur's Cristian Romero.

The Brazilian initially lay motionless on the turf at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium on Tuesday while he was being treated by medical staff, with City manager Pep Guardiola later saying medical staff had told him Ederson could not see properly after Romero's leg made contact with his head.

Nevertheless, Ederson played on for several minutes before being replaced by Stefan Ortega, who made several key saves in a match City went on to win 2-0 to put themselves in position to retain the Premier League title on Sunday's final day of the season.

Luke Griggs, the chief executive of the brain injury charity Headway, said: "The fundamental principle of any concussion protocol is 'if in doubt, sit it out'.

"The concern from play-

ers of both teams in the immediate aftermath of the injury, as well as from the medical team and the fact a stretcher was brought on to the pitch, would suggest a clear concern for Ederson's well-being.

"The fact that he was not immediately removed would suggest a concussion was not suspected. This is hard to understand, especially as symptoms can be delayed in their presentation."

He added: "While we were relieved to see the player taken off a few minutes later, it is hard to fathom why this was not an immediate decision.

"It is yet another example of when a temporary concussion substitute would have been helpful."

The Premier League has attempted to trial temporary concussion substitutes, but football's lawmakers have rejected this option in favour of trials of additional permanent concussion subs, which will become a permanent option for competitions to adopt from July 1.

Ederson was visibly angry after being taken off in what was a key game for City.

Knicks bounce back to crush Pacers, Jokic and Nuggets on a roll



New York Knicks' Jalen Brunson in action

AFP | Los Angeles

Jalen Brunson was back to his best on Tuesday as the New York Knicks dominated the Indiana Pacers 121-91 to take a 3-2 lead in their Eastern Conference semi-final Game 5.

A win on Friday night in Indianapolis will see the Knicks advance to the Eastern Conference finals for the first time in 24 years.

After losing Game 4 by 32

points, it was an emphatic response from the Knicks, with Brunson piling up 44 points with seven assists and four rebounds.

"He's willing to share everything with his teammates, and to me, that is the best part of him," said Knicks head coach Tom Thibodeau.

"His play is spectacular, but who he is as a teammate, as a leader, it makes us that. Big shot after big shot."

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Khalifa, S/O Mohammed Hassan Bongia, holding Indian Passport No. **V6405059**, issued on 05 January 2022 at Manama, Bahrain. Having permanent residence at **160/A Mulla Manzil, Nathkeri Road, Kharwa Post, Honnavar, Uttara Kannada Karnataka-581335, India**. Presently residing at **Building- 91, Flat-12, Road-318, Block-321, Hooru, Manama Bahrain** will henceforth be known as (given name) **Khalifa** (surname) **Mohamed Hasan Bongya**.
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Man City do feel the tension of title race, says Guardiola

Guardiola admits pressure affects Manchester City ahead of crucial final game against West Ham

● Haaland's double secures win over Tottenham

● City leads Arsenal by two points

AFP | London

Manchester City will be affected by the nerves of going for a fourth consecutive Premier League title on Sunday, said Pep Guardiola despite his side's experience.

City moved to the top of the table, two points ahead of Arsenal, thanks to Erling Haaland's second-half double to beat their bogey side Tottenham on Tuesday.

It is the first time Guardiola's men have won at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in the Premier League, but it was a far from vintage performance.

After Haaland opened the



Manchester City's Swiss defender #25 Manuel Akanji (L) fights for the ball with Tottenham Hotspur's Senegalese midfielder #29 Pape Matar Sarr

scoring early in the second period, substitute goalkeeper Stefan Ortega had to make three crucial saves before the Norwegian striker settled the visitors with a penalty in stoppage time.

City have won eight straight Premier League games and are

unbeaten from open play in any competition since December 6.

But they host West Ham on the final day knowing anything less than victory will allow Arsenal to take the title should they beat Everton.

"They were playing for the consequences of the result.



Pep Guardiola compared winning the Premier League title to "the serve to win Wimbledon", saying it's the most difficult part

When you play football thinking about the consequences, you are going to lose the Premier League, you cannot perform at your best level," said Guardiola of his side's display.

"But they are human beings so I can understand the pressure is there.

"It will be the same against West Ham. We will feel the pressure."



They were playing for the consequences of the result. When you play football thinking about the consequences, you are going to lose the Premier League, you cannot perform at your best level

PEP GUARDIOLA

In the same circumstances two years ago City needed a late rally from 2-0 down to beat Aston Villa 3-2 and deny Liverpool the title.

"They feel it there and they know it. They are not celebrating, there is relief but there is still a job to do," added Guardiola.

"The tennis players say 'the serve to win Wimbledon is the most difficult one'.

"(We need to) prepare well, completely focus and try to win

there."

Rodri said City are ready to rewrite the record books once more by becoming the first side to ever win four consecutive English top-flight titles.

"We know it wasn't our best performance but we came here to win and that's what we do," said the Spanish midfielder.

"We have the experience of Aston Villa. We know it is going to be tough but with our people, our crowd, we know we can make history."

On a tense evening in north London, Arsenal needed their local rivals to do them a favour and Tottenham gave City a scare.

Ortega replaced Ederson after the Brazilian suffered a head knock in challenge with Cristian Romero.

Ederson was visibly frustrated to be removed but Ortega proved to be City's hero with one huge stop to deny Son Heung-min an equaliser five minutes from time.

"Stefan was simply incredible," added Rodri.

Haaland tells Man City to 'relax' ahead of title race finale

AFP | London

Erling Haaland has urged his Manchester City teammates to "relax" after they closed in on making English football history with a 2-0 win away to Tottenham Hotspur.

Tuesday's triumph in north London saw City, courtesy of two goals from Haaland, win their game in hand as they returned to the top of the table as they moved two points clear of Arsenal.

Victory at home to West Ham on Sunday's final day of the season will now assure City of a fourth successive Premier League title -- an unprecedented feat in the top tier of English football.

"Yeah, fantastic mentality," Haaland told City+. "Focus on game by game and now relax. We came here to try to win and we won."

Haaland opened the scoring



Manchester City's Norwegian striker #09 Erling Haaland shoots a penalty kick and scores his team second goal

six minutes into the second half when he tapped in from Kevin De Bruyne's pass before doubling City's lead from the penalty spot after Jeremy Doku was brought down by Pedro Porro.

Spurs, however, had a chance to equalise but City reserve goalkeeper Stefan Ortega, who came

on after Ederson was injured in a challenge with Cristian Romero, stood up well to deny Son Heung-min when one-on-one with the South Korean.

"They're a fantastic team," Haaland said of Spurs. "You know everyone knows that they want to play all the time and all

It was really difficult, but yeah, we came here to try and win and we won. That's my only thing and I'm happy

ERLING HAALAND

praise to them.

"It was really difficult, but yeah, we came here to try and win and we won. That's my only thing and I'm happy."

"I think we were a bit nervous. I think that's normal, there's a lot of emotions for everyone."

"Everyone knows the situation, but it's about not thinking too much. Try to focus on your things to do and try to win."

He added: "Ortega man of the match... What can I say? He's incredible and such a good guy as well, so I'm happy for him."

Postecoglou 'misread' Spurs' fans desperation to deny Arsenal title

AFP | London



Tottenham Hotspur's South Korean striker Son Heung-Min shoots the ball

AFP | London

Tottenham boss Ange Postecoglou said the foundations he has built at the club are "fragile" after many fans took glee in their 2-0 defeat to Manchester City, which could deny north London rivals Arsenal the Premier League title.

Spurs' chances of Champions League football were ended by Erling Haaland's second-half double that took City back to the top of the table, two points ahead of Arsenal going into Sunday's final fixtures.

Postecoglou had dismissed suggestions on the eve of the game that Tottenham supporters would want their own side to lose if it meant denying the Gunners a first title in 20 years.

But after a subdued atmos-

Tottenham have made a habit of scoring late goals this season, including in a thrilling 3-3 draw against City at the Etihad earlier in the season

(I) Don't care. Outside, inside, everywhere. It's been an interesting exercise. I probably misread the situation in what it takes to make a winning team

ANGE POSTEOGLOU

phere on Tuesday night, with chants mocking Arsenal in the final stages, the Australian admitted he had "misread" the situation.

"I think the last 48 hours have revealed to me the foundations are pretty fragile. That's things I've got to go back to the drawing board on," said Postecoglou.

The former Celtic boss was further pressed on whether his frustration was aimed at the fans or those inside the club.

"(I) Don't care. Outside, inside, everywhere. It's been an interesting exercise," he added.

"I probably misread the situation in what it takes to make a winning team."

Albon signs new multi-year F1 contract with Williams

AFP | London

Alex Albon has committed his long-term future to Williams after it was announced yesterday he had signed a "multi-year" contract extension with the British Formula One team.

The Thai driver had been linked with Mercedes following Lewis Hamilton's move to Ferrari for 2025 and also a return to Red Bull.

But instead he has decided to stay with Williams, after winning 27 of their 28 points in the 2023 drivers' championship as the team finished seventh place in the Constructors' Champion-



Alex Albon

ship -- their best placing since 2017.

Albon, however, has yet to win a point from this season's opening six races.

"I'm incredibly happy to be

remaining with Williams Racing and to continue working with such a talented and dedicated team of people," said Albon in a Williams statement.

"It has been a difficult start to the year, but since joining Williams we have made significant progress together and I have seen the huge changes happening behind the scenes to take us back to the front of the grid."

"This is a long-term project that I really believe in and want to play a key role in which is why I have signed a multi-year contract. The journey will take time but I am confident we

are building the right team to move forward and achieve great things in the years to come."

Williams did not specify the length of Albon's new deal but said the renewed agreement with the 28-year-old, who was born on London, would take "the partnership into the new era of Formula One regulations and demonstrates a shared belief in the upward trajectory of the team".

Williams' statement added: "Since joining Williams Racing, Alex Albon has showcased exceptional determination and dedication both on and off the track."

'Best ever' tennis takes outsider Tabilo to Rome Open semis

Chile's Tabilo continues fairytale run at Rome Open with straight-sets win over Zhang

● Sabalenka advances to semis with easy win over Ostapenko

AFP | Rome

Alejandro Tabilo hailed the best tennis of his career yesterday after his fairytale run at the Rome Open continued to the semi-finals with a straight-sets win over China's Zhang Zhizhen.

Chile's Tabilo will play his first-ever last four match at a Masters 1000 event at the age of 26, after unfussily seeing off unseeded Zhang 6-3, 6-4 in one hour and 26 minutes on centre court at the Foro Italico.

Tabilo knocked out six-time Rome champion Novak Djokovic on Sunday and in the last four the 29th seed will face either world number five Alexander Zverev or Taylor Fritz who play the day's final match.

"It's just unbelievable, I just can't believe it right now, still



Chile's Alejandro Tabilo celebrates after winning against China's Zhang Zhizhen

trying to soak this in... Definitely an unforgettable two weeks for me," said a delighted Tabilo.

"It's definitely the best tennis of my life right now, but I mean, trying to keep a poker face there because inside I'm just so nervous, every time trying to close out the match gets a little bit tighter."

Tabilo, in fact, had far less trouble yesterday than he did in

his battle with Karen Khachanov in the previous round, not facing a single break point on his way to the biggest match of his career at the last major tournament before the French Open.

Zverev, who won the Rome title in 2017, is the highest ranked man left in the event after Daniil Medvedev's elimination on Tuesday.

As well as Djokovic's exit, Ital-



It's definitely the best tennis of my life right now, but I mean, trying to keep a poker face there because inside I'm just so nervous, every time trying to close out the match gets a little bit tighter

ALEJANDRO TABILO

ian world number two Jannik Sinner and third-ranked Carlos Alcaraz both dropped out injured before the tournament.

Holger Rune, who lost last year's final to Medvedev, Madrid champion Andrey Rublev -- ranked sixth in the world -- and beaten finalist Felix Auger-Aliassime have also been eliminated.

Sabalenka strolls

Women's second seed Sabalenka needed just an hour and 13 minutes to see off Jelena Ostapenko in straight sets, 6-2, 6-4 on



This is the first time since 2013 French Open that the world's top 3 women (Swiatek, Sabalenka, Gauff) have reached the semi-finals of a WTA 250 or higher event

phere and with this amazing support... that's why I'm super motivated here and that's why I always say that this is the dream tournament for me to win," said Sabalenka.

"I really enjoy playing here so I don't have to think about being focused... I'm just here enjoying it and doing everything I can to win every point I play no matter what the score. I guess that's the key."

The 26-year-old could get a rematch of the Madrid final which she lost in dramatic fashion to world number one Iga Swiatek earlier this month.

Sabalenka, who has won the two most recent Australian Opens, was in a different class to Ostapenko, a former French Open winner, who could do nothing in the face of some punishing hitting.

Rome is the first time since the 2013 French Open that the top three women have reached the last four of a WTA event of 250 level or higher, with Swiatek and world number three Coco Gauff in the other semi-final.

Future bright for 'game changer' Fraser-McGurk: Ganguly

AFP | New Delhi

Young Australian batsman Jake Fraser-McGurk has a long career ahead despite missing out on a T20 World Cup berth, according to his IPL team director Sourav Ganguly.

Fraser-McGurk, 22, has impressed for Delhi Capitals with 330 runs in nine matches, at a punishing strike rate of more than 234, this season in the 20-over Indian Premier League.

He did not make it into Australia's squad for the World Cup in June but has been lauded for his fearless batting by Ganguly, Delhi coach Ricky Ponting



Jake Fraser-McGurk of Delhi Capitals plays a shot

and fellow Australian Capitals' teammate David Warner.

"With Ricky around he guided Jake very well. What I like about him is he's hungry, he wants to play well," Ganguly said on Tuesday during Delhi's win over Lucknow Super Giants.

"I know he missed out on the World Cup, Australia should have probably picked him," said former India captain Ganguly.

"But that's the way it goes when you have so many good players in Warner, Travis Head and Mitch Marsh at three, you will obviously miss out.

"But he's just 22 and he has got a long career.

"For us, he is a game changer and that's what you need in this

Fraser-McGurk went unsold at the IPL auction but joined Delhi as an injury replacement for South African pacer Lungi Ngidi

format."

Fraser-McGurk went unsold at the IPL auction but joined Delhi as an injury replacement for South African pacer Lungi Ngidi.

In an interview with AFP last month he said the T20 World Cup in the West Indies and the United States was "not on the forefront" of his mind.

Curran stars for Punjab as Rajasthan lose four in row



Punjab Kings' Sam Curran plays a shot

AFP | Guwahati

Scorecard

Punjab Kings 145 for 5 (Curran 63*, Avesh 2-28, Chahal 2-31) beat Rajasthan Royals 144 for 9 (Parag 48, Ashwin 28, Curran 2-24, Chahal 2-26, Harshal 2-28) by five wickets

Skipper Sam Curran starred with bat and ball as Punjab Kings beat Rajasthan Royals by five wickets for a consolation win in the Indian Premier League yesterday.

Chasing a tricky 145 on a sluggish pitch, Punjab depended on Curran's unbeaten 63 to achieve their target with seven balls to spare in Rajasthan's adopted home ground in Guwahati.

Left-handed Curran put on a key 63-run stand with Jitesh Sharma, who made 22, and despite losing his partner in the 16th over steered the team home to lift them from the bottom of the 10-team table.

Impact substitute Ashutosh Sharma smashed 17 and the winning run to hand Rajasthan their fourth successive defeat in this edition of the T20 tour-

ament. "To be very honest, we have to sit back and accept that we are going through some failures," Rajasthan skipper Sanju Samson said.

"You have to find out what's not working well as a team. When you are getting to the business end, we need someone to raise their finger up and say I am going to win the game for the team. We have the players who can do that."

The loss for Rajasthan hurt their chances of a top-two finish in the league stage a day after they confirmed their play-off spot.

Milan claims Giro stage double as Pogacar retains lead

AFP | Rome

Jonathan Milan claimed his second win at this year's Giro d'Italia after taking the honours at yesterday's 11th stage in a messy bunch sprint.

Having already won stage four, Italian Milan pipped a clutch of top sprinters to the line at Francavilla al Mare, on the shores of the Adriatic Sea, after 207 kilometres from Foiano di Val Fortore.

After an easy day heading north along the Adriatic coast, all of the sprint and general classification contenders were involved in the long straight final sprint into a headwind.

A nasty crash left several riders on the ground in the final kilometre but in the sprint to



Italian rider Jonathan Milan (C) crosses the finish line

the line Lidl-Trek rider Milan broke off Tim Merlier's wheel, bursting through to notch his fifth win of the season.

"It's not just this 20-second sprint or the victory in the end that made me happy. It was all the work the guys did today to



It's not just this 20-second sprint or the victory in the end that made me happy. It was all the work the guys did today to support me and bring me to the crucial position for the sprint

JONATHAN MILAN

support me and bring me to the crucial position for the sprint," said track specialist Milan.

"This is what has made me happy. A real team, as we are. I think today it's just unbelievable what the guys did for me today."