

The eyes of the world are focused on REHC for Kingdom's first-ever international horserace | P12

THE DAILY tribune

Kim Jong Un rejects invitation to S Korea summit: KCNA



South Korean President Moon Jae-in has long championed engagement with North Korea

Seoul

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has rejected an invitation by South Korean President Moon Jae-in to a regional summit next week, Pyongyang's state media said Thursday, in a stark illustration of the dire relations between the neighbours.

South Korea is due to host a summit with Southeast Asian leaders in its port city of Busan from next Monday, and Moon had previously expressed hope that Kim would attend.

Kim received a personal letter from Moon on November 5, North Korea's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) said, but dismissed the prospect of the leader attending the summit.

Four protesters killed in Iraq capital

Baghdad

Four protesters were killed and dozens wounded in overnight clashes with security forces in Iraq's capital Baghdad, security and medical sources said yesterday.

Anti-government demonstrators have spread from their main protest camp in Tahrir (Liberation) Square onto three bridges linking the banks of the river Tigris.



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Bahrain's progress, security shared responsibility: HM King

TDT | Manama

Enhancing Bahrain's progress and security is a shared responsibility that is assumed by everyone, said His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa.

His Majesty the King, the Supreme Commander and President of the Supreme Defence Council (SDC), was chairing the meeting of the SDC at the Al-Sakhir Palace yesterday.

The meeting focused on the follow-up and evaluation of

achievements, setting goals to enhance the defence and security capabilities as well as taking the right decisions for the best interests of the nation, citizens and residents.

HM King Hamad extended thanks to all the affiliates of the Bahrain Defence Force, the Interior Ministry, the National Guard and the National Security Agency for the fruitful efforts they are exerting to protect the accomplishments and achievements attained by Bahrain and its people.



His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa

Enhancing Bahrain's progress and security is a shared responsibility that is assumed by everyone

HIS MAJESTY KING HAMAD BIN ISA AL KHALIFA

The dialogue begins

Fifth Manama Dialogue Conference starts today in Kingdom

TDT | Manama

Top policymakers from the Middle East and beyond will converge today on Bahrain for the 15th Manama Dialogue Conference to address the region's most pressing security challenges.

With special sessions on Cybersecurity, Security, conflict and stabilisation in the Middle East, the summit is jointly organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs in cooperation with the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS).

The three-day summit, which continues until Sunday, in its opening session will have a discussion on "The New Geo-Economics of the Middle East" in Al Ghazal 1 Ballroom, The Ritz-Carlton Bahrain.

According to summit agenda, the IISS and Sky News Arabia will jointly convene a special live televised of the opening panel to examine some of the key issues to be addressed at the IISS Manama Dialogue and subsequent implications for regional security.

The event will also see IISS



Manama Dialogue Conference has become an important platform for senior officials and experts from across the world to exchange visions and ideas on the most important developments in the region

SHAIKH KHALID BIN AHMED BIN MOHAMMED AL KHALIFA
 THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander and First Deputy Prime Minister," the minister said.

Shaikh Khalid said the conference is an indication of the political leadership's keenness to consolidate Bahrain's relations with brotherly and friendly countries for a brighter and more prosperous future.

The minister affirmed that the Dialogue has become a platform for top officials and experts from around the world to exchange their visions and ideas to seek durable solutions to issues and enhance the region's security, stability and development.

Shaikh Khalid also commended the efforts of the International Institute for Strategic Studies and their cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in organising the Manama Dialogue.

The IISS Manama Dialogue 2019, the minister said, will discuss a host of issues affecting the countries of the region and representing a source of concerns for all world countries to consolidate global peace and security.



IISS Manama Dialogue 2019 is Middle East's premier security summit where policymakers from all over the world gather together to address regional challenges

Middle East, North Africa and internationally."

Speaking on the summit, Shaikh Khalid bin Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Khalifa, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, took pride in the international reputation of the Middle East's premier security summit.

"Its status reflects the policy of Bahrain under the leadership of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, His Royal Highness Prime Minister Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa and His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa,

On a collision course

IAEA urges Iran to explain uranium particles at undeclared site

Vienna

The UN nuclear watchdog yesterday urged Iran to explain the presence of uranium particles at an undeclared site, as a landmark deal aimed at curbing Tehran's atomic activities threatens to collapse.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) said in a report made public last week that its inspectors had "detected natural uranium particles of anthropogenic origin at a location in Iran not declared to the agency".

The agency's acting head Cor-

nel Feruta said IAEA and Iranian officials would meet in Tehran next week to discuss the matter, adding that the UN body had not received any additional information.

"The matter remains unresolved... It is essential that Iran works with the agency to resolve this matter promptly," he told IAEA member states at a meeting of the agency's board of governors.

A diplomatic source said that the IAEA would send a high-ranking technical delegation to Iran next week.

The particles are understood



The IAEA says one of its inspectors was briefly prevented from leaving Iran after an incident at the Natanz enrichment plant

to be the product of uranium which has been mined and undergone initial processing, but not enriched.

While the IAEA has not named

the site in question, diplomatic sources have previously said the agency asked Iran about a site in the Turqzabad district of Tehran where Israel has alleged secret atomic activity in the past.

Sources say the IAEA took samples from the site in the spring and that Iran has been slow in providing answers to explain the test results.

On Monday, the IAEA confirmed Iran's stock of heavy water for reactors has surpassed the 130-tonne limit set under the agreement.

Heavy water is not itself radioactive but is used in nuclear re-

actors to absorb neutrons from nuclear fission.

Heavy water reactors can be used to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons as an alternative to enriched uranium.

The IAEA has also said one of its inspectors was briefly prevented from leaving Iran, calling her treatment "not acceptable".

Iran has cancelled the inspector's accreditation, saying she triggered a security check at the entrance gate to the Natanz enrichment plant last month.

The IAEA has disputed the Iranian account of the incident, without going into details.

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exportbahrain

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صادرات البحرين

EXPORT BAHRAIN



Bahrain Defence Force (BDF) Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Shaikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Khalifa yesterday praised the efficiency and high morale of BDF members. "Such patriotism and dedication are a source of great pride," he said, adding that the inspirational and guiding spirit should continue to be the basis for military action. Left, the Commander-in-Chief during a visit to one of the BDF units where he inspected modern and advanced systems and their technical and combat readiness.



Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Sameh Shoukry, in his office with outgoing Ambassador of the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Arab Republic of Egypt, Permanent Representative to the Arab League and Dean of the Arab Diplomatic Corps, Shaikh Rashid bin Abdulrahman Al Khalifa. He praised the depth and strength of the historical relations between the two brotherly countries and appreciated the tangible role played by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at all levels.



THE FIRST BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL TROPHY

FRIDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 2019

World-renowned international runners, jockeys, owners and trainers come to the island for the first time.

Come support the race.

14 Thoroughbreds from 5 Countries
9 European Entries
5 Local Runners

Put your hats on and head to the races for a fun day out with family and friends...

Entertainment Galore, Children's Activities, Food & Drinks And More...

Event starts at 12 Noon | Main Race at 4:35pm
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC *FREE ENTRY*
Call 17 440 330 for more information.



Wanna see the universe working?

TDT | Manama

Come next month, and all of us here in Bahrain will get treated to a rare phenomenon which the universe has been doing, right before our eyes, for centuries.

While it inspired curiosity in some, it has caused fear in several others throughout history. There is also countless myths, legends and superstitions associated with this celestial magic.

Eclipse, we call it.

People around the world have come up with many tales to explain this magical experience that happens somewhere on Earth once every year or two.

Next month, on 26 December 2019, this rare phenomenon will be visible to people in Bahrain.

As Krupp, the director of the Griffith Observatory says, "It's the solar system doing its thing right before your eyes, and it's a deep and personal pleasure."

In Manama, this will be a partial phenomenon. But, as eclipse chasers say, it's an "event to experience at least once in a lifetime".

So, better, be ready.

The phenomenon, described as a time of coming together and resolving old feuds and anger by Batammaliba people in Togo and Ben, will start in Bahrain at 5.32 am below the horizon at a direction of 110 degrees and -11.2 degree altitude.

According to *time and date.com*,

the maximum eclipse will occur at 6:36 am when the Moon is closest to the centre of the Sun in the East-southeast direction (117 degrees and 2.2-degree altitude).

The spectacular sight will come to a close at around 7:49 am as the Moon leaves the Sun's edge.

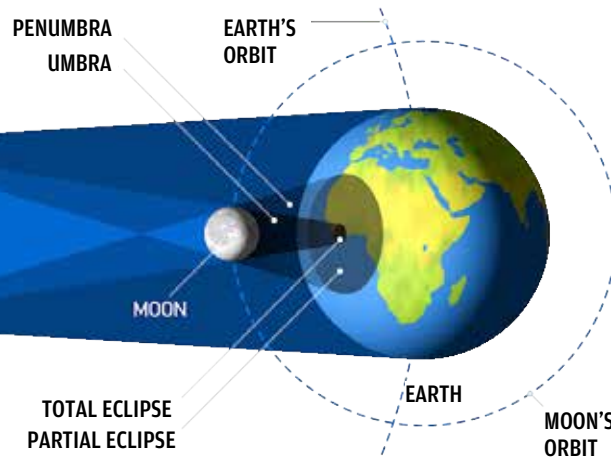
The total duration of the partial eclipse will be 2 hours, 16 minutes and 56 seconds.

However, the annularity, where a ring of fire alone is visible in the sky, can only last for less than a second to over 12 minutes.

This happens because Solar eclipses are only visible from within the area where the shadow falls, and the closer you are to the centre of the shadow's path.

This is also the only truly unique combination of Earth and Moon in the entire solar system that can produce this magnificent sight.

Astronomers through painstaking studies have found that nearly identical solar eclipses happen after about 18 years and 11 days, but to be able to see the phenomenon is sometimes a matter of luck.



What is an eclipse?

Many cultures explain eclipses, both solar and lunar, as a time when demons or animals consume the sun or the moon.

The disappearance of the sun from the sky created chaos in ancient times. Even today, an eclipse is considered a bad omen in many cultures.

Several pictures of it as Sun being eaten or stolen away by some mythical creatures or as a sign of angry of quarrelling gods.

In the Middle East, the celestial experience had even stopped a war. On May 28, 585 BC, during the fighting, the day suddenly turned into night. The eclipse stunned both nations that they declared peace and the fighting stopped.

One of the most colourful stories occur in Hindu mythology, where demon Rahu disguises himself as a god to taste an elixir

that grants immortality.

However, Sun and Moon find what Rahu is up to and report his crime to god Vishnu, who slices off his head before the elixir can slide past his throat.

Consequently, Rahu's head turns immortal while his body dies.

The demon's head continues to move through the sky, chasing the Sun and Moon out of hatred. Now and then Rahu catches them and swallows, but lack of throat allows Sun and Moon to fall out of the bottom of his head. Thus goes this story.

Modern people have also generated their share of misunderstandings and fear regarding eclipses.

Perhaps one of the most persistent ones is that there is a danger to pregnant women and their unborn child during an eclipse.

Another misconception, experts say, is that people can't look at the sun when it's completely covered.

This, however, is partially correct as looking directly at the sun can cause eye damage.

"But if the sun is completely covered, it's okay to look at," says Jarita Holbrook, a cultural astronomer at the University of the Western Cape in Bellville, South Africa.

But irrespective of what the myths and legends propose, the eclipse is "an amazing experience, even though you know it's just the moon moving in front of the Sun," as Jarita says.



How to view a Solar Eclipse?

As experts say, whether it's total, annular, or partial, take care not to view the Sun with the naked eye or by through optical devices such as binoculars or telescopes.

Confused? Take a magnifying glass out into the sun and focus it on a piece of paper and you will know why. Sunlight, when focused onto a small spot with the lens, is hot enough to start a fire.

The same could happen by keeping a lens in front of your eyes while looking at the Sun.

Solar eclipse, however, will offer a few short moments when it's safe to look directly when the moon completely blocks the face of the Sun. The moment moon move off, you have to take your eyes off.

A pinhole projector is a simplest and best way to view the magical moment.

To create a pinhole projector, you need a box. Longer the better.

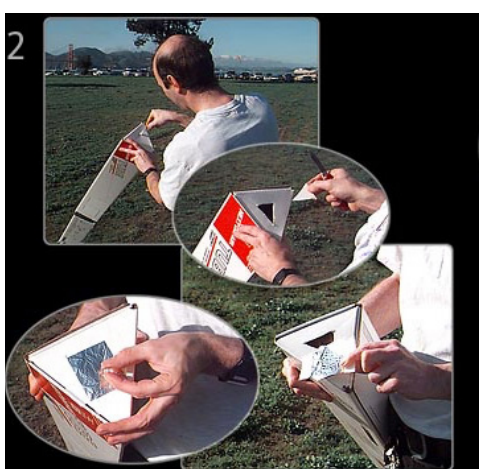
To find out how much bigger box you need, multiply the length of the box by 0.01. Meaning, if your box is six feet, the image it creates will be 72 inches X 0.01 = 0.72 inches in diameter or about 3/4 inch.



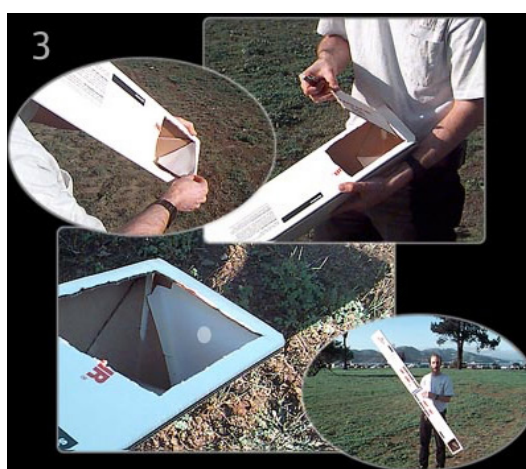
1. Find or make a long box or tube.
Can't find a long tube? Don't worry, you can plaster two or more shorter ones to create a long one.

Two triangular shipping tubes taped together make a good solar viewer.

Cut out the cardboard at one end of each tube and tape those ends together with duct tape, so that light can travel the length of the tube.



2. Cut a one-inch hole in the centre of one end of the box.
Tape a piece of foil over the hole, then poke a small hole in the foil with a pin.



Courtesy of exploratorium

3. At the other end of the tube, cut a good-sized viewing hole in the side of the box. Put a piece of white paper at the end of the box, right inside the viewing hole. This is the screen where your projected Sun will appear.

To use your viewer, point the pinhole end of the box right at the Sun.

To aim it, move it around until you see a round spot of light on the paper at the other end—that's your pinhole image of the Sun!

If you have trouble aiming your viewer, look at the shadow of the box on the ground. Move it until the shadow is as small as possible—that is until it looks like the end of the box, and the sides are not casting a shadow.

Do not look through the pinhole at the Sun!

Look only at the image on the paper.

Preparations in full swing for rainy season: official

TDT | Manama

The rains that started battering the Middle East had pushed the authorities here into action with them activating preventive measures all across Bahrain to avoid the risks of heavy rain.

Latest reports say the rain has hit several parts of the UAE with its National Centre of Meteorology (NCM) warning unstable weather there in the next few days.

Agriculture and Marine Resources Agency of the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs & Urban Planning said it hopes to avoid water logging issues this time around in the Kingdom.

In previous years, heavy water-logging were reported from several parts of the Kingdom.

The government assured that it is now taking more measures to prevent such issues from repeating.

Many have raised their concerns regarding water logging in several low lying areas. Spells of showers have caused misery to many in Bahrain last

year and earlier this year.

Cleaned drains

This year, the authority said it is working to resolve such issues and has already cleaned agricultural drains in many areas.

"The cleaning of some of the largest agricultural drains such as in Tubli has already completed," said Director of Agricultural Engineering and Water Resources Department at the Agriculture and Marine Resources Agency, Shawqi Al-Mannai.

"Harmful plants and waste were removed from the drains," Al-Mannai said adding that agricultural drains contribute immensely to draining rainwater.

Besides, task forces are created to combat the issues that may surface during downpours.

The rainy season was a strong point of discussions during a recent meeting of the Ministry with municipal council members.

Ministry officials assured that measures are being taken to avoid inconveniences.

Lane closure on King Faisal Highway

Maintenance works on King Faisal Highway at Manama necessitate the closure of some lanes in the route, said Works Ministry.

The closure will affect fast lane between Al Furdah Avenue and Palace Avenue for eastbound traffic leading to

Muharraq as well as fast and middle lanes between Al Farduh Avenue and Palace Avenue for eastbound traffic leading to Muharraq from 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The closure effective yesterday will continue until Sunday.



Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs Maliki Osman arrived in Bahrain to take part in the 15th Manama Dialogue. He was welcomed alongside his delegation at the airport by Defence Affairs Minister Lieutenant-General Abdullah bin Hassan Al Nuaimi.

Cardiac centre gets IT power

Providing Mohammed Bin Khalifa Cardiac Center Project with IT Infrastructure

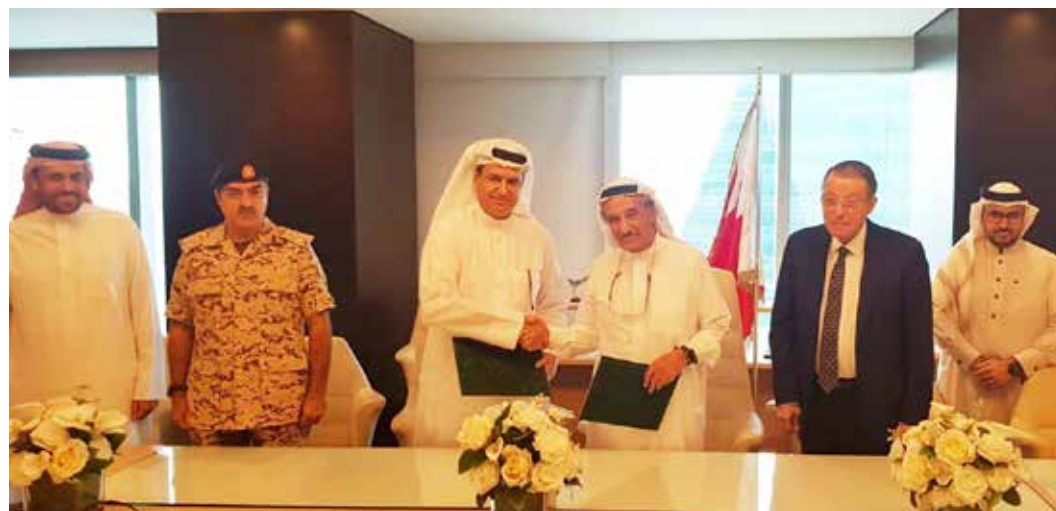
● The project is funded by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) as part of the Gulf Support Programme for Development Projects in the Kingdom of Bahrain

TDT | Manama

An agreement was signed yesterday to enhance the capabilities of Mohammed Bin Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa Cardiac Center Project with the latest information systems and technologies used by health facilities worldwide.

The move, in line with the digital transformation process in Bahrain, will make Mohammed bin Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa Heart Specialist Center, currently under construction in Awali, the first of its kind project in Bahrain.

The agreement was signed at the headquarters of the Supreme Council of Health with NGN Global Partnership, under the patronage of Lieutenant General Doctor Sheikh Moham-



Officials during the deal signing held at headquarters of Supreme Council of Health

med bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, the President of the Supreme Council of Health.

The project is funded by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD) as part of the Gulf Support Programme for Development Projects in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

On this occasion, the Mohammed Bin Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa Specialized Heart Center thanked Field Marshal Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed bin Salman Al Khalifa, Commander-in-Chief of the BDF for his unlimited support.

The IT network in the centre will be one of the fastest-growing networks in the world, with the data servers using sophisticated technologies, combining the possibility of tangible and virtual servers, in addition to linking the entire work environment with cloud computing.

The centre will also be equipped with other advanced technologies related to the management of patients and doctors in the hospital.

Alternative IT systems will be available to ensure business

continuity in various internal and external emergencies.

The signing ceremony was attended by Dr Risan Al-Badran, Director of the Cardiology Center, Assistant Director of Military Works Brig, Dr Abdullah Rashid Al-Tamimi, Shaikh Khalid Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Chief Technical Officer of Sehat Project, Abdullah Eid, Assistant Director of the Center for Administrative and Financial Affairs, Nawaf Mohammed Abdul Rahman, Director of Information Technology, and Yacoub Al Awadhi, CEO of NGN.



Bahrain's Ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg and the Kingdom's representative to the European Union and NATO, Dr Bahja Jawad Al Jishi, with Luxembourg's Minister of Foreign Affairs Jean Asselborn and Arab ambassadors accredited to his country. Al Jishi expressed Bahrain's aspirations to enhance cooperation and coordination across all sectors, especially in the field of Islamic banking. The meeting also discussed issues of common concern, the latest regional and international developments and ways of enhancing cooperation between Arab countries and Luxembourg.



Minister of Justice, Islamic Affairs and Endowments Shaikh Khalid bin Ali Al Khalifa chaired the 35th session of the Arab Justice Ministers Council which convened at the Arab League, in Egypt. He stressed in the opening session the importance of fighting terrorism in the region. The Arab Justice Ministers, the Secretariat General of the Arab Interior Ministers Council, the Gulf Cooperation Council, Naif Arab University for Security Sciences (NAUSS) and the Arab Lawyers Union participated in the meeting.

Homework app named best at INJAZ Innovation Camp



Over 100 final year high school students (Tawjeehi) participated in the event. Above, the camp held at the Al-Istiqal Secondary Girls School in Muharraq.

TDT | Manama

An app to access students' past projects, homework assignments and school supplies, which was developed conceptually by a team led by Ahmed M. Zainal, won first place during

INJAZ Innovation Camp.

Over 100 final year high school students (Tawjeehi) participated in the event, in which each team were required to create an app to address the issues faced by students. The first place winning app, conceptualised to be run

by students, enables students to access their past projects, homework assignments, as well as the inventory of school supplies for home delivery.

The competition was part of INJAZ Innovation Camp (iCamp) held at the Al-Istiqal Secondary

Girls School in Muharraq.

The event, also INJAZ Bahrain's largest one-day workshop, aimed at motivating secondary and university students to find innovative solutions to a business challenge through critical thinking, teamwork, communi-

cation and leadership skills.

The volunteers were appreciated by Ebrahim K. Kanoo Managing Director, Talal F. Kanoo. "Ebrahim K. Kanoo is committed to its partnership with Injaz Bahrain which plays a vital role in building the skillset of Bah-

rain's youth through its various educational programmes," stated Kanoo. A team of eight employees from different business divisions of Ebrahim K. Kanoo volunteered for the Camp. EKK's marketing department led teams won the first and second places.

WORLD
world

Protesters stay holed up on Hong Kong campus



Graffiti and debris are seen in Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) in Hong Kong, China

Reuters | Hong Kong

Fewer than 100 protesters remained holed up in a Hong Kong university yesterday as riot police encircled the campus, with some activists desperately searching for ways to escape while others hid.

Some protesters said they were holding out not for a showdown with police, but because they were innocent and looking for an escape route.

"I won't consider surrendering. Surrendering is for people who are guilty. None of us inside are guilty," Michelle, a 20-year-old student, said on the campus of Polytechnic University on the Kowloon peninsula.

Rubbish has piled up around the campus, with trash and debris from homemade petrol bombs littered across the grounds. Many protesters have abandoned their equipment, including gas masks and umbrellas.

Much of the campus is damaged, with rooms vandalised and windows shattered. Electricity and water are still functioning.

The Asian financial hub

has had a brief respite from months of often violent demonstrations, with relative calm across the city for the past two days and nights ahead of District Council elections set for Sunday.

The government said late on Wednesday it was closely monitoring the situation to see whether the elections could be held safely.

The university, in the centre of the bustling Kowloon peninsula, is the last campus still occupied by activists during a week that saw the most intense violence since the anti-government demonstrations escalated more than five months ago.

China has accused the United States and Britain of stirring up trouble in Hong Kong and it has criticised the US House of Representatives over its passing of two bills aimed at supporting the protesters and sending a warning to China about human rights.

China's state *Xinhua* news agency said a top Chinese official in Hong Kong, Xie Feng, had summoned the US consul-general to denounce the legislation as gross interference and violation of international law.

Sri Lanka's ruling siblings

New president swears in his brother as Prime Minister

- It is the first time in Sri Lankan history that two siblings have held the two top political positions

- Gotabaya, 70, had earlier served as defence chief under his brother Mahinda

- Mahinda, who had been Sri Lanka's opposition leader since January, has held the prime minister's post twice before

Reuters | Colombo



Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa and his brother and former leader Mahinda Rajapaksa, who was appointed as the new Prime Minister, are seen during the swearing in ceremony in Colombo, Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka's newly elected president Gotabaya Rajapaksa yesterday swore in his elder brother, former president Mahinda Rajapaksa, as prime minister, cementing the powerful family's political comeback.

The appointment of Mahinda Rajapaksa, 74, came hours after the former premier Ranil Wickremesinghe tendered his resignation following the defeat of his party's candidate in a presidential election to Gotabaya Rajapaksa over the weekend.

It is the first time in Sri Lankan history that two siblings have held the two top political positions, although Mahinda is only in charge of a caretaker government until parliamentary

elections next year.

In a ceremony in the capital Colombo on Thursday, Gotabaya swore in his brother as their respective wives, sons and daughters-in-law looked on.

"I wish to congratulate and extend my warmest wishes to Hon Mahinda Rajapaksa, Prime Minister of the Democratic, Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka," Gotabaya tweeted afterwards.

Gotabaya, 70, had earlier served as defence chief under his brother Mahinda, who himself served as president from 2005-2015.

Mahinda, who had been Sri Lanka's opposition leader since January, has held the prime

minister's post twice before.

He is set to be his party's candidate in a parliamentary election expected around April. The former president, popular with the Sinhalese majority for overseeing the end of a 26-year long civil war, is broadly seen as a shoo-in.

The siblings face a tall order to revive Sri Lanka's economy, which is in its deepest slump in nearly two decades following Easter Sunday Islamist attacks that killed over 250 people in churches and hotels. That hurt the rupee and the all-important tourism sector.

Gotabaya, who oversaw the defeat of Tamil separatists as his

brother's defence chief a decade ago, won the election after promising to secure the country against militant threats.

His economic manifesto targets average growth of at least 6.5%, compared with 3.2% in 2018, but economists are worried his plans may strain coffers. Managing a record \$3 billion in annual external debt repayments over the next five years will be another challenge.

Some investors see Rajapaksa as an experienced hand who will bring political stability to the island. Sri Lanka's stock index and rupee currency have gained 1.9% and 0.5% respectively since his election.

Australians shelter from bushfires

Reuters | Sydney

Firefighters battled hundreds of bushfires across Australia on Thursday as scores of blazes sprang up in new locations, triggering warnings that it was too late for some residents to evacuate.

As thick smoke blanketed the most populous city of Sydney for a third day, residents were urged to keep children indoors, stepping up pressure on Prime Minister Scott Morrison to tackle climate change.

By early afternoon, dozens of fires were burning across the southeastern state of Victoria and temperatures of 40.9 Celsius (105.6 F) in Melbourne, its capital, matched the hottest day on record in 1894, Australia's weather bureau said.

Authorities warned residents of towns about 50 km (31 miles) north of Ballarat, the state's third largest city, that it was too late for them to evacuate safely.

"You are in danger, act



Fort Denison is seen as haze from the ongoing bushfires covers the city skyline and the Sydney Opera House in the background, in Sydney, Australia

now to protect yourself," fire authorities said in an alert. "It is too late to leave. The safest option is to take shelter indoors immediately."

Blazes across several states have endangered thousands of people, killing at least four people this month, burning about 2.5 million acres (1 million hectares) of farmland and bush and destroying more than 400 homes.

The early arrival and

severity of the fires in the southern hemisphere spring follows three years of drought that experts have linked to climate change and which have left bushland tinder-dry.

With 10 days remaining to the official start of summer, extreme temperatures and high winds have sparked wildfires in new areas, even as firefighters tracked the crisis across the mainland, the Northern Territory and the island of Tasmania.

Aung San Suu Kyi to defend Myanmar at top UN court



Myanmar State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi will defend her country over charges that it breached the 1948 UN Genocide Convention

The Telegraph

Myanmar's civilian leader and Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi will head up a delegation to the UN's top court to defend a case accusing the mainly Buddhist country of genocide against Rohingya Muslims, the government said Wednesday, a decision that blind-sided observers.

West African nation Gambia is due to open its case before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in December on behalf of the 57 member states of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

The complaint accuses Myanmar of breaching the 1948 UN Genocide Convention through its brutal military campaign in 2017, which targeted the Rohingya minority in Rakhine state.

In the opening hearings, the small, majority-Muslim African country is expected to ask the court to make an emergency injunction to protect the Rohingya, pending a decision on whether to deal with the wider case.

But Ms Suu Kyi will personally lead a team to The Hague to "defend the national interest of Myanmar," her office said.

IS claims attack in Egypt's Sinai that killed officer

AP | Cairo

The Islamic State group has claimed an attack this week in Egypt's restive Sinai Peninsula that killed an officer and wounded three others.

A statement by the extremist group released late on Wednesday on a militant-linked website says its fighters had targeted an armored vehicle carrying Egyptian forces with a roadside bombing the previous day in the town of Sheikh Zuweid.

Egyptian officials had said a captain was killed and four members of the security forces were wounded in a roadside bombing on Tuesday.

Egypt has been battling an Islamic insurgency in Sinai, led by the regional IS affiliate, that intensified after the overthrow of Mohammed Morsi, in 2013. The militants have carried out scores of attacks, mainly targeting security forces and minority Christians.

IN THE AIR



Roa'a Al-Sahhaf demonstrates during a class

Saudi trapeze artist has soaring success with aerial yoga business

Modern yoga classes have become so popular among Saudis, Roa'a Al-Sahhaf is already looking to expand throughout the



Students in Roa'a Al-Sahhaf's class

“I had times where I could not travel, so I wanted to practice it here in my city. I decided to open a studio room in my house, and it worked. It started with family and friends of friends, and little by little gyms and studios began to call and ask me to give classes”

ROA'A AL-SAHHAFF

March this year offering yoga, pole dancing, Pilates, family dance classes, and boxing.

Aerial yoga uses a hammock to support, either fully or partially, the weight of students while they work on traditional yoga postures. Not only does it enable them to perform advanced yoga moves that would normally take years to learn but hanging upside-down can be good for the spine and builds confidence.

Al-Sahhaf graduated from The Prince's Foundation School of Traditional Arts in London and has been practicing aerial silks, as they are known, since she was a child. However, she only began to make a career of it in 2009.

“I was the first Saudi female circus performer. Actually, it was my childhood dream to perform in a circus, and thanks to Taif Season it came true in Circo Americano,” she said.

During the recent Taif festival season of activities Al-Sahhaf performed in flying trapeze and aerial shows with the famous

circus.

“I tried to join Circo Americano a year ago, but it was not allowed for females to participate,” she added. “But when things changed, I leapt at the opportunity to shine.”

Pole dancing

The Pole Spirit Paris studio was where Al-Sahhaf learned the discipline of pole dancing and other aerial moves in 2012 and she is now a certified coach from a number of top US and European institutes.

Armed with her qualifications, she decided to introduce her passion for aerial arts to Jeddah. “I had times where I could not travel, so I wanted to practice it here in my city. I decided to open

a studio room in my house, and it worked. It started with family and friends of friends, and little by little gyms and studios began to call and ask me to give classes,” she added.

Al-Sahhaf now offers workshops and classes in more than six gyms and studios across Jeddah, in addition to running workshop tours throughout the Kingdom and other GCC countries.

Raised in Paris, Al-Sahhaf said she always had a passion for gymnastics. “I saw aerial hoop in a show when I was in Paris a few years ago, and I was hooked. My parents used to live there, so whenever there was a chance to learn gymnastics or aerial silks skills I used to sign up,” she said.

Her studio, located in Al-Kha-

lidiyah district of Jeddah, offers workshops and training programs for fitness instructors looking to teach aerial arts.

Aerial yoga

In the future, Al-Sahhaf wants to build a Saudi community of aerialists. “I want to engage with the Saudi General Entertainment Authority for more performances and shows done by the studio team. I would love to collaborate with gyms and studio owners around Saudi Arabia to include these types of arts and sports in their gym schedules,” she added.

Al-Sahhaf said aerial yoga had many mental and physical health benefits and most people could take part.

Mawaddah Mahboob, a



Roa'a Al-Sahhaf performs with a ring in her studio

Arab News | Jeddah

A Saudi flying trapeze artist has found soaring business success just months after launching the Kingdom's first aerial yoga studio.

Roa'a Al-Sahhaf, the country's first female circus performer, said her modern yoga classes have proved so popular among Saudis she is already looking to expand throughout the Kingdom.

The 42-year-old mother of three girls, opened Saudi Arabia's first certified aerial arts studio in the coastal city of Jeddah in

1497

Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama rounds Cape of Good Hope on way to first voyage from Europe to reach India

1926

Imperial Conference ends, giving autonomy inside British Commonwealth

1963

US President John F. Kennedy assassinated by Lee Harvey Oswald while riding in an open-topped motorcade in Dallas, Texas



2005

Angela Merkel becomes the first female Chancellor of Germany

Artist
Access
oga

ve proved
dis that
dy looking
e Kingdom

-year-old Saudi lawyer who
ends classes at Al-Sahhaf's stu-
o, told Arab News: "I started
ing aerial arts as a kid, but we
d not have gymnastics here so
e first time I saw this studio, I
rsued it.

"It helped me a lot to get more
tune with my body and made
e realize that you don't have
be skinny to be fit. It certainly
ings positivity to your life," she
ded.

Samia Abushosha, an assistant
ofessor of physics at King Ab-
l Aziz University, said: "I am 44
ars old and it feels like a great
omplishment doing this at my
e. I only started nine months
o, and I can feel the positive
es it gives me in every class."

Afnan Al-Zain is one of Al-Sah-
f's coaching assistants and an
assistant professor at the faculty
dentistry at King Abdul Aziz
niversity. She started doing
erial yoga in 2017 in the US. "To
e this is like my side job as it
axes my mind, helps me release
ess and enhances creativity so
at my mind becomes clearer to
re more in my career."

Al-Sahhaf now offers work-
shops and classes in more
than six gyms and studios
across Jeddah, in addition
to running workshop tours
throughout the Kingdom and
other GCC countries



Soultana

RHYTHM

Rapper Soultana is the voice of Moroccan women

Soultana first rose to fame in Morocco as a member of all-female rap group Tigresse Flow, winning at Ouf du Bled and Mawazine in 2008

MTB | Rabat

Soultana is Morocco's first female rapper and paving the way for Arab female hip hop artists and women's rights. Rap is a largely male-dominated industry and to rap in a country where a woman's voice is not equal to a man's takes courage.

Soultana, whose birth name is Youssra Oakuf said, "I wasn't searching for fame or money, I was searching for respect from people. This is how I got started. Hip hop taught me how to be strong and how to face men."

In her song Maghrebria, Soultana includes powerful lyrics directly speaking to Moroccan women, telling them it's ok to raise their voice and not to let negative remarks made about them in

Soultana, first entered the hip-hop scene at age 13, growing up in the Ain Sebaa neighbourhood of Casablanca. She is now an internationally recognized artist best known for her single "Sawt Nssa" (The Voice of Women)

”

What surprised me the most in becoming a rapper is that at first, it was so easy in my eyes to be an artist, but after my experiences on stage in Morocco and outside Morocco, I realized that it's not easy to improve yourself and to present your art to the world. To meet big artists and see how they believe in their dreams, how they did a lot of things from nothing... it has made me change my mind and think about what it means to be human, with only this small amount of intelligence and fortitude

SOULTANA

society dampen their spirit. Soultana sings, "This is the Moroccan woman. This is one of a million women's voice that I'm calling. Girls voice that is lost in my country. The voice of those who want to say but can't."

Her songs speak to cultural taboos like prostitution, social and political issues, and everyday struggles.

Soultana says she draws her inspiration from meeting local Moroccan women during her travels. They tell her, "You are singing what I want to

say." The female artist did not have any formal musical training. She was brought into the hip-hop world when she studied English and felt inspired by the street art scene in Rabat.

By 2005 she had forged the band Tigresse Flow, which won a prize at Mawazine, Rabat's national music festival. Unfortunately, the group did not receive the monetary prize as rap was not considered a worthy musical category. Regardless of challenges, the 29-year-old singer persevered.



Soultana performs at a concert

business

The 'Entertainer' 2020 is here

TDT | Manama

Global digital lifestyle brand, the Entertainer has launched its 2020 products range in Bahrain on a private gathering at Baharat Restaurant at Le Meridien City Centre Bahrain on Tuesday.

Mike Rich, Marketing Director, at the Entertainer, said its award winning-app offers now more merchants, more offers, more products, and more savings. Products are also available for pre-order. Early-birds can get Bahrain bundle for an exclusive price, with existing members receiving all 2019 offers topped up and new members receiving 2019 offers for free.

The Bahrain Bundle 2019,



Officials during the launch

includes Bahrain, Cheers Bahrain and Beauty & Spa Bahrain, gives members access to over 1000 offers for the early bird deal of BHD 27.5 (excl VAT) – a saving of over BHD12.

Members also enjoy exclusive access to Entertainer getaways, which includes discounts of up to 60pc and seamless booking through the app at over 550,000 hotels worldwide.

Max launches winter collection

TDT | Manama

The Max brand yesterday announced the launch of its new Winter Collection with the reopening of its most prestigious store in Segaya.

The store was inaugurated by Shaikh Hasan bin Rashid Al Khalifa, Shumalan Naicker - Territory Head along with other senior members of the Group.

With a space of 117,000 sq ft,

the store has an improved ambience, ease of navigation and visual enhancement in a large, single dynamic space, significantly improving the customer's shopping experience.

The collections, Max Fashions says, are an excellent way to stay cozy and cute and experiment with traditional patterns and monochrome.

Max is one of the vital brands under Al Rashid Group.



Batelco was the exclusive telecom partner for the World Jewellery Confederation Congress (Confederation Internationale de la Bijouterie, Joaillerie - CIBJO) held in Bahrain from November 18 to 20 at the Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay. During the Congress, Batelco was awarded in recognition of its support. Above, Batelco Manager Events & Sponsorship Reem Abed accepts the award from officials of CIBJO and DANAT

LIC Investment income at \$65.38m



M. R. Kumar, Chairman of LIC of India, Thomas Mathew, Member, Abdul Rahman Ali Alwazzan, Director, Intercol and Sunil Kumar Thakur, CEO and Managing Director, LIC (International) Bahrain with other officials during LIC's (International) board meeting in Bahrain

TDT | Manama

LIC (International) yesterday announced recording an investment income of US\$65.38 million and net profit of US\$47.42 million for its third quarter.

The company, a joint venture with International Agency

Company Ltd. (Intercol), posted underwritten new business premium of 98 million for the quarter.

The results were announced during a board meeting held yesterday in Bahrain.

During Q3, two Consultants qualified as COT (Court of Table) and seventeen Consult-

ants qualified as MDRT (Million Dollar Round Table).

The company also said it is in the process of introducing Group Insurance Product and Money back products in the market to strengthen and diversify the product portfolio.

Present at the meeting were

M. R. Kumar, Chairman of LIC of India, Thomas Mathew, Member, Abdul Rahman Ali Alwazzan, Director, Intercol and Sunil Kumar Thakur, CEO and Managing Director, LIC (International) Bahrain.

The company provides insurance coverage in four GCC countries.

RERA, BBS in deal for independent observer services

TDT | Manama

The Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) and the Bahrain Bar Society (BBS) yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to provide Independent Observer services.

As per the deal, approved members of the Bar Society will provide Independent Observer services to property owners, owners associations and parties involved in forming Owners' Associations in buildings and developments with common areas or shared amenities and where service charges are payable.

The role of the Independent Observer may be requested if



Officials during the deal signing

property owners, RERA or parties with an interest in the joint property require independent confirmation that all procedures and processes regarding

the calling and holding of owners' association meetings are fully compliant with Law 27 of 2017 and other relevant regulations.

Speaking at the MOU signing, Shaikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, CEO of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority said: "The signing of this agreement with such a distinguished body as the Bahrain Bar Society indicates the importance RERA places on having properly constituted Owners Associations'.

Hassan Ahmed Bedaiwi, Chairman of the Bahrain Bar Society said, "We look forward to providing this very important service to property owners and investors in Bahrain'.

Information regarding Independent Observers is available on the RERA website www.rera.gov.bh, and queries should be directed via email info@gov.bh.

The season to sparkle at Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay

Embark on a culinary journey with guest chefs

This year, Four Seasons Hotel Bahrain Bay is hosting two guest chefs from St. Petersburg and New York City. The festivities kick-off with award-winning pastry chef Nicolas Lambert from Four Seasons Hotel Lion Palace St. Petersburg.

Afternoon Tea: Bay View Lounge | 12:00 - 9:00 PM - Wednesday to Saturday, November 30, 2019

Celebrated and world-renowned Jordanian chef Moeen Abu Zaid crosses the Atlantic to team up with Wolfgang Puck's Executive Chef Brian Becher for two unique culinary events at both CUT by Wolfgang Puck and re/Asian Cuisine, inspired by the flavours of Arabia.

re/Asian Cuisine | 7:00 - 11:30 PM - Thursday, December 19, 2019

CUT by Wolfgang Puck | 7:00



- 11:30 PM - Friday, December 20, 2019

Thanksgiving at it's finest

It's that time of year again when the Wolfgang Puck's culinary masters, led by their Executive Chef Brian Becher, join forces to present the most extravagant Thanksgiving dinner under the stars in the Kingdom.

Azure Pool & Lounge | 6:00 PM - 12:00 Midnight - November

28, 2019

Enthusiastic Friday brunchers are promised a Thanksgiving feast like no other at Bahrain Bay Kitchen. Indulge in a traditional yet innovative feast featuring delicious turkey spreads and the usual trimmings.

Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 1:00 - 4:00 PM - Friday, November 29, 2019

The Nutcracker afternoon tea

- delivered with a local Nam

Hai twist.

Bay View Lounge gives its traditional afternoon tea a Nutcracker-inspired makeover this festive season, honouring Tchaikovsky's classical ballet in the form of delicious pastries and the Four Seasons touch.

Bay View Lounge | 12:00 - 9:00 PM - Thursday, December 12 - Thursday, December 26, 2019

Christmas Gatherings

Unique Christmas events to get guests in the holiday spirit include Bahrain Bay Kitchen and CUT by Wolfgang Puck's famous Christmas Eve dinners and brunches, complete with the thrill of Santa's arrival, plus the twinkling Christmas decorations in the lobby and more.

Christmas Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 1:00 - 4:00 PM - Friday, December 20, 2019

Christmas Eve Dinner at Bah-

rain Bay Kitchen | 7:00 PM - 12:00 Midnight - Tuesday, December 24, 2019

Christmas Eve Dinner at CUT by Wolfgang Puck | from 7:00 PM onward - Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Christmas Day Brunch at CUT by Wolfgang Puck | 12:00 - 3:30 PM - Wednesday, December 25, 2019

Christmas Day Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 1:00 - 4:30 PM - Wednesday, December 25, 2019

A great Gatsby new year celebration

The roaring 20's comes to Bahrain, complete with riveting performances, endless mocktails, live music and fireworks. Guests are invited to dine at any of the Hotel's signature restaurants and step into a heart-racing immersive adaptation of F Scott Fitzgerald's seminal jazz-age novel for a hedonistic night

complete with live bands, devilish mocktails and dressing to the nines.

New Year's Eve Dinner at re/Asian Cuisine | 7:00 PM onward - Tuesday, December 31, 2019

New Year's Eve Dinner at CUT by Wolfgang Puck | 7:00 PM onward - Tuesday, December 31, 2019

Masquerade Dinner at Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 8:00 PM - 2:00 AM - Tuesday, December 31, 2019

Great Gatsby New Year's Eve Party at Azure Pool & Lounge | 8:00 PM - 2:00 AM - Tuesday, December 31, 2019

New Year's Day Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 1:00 - 4:00 PM - Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Orthodox Brunch at Bahrain Bay Kitchen | 1:00 - 4:30 PM - Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Guests are welcome to enjoy an intimate celebration with a dear one or a soiree with friends and family.

SHOW



FROZEN 2 (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
 OASIS JUFFAIR (KIDS CINEMA):10.45 AM + 1.00 + 3.15 + 5.30 + 7.45 + 10.00 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (ATMOS): 11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 12.00 + 4.30 + 9.00 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (3D): 11.15 AM + 1.30 + 3.45 + 6.00 + 8.15 + 10.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 12.15 + 1.30 + 2.30 + 3.45 + 4.45 + 6.00 + 7.00 + 8.15 + 9.15 + 10.30 + + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE (IMAX 3D):11.45 AM + 2.00 + 4.15 + 6.30 + 8.45 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE (ATMOS):10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 CITY CENTRE VIP (II): 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (II):11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 + 8.30 + 10.45 PM
 SEEF (3D): 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: (3D): 11.30 AM + 1.45 + 4.00 + 6.15 PM
 KRISTEN BELL, IDINA MENZEL, JOSH GAD

21 BRIDGES (PG-15) (CRIME/ACTION/THRILLER)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM
 OASIS JUFFAIR (VIP): 2.15 + 6.45 + 11.15 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 2.45 + 5.00 + 7.15 + 9.30 + 11.45 PM + (12.45 MN THURS/FRI)
 CITY CENTRE VIP (I):12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 9.45 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): (1.00 AM THURS/FRI)
 WADI AL SAIL:10.30 AM + 12.45 + 3.00 + 5.15 + 7.30 + 8.30 + 9.45 + 10.45 + 12.00 MN
 CHADWICK BOSEMAN, SIENNA MILLER, STEPHAN JAMES

MIRACLE IN CELL NO. 7 (PG-15)(TURKISH/ DRAMA)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :12.00 + 2.45 + 5.30 + 8.15 + 11.00 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 12.30 + 3.15 + 6.00 + 8.45 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 WADI AL SAIL:12.15 + 3.00 + 5.45 + 8.30 + 11.15 PM
 ARAS BULUT YNEML , N SA SOF YA KSONGUR, LKER AKSUM

LAST CHRISTMAS (PG-15)(COMEDY/ROMANTIC/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE: 12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (I): 12.15 + 2.30 + 4.45 + 7.00 + 9.15 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL:1.15 + 6.30 + 11.45 PM
 EMILIA CLARKE, HENRY GOLDING, EMMA THOMPSON

PAGALPANTI (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY/ACTION)
 OASIS JUFFAIR :11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 CITY CENTRE: 11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I):11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL:10.30 AM + 3.30 + 8.45 PM
 JOHN ABRAHAM, ANIL KAPOOR, KRITI KHARBANDA

10 MINUTES GONE (PG-15)(ACTION/CRIME)
 CITY CENTRE:8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 11.45 AM + 1.45 + 3.45 + 5.45 + 7.45 + 9.45 + 11.45 PM
 MICHAEL CHIKLIS, BRUCE WILLIS, MEADOW WILLIAMS

BEHIND THE TREES (15+)(THRILLER/ HORROR)
 SEEF (II): 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 + 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN
 VANESSA CURRY, SAHIL SHROFF, SUBRAT DUTTA

THE SHED (18+)(HORROR/DRAMA)
 SEEF (II): 8.00 + 10.00 + 12.00 MN
 JAY JAY WARREN, CODY KOSTRO, SOFIA HAPPONEN

CHARLIE'S ANGELS (PG-15)(ACTION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE:11.30 AM + 2.00 + 4.30 + 7.00 + 9.30 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II): 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 KRISTEN STEWART, NAOMI SCOTT, ELLA BALINSKA

MALEFICENT 2: MISTRESS OF EVIL
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.30 + 4.00 + 6.30 + 9.00 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (II): 1.45 + 6.30 + 11.15 PM
 ANGELINA JOLIE, TERESA MAHONEY, MICHELLE PFEIFFER

JOKER (15+)(THRILLER/CRIME/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE: 10.30 AM + 1.00 + 3.45 + 6.30 + 9.15 + 12.00 MN
 SEEF (II):11.30 AM + 4.30 + 9.30 PM
 JOAQUIN PHOENIX, ZAZIE BEETZ, ROBERT DE NIRO



PLAYING WITH FIRE (PG)(ADVENTURE/COMEDY/FAMILY)
 CITY CENTRE:12.00 + 2.15 + 4.30 + 6.45 + 9.00 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (II):1.30 AM + 4.15 + 9.00 PM
 JOHN CENA, KEEGAN-MICHAEL KEY, JOHN LEGUIZAMO

TERMINATOR: DARK FATE (PG-15)
 CITY CENTRE: 12.45 + 3.30 + 6.15 + 9.00 + 11.45 PM
 SEEF (II) : 2.00 + 7.00 + 12.00 MN
 LINDA HAMILTON, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, MACKENZIE DAVIS



THE ADDAMS FAMILY (PG)(ANIMATION/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.00 AM + 1.00 + 3.00 + 5.00 + 7.00 PM
 SEEF (II): 12.00 + 2.00 + 4.00 + 6.00 PM
 OSCAR ISAAC, CHARLIZE THERON, CHLO, GRACE MORETZ

GEMINI MAN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 1.45 + 4.15 + 6.45 + 9.15 + 11.45 PM
 WILL SMITH, MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD, CLIVE OWEN

BALA (PG-15)(HINDI/COMEDY/DRAMA/ROMANTIC)
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 2.45 + 8.30 PM
 AYUSHMANN KHURRANA, BHUMI PEDNEKAR, YAMI GAUTAM

ABOMINABLE (PG)(ANIMATION/ADVENTURE/COMEDY)
 CITY CENTRE:11.00 AM + 1.15 + 3.30 + 5.45 PM
 CHLOE BENNET, TENZING NORGAY TRAINOR, ALBERT TSAI

MIDWAY (PG-13)(ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA/WAR)
 CITY CENTRE:9.00 + 11.45 PM
 ED SKREIN, PATRICK WILSON, LUKE EVANS

KHAYAL MAATA (PG)(COMEDY/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE: 11.15 AM + 4.15 + 9.15 PM
 AHMAD HELMY, MINNA SHALABI, HASSAN HOSNEY

ANGEL HAS FALLEN (PG-15)(ACTION/THRILLER/DRAMA)
 CITY CENTRE :1.45 + 6.45 + 11.45 PM
 GERARD BUTLER, MORGAN FREEMAN, JADA PINKETT SMITH

SANGA THAMIZHAN (PG-15)(TAMIL)
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.45 AM + 5.30 + 11.15 PM
 SEEF (I): 11.45 AM + 2.45 + 5.45 + 8.45 + 11.45 PM
 AL HAMRA: (12.00 MN THURS/FRI)
 VIJAY SETHUPATHI, RAASHI KHANNA, NIVETHA PETHURAJ

ADITHYA VARMA (PG-15)(TAMIL)
 From Thursday 7:30pm Onwards
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 10.30 AM + 1.45 + 5.00 + 8.15 + 11.30 PM
 SEEF (I): 10.45 AM + 2.00 + 5.15 + 8.30 + 11.45 PM
 WADI AL SAIL: 1.30 + 7.45 PM
 AL HAMRA: 5.45 PM
 DHRUV VIKRAM, BANITA SANDHU



JACK & DANIEL (PG-15)(MALAYALAM)
 OASIS JUFFAIR : 11.00 AM + 2.00 + 5.00 + 8.00 + 11.00 PM
 SEEF (I):11.30 AM + 2.30 + 5.30 + 8.30 + 11.30 PM
 WADI AL SAIL:10.30 AM + 4.45 + 11.00 PM
 AL HAMRA:9.00 PM
 DILEEP, ARJUN SARJA, ANJU KURIAN

AKASHAGANGA II (PG-13)(MALAYALAM)
 AL HAMRA: 2.45 PM
 RAMYA KRISHNAN, SALIM KUMAR, SREENATH BHASI

KABADDI KABADDI KABADDI (PG-13)(NEPALI)
 AL HAMRA: 12.00 NOON
 KABITA ALE, BIJAY BARAL, MAOTSE GURUNG

MOVIE REVIEW

'21 Bridges' puts New York on lockdown

In '21 Bridges,' a police manhunt plays out within predictable parameters

● The film handles themes of police violence with the delicacy of a monster truck

Sometimes a police thriller can be violent, loud, dumb and fun — or, in the case of "21 Bridges," it can be larded on with such self-importance that it's just violent, loud and dumb. Chadwick Boseman, the go-to actor for playing black superheroes (Black Panther, Thurgood Marshall, Jackie Robinson, James Brown, etc.), stars as Andre Davis, an NYPD detective with a reputation for shooting first and justifying his actions later. To some, that makes him the perfect guy to investigate a horrific crime: The shooting of eight cops at a Brooklyn restaurant that was also a depot for cocaine trafficking. The script, by Adam Mervin and Matthew Michael Carnahan, starts by showing us these

cop killings from the side of the killers. They are Ray (Taylor Kitsch), a veteran who served in Afghanistan, and Michael (Stephan James, from "If Beale Street Could Talk"), the brother of Ray's deceased Army buddy. They were planning to haul away 30 kilos of cocaine and were surprised when they found 300 kilos at the restaurant — and when things go bad, they drive over the bridge into Manhattan. Davis arrives at the crime scene with tempers already on edge. Capt. McKenna (J.K. Simmons), from in whose precinct the deceased cops worked, vows to give Andre all the manpower he needs, and partners him with a narcotics detective, Frankie Burns (Sienna Miller). Davis drops a bombshell order: Close all 21 bridges leading in and out of Manhattan, as well as the tunnels, ferry terminals and subway lines that go off the island. The audience is well ahead of Davis here, because the script and director Brian Kirk lay everything out in such a



From left, J.K. Simmons, Chadwick Boseman and Sienna Miller in '21 Bridges'

ham-handed way. There's a moment where a character walks in, and you'd half expect the charac-

ter to say, "Hi, I'll be your dirty cop this evening. Have you had a chance to look at the menu?"

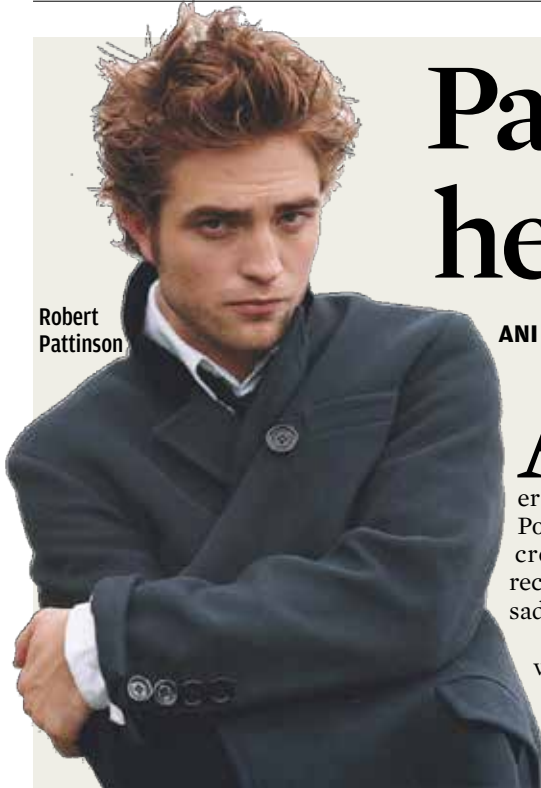
Things are that obvious. Things are also incredibly violent. The body count extends



In this sturdy thriller, Chadwick Boseman plays a Manhattan detective on the hunt for two squirrely cop killers

far past the eight officers gunned down in Brooklyn, and Kirk seems to wallow in the ferocious gunplay and bloodshed, as the movie lumbers toward a finale that's equal parts preposterous and predictable. By the finale, though, those bridges are open and we in the audience can make a grateful escape.

celebs



Robert Pattinson

Pattinson recalls how earlier roles helped him after 'Batman' casting

ANI | Los Angeles

Actor Robert Pattinson opened up about how his earlier roles in films like 'Harry Potter' and 'Twilight' have created an impact on his recent role as the caped crusader in 'The Batman.'

The actor sat down with Kristien Gijbels for the podcast 'HFPA In Conversation' and spoke about the

news of casting as the superhero being leaked.

"It's funny because the secrecy of things is taken very seriously," Robert shared about finding out the news was leaked on his way to Cannes.

"I just thought they'd all have thought I did it, but I can't even get people to come to dinner with me, let alone be able to leak stuff to the press. I don't even know my pin number."

The news also leaked at an inopportune time for the star. He was busy promoting his film 'The Lighthouse.'

"It was weird as well because everyone

just assumed it was true, and it wasn't true at the time," he shared. "It's also annoying as well, because Lighthouse is this little movie, and you kind of don't want to piss everyone off where they organize this whole press tour and then everyone asks you about something else...It was quite stressful."

Talking about his days back while he was facing the camera for 'Harry Potter', the actor revealed that he did not feel any kind of pressure.

"It was a really nice environment on Harry Potter," he shared.

"Even compared to the movies I've

done since, it was very protective. The way the kids were treated...In Harry Potter, they were at school and they were kind of doing work at the same time...It felt like a very friendly family environment."

The star recalled a fond memory on one of his first press tours. "It was amazing. Especially during that press tour," he shared. "I remember going to Tokyo for the first time, and sitting in my room looking out over the city and being like, 'How has this happened?' I really like that movie...I wouldn't be acting if it wasn't for that."

Halle Berry updates fans after injury on sets of 'Bruised'

ANI | Los Angeles

Actor Halle Berry, who recently got injured during a shoot, updated fans about her condition via social media.

According to Fox News, the 53-year-old star sustained injuries while filming a fight scene for her new MMA-inspired flick 'Bruised.'

The 'Kidnap' star took to Instagram to update fans on her condition.

"Thank you to all the folks that have showered me with love since my injury," Berry captioned the picture which seems to be a still from her film.

"It's par for the course when you do your own stunts, and I wouldn't have it any other way. Just know I'm far from tired. I'm wide awake...and just getting started! #BruisedTheMovie."

After the injury delayed production on Monday, a representative for the flick said, "Halle got slightly injured in the fight. She's tired. She needed a break."

The production is expected to resume on Friday. 'Bruised', which also serves as Berry's feature directorial



Bruised is Halle Berry's feature directorial debut

debut, follows her as a disgraced MMA fighter forced to confront her demons when the six-year-old son she walked out on returns to her doorstep.

When Berry began training for the film, she posted a photo to Instagram, displaying her pride in finally having "ripped abs."

In the caption, she encouraged fans to "Set the BAR higher than you think, share your goal in the comments and HOLD yourself to it."

Halle Berry



ANI | Los Angeles

Lopez, Johansson and Murphy to host 'Saturday Night Live' in December

Singer Jennifer Lopez, actors Scarlett Johansson and Eddie Murphy are set to host episodes of 'Saturday Night Live' in December.

Lopez, who will headline the 2020 Super Bowl Halftime Show with Shakira and whose performance in the movie

'Hustlers' is generating Oscar buzz, will host the December 7 episode with rapper DaBaby making his first appearance on

the show as the musical guest, reported Fox News.

While Johansson's episode will air on December 14 with former 'One Direction' member Niall Horan set to

make his first appearance as a solo musical guest.

Additionally, NBC has revealed that singer Lizzo, who just scooped up the largest number of nominations at the forthcoming Grammys, will be the musical guest for the December 21 episode hosted by Eddie Murphy.

Murphy, who can currently be seen in the Oscar contender 'Dolemite Is My Name,' is returning to the show as a host for the first time since December 21, 1984.

Murphy discussed his time on 'SNL' during his recent 'Variety Studio: Actors on Actors' sit-down with Antonio Banderas.

"They had this 40-year anniversary a few years back, so everybody that was ever on the show was there, and it was this really great night," Murphy said.

"I got this big wave of nostalgia and great feelings and seeing all these other actors that have been on the show. There was such a strong kinship with everybody, I felt like I was at my old

Scarlett Johansson



I got this big wave of nostalgia and great feelings and seeing all these other actors that have been on the show. There was such a strong kinship with everybody, I felt like I was at my old high school

EDDIE MURPHY

high school. I decided, this Christmas, I'm going to go back and host the show. I hope it's funny," Murphy added.



Jennifer Lopez

Ariana Grande praises Bernie Sanders after he attends her concert

ANI | Los Angeles

Singer Ariana Grande thanked American politician, Sen. Bernie Sanders, for attending one of her concerts on Tuesday.

"MY GUY," Grande tweeted alongside photos of her and Sanders on Wednesday.

"[T]hank you Senator Sanders for coming to my show, making my whole night and for all that you stand for!" she added before saying she will "never smile this hard again promise."

Sanders, for his part, praised Grande on Twitter, describing her as an "outstanding advocate for social justice."

"We must all be prepared - like Ariana has shown - to fight for everyone who is struggling. It was great to meet her in Atlanta last night," he said.

Ariana Grande



Being sisters, we wanted to do something together: Priyanka on working with Parineeti

ANI | Mumbai

Priyanka Chopra who has lent her voice along with her "baby sister" Parineeti for Disney's upcoming animated adventure film 'Frozen 2' spoke about how she always wanted to work with her and how this opportunity proved to be a bonus for her.

The actor who is currently shooting for 'The White Tiger' in Delhi, shared a video on her Twitter handle in which she shared several excerpts from her journey while voicing the two main characters, Elsa and Anna.

In the one-minute-42-second video, Priyanka shared her feelings of working with her sister Parineeti for the first time. "Being sisters, we used to talk to each other about doing something together. I mean it can't get more iconic than this if we had to ever kick-start some-

thing. It was best as Elsa and Anna," she said.

"Pari is just as bubbly as Anna is and I am probably as calm as Elsa," she said in the video.

The video showed several shots from the film where the two sisters can be seen expressing their love towards each other along with their adventurous journey.

The 37-year-old actor concluded the video on a beautiful note where she expressed her love for her sister.

"I love you too Pari," she said followed with a cute smile on her face.

"Call it luck or destiny, but I've voiced some strong, amazing characters for Disney. Voicing Elsa was a joy, & working with my baby sister @ParineetiChopra was an added bonus. Can't wait for you guys to see it... 'Frozen 2' in cinemas November 22," Priyanka captioned the video.

Taken by surprise with this beautiful gesture, Parineeti was quick to respond. "The last 5 seconds!! ... do you think 'Frozen 2, is actually our biopic?'" she exclaimed.

'Frozen 2', the sequel to the Oscar-win-

ning 2013 film 'Frozen', will see Priyanka and Parineeti together for the first time professionally for the Hindi version.

Produced by Disney, 'Frozen 2' is all set to hit theatres on November 22.



Parineeti and Priyanka Chopra

SPORTS
sports

Riffa, Manama set up title clash



Manama's Nowrooz goes for a lay-up as he is challenged by Nuwaidrat's Quantance. Pictures from the BBA

● Riffa defeated Muharraq to book spot in BBA Cup final

● Manama outclassed Nuwaidrat to advance

TDI | Manama

Riffa and Manama last night set up a mouth-watering clash for the title in the Bahrain Basketball Association (BBA) Cup.

American professional Joseph Jones buried the go-ahead three-pointer to help lift Riffa to a thrilling 78-76 victory over Muharraq and book their seat in the tournament final.

Manama, meanwhile, outclassed Nuwaidrat 107-82 to also advance to the championship game.

The final is scheduled to be played on Tuesday next week. It will tip off at 7pm at Zain Basketball Arena in Um Al Hassam.

In Riffa's victory, Muharraq

put on a gutsy comeback in the fourth quarter after going down 61-70 with just over eight minutes remaining. They managed to tie the proceedings at 75-apiece with a lay-up by Mohammed Juma'a, but then a triple by Jones off a pick-and-roll with Hassan Helal gave Riffa the lead for good at 78-75 with less than two minutes remaining.

Juma'a would make one more free-throw from there but neither team made another basket the rest of the way.

Jones's three-pointer was his lone make from beyond the arc in the game. He finished with 22 points and 12 rebounds to pace Riffa.

Ali Jassim added 19 including four three-pointers, while Abdulrahman Ghali had 15 and Helal 14 to go with six assists.

Muharraq's US import Kevin Murphy had 29 to lead his team in the loss. Juma'a chipped in with 14 off the bench while Sayed Kadhmed Majed added 11.

It was a tightly contested game throughout, with Riffa's nine-point lead in the final canto being



Riffa's Jones posts up Muharraq's Ali Shukrallah during their game last night

their biggest of the night.

In Manama's big win, they took

a commanding lead early on and never looked back.



A golfer in action

AMH Golf Tournament begins in style

TDI | Manama

AMH Island Classic charity golf tournament teed off yesterday with an official opening ceremony which was attended by several VIP's, CEO's, golfers and guests.

The event is held annually and is one of the most awaited event in the calendars of the golfing enthusiasts.



The first day of play went splendidly. Golfers look forward to playing at this course. Golfers enjoyed a good game on the superb nine-hole grass golf course on the first day as the weather conditions were excellent

DR. GEORGE CHERIYAN

The tournament organized under the patronage of His Majesty the King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa at His private golf course in Saffriya, ends on 23rd of November.

Dr. George Cheriyan, CEO/CMO of American Mission Hospital said, "The first day of play went splendidly. Golfers look forward to playing at this course. Golfers enjoyed a good game on the superb nine-hole grass golf course on the first day as the weather conditions were excellent."

Winners of the side contests of Closest to pin, most accurate drive, and longest putt for each flight are listed below:

Results:

Flight A (morning) Side Contest winners were:
Closest to the Pin (Hole 2): Abdulla Sultan (Aroma)
Most Accurate Drive (Hole 8): Richard Mudd (E.K. Kanoo)
Longest Putt (Hole 4): Abdulla Sultan

(Aroma)

Flight B (afternoon) Side Contest winners were:

Closest to pin (Hole 2): Abdulla Jalal (Ministry of Interior)
Most Accurate Drive (Hole 8): Jeff Barrett (AMH Amwaj 1)
Longest Putt (Hole 4): Farooq Ahmed (AMH Riffa 1)

Leaders Board after Day One:

The Championship Flight (Team handicap 6 or under):
Team currently in the lead: Amwaj 1 (54.8 Net)
Team currently in the second place: Ministry of Interior (56.3 Net)
Team currently in the third place: AMH Saar 1 (56.4 Net)

Premier Flight (Team handicap 6.1 or over)

Team currently in the lead: Independent - US Embassy (54.2 Net)
Team currently in the second place: RCS1 1 (57.8 Net)
Team currently in the third place: E.K. Kanoo 1 (60.5 Net)

Al Awadhi advances in bowling World Cup



Ahmed Al Awadhi in Palembang

TDI | Manama

Bahrain's Ahmed Al Awadhi secured his place in the top 24 at the end of the men's qualifying stage yesterday in the 55th QubicaAMF Bowling World Cup, being played at Palembang, Indonesia.

Al Awadhi was classified 14th overall as he joined the world's top bowlers in advancing to the next round of the prestigious competition.

The 20-year-old student completed the four-round qualification phase with a total of 4,878 pinfalls and an average of 203.25 pins over 24 games.

His fourth round score of 1,206 yesterday sealed his berth in the round of 24.

He had earlier posted scores of 1,239, 1,221 and 1,212 over qualifying's first three days.

Al Awadhi was one of only two Arab bowlers to make it through in the tournament, which started with a total of 73 bowlers. Kuwaiti Jassem Alsaqer is the other; he was ranked eighth at the end of the qualification stage.

Francois Louw of South Africa topped all qualifiers with a red hot 5,520 total and 230.00 average. Oliver Morig of Germany followed in second with a 5,332 score and 222.17 average. Lee Wanhee of South Korea was third with counts of 5,155 and 214.79.

Rounding out the top 10 were Ryan Lalisang of Indonesia, Sam Cooley of Australia, Christopher Sloan of Ireland, Jaroslav Lorenc of the Czech Republic, Alsaqer, Jay Leon Guerrero of Guam and David Maycock of Bermuda.

Right in front of Al Awadhi from 11th to 13th were Tony Wong of Hong Kong, Renan Zoghaib of Brazil and Eugene Yeo of Singapore.

The top 24 men will now play a total of eight games today. The top eight at the end of this stage will earn a spot in the next phase, to be played tomorrow, again over another eight games. The top four will then advance to the semi-finals and finals, also tomorrow, on the World Cup's concluding day.

Honda edge Riffa Star in CBA T20 league

TDI | Manama

Honda Bahrain beat Riffa Star by 20 runs in CBA Division C T-20 League.

Honda won the toss and elected to bat first. Opener Ali (112) scored an unbeaten century including twelve 6's and five 4's that helped his team to reach 195 at the end of 20 overs. Adebek took two wickets for Riffa Stars. In second innings, Honda team bowlers' tidy overs restricted Riffa stars for 175 runs and won the match by 20 runs. Rasel took three wickets for Honda.

Honda Bahrain 195/5 (Ali 112, Nabeel 31, Adebek 2/16) beat Riffa Stars 175/9 (Adebek 24, Faisal 24, Rasel 3/22) by 20 runs

Shahzad Zafar 116/8 in 19 overs (Shahzad 37, Muzamil 30, Nandan 2/16) beat Gladifiers 114/10 (Fadhel 32, Khalid 4/24) by 2 wickets

Royal Blasters 104/4 in 10.3 overs (Diju 49, Muzni 2/24) beat Salmaniya Eagles 103/10 (Muzni 16, Roghan 4/26, Krishna 3/14) by 6 wickets

Tornado Riders 100/5 in 16.4 overs (Vijesh 40, Ahmed 2/12) beat Indian Delights 99/10 (Shyju 24, Reji 3/10, Manu 3/14) by 5 wickets

Awali Bapco 135/10 (Ravi 27, Bally 3/28) beat Hempel Paints 99/10 (Ahsan 20, Jigar 4/33) by 36 runs

Karnataka Royals 62/3 in 10 overs (Numair 27) beat Fog CC 61/10 (Hardep 24, Vasanth 4/12, Rajesh 4/10) by 7 wickets

Global Stars 144/10 (Sha-keel 36, Abbas 3/19) beat SNCS TransFast 75/10 (Ershad 14, Kamal 2/5) by 69 runs



Participants in action during a race (file photo)

Stage set for international race

The eyes of the world are focused on REHC for Kingdom's first-ever international horserace

TDT | Manama

Bahrain's very first international horse race, the inaugural Bahrain International Trophy, is set to take place today at the Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC), with preliminary races starting at 1.40pm, ahead of the main race at 4.30pm.

The event represents the vision of HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, High Committee Deputy Chairman of REHC, and the support of HH Shaikh Abdulla bin Isa Al Khalifa, High Committee Chairman of REHC. Local partners include Gulf Air, Bapco and Batelco.

The main race will see nine thoroughbred race horses from around Europe join five local runners to battle it out on turf over 2,000 metres (10 furlongs). They were selected from 46 global entries, with all rated at or above 95 by their domestic authority, including six rated 106 and over.

Starting gate positions were randomly selected during a Post Position Draw (PPD) event held at the Four Seasons Hotel on Wednesday.

Despite being the first occasion of its kind for the nation, Bahrain International Trophy has debuted as a key fixture on the racing calendar, both locally and on the world stage. Having attracted an unprecedented calibre of participants, the race has created a buzz amongst the global horse racing elite and is expected to spur on a new era of international horseracing events hosted by the Kingdom.

Media teams and top photographers from leading international horseracing



HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa speaks after PPD event

publications have flown in to capture the historic action. Famous TV racing presenter Nick Luck and noted commentator Mark Johnson have also arrived to follow the extravaganza.

Commenting on the stature of the race, Mark Johnson said: "Bahrain has become famous in the sporting world for staging one of the most popular grand prix motor races annually, and now this is a chance for the people of Bahrain to see a horse racing equivalent.

"Amongst the 14 jockeys riding in the inaugural Bahrain International Trophy, seven are, or have been, national champion jockeys. It is a truly international field and I would not be surprised if the finish is fought out by horses representing France, the UK and

Bahrain. The French contingent are particularly strong, given Intellogent has already won at Group 1 level (the highest grade of racing)."

The runners include Intellogent (Ireland), the first overseas-trained winner of a Group 1 race to run in Bahrain, with an accumulated £401,647 in career earnings. He will be ridden by two-time champion jockey Pierre-Charles Boudot, who is one of the most recognised names in French racing, and is coming off a recent win at Europe's most prestigious race, the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, will be showcasing his winning horse, Afaak (Great Britain), who took out this year's Royal Hunt Cup at Royal Ascot, with

trainer Charlie Hills.

Mountain Angel (Ireland) has won twice this year in England, and placed second at one of the regional races. His trainer is Roger Varian, a classic winner with 17 Group 1 victories to his name.

Turgenev (Great Britain), nearly completed what would have been a famous five-timer for jockey Frankie Dettori at Royal Ascot earlier this year, and has since twice finished runner up to two subsequent Group winners.

Royal Julius (Ireland), a Group 2 winner in 2018, has finished in the top five places from his last eight starts, with £469,000 in accumulated career earnings.

Pivoine (Ireland) will be ridden by three-time champion jockey Silvestre De Sousa, in what will be his third international trip of the year, following outings in the US and Canada.

Runners and jockeys will be accompanied by equally famous owners, including Fiona Carmichael, Ziad A Galadari, Godolphin and King Power Racing, along with world-class trainers, such as Fabrice Chappet, John Gosden OBE and Andrew Balding, plus many more recognisable names.

The winner's trophy, which was also revealed during the Post Position Draw, is as grand as the occasion itself, designed and handcrafted by House of Garrard.

The event will be open to the public free of charge in addition to being broadcast live, locally on BTV and internationally on Racing TV. The festivities will include family-friendly entertainment options, as well as food and beverage vendors.



Mark Johnson announcing at the Post Position Draw



Nick Luck presenting at the Post Position Draw

Shaikh Isa welcomes the calibre of participants in the historic event

TDT | Manama

The excitement ahead of the first-ever Bahrain International Trophy has reached unprecedented levels.

The spotlight is set on Rashid Equestrian and Horseracing Club (REHC) in Riffa, and the long-awaited event promises to deliver an occasion like no other.

Deputy Chairman of the High Committee REHC, HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, commented ahead of the race: "On a personal note, I am very excited to welcome all these international horses. It is a solid field and would be a solid Group 2 race anywhere around

the world.

"Bahraini-owned horses have had a very successful year on racetracks internationally, including an unprecedented two Royal Ascot winners, so it is only natural that we now take the next step here locally in the Kingdom to host a race of this calibre."

HH Shaikh Isa continued: "I would love everyone to come out and show support. It is truly a world-class, marquee event. This is a calibre of horses you will not find on a regular basis on the island."

The event has taken the international horse racing world by storm.

REHC executive director Shaikh Salman bin Rashed Al Khalifa commented: "Attracting so many top owners, trainers, jockeys and horses for our first international race has exceeded our expectations and truly means a lot for Bahrain. I am sure this is only the beginning of a successful journey which will establish our country as a vital fixture in the racing calendar."

Shaikh Salman took time to pay tribute to the REHC's local partners – Gulf Air, Bapco and Batelco – and to all those associated with managing the racecourse, commenting: "It is clear everyone involved in making this race meeting happen has worked



Bahraini-owned horses have had a very successful year on racetracks internationally, including an unprecedented two Royal Ascot winners, so it is only natural that we now take the next step here locally in the Kingdom to host a race of this calibre

HH SHAIKH ISA BIN SALMAN BIN HAMAD AL KHALIFA

from the heart."

Shaikh Salman expanded by arguing a seminal event like this will lead to further high-level international competitions, which will in turn allow the broader attractions of the island to be highlighted on the world stage: "As well as benefiting our racing, I believe this event will benefit the tourism sector in Bahrain immensely. We have put in place a schedule of events designed to showcase everything our country has to offer, with the aim for everyone to leave here with a positive image of Bahrain."

The visitors have also been given the chance to inspect the REHC course itself, with trainers

especially impressed by the magnificent condition of the turf. The track has been cared for over the past five years by REHC facilities manager and clerk Neil Mackenzie-Ross, who brings a wealth of experience to the role after spending nine years in a similar role at Lingfield Park in England before moving to Bahrain.

Mackenzie-Ross said: "The reason I came to live and work here was for the opportunity to get Bahrain to a position where we could have international racing like this, so there is a real sense of achievement about staging the Bahrain International Trophy."