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Minamoto Yoritomo becomes Sei Tai Shogun and the de facto ruler of Japan



1703

The Edirne Event: Turkish army removes Sultan Mustafa II, lessening the power of the sultans

1911

"Mona Lisa" stolen from the Louvre by Vincenzo Perugia; recovered in 1913

1991

Conservative coup in the Soviet Union is crushed by popular resistance led by Boris Yeltsin in three days

backlash, foreign powers speed Afghanistan exodus

at airport as UN reports Taliban searching for Afghans who worked with foreign forces



A baby is handed over to the American army over the perimeter wall of the airport for it to be evacuated, in Kabul

neighbouring countries to keep borders open.

The speed with which the Islamist group conquered Afghanistan, as foreign troops were withdrawing, surprised even their own leaders and left power vacuums.

The Taliban called for unity, asking imams at Friday prayers to persuade people not to leave. Residents in Kabul and four other cities said attendance was low, though prayers passed off without incident.

However, a German civilian was wounded by a gunshot on the way to the airport before being evacuated, a German government spokesman said. And German broadcaster Deutsche Welle said Taliban fighters killed a relative of one of its reporters and badly wounded another in house-to-house searches.

Some Afghans have reported being beaten and having homes raided, while others say they have received reassurances. Taliban spokespeople were not immediately available for comment.

Protests

A witness said several people were killed in the eastern city of Asadabad on Thursday when a protest was fired on by the Taliban, who want to impose strict Islamic law. There were similar shows of defiance in two other eastern cities - Jalalabad and Khost - coinciding with celebrations of the nation's 1919 independence from British control.

"The Taliban are facing the new reality of Afghanistan that Afghans are not the same Afghans of 20 years ago," Barakat Rahmati, Afghanistan deputy ambassador



Evacuees from Afghanistan disembark a Spanish military plane as part of their evacuation at Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC) in Dubai

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US has about 5,800 soldiers controlling the airport but acknowledged it does not have a grip on how many citizens were in Afghanistan

to Qatar, told Reuters.

"Afghans, inclusive of men and women, held protests in Kabul despite a Taliban gun being pointed to them. They are holding protests against injustice. They are defending their identity and their flag."

Washington has about 5,800

soldiers controlling the airport but acknowledged it does not have a grip on how many US citizens were in Afghanistan.

The United States was "laser-focused" on "the potential for a terrorist attack" by a group such as Islamic State during the evacuation, White House security adviser Jake Sullivan said.

In Britain, media said several senior officials were on holiday as the Afghan debacle erupted and that spy chiefs may face a grilling over intelligence failings. Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab countered that the government had been working "tirelessly" on evacuations.

Germany said yesterday it was sending helicopters to help.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said other countries should not impose their own values. Beijing, too, said the world should support, not pressure, Afghanistan.

GoFundMe campaign raises \$6mn for Afghan evacuation



Afghans wait to board a US military aircraft to leave Afghanistan at the airport in Kabul

AFP | Washington

A GoFundMe campaign to raise money for the evacuation of 300 vulnerable Afghans fleeing the Taliban has raised over \$6 million, according to figures published Thursday.

The creator of the fundraising page, New York-based Tommy Marcus, asked for funds to organize flights out of the country for Afghans who risk being targeted by the Taliban.

They include men and women who worked as human rights lawyers, LGBTQ activists, journalists, government liaisons and others, "all of whom are at imminent risk of being executed by the Taliban, along with their families," the page said.

Marcus said he was working with aid groups, veterans and activists on the ground in Kabul to plan the rescue operation.

Since its launch earlier this week, the campaign has received donations from over 106,000 people, with contributions ranging from \$1 to \$20,000, collecting \$5 million in the space of just one day.

Underwater in the Mediterranean Sea off Cyprus



ject in Cyprus in March last year," says Taylor. "So we probably chose the worst time possible."

"We had a lot of difficulties with changing flights, organizing materials and moving everything. It's certainly been one of the most challenging projects that I've ever done."

Challenging project

The museum actually begins on land, with a physical entrance on Pernera beach and a pathway leading towards a descent point with a floating platform that leads down to the submerged sculptures.

Musan is accessible to both di-

"I tried to incorporate as many references to climate change and habitat loss and pollution as I could, because those are really the defining issues of our era. I'm kind of hoping that it leaves the visitor with a sense of hope along with a sense that the human impact isn't always negative. That we can reverse some of the things we've done"

JASON DECAIRES TAYLOR

vers and snorkelers, and Taylor hopes that it will lure more visitors to this marine protected area of Cyprus, which he describes as having "some of the best visibility I've ever been in."

"It's obviously very different from other places," he explains. "It's not a tropical region, where we have coral reefs and all the habitat that that brings, it's more of a temperate area."



"So it will attract different species of marine life, and it's one of the first pieces I've done where the works go from the seabed up to the sea surface, with floating elements."

"The floating trees move quite a lot in the current -- they go very, very close to the surface."

Living visual experience

One of the sculptures have been strategically placed so that it's looking out onto the barren stretch of sand along the waters of the Mediterranean, considered the world's most over fished sea.

"It's meant to convey that we

need to look after these protected areas massively and we need to talk about policing them in a much, much tighter way," he adds.

Musan is a joint collaboration between the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, the Ayia Napa municipality and the Ministry of Tourism.

"The underwater museum will be a living visual and ecological experience, with works of art interacting with nature and evolving over time," Marina Argyrou, director of the Department of Fisheries and Marine Research said during a statement at the

launch of the project last month.

Environmental art

"And I'm certain it will bring people closer to the marine environment and the conservation and protection of our marine ecosystem."

Visits to the museum can be booked via local dive centers.

Taylor's work is primarily focused on promoting ocean conservation and highlighting the impact of climate change.

He's currently working on new exhibits for Australia's Museum of Underwater Art in Townsville, northern Queensland on the Great Barrier Reef, which has lost half of its corals over the past two decades, as well as a future exhibit to be based in the Red Sea.

Taylor says he's also been in talks with the Grenadian government about the possibility of creating some new underwater installation on the island where he launched his first such project back in 2006.

The artist launched an underwater museum consisting of six portrait sculptures weighing around 10 tons in France near Cannes earlier this year.



TOP
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TWEETS

01



India is fighting COVID-19 with full vigour. The approval for world's first DNA based 'ZyCoV-D' vaccine of @ZyduUniverse is a testimony to the innovative zeal of India's scientists. A momentous feat indeed.

@narendramodi

02



Chaired UN Security Council briefing related to Counter Terrorism. The Council's unanimous position on terrorism threats, including from ISIL-Khorasan, is a clear message. Vital to display zero tolerance of terrorism, no double standards, no distinction.

@DrSJaishankar

03



The health & well-being of billions of people depends to a large degree on the urban environments in which they live & work. Welcome #Bucharest, #Cairo, #Cordoba, #Dublin, #Manchester and #Warsaw to the Healthy Cities partnership.

@DrTedros

04



The climate crisis is a child rights crisis. Around 1 billion children live in countries that are at extremely high-risk to the effects of the climate emergency, according to @UNICEF. The time for #ClimateAction is now. Inaction is not an option.

@antoniouterres

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