

**Bahrain bow to Egypt in handball worlds**

Kingdom's senior men's national handball team put up spirited fight against African giants in penultimate main round fixture of 28th IHF Men's Handball World Championship | P12

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THE DAILY **tribune**



Jennifer Lopez was reluctant to star in 'Shotgun Wedding'

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BUSINESS 5 Iranian currency falls to record low amid isolation and sanctions

**UAE President declares 2023 the 'Year of Sustainability'**



UAE President Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed al-Nahyan

**Agencies**

The United Arab Emirates' President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed has declared 2023 the "Year of Sustainability" ahead of the country's staging of the COP28 climate summit.

In a post online, the UAE president said that by hosting COP28 - which aims to reduce emissions responsible for global warming and deal with the consequences of climate change, in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement - the nation will keep supporting innovation in the sustainability sector. 2023 is the Year of Sustainability in the UAE," said Sheikh Mohamed. "Effective climate action requires a shared vision and collective will."

**Indian customs arrest traveller from Oman with \$100k gold**

TDT | agencies



Indian customs officials have seized almost 1,800 grams of gold worth more than \$100,000 from a passenger travelling from Oman.

The undeclared gold was found concealed in a mixer, Delhi Customs reported on Twitter.

"Air customs have arrested one Indian national passenger returning from Muscat after six irregularly shaped gold pieces weight around 1749 grams valued at Rs85.5 Lakhs (\$105,586.51) were found concealed in a mixer. The said smuggled gold has been seized and further investigations are ongoing," the tweet said.

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**UoB graduation ceremony**



Students at the College of Health and Sports Sciences received their degrees during ceremonies organised yesterday by the University of Bahrain for the 24th batch of students, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister. Yesterday, 566 BA Physical Education graduates, 170 Medical Laboratory Sciences BA graduates, 108 pharmacy graduates, and 129 diploma and associate diploma students received their degrees. UoB Deputy President for Community Service and Graduates' Affairs Dr Mohammed Saleh Al Ansari, UoB Deputy President for IT Services, Administrative and Financial Affairs Dr Osama Abdulla Al Jowder and UoB President Dr Jawaher bint Shaheen Al Mudhahki, congratulated the graduates on their achievement. The university this year holds 20 ceremonies for its graduates from January 19 to 29.

**Quran burning draws global condemnation**

Swedish politician burns a copy of the Quran near the Turkish Embassy

● Arab countries condemn Swedish authorities

● Turkey cancels planned visit of Swedish defence minister

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A demonstration against Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Sweden's NATO bid, arranged by the Kurdish Democratic Society Center at Norra Bantorget in Stockholm, Sweden

The burning of the Holy Quran outside the Turkish embassy in Stockholm yesterday drew strong condemnation worldwide.

The Quran burning was carried out by Rasmus Paludan, leader of Danish far-right political party Hard Line. Paludan, who also has Swedish citizenship, has held a number of demonstrations in the past where he has burned the Koran.

In the permit he obtained from police, it says his protest

was held against Islam and what it called Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan's attempt to influence the values of dialogue, tolerance, and coexistence, and rejects hatred and extremism," the Saudi Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

In a statement, the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC) affirmed the UAE's rejection of all practices aimed at destabilising security and stability in contravention of human and moral values and principles.

The incident occurred amid protests in Stockholm yesterday against Turkey and Sweden's bid to join NATO, sharply heightening tensions with Turkey.

The Turkish ministry urged Sweden to take necessary actions against the perpetrators and invited all countries to take concrete steps.

Earlier yesterday, Turkey said that due to a lack of measures to restrict protests, it had cancelled a planned visit to Ankara by the Swedish defence minister.

"At this point, the visit of Swedish Defence Minister Pal Jonson to Turkey on January 27 has become meaningless. So, we cancelled the visit," Defence Minister Hulusi Akar said.

**Serious provocation, says Bahrain**

TDT | Manama

Bahrain yesterday expressed strong condemnation to Swedish authorities for allowing an extremist to burn Holy Quran before the Turkish embassy in Stockholm.

In a statement, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs termed the incident as a serious provocation

to the feelings of millions of Muslims, an incitement to religious hatred, and a violation of human rights principles.

The ministry reiterated a call to the international community to assume its responsibilities and criminalise acts that incite extremism and religious and racial hatred.

**Over the Moon!**

**Buzz Aldrin, second man on moon, marries girlfriend on 93rd birthday**

TDT | agencies

Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, the second man to land on the moon, has married for the fourth time on his 93rd birthday.

The astronaut tied the knot in a private ceremony in Los Angeles on Friday with his long-time girlfriend Dr. Anca Faur.

"On my 93rd birthday & the day I will also be honored by Living Legends of Aviation I am pleased to announce that my longtime love Dr. Anca Faur & I have tied the knot," Aldrin said



Astronaut Buzz Aldrin with his wife Dr. Anca Faur.

"We were joined in holy matrimony in a small private ceremony in Los Angeles & are as

excited as eloping teenagers."

His first marriage was in 1954 to Joan Archer lasted until 1974. He has three children, James, Janice and Andrew. Next, he married Beverly Van Zile in 1975, and divorced three years later in 1978.

His third marriage was to Lois Driggs Cannon in 1988. Their divorce was finalized in 2012.

On the moon, he was photographed by Armstrong saluting the American flag erected on the surface - a photo that led to years of controversy about

the moon mission. Before taking part in the famed mission to space, he served as a fighter pilot with the US Air Force in the Korean War. He is also famously known within internet circles

as the astronaut who punched conspiracy theorist Bart Sibrel while being confronted about the factualness of the moon mission in 2002. No charges were filed against Aldrin.



Aldrin was part of the 1969 Apollo 11 moon mission along with commander Neil Armstrong, who was the first person on the moon. He is the last surviving member of the mission.