



Ariana Grande deletes Twitter account, remains active on Instagram

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Saudi Hajj, Umrah Ministry grants OTA status to India-based Akbar Travels

Shura condemns Houthi attacks in Saudi Arabia

TDT | Manama

The Shura Council strongly condemned the Houthi terrorist attacks against the cities of Najran and Jazan in Saudi Arabia, causing the death of two civilians and injuring others in Jazan.

The council condemned the continuous terrorist attacks to undermine the security and stability of Saudi Arabia, and stressed that it is a deliberate violation of international humanitarian law.

It also called on the international community to take strict decisions to stop these heinous terrorist attacks.

The Shura Council affirmed Bahrain's solidarity with Saudi Arabia and support for all the measures it takes to maintain its security, stability and territorial integrity.

'No government jobs for expats' bills rejected

TDT | Manama

The Shura Council yesterday rejected two bills that sought to amend the Civil Service Law in order to reserve all jobs under the public sector, including contract jobs, for Bahrainis.

The council voted by a majority, with one member abstaining, to reject the two bills following the recommendations of the Legislative and Legal Affairs Committee.

It observed that foreigners need to be hired for jobs in case of not finding a suitable Bahraini candidate who meets the qualifications to occupy the required position.

Royal support to charity, humanitarian work hailed

DT | Manama

Representative of His Majesty the King for Humanitarian Work and Youth Affairs, His Highness Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa, has commended the royal support to charity and humanitarian work.

HH Shaikh Nasser thanked His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Honorary President of the Royal Humanitarian Foundation (RHF), and His Roy-



HM the King



HRH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister

al Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

HH Shaikh Nasser expressed appreciation to the executive directorate and all employees of RHF for their distinguished role in serving the orphans, widows and the needy.

He was speaking on the occasion of RHF's winning the second edition of the Prince Mohammed bin Fahad Prize for Best Charity Performance in Arab

Countries (2019-2020), which was organised by the Arab League's Organisation for Administrative Development under the theme "Towards a Better Future for Institutional Charity Work in the Arab World".

HH Shaikh Nasser described the achievement as a reflection of the royal support to charity work and humanitarian efforts by Bahrain to provide aid to people suffering from conflicts, wars and natural disasters.

West Bank tensions rise

Israeli forces, Palestinians clash near settlement outpost amid increase in violence elsewhere

Scores injured by live fire and rubber bullets

Tel Aviv

Israeli forces clashed with Palestinians in the West Bank in an area that has seen a recent uptick in friction, the Israeli military and Palestinian medics said.

The clashes late Saturday were part of days of tension in the area surrounding a West Bank settlement outpost and a spike in violence elsewhere in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

During the clashes, the military said, hundreds of Palestinians threw rocks and burned tyres and shots were fired in the area. The military said forces responded with live fire and "riot dispersal means," typically tear gas and stun grenades.

The military also said shots were fired from a passing vehicle toward a military post near

the West Bank city of Nablus, which is south of Homesh. It was not clear if the shooting was related to the clashes.

The Palestinian Red Crescent said 10 people were wounded by live fire. The Palestinian Health Ministry said one of them, a 17-year-old, was seriously wounded. Dozens of others were wounded by rubber bullets.

A soldier was lightly wounded, the military said.

Homesh, in the northern West Bank, was dismantled as part of Israel's withdrawal from the Gaza Strip in 2005. But in recent years, Israeli settlers have returned to pray and established an unauthorised outpost at the site.

Last week, at least one Palestinian gunman opened fire on a car filled with Jewish seminary students next to the outpost. Yehuda Dimentman, 25, was killed and two others were wounded near Homesh, which is considered illegal by the Israeli government.

Jewish settler march stopped!

Amman

Protests by Palestinians in several villages north of Nablus appear to have succeeded in stopping a planned Jewish settler march, after the settlers demanded the return of land in the area as revenge for the killing of one of their own near Ramallah.

The demonstrations took place in the villages of Burqa, Sabastia, Silt Al Thahriah and Bazaria.

The Israel Defense Force responded with a mix of live bullets, rubber-covered metal bullets, and tear gas, with the Palestinian Red Crescent reporting a total of 247 injuries, at least nine of them from live bullets. One Palestinian remains in a critical condition.

The main protests took place in the village of Burqa, but people from other villages said that



Palestinian demonstrators in the Burqa village

they too suffered attacks by Jewish settlers.

Ghassan Douglas, a Palestinian from Burqa, and who is also the deputy head of the national

committee against settlers in the north, said that the 30,000 Palestinians living in the area would not accept settlers on their land.

Russian ultimatum

Putin threatens 'military action' against Ukraine

Moscow

President Vladimir Putin said yesterday that if NATO does not provide binding guarantees to curtail military deployments in Eastern Europe and to bar Ukraine from membership in the alliance, he will be forced to consider a variety of options, including a military response.

Putin's demands are contained in a pair of draft treaties Russia submitted to NATO earlier this month.

Putin, whose remarks were aired on Russian state TV yesterday, expressed concerns about the possibility of missiles being deployed in Ukraine if the for-



Putin is sending stern warning to NATO and Ukraine

mer Soviet satellite joins NATO. "We have nowhere to retreat," Putin said. "They have pushed us to a line that we can't cross. They have taken it to the point where we simply must tell them; 'Stop!'"

When asked about the exact nature of the response he was proposing, Putin said it would "depend on what proposals our military experts submit to me."

NATO is unlikely to agree to Putin's terms. "NATO member countries decide who is a member of NATO, not Russia," White House press secretary Jen Psaki told reporters, according to The Washington Post.

More than 10,000 Russian troops had returned to their bases after a month of drilling on the Ukrainian border. Despite this reduction, Russia still has tens of thousands of troops stationed on the Ukrainian border, and intelligence analysts continue to warn that an invasion could be imminent.

President Biden has threatened increased sanctions if Russia invades Ukraine.

BAHRAIN COVID-19

TOTAL TESTED
7918187

ACTIVE CASES
1548

DEATHS
1394

DISCHARGED
276863

NEW CASES
287

210 fils (includes VAT)

