



Insure your car  
in 2 mins



qic.online



QIC

800-Aq-powar-Qatar

GULF



TIMES



0 668039 136499

THURSDAY Vol. XXXXV No. 13089

August 1, 2024  
Muharram 26, 1446 AH

www.gulf-times.com 2 Riyals

Published in  
QATAR  
since 1978



Enjoy unlimited connectivity  
with Roam Like Home



vodafone



HABARI  
REAL ESTATE  
CR No: 174949

Workers/Staff Accommodations  
Residential Apartments  
Warehouse/Store

Villa's  
Shops



SCAN HERE

+974 3030 0880  
+974 3341 9475

P.O. Box: 60861, 1st Floor,  
Building # 11, Street 852,  
Zone 74, Al Khor, Qatar.



AL KHOR / INDUSTRIAL AREA,  
UMM BIRKA, AL SHAMAL, DOHA

**SPORT | Page 4**

## Al Ghadeer lands Qatar International Stakes for second time in a row



talabat rewards

You deserve  
rewards!





Sky Vision Real Estate Offer

Labour Room 1,250/- per room @  
Industrial Area, Street-38,43,44,47

Warehouse 300sqm - Qr.12,500/-

LOUNGE & CLUB /  
HOTEL STUDIO ROOM

for Rent Inside a 4 Star Hotel

Call: 33598672, 52038746, 50576993



Amwaj

"Pure water  
Refined taste"

Extra  
Minerals  
Added

LOW  
SODIUM

Available at



SAFARI

مصنع الدوحة للمصانع والأغذية  
DOHA JUICE & FOOD FACTORY

Mob: 70614776, 77949967

## Amir reconstitutes National Human Rights Committee

His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani yesterday issued the Amiri Decision No. 61 of 2024 reconstituting the National Human Rights Committee (NHRC).

The decision stipulated that the National Human Rights Committee shall be reconstituted as follows: 1 – Maryam Abdullah al-Attiyah (representative of civil society); 2 – Dr Mohamed Saif al-Kuwari (representative of civil society); 3 – Dr Youssef Mohamed al-Obaidan (representative of civil society); 4 – Dr Asmaa Abdullah al-Attiyah (representative of civil society); 5 – Sultan Mubarak Khamis al-Abdullah (representative of civil society); 6 – Fawaz Bakhit al-Jatal (representative of civil society); 7 – Dr Hessa Mohamed Sadiq Mohamed (representative of civil society); 8 – Mubarak Abdulaziz Mohamed al-Khalifa (representative of civil society); 9 – Director of the Human Rights Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs); 10 – Abdullah Saqr al-Mohannadi (representative of the Ministry of Interior); 11 – Naji Abd Rabbo al-Ajji (representing the Ministry of Social Development and Family); 12 – Sheikha Najwa bint Abdul Rahman bin Nasser al-Thani (representative of the Ministry of Labour); 13 – Dr Saleh Ali al-Fadala (representative of the Ministry of Justice).

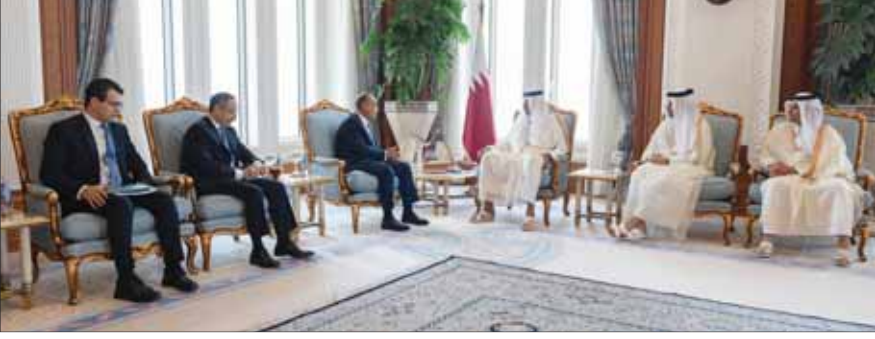
The decision also provided that the Committee would select Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson from its members of representatives of civil society, and that the term of the Committee would be five years, renewable for another period or periods.

The decision is effective starting from the date of issue and is to be published in the official gazette. **(QNA)**

## 15 stadiums, 5 cities in Saudi World Cup bid

Saudi Arabia will host the 48-team World Cup 2034 tournament in fifteen stadiums across five cities, including eight in the capital, state media said yesterday. The bid book outlines five proposed host cities for the tournament, including Riyadh, Jeddah, Al Khobar, Abha, and NEOM, SPA said. **Sport Page 2**

## Amir meets Egypt's foreign minister



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani met at his Amiri Diwan office yesterday with Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt Dr Badr Abdelatty and his accompanying delegation, on the occasion of his visit to the country. At the outset of the meeting, the Egyptian Minister conveyed the greetings of President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Abdel Fattah al-Sisi to His Highness the Amir and his wishes for continued success for His Highness and development and prosperity for the Qatari people. For his part, His Highness the Amir entrusted the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs with his greetings to al-Sisi and his wishes for continued success for him and further progress and prosperity for the fraternal Egyptian people. They also discussed bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries and aspects of enhancing them, in addition to a number of topics of common concern. HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani attended the meeting. **(QNA)**

## Amir meets UK foreign, defence secretaries



His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani met at his Amiri Diwan office yesterday with UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, and UK Defence Secretary John Healey, and their accompanying delegation, on the occasion of their visit to the country. During the meeting, they discussed close bilateral relations between the two countries and aspects of enhancing and developing them across various fields. They also discussed regional and international developments, especially the developments in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories. HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani attended the meeting. **(QNA)**

# Hamas chief Haniyeh assassinated in Tehran

Reuters  
Cairo/Dubai

Palestinian resistance movement Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was assassinated in the Iranian capital Tehran early yesterday, an attack that drew threats of revenge on Israel and fuelled further concern that the conflict in Gaza was turning into a wider Middle East war.

The Palestinian group and Iran's Revolutionary Guards confirmed Haniyeh's death. The Guards said it took place hours after he attended a swearing-in ceremony for Iran's new president.

Although the strike on Haniyeh was widely assumed to have been carried out by Israel, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government made no claim of responsibility and said it would make no comment on the killing.

Haniyeh was killed by a missile that hit him "directly" in a state guesthouse where he was staying, Khalil al-Hayya, a senior Hamas official, told a news conference in



Ismail Haniyeh

Tehran, quoting witnesses who were with Haniyeh.

Haniyeh had been taking part in internationally-brokered indirect talks on reaching a ceasefire in Gaza.

The assassination occurred less than 24 hours after Israel claimed to have killed Hezbollah's most senior military commander in the Lebanese capital Beirut

in retaliation for a deadly rocket strike in the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights.

The latest events appear to set back chances of any imminent ceasefire agreement in the nearly 10-month-old war in Gaza between Israel and Hamas.

Hamas' armed wing said in a statement Haniyeh's killing would "take the battle to new dimensions and have major repercussions". Vowing to retaliate, Iran declared three days of national mourning and said the US bore responsibility because of its support for Israel.

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said Israel had provided the grounds for "harsh punishment for itself" and it was Tehran's duty to avenge Haniyeh's death.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas condemned the killing and Palestinian factions in the Israeli-occupied West Bank called for a strike and mass demonstrations.

Three of Haniyeh's sons were killed in an Israeli airstrike in April.

## Hezbollah commander killed in Israeli strike



Fuad Shukur

Hezbollah yesterday mourned its top commander Fuad Shukur, whose body was recovered from the rubble of an Israeli strike in south Beirut, as fears mounted of a wider conflict. Shukur will be buried today and Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah will speak at his funeral to outline the Iran-backed movement's position, the group said in a statement. Tuesday's raid on the Beirut suburb, an overcrowded residential area that is a Hezbollah bastion, also killed five civilians – three women and two children – and injured dozens, according to Lebanon's health ministry.

## PM, Blinken discuss Gaza truce, bilateral relations

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani received a phone call yesterday from Secretary of State of the friendly United States of America Antony Blinken.

The phone conversation dealt with the close strategic ties between Qatar and the friendly United States of America, and ways to develop and enhance them.

It also discussed the latest developments in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territories, updates on joint mediation efforts to end the war on the Strip, and the ongoing tensions

in the Middle East.

During the call, HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and the US Secretary of State stressed the need to continue to work towards reaching a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip that would alleviate the sufferings of the Palestinian people, ensure the release of hostages and prisoners, and enable the possibility of broader stability to avoid further escalation in the region. The US Secretary of State expressed his gratitude to HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs for Qatar's crucial role in achieving a lasting regional peace. **(QNA)**

## PM receives phone call from acting Iranian FM

HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani received yesterday a phone call from Iran's Acting Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri Kani. The call dealt with discussing bilateral co-operation between the two sides and the means to enhance them and the implications of the assassination of Head of the Political Bureau of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran. **(QNA)**

## Qatar condemns Haniyeh's killing, calls it a heinous crime

Qatar strongly condemned the assassination of the Head of the Political Bureau of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital, Tehran, considering it a heinous crime, a dangerous escalation, and a flagrant violation of international and humanitarian law.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed in a statement yesterday that the assassination and reckless targeting of civilians will lead the

region into chaos and undermine the chances of peace.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterated Qatar's firm stance against violence, terrorism and criminal acts, including political assassinations, regardless of the motives and reasons.

The ministry expressed the condolences of the State of Qatar, its leadership and people, to the family of the Head of the Political Bureau of Hamas and his personal companion, and the State of Palestine and its people. **(QNA) Page 7**

## Gulf Times condemns killing of AJ journalists in Gaza; calls for world action against Israel



Gulf Times strongly condemns the targeted and brutal killing of Al Jazeera journalists Ismail al-Ghoul and Rami al-Rifi in Gaza yesterday.

These journalists were not combatants; they were dedicated media professionals risking their lives to uncover the genocide perpetrated by the Israeli occupation forces and report the truth from one of the most dangerous conflict zones in the world. Their deaths are a stark reminder of the extreme lengths to which the Israeli occupation forces are willing to go to suppress the free press and silence voices that bear witness to their sinister and dastardly massacres that have so far claimed more than 39,400 Palestinian lives, most of them women and children.

This latest attack is not an isolated incident but part of a systematic campaign against journalists in Gaza, aimed at obstructing the flow of information and keeping the world in the dark about the

atrocities being committed against the hapless people of the Strip. Such deliberate targeting of media personnel is a gross violation of international law and an assault on the very principles of press freedom and human rights.

The killings of the family members of Al Jazeera Gaza Bureau Chief Wael al-Dahdouh and journalist Shireen Abu Akleh still haunt the conscience of the world's right-minded people. According to the report of a UN-mandated investigation, Israeli forces used "lethal force without justification" when they shot and killed Al Jazeera journalist Shireen Abu Akleh in the occupied West Bank, violating her "right to life".

The international community must not stand idly by as these crimes continue unabated. The killing of journalists is not just an attack on individuals but an attack on the global right to information and truth.

**To Page 4**





اسحب الرمز لمعرفة آخر العروض  
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR LATEST  
PROMOTION CATALOGUE  
VIEW NOW



دريسكولز فراولة أمريكية  
٢٥٠ غرام | باكي٦  
Driscoll's Strawberry USA  
250gm 1pkt



لحم ماعز مقطع  
هندي ١ كيلو  
Mutton Cuts  
Indian 1kg



جبن قريش  
قطري ١ كيلو  
Qatar Areesh  
Cheese 1kg



كلور آب معجون أسنان منوع  
١٢٠ مل / ٤ حبات  
Closeup Toothpaste  
Asstd. 120ml X 4pcs



جونسونز صابون فيتا ريتش  
منوع ١٧٥ غرام / ٤ حبات  
Johnson's Soap Vita Rich  
Asstd. 175gm X 4pcs



أناناس كوستا ريكا  
١ كيلو  
Pineapple  
Costa Rica 1kg



قطع لحم بقري  
برازيلي ١ كيلو  
Beef Cubes  
Brazil 1kg



ساديا ناجتس  
الدجاج ٧٥٠ غرام  
Sadia Chicken  
Nuggets 750gm



وايز بيكس مسحوق غسيل برائحة  
اللافندر والمغنوليا ٢,٥ كيلو  
Wisepicks Lavender &  
Magnolia Detergent  
Powder 2.5 kg



عنب أسود  
مصري ١ كيلو  
Grapes Black  
Egypt 1kg



سبياس متوسط  
تونس ١ كيلو  
Sea Bass Medium  
Tunisia 1kg



مكفيتيس دايجستيف بسكوت  
منوع ٢٥٠ غرام / ١ حبة  
McVitie's Digestive Biscuits  
Asstd 250gm x 1pc



كادبوري دايري ميلك شوكولاتة بابل  
٨٧ غرام / ٣ حبات  
Cadbury Dairy Milk Bubbly  
Chocolate 87gm X 3pcs



إبيكس مبيض منوع  
٤ لتر  
Apex Bleach  
Asstd. 4Ltr



فارملاند زيت دوار الشمس  
١ لتر | حبتان  
Farmland Sunflower  
Oil 1Ltr X 2pcs



دجاج مشوي | حبة + صلصة  
مكسيكية + بطاطس مقليّة  
Grilled Chicken with  
(Mexican Sauce + French Fries)



جبنه كريم عضوية  
٥٠٠ غرام  
Puck Organic Cream  
Cheese Spread 500gm



أوريو بسكوت أوريجنال  
٥٨,٨ غرام / ١٢ قطعة  
Oreo Original Biscuits  
58.8gm X 12pcs



پارلامونت دايلي ديليت  
أرز بسمي ٤.٥٤ كيلو  
Parliament Daily Delight  
Basmati Rice 4.54kg

## LAST CHANCE TO WIN BIG!

PROMOTION ENDS ON 03.08.2024

تسوّق واربح  
**SHOP & WIN**  
السحب الكبير في اللولو  
**LULU MEGA LUCKY DRAW**

مليون ر.ق + مليون  
نقدًا / قسائم هدايا  
CASH PRIZES / GIFT VOUCHERS  
نقاط الولاء سعادة  
HAPPINESS LOYALTY POINTS

SHOP FOR QAR. 50/- GET AN E-RAFFLE COUPON TO WIN  
WORTH QAR. 1 MILLION CASH PRIZES/  
GIFT VOUCHERS & 1 MILLION LOYALTY POINTS

(For registering please visit customer service counter or luluhypermarket.com)  
Promotion valid from 25.04.2024 to 03.08.2024, Draw Date: 05.08.2024, Lulu Hypermarket D-Ring Road.

### CASH PRIZES / GIFT VOUCHERS

1<sup>st</sup> Prize 100,000 QAR. x 1 Winner = 100,000/-  
(Cash 50,000/- + Voucher 50,000/-)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize 50,000 QAR. x 2 Winners = 100,000/-  
(Cash 25,000 + Voucher 25,000) x 2 Winners  
3<sup>rd</sup> Prize 25,000 QAR. x 4 Winners = 100,000/-  
(Vouchers 25,000 x 4 Winners)  
4<sup>th</sup> Prize 10,000 QAR. x 30 Winners = 300,000/-  
(Vouchers 10,000 x 30 Winners)  
5<sup>th</sup> Prize 5,000 QAR. x 50 Winners = 250,000/-  
(Vouchers 5,000 x 50 Winners)  
6<sup>th</sup> Prize 2,500 QAR. x 60 Winners = 150,000/-  
(Vouchers 2,500 x 60 Winners)

### HAPPINESS

7<sup>th</sup> Prize 100,000 Loyalty Points  
(1 Winner)  
8<sup>th</sup> Prize 50,000 Loyalty Points  
(2 Winners)  
9<sup>th</sup> Prize 25,000 Loyalty Points  
(4 Winners)  
10<sup>th</sup> Prize 10,000 Loyalty Points  
(30 Winners)  
11<sup>th</sup> Prize 5,000 Loyalty Points  
(50 Winners)  
12<sup>th</sup> Prize 2,500 Loyalty  
(60 Winners)

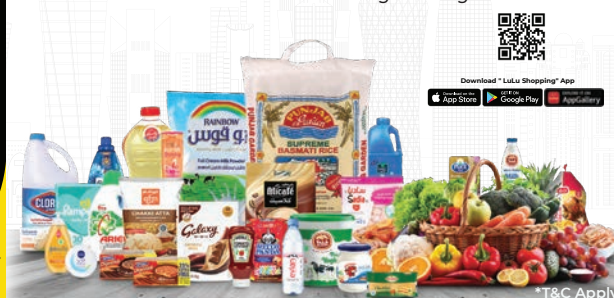
**DELIVERY  
WITHIN 2 HOURS**  
ON GROCERY PRODUCTS

Shop Online at

**luluhypermarket.com**

**\*Slot selection is not required**  
(9am to 9pm)

Orders placed after 9pm  
will be fulfilled the following morning



**LULU  
HYPER  
MARKET  
& COM**

SHOP ONLINE



DOWNLOAD LULU APP  
Download "Lulu Shopping"  
on the App Store, Google Play, or AppGallery

GET  
**5%  
BACK**

with your Doha Bank shopping Co-branded credit card  
Type 'LULU' & SMS to 92610 or visit any Doha Bank Branch

**0% INTEREST**

Buy now, pay over 6 months



**Lulu**  
Where the world comes to shop



# Qatar Museums unveils Olympism: More Than a Dream Exhibition

As part of Qatar's contribution to Paris 2024, Qatar Museums (QM) and 3-2-1 Qatar Olympic and Sports Museum (QOSM) has opened Olympism: More Than a Dream Exhibition, recording 40 years of Qatar's participation in the Olympics since 1984. The exhibition will be on view until August 25 at Le Royal Monceau - Raffles Paris Hotel in Paris, France.

The event was attended by Qatar's ambassador to France Sheikh Ali bin Jassim al-Thani; Qatar Football Association president Jassim bin Rashid al-Buenain; Qatar Olympic Committee vice-president and Olympic Council of Asia vice-president for West Asia Dr Thani bin Abdulrahman al-Kuwari; 3-2-1 QOSM director Abdulla Yousuf al-Mulla; Yasmin Meichtry, associate director at Olympic Foundation for Culture and Heritage - Olympic Museum - IOC; Alexandra de Navacelle de Coubertin, president, Pierre de Coubertin Family Association; and other guests.

The exhibition is divided into three parts. The first is a tribute to Pierre de Coubertin, founder of the Modern Olympics, and celebrates Qatar's gift of the first translation



QM and 3-2-1 QOSM unveils Olympism: More Than a Dream Exhibition at the Paris Olympics. It will be on view until August 25 at Le Royal Monceau - Raffles Paris Hotel.

of Coubertin's Selected Writings into Arabic for the first time. The exhibition features iconic Olympic objects from the museum's collection, from Muhammad Ali's left boxing glove from Rome 1960, hand-inscribed by the most charismatic of athletes, detailing his victories, to a rare Innsbruck 1964 Olympic torch used on the first occasion that the Olympic flame for a Winter Games was lit in Olympia,

Greece birthplace of the Ancient Olympic Games.

The second part highlights key milestones in Qatar's progress as an Olympic nation, from its first participation at Los Angeles 1984 to Tokyo 2020. Memorabilia and medals include Qatar's first medal in 1992 to one of the two Tokyo 2020 Golds, the bronze won by Qatar athlete Mohamed Suleiman in the 1,500m at Barcelona



Dignitaries at the opening of the exhibition.

(the first medal in the history of the Olympic Games to be won by a Gulf country), and the gold medal won by the 'Qatari Falcon' Mutaz Barshim at Tokyo 2020.

The third and final part explores Qatar's emergence as a global sporting leader and host, and its aspirations to host the Olympic Games in the future. The exhibition is curated by Susan Hayward

FMA, deputy director of Curatorial Affairs at 3-2-1 QOSM and led by al-Mulla, and the 3-2-1 QOSM team. Pierre De Coubertin: Textes Choisis, Volume 1, the first translation from French into Arabic of selected writings by Pierre de Coubertin, the father of the modern Olympic Games, will become available to public through In-Q's website and QM's gift shops.



## QM animated series 'Hazawy' wins big at Collision Awards

Qatar Museums (QM) announced that its animated folktale series, 'Hazawy', has achieved Silver awards in two categories and an audience choice award at the prestigious Collision Awards 2024.

The series received the Audience Choice Award and Silver Award in the "Non-Profit" category, and the Silver Award in the "Arts and Culture" category. Produced by the QM's Digital Production team in 2023, led by Sheikha Roda al-Thani, 'Hazawy' is a four-part series of animated shorts designed to bring the rich tapestry of Qatari folklore to life.

Each episode, ranging from three to four minutes in length, explores the

**'Hazawy' is a four-part series of animated shorts designed to bring the rich tapestry of Qatari folklore to life**

depths of the human psyche, examining fears, hopes, and the enigmatic nature of existence through animation and compelling storytelling. In a press statement, QM CEO Mohammed al-Rumaihi said: "Hazawy is a shining example of our ongoing mission to preserve and celebrate Qatar's rich folklore through innovative and engaging storytelling. We are thrilled to see our work recognised on such a prestigious platform."

Multimedia Producer co-ordinator

Sheikha Roda, who is also the lead producer of the series, said: "The success of 'Hazawy' is a testament to the dedication and creativity of our Digital Production team.

This series is more than just animation; it's a heartfelt tribute to our cultural legacy, and seeing it resonate with audiences around the world is truly rewarding."

The series is available in Arabic with English subtitles on the QM website and YouTube channel.

## QLC announces start of registration for National Leadership Programmes

Qatar Leadership Center (QLC) announced that registration for its National Leadership Programmes for 2025 will start today (Thursday). The programmes are open to Qataris with a bachelor's degree or higher and have at least three years' work experience.

QLC programmes focus on qualifying national competencies and enhancing their leadership and administrative skills to support various key sectors in Qatar. The National Leadership Programmes are the Government Leadership Programme (Arabic), the Rising Leadership Programme (English) and the Executive Leadership Programme (English). Final acceptance into the programmes requires submitting a letter of no objection from the applicant's employer.

The online application will close on August 22. For inquiries and application support, contact can be made through registrationqlc.org.qa or 40194444. **(QNA)**



**Petrotec** · بترولتك  
Committed to Energy

An Al Mahhar Company



AL MAHARR HOLDING

المحار القابضة

35 Years of Petrotec

A Legacy of Commitment to Qatar's Energy sector

Marking 35 years as a trusted name in the Energy Industry, dedicated to providing engineered solutions and exceptional service excellence.

Thank you to all our partners for your trust and support.

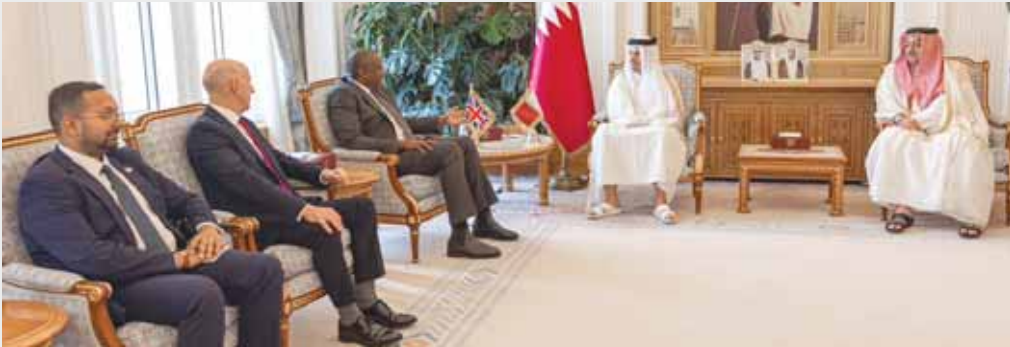


[www.petrotec.com.qa](http://www.petrotec.com.qa)

Al Mahhar holding Company Q.P.S.C. listed on the Qatar Stock exchange – Venture market



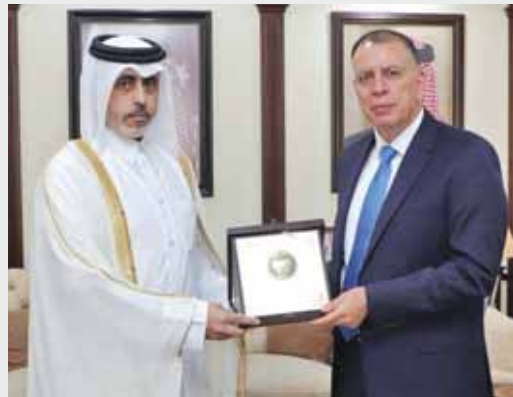
## PM, Deputy PM meet UK officials



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met at the Amiri Diwan with UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy, and UK Defence Secretary John Healey, who are visiting the country. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the strategic co-operation relations between the two countries and ways to support and develop them, and discussed the repercussions of the assassination of the Head of the Political Bureau of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Dr Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital, Tehran. They also discussed the latest developments in the Gaza Strip in the occupied Palestinian territories, as well as developments in the joint mediation efforts to end the war on the Gaza, in addition to several topics of mutual interest. The UK foreign secretary and defence secretary extended their country's thanks to Qatar for its joint mediation efforts to stop the war on Gaza. **(QNA)**



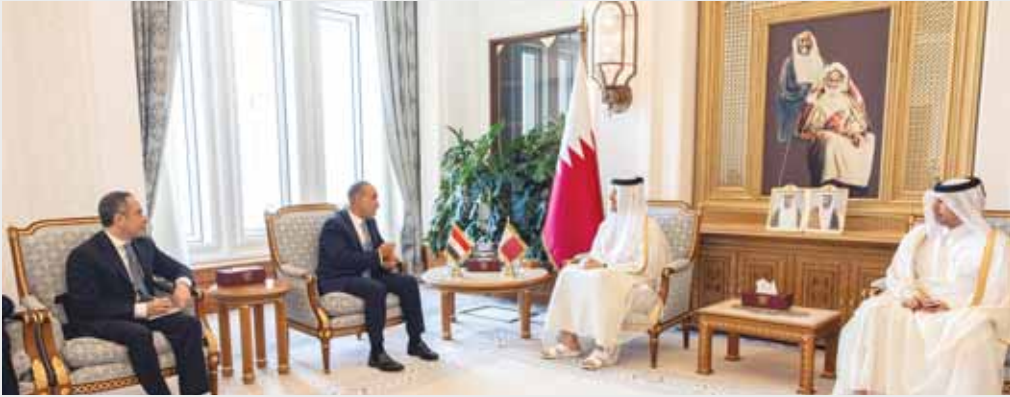
HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs, Dr Khalid bin Mohamed al-Attiyah, met with the visiting UK Defence Secretary John Healey and Foreign Secretary David Lammy. The meeting discussed topics of joint interest, in addition to co-operation relations between the two sides and ways to strengthen them. The meeting was attended by HE the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Lieutenant General (Pilot), Salem bin Hamad bin Aqeel al-Nabit, alongside several of high-ranking officials and officers from both sides. **(QNA)**



## Qatar, Jordan discuss security co-operation

HE the Assistant Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior for Security Affairs Sheikh Nayef bin Faleh al-Thani met in Amman with Jordanian Minister of Interior Mazin Abdullah al-Farayah. During the meeting, they discussed the existing co-operation relations between the two countries in the security fields and ways to enhance them. They emphasised the importance of promoting this co-operation and raising the level of exchange of expertise and experiences in a way that enhances security performance in the two fraternal countries. **(QNA)**

## PM meets Egyptian FM



HE the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Thani met in the Amiri Diwan yesterday with Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Egyptian Expatriates Affairs Dr Badr Abdelatty, who is visiting the country. The meeting discussed bilateral relations and ways to enhance and develop them. It also discussed the ramifications of the assassination of the Head of the Political Bureau of the Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) Dr Ismail Haniyeh in the Iranian capital, Tehran, the latest developments in the Gaza Strip and the occupied Palestinian territories, and ways to eliminate the obstacles hindering the entry of humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip, along with a number of topics of common interest. **(QNA)**

## Gulf Times condemns killing of AJ journalists in Gaza

From Page 1

It is imperative that Israel be held accountable for these egregious actions through international courts and legal mechanisms.

*Gulf Times* call on all nations, human rights organizations, and media bodies to unite in condemning these heinous acts and to demand immediate action to protect journalists in conflict zones, particularly in the Palestinian territories. Furthermore, the international community must exert pressure on Israel to release all detained journalists and to cease its relentless campaign of intimidation and violence against those who courageously report the realities of Israeli aggression.

The legacy of Ismail Al-Ghoul and Rami Al-Rifi, and the 165 other journalists who have been martyred in Gaza, must not be in vain. Their work to reveal the truth must be honoured and continued.

Page 7

# MoPH bans 83 healthcare practitioners for violations

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) has banned 83 individuals who submitted incorrect or misleading documents to obtain a licence to practise in the country during 2022 and 2023.

MoPH's strict oversight efforts to verify the qualifications and eligibility of health professionals seeking to work in Qatar's healthcare sector has resulted in identifying such documents, a statement said yesterday.

The practitioners who submitted false or misleading documents are permanently banned from working in the healthcare sector of Qatar. Similarly, healthcare institutions outside Qatar that provided incorrect or misleading certificates are identified and blacklisted, rendering their documents unacceptable for licensing purposes.

Dr Saad al-Kaabi, director of the Healthcare Professions Department at the Ministry of Public Health, explained that most of the deceitful attempts involved falsifying experience documents, such as job titles, years of experience, or the size and classification of the institution where the health professional had worked. Additionally, there were instances of forgery in academic qualifications from unreliable institutions and misleading results in qualifying examinations (Prometric). He noted that the violations covered all categories and specialisations, including doctors, nurses, and allied health professionals.



Dr Saad al-Kaabi

Dr al-Kaabi emphasised that the Ministry employs a unified methodology with fairness, objectivity, and transparency when investigating conduct that undermines the reputation of healthcare professionals and breaches the ethical standards of the profession.

"A blacklist has also been compiled, including healthcare institutions that issue incorrect or misleading certificates to practitioners. Any certificate issued by these institutions is not accepted."

Dr al-Kaabi also noted that all institutions and healthcare facilities that provided false experience documents are located outside of Qatar. "The Ministry of Public Health is committed to upholding the highest standards of quality and safety in the healthcare services provided in the country. It regulates the practice of health professionals, works to improve the quality of healthcare, and ensures patient safety," the statement added.

## QPC slams assassination of AJ journalists

By Tawfik Lamari  
Staff Reporter

Palestinian media announced yesterday that Palestinian journalist Ismail al-Ghoul, correspondent for Al Jazeera in Gaza, was martyred when the occupation bombed a group of journalists near the house of the martyr Ismail Haniyeh in the Beach Camp, west of the Gaza Strip.

It also announced the mar-

tyrdom of photojournalist Rami al-Rifi in another bombing that targeted another group of journalists on Aidiya Street, west of Gaza City. The Qatar Press Center (QPC) condemns in the strongest terms the Israeli occupation forces' continued targeting of journalists in Gaza with killing and abuse, the latest of which is the assassination of journalist Ismail al-Ghoul and photographer Rami al-Rifi.

The QPC calls on the international community and interna-

tional, human rights and media organisations to condemn the targeting of journalists in Gaza with murder, arrest and intimidation, and to take urgent action to hold the Israeli occupation accountable before international courts for war crimes against journalists and media professionals, and to pressure it to stop crimes of genocide and stop the assassination of Palestinian journalists.

The QPC calls on the international community to put pres-

sure on Israel to release journalists detained in Israeli prisons who are suffering from compelling conditions that deprive them of the most basic prisoners' rights stipulated in international laws and conventions.

The QPC notes that with the martyrdom of al-Ghoul and al-Rifi, the number of journalist martyrs has risen to (165 male and female journalists) since the start of the war on the Gaza Strip, on the seventh of last October. **Page 7**

# CRA, ITU hold workshop on collaborative digital regulation

The Communications Regulatory Authority (CRA), in collaboration with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), hosted a national multi-stakeholder's workshop focused on collaborative digital regulation.

This initiative aims to enhance the regulatory environment in Qatar's Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector by adhering to international standards, advancing co-operation and collaborative governance, utilising new tools for ICT regulation, and facilitating the country's digital transformation.

The workshop gathered government officials, representatives from ministries responsible for ICT policy and regulation, officials from national regulatory bodies, and telecommunications Service Providers. Participants engaged in insightful discussions on various aspects of digital regulation, exploring agile approaches to digital policy, regulation, and governance.

They gained insights into flexible strategies for managing the rapidly evolving ICT landscape, covered the ITU Unified Framework of Generations of Regulation and regulatory metrics such as the ICT Regulatory Tracker and the G5 Benchmark, and deep dive into Qatar's legal, policy, and governance frameworks for digital transformation, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement.



Hussain Abdulla Salatt

Hussain Abdulla Salatt, Public Relations and Communication manager at CRA, praised the collaboration with ITU, stating: "This partnership is essential for supporting Qatar navigate the challenges of the digital world and strengthen its position in the global digital economy. This evaluation of our regulatory frameworks supports Qatar National Vision and Digital Agenda 2030, as well as our National Development Strategy, by enhancing the digital economy and supporting digital transformation across various sectors, especially with the rapid adoption of new technologies like artificial intelligence and big data."

Following the workshop, a national review of digital collaborative regulation and digital transformation will begin. This review will assess the set-up of the telecommunications and IT sector and the foundations for digital transformation across the economy and society in terms of key policies and programs, joint policies across sectors, and collaborative practices among institutions.

It will also examine regulatory tools to boost the digital economy and evaluate the level of regulatory maturity and policy implementation, also inviting feedback from a wide range of national stakeholders from government and the private sector. The analysis will allow formulating recommendations to improve the regulatory environment and governance practices towards achieving an inclusive and sustainable digital transformation and enhancing the local digital economy.


Since 2020, ITU has conducted similar national reviews in 15 countries, focusing on regulatory frameworks, institutional structures, and collaborative digital governance.

These reviews help decision-makers understand the role of collaboration and governance, use new tools to regulate ICT and digital markets, and address the rapidly changing trends in digital policy, regulation, and governance.

## QatarEnergy sets fuel prices for August

QatarEnergy announced yesterday the fuel prices for August, keeping them unchanged from last month. It has set the price of a litre of diesel at QR2.05, Super Gasoline 95 at QR2.10 and Premium Gasoline 91 at QR1.95. **(QNA)**





الهلال الأحمر القطري  
Qatar Red Crescent

**Qatar Red Crescent – Medical Affairs Division**

**Tenders Announcement: -**

Sr. #	Tender No.	Description	Temporary Tender Bond	Documents Fees (Non-Refundable)	Closing Date
1	QRC/EMS/03-2024	1-Supply Uniform for medical staff. 1- Medical Equipment and items. 2- EMS Tablets for Emergency Medical Services Section (Ambulance Section)	20,000 Q.R	500 Q.R	21-08-2024

The documents can be collected from Medical Affairs Division, Ain Khalid Area, Sunday to Thursday from 07:00 am to 02:00 pm till the closing date.

**Required Documents:**

- Authorization letter to receive tender documents + ID copy of the person will be receiving the documents.
- Company's Commercial registration copy.
- Bank deposit voucher with the value of documents (500 QR) not refunded & account details:
  - Account Name: Qatar Red Crescent.
  - Bank: Al Rayan.
  - Account number: 003-100689-200
  - IBAN: QA09MAFR000000000003100689200

**For more information: please call: (50044554), or  
Email [whc.tenders@qrccs.org.qa](mailto:whc.tenders@qrccs.org.qa)**



# HMC programme receives Gold Level ELSO award

HMC's Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS) has received the Gold Level ELSO Award for Excellence in Life Support from the Extracorporeal Life Support Organisation.

The ELSO Excellence in Life Support Award recognises ECLS programmes worldwide that distinguish themselves by having processes, procedures and systems in place that promote excellence and exceptional care in providing extracorporeal membrane oxygenation to their patients.

ELSO's goal is to recognise and honour ECLS programmes that reach the highest level of performance, innovation and quality. As a designated Centre of Excellence,



Aisha bint Hamad Al Attiyah Hospital

HMC has demonstrated extraordinary achievement in three categories: Excellence in promoting the mission, activities, and vision of ELSO; excellence in patient care by using the highest quality measures, processes, and structures

based upon evidence and excellence in training, education, collaboration, and communication supporting ELSO guidelines that contributes to a healing environment for families, patients and staff.

Dr Ibrahim Fawzy, ECMO lead and medical director of HMC's Aisha bint Hamad Al Attiyah Hospital, said: "This prestigious recognition is a testament to the unwavering dedication, exceptional skills, and tireless efforts of our

entire team; physicians, nurses and perfusionists. HMC's ECLS programme strives to deliver care to the highest international standards. Receiving the Gold Level ELSO award for the second time, following our initial accreditation in 2018, is formal recognition of the quality of processes, procedures and systems in place at HMC."

The ELSO award signifies to patients and families a commitment to exceptional patient care. It also demonstrates to the healthcare community an assurance of high-quality standards, specialised equipment and supplies, defined patient protocols, and advanced education of all staff members.



Dr Ibrahim Fawzy

## Qatar's marine biodiversity take centre stage at Skillfest exhibition

By Joey Aguilar  
Staff Reporter

Beyond its artistic and cultural offerings, Visit Qatar's Skillfest exhibition is showcasing the breathtaking beauty of Qatar's marine biodiversity and provides visitors with a unique learning experience this summer.

Taking place at four locations across Doha, including Place Vendome until August 15, the exhibition features the stunning works of local and Doha-based photographers Khaled Yahya al-Jabri, Faisal al-Jarkas, and Azzam al-Mannai.

Skillfest, led by local and resident artists and craftsmen, celebrates local and sustainable arts and crafts inspired by Qatar's marine environment. Qatari photographer al-Jabri, a member of the Qatar Photography Centre, is passionate about capturing the beauty of nature and marine life. His vibrant, intricate photographs take viewers to the underwater world, revealing the beauty of its inhabitants and fostering a deeper appreciation for nature.

Syrian photographer Faisal al-Jarkas, born in 1990, shares a similar passion for the sea and wildlife. His journey in photography began in 2011, specialising in macro and wildlife photography. His love for the sea led him to become a professional diving instructor and underwater photography trainer, allowing him to capture the allure of marine life through his lens. Al-Jarkas' work serves as an inspiration, raising awareness about the importance of preserving marine environments.

Qatari photographer al-Mannai, known for his work across various fields, offers a fresh perspective at the exhibition. Through his meticulous atten-



Various handcraft items on display at Skillfest at Place Vendome.



Khaled Yahya al-Jabri's work on display at Skillfest.

tion to composition, he unveils the hidden beauty of the environment, inviting viewers to see the world anew.

It is learnt that Qatar boasts the world's largest population of whale sharks and the second-largest group of dugongs. Qatar's waters also teem with an abundance of marine life, including rays, dolphins, and sea turtles.

The exhibition has been attracting many visitors, who are also invited to participate in artistic workshops and exhibitions celebrating local culture and en-



Faisal al-Jarkas specialises in macro and wildlife photography.

vironment. These educational and hands-on events demonstrate Visit Qatar's commitment to diversifying its events offerings and putting a spotlight on the importance of arts and culture.

According to Visit Qatar, Skillfest offers a unique opportunity to explore the wonders of Qatar's marine biodiversity and experience the artistic talents of local photographers. This month-long celebration of artistry has been bringing together resident artists and craftsmen to share their unique talents and inspire the community.

## Qatari-Korean workshop explores avenues in climate-smart agriculture

The Ministry of Municipality represented by the Food Security Department, in collaboration with the Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (Kotra), Hyundai Research Institute, and Plant Farm, organised a workshop yesterday on knowledge exchange on smart agriculture.

Korean ambassador Yun Hyunsoo, Ministry of Municipality's assistant undersecretary for agriculture and food security engineer Fahd Mohamed al-Qahtani, Food Security Department director Dr Masoud Jarallah al-Marri, and other officials from both sides were present.

Dr al-Marri stressed in his speech at the workshop that Qatar places great importance on food security and has focused on increasing local production of agricultural food products to achieve safe levels of self-sufficiency in general agricultural food commodities, particularly perishable vegetables.

This is achieved through the utilisation of modern technology and the expansion of high-tech greenhouses and the development of agricultural systems. The Ministry of Municipality has provided various support packages in this context to improve vegetable productivity and launched several greenhouse projects for vegetable production to reach the targeted self-sufficiency percentage.

He stated that in an effort to address the challenges facing agri-



cultural production in Qatar, most notably the scarcity of natural resources such as water and arable land, alongside harsh climatic conditions like high temperatures and humidity, the agriculture and food security sector has been striving to find smart and sustainable solutions to ensure agricultural production and achieve targeted self-sufficiency levels.

Accordingly, the Food Security Department proposed a project as part of the knowledge exchange projects provided by the Korean government through Kotra. The project aims to: analyse and identify the impacts of climate change that could affect food production in Qatar, propose policies and measures to address these impacts, such as protected agriculture, and enhance economic cooperation between the Republic of Korea and Qatar.

Dr al-Marri noted that the work on this project began in January 2024, after assigning its implementation to the Hyundai Research Institute and Plant Farm. The project's activities included data collection through reciprocal visits and meetings, where a team

of Korean experts and researchers visited Qatar to assess the current situation and review the technology used in agriculture.

They had previously reviewed the various policies and procedures related to agricultural production, especially those related to adapting to climatic conditions. A visit was also organized for Qatari specialists and stakeholders to the Republic of Korea to discuss the interim report and visit some agricultural production institutions in Korea to learn about the latest technologies used in food production.

The workshop included a discussion of the final report of the knowledge exchange project between Qatar and Korea in the field of smart agriculture, an analysis of the current situation in Qatar, and highlighted the best practices and advanced technologies used in Korea.

Dr al-Marri expressed his hope that this project would provide technical solutions and policy proposals that Qatar could adopt and contribute to enhancing economic co-operation between the two countries.

## World Breastfeeding Week from today

Yallamomz, a leading online store for moms and babies in Qatar, has announced its active involvement in the awareness and engagement campaigns for World Breastfeeding Week 2024, scheduled from today (August 1).

Partnering with Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)'s Women's Wellness and Research Center and Turkish Hospital, the initiative aims to highlight the numerous benefits of breastfeeding for both mothers and babies, a statement said.

This year's campaign theme, 'Closing the Gap: Breastfeeding Support for All', underscores the importance of inclusive support for breastfeeding. In alignment with this advocacy, HMC will host an informative booth at the Women's Wellness Health Centre today. Visitors will have access to educational resources in Arabic and English, and receive complimentary gift boxes from Yallamomz.com to promote breastfeeding awareness.

A highlight of the campaign will be an awareness event organised by Yallamomz at Turkish Hospital on August 7. Dr Latife Bahap will address new and expectant mothers, emphasising the vital role and advantages of breastfeeding. Well




Baby nurses will also be present to provide guidance and consultations on crucial newborn and new mom care practices.

"We want to make breastfeeding easier and more accessible for mothers," said Swathi Purnima, head of operations of Yallamomz. "Through our partnerships and campaigns, we aim to raise awareness about the importance of breastfeeding and support mothers on their journey," the statement added.



**A highlight of the campaign will be an awareness event organised by Yallamomz at Turkish Hospital on August 7**



QatarEnergy invites Expression of Interest and Pre-Qualification submission from building construction/contracting companies that can demonstrate experience and expertise to serve as the main construction contractor(s) for the construction of QatarEnergy Wellness Center at West Bay, Doha, which will be executed as one package.

PQ REFERENCE: EPIO24200030	TITLE: EOI-PREQUALIFICATION FOR QATARENERGY WELLNESS CENTER
----------------------------	---

**Brief Scope:** The scope comprises of QatarEnergy Wellness Center (QWC) classified by Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) as a diagnostic & treatment center, is located in West Bay, Doha, over a plot area of 6,407 sqm. The proposed healthcare facility is envisaged to be equipped with the state-of-the-art medical equipment, amenities and landscaped features along with the GSAS 5 star rating criteria.

QWC is a three basement, ground plus six floor building with a total built up area (BUA) of circa 37,000 sqm. The building envelope is fully glazed with a contemporary screening element that wraps the entire façade. Two skylights further daylighting through a central atrium and lightwell. The entire roof of the building is provided with a photo voltaic (PV) along with the building services and equipment. HVAC design utilizes available district cooling from Qatar Cool.

The facility comprises of medical departments for urgent care, PCR testing, day surgery with two operating theaters, CSSD, laboratory, pharmacy, medical imaging with x-ray, ultrasound, CT, MRI & bone densitometry, primary care, specialized clinics, dental with dental lab & CSSD, psychology, physiotherapy, occupational health, day care rooms. Also included are admin offices and central stores, medical records, and prayer rooms and commercial spaces.

**Instructions to Prospective Bidders:**

- Interested prospective bidders are hereby requested to send their Expression of Interest (EOI) with the following minimum information:
  - Name of the Prospective Bidder,
  - Contact name and details, such as email address, telephone and fax number, of the authorized person to whom the pre-qualification package should be issued,
  - Nationality of the Prospective Bidder,
  - Confirmation that the Prospective Bidder meets the Minimum Pre-Qualification Criteria as specified below, and
  - Commercial/Legal Registration (provide attested English translated copy, if available).
- The Expression of Interest (EOI), along with the information as requested herein, shall be submitted by the Prospective Bidder to the email address, QatarEnergyWellnessCenter@qatarenergy.qa quoting the reference number above and title.
- The EOI shall be submitted no later than ten (10) calendar days from the date of release of this advertisement.
- On receipt of the Prospective Bidder's response, QatarEnergy shall release the Pre-Qualification Package, including the instructions on how to submit the same.

**Minimum Pre-Qualification Criteria:**

In order for QatarEnergy to release the Pre-Qualification Package to Prospective Bidders, they must confirm their ability to meet the following as part of their EOI:

- Good financial standing in the past three (3) years.
- The bidders shall demonstrate their experience in execution of similar scale of building projects as a main contractor.
- The bidders shall ensure availability of adequate manpower, expertise and resources to execute as the main contractor for the construction of similar scale building projects.
- The bidders shall have experience in all aspects of construction disciplines, e.g., heavy structural works, including concrete construction, and all aspects of building projects including utilities.
- ISO-certified and willing to comply with QatarEnergy's HSE and QA/QC requirements.
- Proven track record of working on major projects with multiple interfaces with authorities and other contractor.
- Bidder shall ensure medical specialist will be appointed/proposed to be part of main contractor to coordinate with all authorities and vendors in accordance with relevant regulations.





## Qatar chairs meeting of GCC Border Guard officials



Qatar chaired the 31st meeting of Border Guard and Coast Guard officials of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) countries. The two-day meeting via video-conferencing, which concluded yesterday, was chaired by Director General of Coasts and Border Security at the Ministry of Interior Major General Nasser Jaber al-Nuaimi. The participants discussed several topics related to enhancing co-operation and exchanging expertise among the Border Guard and Coast Guard agencies of the GCC states. **(QNA)**

# QRCS initiates development projects in Niger



Dr Mohamed Salah Ibrahim, director of Relief and International Programmes Division at Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS), has made an official visit to Niger, to inaugurate new shelter projects, inspect ongoing development projects, and to hold co-ordination meetings with senior government officials and representatives of UN and humanitarian organisations.

Accompanied by Rachid al-Krouty, head of QRCS' representation office in Niger, Dr Ibrahim inaugurated a new residential village for poor families in Koutoukale Koira Tegui. It consists of 33 homes, one borehole, one mosque, one two-classroom school, and basic infrastructure. During the opening ceremony, Dr Ibrahim emphasised the successful partnership between QRCS and the government of Niger, commenced in 2005 as a representation of the strong brotherly relations between the people of Qatar and Niger.

According to him, QRCS has diverse interventions in Niger, in keeping with the national development plans, including shelter, water and sanitation, health, livelihood, food security, and disaster response. "With the reopening of QRCS' representation office in Niger last year, its humanitarian activities were revived after a three-year halt," said Dr Ibrahim. "This year, the office implemented numerous projects, including the digging of 60 boreholes in Tillaberi, Dosso, Tahoua, and Zinder;



construction of two residential villages, one already opened and the other in the Filingue department; performance of more than 1,500 cataract surgeries; treatment of more than 117,000 school students with eye diseases in Niamey and Kollo; distribution of 3,550 food baskets under Ramadan Campaigns 2023 and 2024; distribution of the meat of 448 Adahi sacrificial heads of cattle during Eid-al-Adha 2024; and funding of 105 income-generating projects for 790 poor families".

Dr Ibrahim revealed plans to launch several new projects in the coming few days. The list includes starting 53 income-generating enterprises for 163 families in Niamey and Tillaberi, deploying five ophthalmology clinics in Dosso and Maradi, and distributing 1,575 food baskets in Niamey.

On day two, Dr Ibrahim laid the foundation stone for Al-Amal

Residential Village in Koure, which consists of 47 fully furnished homes, one mosque, one four-classroom school, one health centre, one borehole, footpaths, and solar panels.

After that, the QRCS delegation made a field tour to inspect the progress of a number of projects undertaken by QRCS' representation office, including income-generating projects (handicrafts, sewing, fishing and livestock breeding) and an eye disease treatment project for school students at the teaching hospital in Niamey.

Official meetings were also held with the deputy director of the Office of the President of Niger, the Minister of Interior, the Minister of Hydraulics and Sanitation, co-ordinator of the United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Niger; and head of the office of Turkiye's IHH in Niger.

## QatarDebate holds demonstration debate on age limit in politics

QatarDebate, in co-operation with the Arabic Language Studies and Debate Center at the Fatih Sultan Mehmet University, organised a demonstration debate on the issue of setting an upper age limit for political position candidacy.

In a press release, QatarDebate added that the demonstration debate was followed by a discussion session about debaters' experience in international tournaments and their role in developing debaters' skills in dialogue, discussion, learning,



competing, teamwork, critical thinking, among other social skills.

QatarDebate also organised the Adjudicators Academy event at Ibn Haldun University over

three days, with the participation of 20 trainees from various Turkish universities, to qualify certified debate judges to participate in local and international tournaments. **(QNA)**

# Al Gannas Association concludes participation in Larache int'l festival

The Qatari Al Gannas Association concluded its participation in the 12th edition of the Larache International Festival of Culture, Arts and Heritage in Morocco, organised from July 25-30 under the theme 'Folk arts are a cultural heritage and the basis of development'.

The Al Gannas Association is a key partner in the Larache Festival, which is a meeting point for the cultures of Arab, African and Asian people. This is the association's eleventh consecutive participation since the festival's launch.

President of Al Gannas Association Ali bin Khatam al-Mahshadi



led Qatar's delegation alongside Vice-President of the Association Mohamed bin Abdul Latif al-Misnad, association's Secretary Zayed Mohamed al-Ali al-Maadeed, and a number of the association's officials.

The president of the Al Gannas

Association, vice-president, and a number of officials from the Abdel Samad Al Kanfawi association for Moroccan culture, heritage and arts, crowned the winners of the competitions organised by the association, and which received great public interest, such as the

## Aspetar plays key role in enhancing athletes' health at Paris 2024

As the intensity of competition rises at the Paris Olympic Games, the imperative to safeguard athlete health and safety has never been greater, and Aspetar, a leading orthopaedic and sports medicine hospital, is at the forefront of these efforts, a statement said yesterday.

By leveraging its extensive experience in managing the unique challenges of multi-sport events, including the heightened risks of heat-related illnesses and infections, Aspetar is contributing significantly through scientific research, treatment protocols, and medical oversight.

This commitment is exemplified by Prof Roald Bahr, director of the Injury and Illness Prevention Programme at Aspetar, who serves as the chair of the International Olympic Committee's Games Expert Group in Paris.

Prof Bahr, a key figure in sports medicine, emphasises the importance of comprehensive medical services at the Olympics, and as the head of the medical services team for Paris 2024, Prof Bahr oversees specialists from various disciplines, including dentistry, radiology, public health, and infectious disease prevention. His team collaborates closely with the Paris Organising Committee to ensure robust medical support for athletes, staff, and spectators.

Prof Bahr and his team are focusing on athlete acclimatisation, hydration, and education to minimise the risks of heat-relat-



Aspetar IOC research centre.

ed illnesses. Aspetar's research and clinical expertise in managing exertional heat illnesses are integral to these preparations, making them leaders in this critical aspect of sports medicine.

Aspetar's dedication to preventative care is evident in its thorough medical examinations, preventative vaccinations, and provision of necessary medical equipment and medication for the Qatari delegation.

Aspetar's commitment to athlete health at Paris 2024 underscores its leadership in sports medicine. The hospital is part of the IOC's network of 11 Research Centres for Prevention of Injury and Protection of Athlete Health.

Despite extensive preparations, challenges remain, and the potential for extreme weather conditions, coupled with the large influx of athletes and spectators, necessitates meticulous planning and co-ordination. Prof

Bahr stresses the importance of athletes being well-prepared, particularly in understanding and implementing heat mitigation strategies.

The medical delegation accompanying the Qatari Olympic team is led by Dr Leith Anas al-Sanfaz, a sports medicine specialist at Aspetar. The delegation comprises a skilled team of sports medicine experts, physiotherapists, and massage therapists.

Aspetar provides the Qatari delegation with distinguished medical services, including thorough medical examinations to obtain participation permits, preventative vaccinations, and equipping all with necessary medical equipment and medication. This comprehensive approach ensures that Qatari athletes are well-prepared and supported throughout the competition.

## Closure at MIA Intersection

The Public Works Authority (Ashghal) has announced a temporary partial closure at the Museum of Islamic Art (MIA) Intersection on Al Corniche Street for those heading left from Al Corniche Street to Jaber bin Mohamed Street and vice versa from 2am, for 8 hours tomorrow (Friday). During the closure, traffic movement on Al Corniche Street in both directions will be maintained. The closure in co-ordination with the General Directorate of Traffic is to implement maintenance works. Motorists coming from Al Meena Intersection or Fateh Al Khair Intersection towards the MIA Intersection can use the Museum Street and the surrounding roads to reach their destinations. Ashghal will install road signs advising motorists of the temporary closure and has requested all to follow and abide by the speed limit to ensure safety.



## Aman Center holds awareness events on social protection, rehabilitation

The Protection and Social Rehabilitation Center (Aman), one of the centres governed by the Qatar Foundation for Social Work of the Ministry of Social Development and Family, is organising different summer awareness-raising activities till the end of August in co-operation with the Ministries of Culture, Endowments (Awqaf) and Islamic Affairs, Sports and Youth, and more.

The activities include workshops that touch on issues related to social protection and rehabilitation and include lectures and seminars to raise community awareness about protecting women and children and victims of violence and family dysfunction to better create strong and connected families.

The activities will also introduce Aman's services provided to the targeted groups.

Aman Center aims to work on integrating the target groups of the centre into society, reduce violence which is the most important strategic goal that the centre aims to achieve, identify wrong behaviours that may lead to any type of violence, and provide participants with new skills and urging them to follow modern methods of parenting.

Executive Director of Aman Center Sheikh Dr Nasser bin Ahmed al-Thani highlighted the pub-



lic interest in awareness events and workshops as well as the great co-operation from various entities and institutions in Qatar that are keen to partake in community partnership and contribute to achieving the goals of the Third National Development Strategy (NDS3).

Director of Aman's Community Awareness Department Bakhita al-Ghayathin elaborated on the key aspects that the awareness events and workshops will focus on. The workshops will cover topics of bullying, online blackmail, and other topics related to protecting women, children and victims of family dysfunction from violence. **(QNA)**

## Lexus, Toyota models recalled

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI), in co-operation with Al Abdulghani Motors, has announced the recall of Lexus LX, and Toyota Land Cruiser Turbo engines, 2022-23 models, as it is possible that certain machining debris may not have been cleared from the engine during production process.

This may lead to engine rough running, engine failure to start and/or a loss of motive power. Consumers shall contact Al Abdulghani Motors: Lexus: 8002929, and Toyota: 8001800, to schedule a maintenance appointment.

The MoCI said the recall campaign comes within the frame-

work of its ongoing efforts to protect consumers and ensure that car dealers follow up on vehicle defects and repairs.

The MoCI said it will co-ordinate with the dealer to follow up on the maintenance and repair works.

The MoCI has urged all customers to report any violations to its Consumer Protection and Anti-Commercial Fraud Department, which processes complaints, inquiries and suggestions through the following channels: Call Center: 16001, e-mail: info@moci.gov.qa, social media channels @mociqatar, and mobile application MO-CIQatar available on iPhone and Android devices.



# GCC, Islamic nations condemn assassination of Hamas leader

**QNA/Agencies**  
Riyadh

The Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) has condemned the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh, head of the political bureau of Hamas, in the Iranian capital, Tehran, stressing that this operation is part of a series of crimes committed by the Israeli occupation against the Palestinian people.

In a statement yesterday, the GCC Secretary-General Jassim Mohamed AlBudawi, called on all parties to exercise maximum restraint and abandon policies of violence and the use of force.

He noted that the assassination is a dangerous indicator of the Israeli occupation's lack of seriousness in reaching a political solution and restoring security and stability in the region, and that it clearly undermines the peace efforts being made.

The statement reiterated the GCC's position on the need to stop the war in Gaza and for permanent ceasefire, and to support the steadfastness of the Palestinian people to achieve their national goals of establishing their independent state with East Jerusalem as its capital on the 1967 borders, and to provide a just solution to the refugee issue, in accordance with relevant UN resolutions.

It called on the international community and influential countries to assume their responsibilities, and move immediately to provide protection for the Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank, and to stop the violations committed by the Israeli occupation forces against the Palestinian people, and to engage seriously in the political solution to the crisis, and to allow the arrival of humanitarian aid.

## ISLAMIC NATIONS SLAM ISRAEL

Arab and Islamic countries have also condemned the assassination of the Head of the Political Bureau of Hamas, Haniyeh, and warned over the policy of assassinations and breaching the states' sovereignty, that could imperil the Middle East region and drag it into the cycle of chaos and undermine peace opportunities.

Jordan has condemned, in strongest terms, this assassination and deemed it a breach of international law and international humanitarian law and an escalatory crime that would foment further tension and chaos in the region.

Spokesperson for the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, ambassador Sufian al-Qudah, underscored his country's unwavering position on rejecting the violation of states sovereignty and international law, and condemning political assassinations, violence and terrorism, whatever the motives. He warned that such crimes would



People protest following the assassination of Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Iran, in Amman, Jordan, yesterday.



Palestinians carry pictures of Hamas' late deputy leader Saleh al-Arouri and leader Ismail Haniyeh, who was assassinated in Iran, during a march to condemn Haniyeh's killing, at Burj al-Barajneh Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut, Lebanon, yesterday. **Right:** Tunisians wave Palestinian flags and hold portraits of slain Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh during a protest in the capital Tunis, yesterday.



only drag the region into a metasized war and threaten regional and global security and peace.

Al-Qudah underlined that the international community must shoulder its responsibility and take immediate measures that impose cessation of the Israeli aggression on Gaza and violations against international law and the UN resolutions.

He stressed that these measures must protect security and stability of the region from the relentless catastrophic consequences of the Israeli offensive in Gaza, as well as the aggravation of violations and crimes against Palestinians rights.

At an extraordinary meeting of his government, Prime Minister of Lebanon's caretaker government, Najib Mikati, said this act underscores the danger of the spillover of cycle of global concern and peril in the region. He called on the international community to compel the Israeli occupation to ceasefire and comport with international resolutions and laws, in addition to implementing the resolution 1701, confirming that the assassination of Haniyeh has shifted the situation from engagement to an open dangerous posture due to profound fears.

Algeria expressed its strong condemnation and denunciation of Haniyeh's assassination, with

the Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Community abroad, Ahmed Attaf, condemning this dastardly and heinous act on the part of the Israeli occupation forces.

Attaf confirmed that the Israeli occupation forces are proceeding with their indifference and non-recognition of the simplest humanitarian, legal, political, moral rules and regulations.

Additionally, Malaysia condemned the assassination of Haniyeh and considered it the most brutal homicide, with the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Dr Anwar Ibrahim, highlighting the objective of the assassination as to unequivocally impede the ongoing talks that aim to end the massacre in Gaza that has killed over 40,000 people.

He added that this crime would never have happened in a peaceful environment devoid of impunity, expressing his deep concern over the ramifications of this incident on the Palestinian people who have been exposed to much pain and suffering for many decades.

**RECKLESS ACT: PAKISTAN**  
Pakistan said yesterday the killing of Hamas's political leader in an air strike in neighbouring Iran blamed on Israel was a "reckless act", while hundreds of supporters of an Islam-

ist party held a symbolic funeral near Islamabad, AFP reported.

Describing the assassination of Ismail Haniyeh as "terrorism", Islamabad's foreign ministry said in a statement that "Pakistan views with serious concern the growing Israeli adventurism in the region."

"Its latest acts constitute a dangerous escalation in an already volatile region and undermine efforts for peace", it said.

In the evening, more than a thousand supporters of the country's largest Islamist party, Jamaat-e-Islami, gathered in Rawalpindi, a large city on the outskirts of Islamabad, hailing the "martyr Ismail Haniyeh" while booing Israel and America.

"I am here to show solidarity with my brothers and sisters in Palestine", Syed Obaid ur Rehman, a 25-year-old student, told AFP.

"I cannot be there physically but at least I can demonstrate here to make the voice of Palestine heard."

Sajid Hussain, a 28-year-old civil servant, said Haniyeh's "martyrdom is a huge loss for the Muslim world".

Haniyeh had travelled to Tehran to attend Tuesday's swearing-in of Iran's new President Masoud Pezeshkian.

## World reactions to killing of Hamas leader Haniyeh

The killing of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in an air strike in Tehran yesterday blamed on Israel has stunned the international community. Israel has not commented on the death but many countries have warned that it could help turn the Gaza war into a regional conflict. Here are some key reactions:

**— Iran leader vows 'harsh punishment' —**  
Haniyeh had been in Tehran to attend the inauguration of President Masoud Pezeshkian and Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei vowed "harsh punishment" for Israel.

"With this action, the criminal and terrorist Zionist regime prepared the ground for harsh punishment for itself, and we consider it our duty to seek revenge for his blood as he was martyred in the territory of Iran," Khamenei said in a statement carried by the IRNA official news agency. Pezeshkian said that Iran "will defend its territorial integrity, honour, pride and dignity, and make the terrorist invaders regret their cowardly action."

**— Palestinian president calls killing 'cowardly' —**  
Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas slammed the killing as "a cowardly act and a serious escalation," his office said in a statement. "He urged our people and their forces to unite, remain patient, and stand firm against the Israeli occupation."

**— Turkiye warns —**  
Haniyeh has been a mediator in the Gaza conflict, but also spent time in Turkiye after going into exile. Qatar's foreign ministry called the killing a "heinous crime" and "shameful assassination".

The ministry said: "This assassination and the reckless Israeli behaviour of continuously targeting civilians in Gaza will lead to the region slipping into chaos and undermine the chances of peace." Turkiye's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned what he called the "perfidious assassination" of his "brother" Haniyeh.

"This shameful act aims to sabotage the Palestinian cause, the glorious Gazan resistance and our Palestinian brothers' just fight, and to intimidate Palestinians," Erdogan added in a social media post.

**— US call for ceasefire —**  
US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that reaching a ceasefire in the Gaza war "is the enduring imperative" after the

**killing of Haniyeh. Germany stressed international calls for restraint to avoid "a regional conflagration", with a foreign ministry spokesman saying: "The logic of tit-for-tat reprisals is the wrong path."**

**— Russia and China condemn —**  
Haniyeh went to Moscow in September 2022 for talks on the Israel-Palestinian conflict while Hamas and Fatah held talks in Beijing last week.

"It is a completely unacceptable political assassination, and this will lead to a further escalation of tensions," Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov told the state-run RIA Novosti news agency. Konstantin Kosachev, the vice-president of Russia's upper house Federation Council, predicted a "sudden escalation of mutual hatred" in the Middle East.

China's foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian said: "We are highly concerned about the incident and firmly oppose and condemn the assassination."

**— Middle East shock —**  
The killing reverberated across the Middle East. Egypt's foreign ministry said that Israel's "dangerous escalation" in recent days "risks igniting a confrontation in the region that could yield to dire security consequences". Iraq's foreign ministry also called Haniyeh's killing "a threat to security and stability in the region". Oman also condemned the action.

**— Hamas allies rally —**  
Hamas allies in the region rallied around the Palestinian fighters. "The martyrdom of leader Haniyeh... will increase the determination and stubbornness of the resistance fighters on all resistance fronts... and will make their resolve stronger in confronting the Zionist enemy," Lebanese fighters Hezbollah, who are in a growing standoff with Israel, said in a statement.

The group described Haniyeh as "one of the great resistance leaders of our time who stood bravely against the American hegemony project and the Zionist occupation." "Targeting him is a heinous terrorist crime and a flagrant violation of laws and ideal values," said Mohamed Ali al-Huthi, a political bureau member of Yemen's Houthis fighters, who have staged rocket attacks on Israel. Afghanistan's Taliban rulers called Haniyeh's death "a great loss". (AFP)

## Hundreds mourn children killed in Israeli strike on south Beirut

**AFP**  
Beirut

Hundreds of mourners yesterday chanted "death to Israel" and "America is the Great Satan" at the funeral of two children killed in an Israeli strike on Hezbollah's stronghold in southern Beirut the day before.

The Israeli military said the strike had "eliminated" Fuad Shukur, a top Hezbollah commander it blamed for carrying out a weekend rocket attack on the Israeli-annexed Golan Heights that killed 12 children.

The raid on the Beirut suburb, an overcrowded residential area that is also a Hezbollah bastion, killed siblings Amira and Hassan Fadlallah as well as two women and injured dozens of civilians, according to Lebanon's health ministry.

"I feel very angry because the...

lives of our children are becoming very cheap," said Aya Ahmed, 38, a friend of the two killed children's mother.

The Hezbollah group said Shukur was in the targeted building but that his fate remained unknown.

An AFP photographer at the scene on Tuesday night saw an eight-storey building that had partially collapsed in the strike, while ambulances struggled through crowds and rescue workers combed through the rubble of the building for survivors.

"Every mother now is thinking: I could lose my children at any moment because the Israelis have a license to kill," said Ahmed.

At the procession in southern Beirut, Hezbollah-affiliated scouts carried the two children's coffins, draped in the youth group's white flag. Other mourners carried photographs of the two dead siblings while some held up Hezbollah's flag.

## Kenyan court nullifies finance law in new blow to president

Kenya's Court of Appeal yesterday declared the government's 2023 finance law unconstitutional, inflicting a new blow to the government of President William Ruto who withdrew this year's finance bill after deadly protests, Reuters reported from Nairobi. The finance bills, which are presented to parliament at the start of every financial year, are the main vehicle for the government to set out its revenue-raising measures including tax hikes and the introduction of new levies. The 2023 version was challenged in court following a round of political opposition-led street protests that turned violent, after Ruto's government used it to double the value added tax on fuel, introduce a housing tax, and raise the top personal income tax rate, among other measures. "A further declaration is hereby issued that the failure to comply with this constitutional dictate renders the entire Finance Act, 2023 unconstitutional," a three-judge bench of the Court of Appeal said in a ruling.

## Guinea ex-dictator Dadis Camara jailed for 20 years over 2009 massacre

A Guinean court sentenced ex-dictator Moussa Dadis Camara to 20 years in jail for crimes against humanity yesterday, after a landmark trial over a 2009 massacre at a political rally, AFP reported from Conakry. Seven other defendants were handed sentences of up to life imprisonment at the end of a landmark trial that played out over nearly two years. On September 28, 2009 and in the following days, members of Dadis Camara's presidential guard, soldiers, police and militia brutally suppressed an opposition rally at a stadium in the suburbs of Conakry. In one of the darkest chapters in the West African nation's history, at least 156 people were killed, hundreds more wounded and 109 women physically abused, according to a UN-mandated commission of inquiry. Security forces had been massively deployed for the hearing, in a case keenly awaited by victims' families for nearly 15 years.

## Al Jazeera decries 'assassination' of its two journalists in Israeli strikes

**AFP**  
Doha

Al Jazeera condemned yesterday's killing of two of its journalists in an Israeli strike on Gaza, calling the deaths a "cold-blooded assassination" in a statement.

The Qatar-based news outlet said its Arabic channel correspondent Ismail al-Ghoul and cameraman Rami al-Rifi were "targeted by Israeli occupation forces" during their coverage of Gaza's Al-Shati refugee camp.

"This latest attack on Al Jazeera journalists is part of a systematic targeting campaign against the network's journalists and their

families since October 2023," Al Jazeera added.

Since the start of the war in Gaza in the first week of October last year, Al Jazeera has aired continuous on-the-ground reporting on the effects of Israel's campaign.

The network's office in Gaza has already been bombed in the conflict and two other correspondents killed.

Al Jazeera said Ghoul and Rifi's killings showed "the urgent need for immediate legal action against the occupation forces".

The channel said it would "pursue all legal actions to prosecute the perpetrators of these crimes and stands in unwavering solidarity with all journalists in Gaza".

In a statement, Hamas con-



Palestinians inspect a vehicle where Al Jazeera TV said its reporter Ismail al-Ghoul and cameraman Rami al-Rifi were killed in an Israeli strike, in Gaza City, yesterday.

demned the killings as a "heinous crime" which it said was "aimed at terrorising and silencing" Pales-

tinian journalists as they reported "the ongoing genocide against our people in the Gaza Strip for nearly

ten months". Al Jazeera has been the focus of months of criticism from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his government.

Last month, an Israeli court confirmed it had extended a ban on the network, which broadcasts in Arabic and English, initially placed on Al Jazeera in early May.

**UN CHIEF CRITICISES**  
The spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres condemned the killings and said the incident and others like it "must be fully and transparently investigated and there must be accountability".

In January, Israel said an Al Jazeera staff journalist and a freelancer killed in an air strike in

Gaza were "operatives". The following month, it accused another journalist with the channel who was wounded in a separate strike of being a "deputy company commander" with Hamas.

Al Jazeera has fiercely denied Israel's allegations and accused it of systematically targeting Al Jazeera employees in the Gaza Strip.

Its bureau chief in Gaza, Wael al-Dahdough, was wounded in an Israeli strike in December that killed the network's cameraman.

His wife, two of their children and a grandson were killed in the October bombardment of central Gaza's Nuseirat refugee camp.

His eldest son was the Al Jazeera staff journalist killed in January when a strike targeted a car in Rafah.





# Philippines, US navies hold joint exercise in S China Sea

Reuters  
Manila

The Philippines and US navies conducted a joint maritime exercise in the South China Sea yesterday, the Philippine armed forces said.

The two allies began joint mari-

time activities in November to enhance how their militaries could operate in tandem at a time of growing tensions with China in the South China Sea.

The latest exercise, held inside the Philippines' exclusive economic zone, included two vessels and was designed to enhance communication and operational

co-ordination between the two navies, Manila's military said in a statement. "These joint exercises with our ally are crucial in enhancing our naval capabilities and ensuring that we can effectively collaborate to safeguard our maritime interests," Philippine military chief Romeo Brawner was quoted as saying in the statement.

On Tuesday, US State Secretary Antony Blinken and Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin held talks with their Philippine counterparts in which Washington pledged funding of \$500mn to beef up Manila's military and coast guard.

More funds could come next year, a diplomatic source said yesterday. Meanwhile, China yes-

terday warned the Philippines it risks "greater insecurity for itself", after the US said it would provide \$500mn in additional military funding to Manila in the face of Beijing's growing assertiveness.

Asked about the announcement, Beijing's foreign ministry yesterday warned Manila that "wooing countries from outside

the region to provoke confrontation in the South China Sea will only undermine regional stability and aggravate tensions".

"Trying to introduce external forces to protect its own security will only lead to greater insecurity for itself, and it might even become someone else's pawn," spokesman Lin Jian said.

# China revises drone export controls amid western scrutiny

Reuters  
Beijing

China will amend drone export controls from September 1, including adding high-precision measurement equipment to the control list and adjusting standards for some unmanned aircraft components.

The move comes amid intensified scrutiny from the US and its allies over allegations that Beijing is supporting Russia's war effort in Ukraine.

Last year China dismissed reports from the US and Western media about Chinese drones being used in the Ukraine conflict as "unfounded" and a "smear" against Chinese firms.

The commerce ministry said these adjustments would help better safeguard China's national security and interests, and ensure the security and stability of the global industrial and supply chains.

Notably, Beijing will also lift temporary export controls for certain consumer drones. China, a major player in the global drone manufacturing industry, emphasises that it opposes the use of civilian drones for "non-peaceful purposes," according to the statement.

On Tuesday, Kyiv's foreign ministry spokesperson said its Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba was told during his visit in China last week that Beijing had not sent

weapons to Russia and would not do so in the future, and that Beijing is also strengthening export controls particularly on civilian drones.

DJI Technology Co, a leading Chinese drone maker, said in a statement yesterday it was pleased to see the export control adjustments, which it said would be favourable for the development of the drone industry.

"DJI have made it absolutely clear that our products are for civilian use only. We have never designed, developed or manufactured military-grade equipment, we have never adapted our products or pursued business opportunities for combat operations; we have never marketed or sold our products for combat use in any country," it added.

The company added it would continue to strictly comply with and implement China's export control rules, and the laws and regulations of the countries and regions where it operates.

In May, a group of House Republicans proposed legislation that would hike US tariffs on Chinese-made drones by 30% and bar imports of drones that contain critical components made in China by 2030.

Last year, China announced export controls on some drones and drone-related equipment, saying it wanted to safeguard "national security and interests" amid escalating tension with the US over access to the technology.



People shout slogans during a protest march outside the high court building demanding justice for the victims arrested and killed in the recent countrywide violence in Dhaka yesterday.

# Bangladesh police lob stun grenades to disperse protesters

Reuters  
Dhaka

Police in Bangladesh fired tear gas and stun grenades to disperse people who were demonstrating yesterday against the excessive use of force by authorities during protests earlier in July that left at least 150 dead.

The unrest is the biggest test facing Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, 76, since she won a fourth term in January elections boycotted by the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which were also marred by deadly protests.

Police said they used force when people in the northeastern district of Sylhet broke through barricades to march towards for the courts.

"We requested the protesters to move from

the road, but they didn't listen and instead attacked the police, forcing us to disperse them with tear gas and stun grenades," said regional deputy commissioner Azbahar Ali Sheikh.

Police and protesters scuffled in Dhaka, the capital, and the southern port city of Chittagong, witnesses said. It was not immediately clear if there were any fatalities.

At least 10 people, including four journalists, were injured in southern Barishal district, where police used batons to disperse protesters.

Police detained at least seven students in Dhaka near the high court, where lawyers and university teachers joined the demonstrators.

Yesterday's nationwide "March for Justice" was called by the Students Against Discrimination group that was at the forefront of protests against quotas in government jobs.

That initial unrest earlier in July left thousands wounded as security forces fired rubber

bullets, tear gas and stun grenades to disperse those gathered.

Although the students agreed to halt their protest after the Supreme Court scrapped most quotas on July 21, they returned recently to the streets to call out the dozens of deaths, arrests, and government intimidation.

"We will also demand a United Nations investigation into the violence," Mohamed Mahin Sarkar, a co-ordinator of the movement, said in a statement.

International rights groups have condemned close to 10,000 arrests over the past two weeks on charges of involvement in clashes and destruction of government property.

They say Hasina has become increasingly autocratic during her last 15 years in power, which have been marked by arrests of political opponents and activists, allegations she denies.

## Landmark peanut allergy treatment for babies begins in Australia

Australian children with potentially deadly peanut allergies will be offered life-saving treatment in a nationwide programme touted as a world first. Eligible babies will receive daily doses of peanut powder for two years to build up their tolerance, said officials announcing the initiative yesterday. Over time, the infants will be given increasing doses in the hope of reducing their sensitivity to peanuts, under the supervision of doctors at 10 paediatric hospitals around the country. It is the first national peanut allergy treatment programme offered in hospitals outside of a clinical trial setting, said Kirsten Perrett, head of oral immunotherapy at the National Allergy Centre of Excellence. At the end of the two years, a food allergy test will determine if the treatment has led to a remission. "Ultimately we want to change the trajectory of allergic disease in Australia so that more children can go to school without the risk of a life-threatening peanut reaction," Perrett said.

## Heavy rains bring flood misery in Nepal



A woman carrying an infant wades through the flooded area along the bank of the overflowing Bagmati River following heavy rains in Kathmandu, Nepal, yesterday.

# Singapore, US sign civil nuke co-operation pact

AFP  
Singapore

The US and Singapore yesterday signed an agreement to "deepen" co-operation on the peaceful use of nuclear energy as the city-state considers alternative power sources to cut carbon emissions.

Singapore, a regional financial centre and a key player in the global semiconductor industry, is currently reliant on oil and natural gas.

It is studying options, including nuclear power, to meet its target of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and his Singaporean counterpart Vivian Balakrishnan signed the "123 Agreements" on civil nuclear co-operation during a visit by Washington's top diplomat as part of his latest swing to Asia.

The 123 Agreements, named after their section in the US Atomic Energy Act, are critical for investment by US nuclear companies, which are wary of running afoul of laws related to proliferation.

"This agreement builds on the long-standing civil nuclear collaboration between US and Singapore and outlines a comprehensive framework to deepen peaceful nuclear co-operation based on a mutual commitment to nuclear non-proliferation," both countries said in a joint statement.

The agreement is expected to come into force by end-2024 after being reviewed by the US Congress, the statement said.

The pact will last for 30 years and will "facilitate Singapore's access to detailed information on US nuclear energy technologies and expertise that are under export control," according to the statement.

# Myanmar junta extends state of emergency by six months

AFP  
Yangon

Myanmar's junta yesterday extended the state of emergency by six months, again delaying fresh polls it has promised to hold as it battles opposition to its coup.

The Southeast Asian nation has been in turmoil since the February 2021 coup which ended a 10-year experiment with democracy and sparked mass protests and a crackdown on dissent.

Three-and-a-half years later, the junta is struggling to crush

widespread armed opposition and recently suffered a series of stunning losses to an alliance of ethnic minority armed groups.

The junta had been unable to hold fresh polls as planned following an initial two-year state of emergency "due to the terrorist acts" by its opponents, broadcaster MRTV reported.

All the members of the junta-stacked National Defence and Security Council "unanimously decided to extend the period of the state of emergency for another six months," MRTV said.

Junta chief Min Aung Hlaing had proposed the extension "in

order to prepare valid and accurate ballots" for the election the junta has promised to hold, possibly in 2025.

The extension was also needed to "carry out the population census and in order to continue the implementation of the work to be done," MRTV said.

Under the military-drafted 2008 constitution, which the junta has said is still in force, authorities are required to hold fresh elections within six months of a state of emergency being lifted.

The military seized power after making unsubstantiated allegations of fraud in 2020 elections

which Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) won in a landslide.

It has extended the state of emergency multiple times since as it battles established ethnic minority armed groups and newer pro-democracy "People's Defence Forces".

In recent months it has suffered a string of battlefield defeats to an alliance of ethnic minority armed groups in the north and west of the country.

Last week the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDA) claimed it had seized the northern town of Lashio, which

sits on a vital trade highway to China and is home to the military's northeastern command.

The junta denied the claim.

The loss of Lashio and the regional military command would be a huge blow to the junta, which has lost territory to the MNDA and other armed groups in recent weeks.

In January the MNDA captured the city of Laukkai near Myanmar's border with China after around 2,000 junta troops surrendered, in one of the military's biggest defeats in decades.

Since the coup fighting between the military and its opponents has

forced 2.7mn people to flee their home, according to the United Nations.

More than 5,400 people have been killed and 27,000 arrested in the junta's crackdown on dissent since the coup, according to a local monitoring group.

The junta has said it will hold fresh elections in 2025.

But critics say the proposed polls will be neither free nor fair.

Last year the junta-stacked election commission announced that Suu Kyi's NLD would be dissolved for failing to re-register under a tough new military-drafted electoral law.



# India’s steel ministry ‘seeks probe into cheaper imports’

Reuters  
New Delhi

India’s federal ministry of steel has asked the trade ministry to investigate cheaper steel imports from China and Vietnam, a government source directly aware of the matter said yesterday, as New

Delhi grapples with rising imports. India, the world’s second-biggest crude steel producer, turned net steel importer in the fiscal year through March and the trend continued with finished steel imports scaling a five-year high in April and May, according to provisional government data.

“We have said that the trade

ministry should investigate these imports and offer its recommendations to the finance ministry, which will take the final call,” the source told Reuters, declining to be identified as the discussions are not public. India’s steel and trade ministries did not immediately respond to e-mails from Reuters seeking comments.

Last week, India’s JSW Steel told Reuters that the steel industry was in talks with the federal government for trade measures to combat rising imports, particularly from China and Vietnam.

The source added that the steel ministry had urged officials from the European Union not to impose higher taxes on its carbon-pro-

ducing industries in a meeting two weeks ago. Reuters on July 29 quoted a top official as saying India had not accepted an EU proposal to levy higher taxes on its carbon-producing industries.

The EU last year approved the world’s first plan to impose tariffs on imports of high-carbon goods, including steel, aluminium and ce-

ment, part of its aim to reach net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2050. Separately, the steel ministry is in talks with mills to diversify imports of coking coal, a key steelmaking raw material, from countries including Russia, Canada and the US, the source said, as the country tries to cut its reliance on Australia, its biggest supplier.

# Ex-BBC host pleads guilty to indecent child pictures charges

AFP  
London

Former BBC news anchor Huw Edwards, one of the most recognisable faces on UK television, pleaded guilty yesterday to three counts of making indecent images of children.

The 62-year-old - who resigned from the BBC in April on “medical advice”, six months after he was arrested - faces a maximum prison sentence of 10 years and a minimum of 12 months.

Wearing a dark suit and blue tie, Edwards sat impassively during the 25-minute court hearing as he admitted receiving 41 indecent images of children on WhatsApp, including seven of the most serious type.

Under English law, electronic communications involving indecent imagery of children - including receiving and downloading pictures and videos - can constitute the offence of making indecent images of children.

The crimes involving Edwards occurred between December 2020 and August 2021, amended from the initial chargesheet which ran to April 2022.

Westminster Magistrates’ Court in London heard that the former TV anchor had received 377 images from a man he met online, of which 41 were indecent.

Edwards’s lawyer, Philip Evans,

said that his client’s devices had been seized and that it was clear he had not made or shared the images. He added that the defendant was of “good character” and that “there are serious issues in relation to Edwards’s health both mental and physical”.

Chief magistrate Paul Goldspring released Edwards on conditional bail until his next hearing on September 16, when he could be sentenced. Goldspring ordered probation services to draw up a report, telling Edwards he needed “to read more about you” before sentencing. “I’m asking the probation service to look at this case, with genuinely all options open,” the magistrate said.

Hope had earlier told the court that a suspended sentence might be appropriate, if paired with a community order and a sexual offender treatment programme.

Edwards, the BBC’s lead presenter on key events such as the death and funeral of Queen Elizabeth II, was suspended in July 2023 when allegations first emerged.

He had also been the anchor of the BBC’s flagship 10pm news programme since 2003.

He quit on April 22 after 40 years with the broadcaster.

As the accusations became front-page news last July, Edwards’s wife Vicky Flind said the father-of-five was “suffering from serious mental health issues” and had been admitted to hospital.



Survivors of the landslides rest at a relief camp in Wayanad, in India’s Kerala state yesterday.

# Hopes of finding survivors fade in Kerala after landslides kill 167

Reuters  
Chooralmala, India

Hopes of finding survivors began to fade as hundreds of rescuers worked through slush and rocks and pulled out bodies from debris in the hills of India’s Kerala state yesterday, a day after 167 people were killed in monsoon landslides.

Steady rain that intensified as the day progressed and the rising water level in a local river hampered the rescue, with a temporary bridge built to connect the worst affected area of Mundakkai being washed away.

The weather department has forecast more heavy rain over the next 24 hours, Kerala’s Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan said and urged people to be on “high alert”.

Heavy rain in Kerala, one of India’s most popular tourist destinations, led to the landslides in its Wayanad district early on Tuesday, sending torrents of mud, water

and tumbling boulders downhill and burying or sweeping people to their deaths as they slept.

It was the worst disaster in the state since deadly floods in 2018. Experts said the area had received heavy rain in the last two weeks that softened the soil. Extremely heavy rainfall on Monday then triggered the landslides.

Nearly 1,600 people have been rescued from the hillside villages and tea and cardamom estates, authorities said yesterday.

They said at least 167 people died, while the local Asianet news TV channel put the death toll at 230. More than 8,000 people were being sheltered in camps across the district, authorities said.

Wayanad’s district administrator said people had been asked yesterday to shift to camps “as soon as possible as there is a danger”.

Rescuers had found 24 bodies and six body parts yesterday and were not hopeful of finding any survivors more than 36 hours after the tragedy, one official in Chooralmala town said.

The landslides were mostly on the upper slopes of hills which then cascaded to the valley below, M R Ajith Kumar, a top state police officer, said.

Nearly 350 of the 400 registered houses in the affected region have been damaged, Asianet reported, citing district officials.

The Indian navy said its disaster relief team had reached the area on Tuesday night and search and rescue helicopters were deployed early yesterday but adverse weather conditions due to “incessant rains” posed challenges.

India has witnessed extreme weather conditions in recent years, from torrential rain and floods to droughts and cyclones, blamed by some experts on climate change.

“Climate change has led to significant alterations in our environment. We need to take proactive steps to address and adapt to these changes,” Chief Minister Vijayan said. “Effective measures should be taken to prevent impending disasters.”

## India gets 9% more rain in July after weak June

India received 9% more rainfall than average in July as the monsoon covered the entire country ahead of schedule, delivering heavy rain in central and southern states, weather department data showed yesterday.

The lifeblood of the nearly \$3.5tn economy, the monsoon brings nearly 70% of the rain India needs to water farms and refill reservoirs and aquifers.

Without irrigation, nearly half of the farmland in the world’s second-biggest producer of rice, wheat and sugar depends on the annual rains that usually run from June to September.

In July, southern and central regions of the country received nearly a third more rainfall than the average, while east and north-eastern regions received 23.3% less rainfall, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

## King Charles unveils Unesco site plaque



Britain’s King Charles III unveils the Flow Country World Heritage Site plaque during a visit to the Forsinard Flows Visitor Centre in Forsinard, north Scotland, yesterday, where he met with Flow Country Partnership staff, local residents, families and young people. Forsinard Flows, recently awarded Unesco World Heritage Site Status, with the Flow Country is widely considered to be the largest area of blanket bog in the world covering about 1,500 square miles in the Highlands.

# Unesco lauds Stonehenge tunnel project cancellation

AFP  
Paris

The United Nations’ cultural organisation yesterday welcomed Britain’s decision to cancel a controversial tunnel project near Stonehenge, a world heritage site.

The UK’s Chancellor of the Exchequer Rachel Reeves on Monday announced a number of “difficult” budget decisions, telling parliament that a few “unfunded” projects launched by the previous government would not go ahead under the Labour administration of Prime Minister Keir Starmer, including plans for a road tunnel close to Stonehenge, a renowned prehistoric site in England.

“Unesco welcomes the Starmer government’s decision to cancel the construction of a road

tunnel under the Stonehenge World Heritage Site,” the organisation’s director-general Audrey Azoulay said in a social media post. Unesco last month warned that Stonehenge could be added to its world heritage in danger list because of the tunnel project.

Stonehenge has had Unesco world heritage status since 1986.

Placement on the UN body’s heritage in danger list is seen as a dishonour by some countries.

Last year, the former government of prime minister Rishi Sunak approved the construction of a road tunnel near Stonehenge despite efforts by campaigners to halt the £1.7bn (\$2.2bn) project.

The tunnel was intended to ease congestion on an existing main road to southwest England that gets especially busy during the peak holiday periods, but experts had warned of “permanent, irreversible harm” to the area.

# UK police brace for more violence after knife attack sparks riot

AFP  
Southport, UK

UK police yesterday mobilised to prevent a repeat of overnight violence in which dozens of officers were injured, following the mass stabbing at a Taylor Swift-themed dance party that killed three children.

Merseyside Police chief Serena Kennedy said her force was “absolutely planning” for further possible disturbances in Southport, northwestern England, after Monday’s knife rampage targeting children prompted Tuesday evening’s clashes.

Supporters of the far-right English Defence League (EDL) are suspected of having travelled from outside the area to the seaside town near Liverpool to orchestrate several hours of serious violent disorder.

A 100-strong group attacked police, properties and a mosque and set vehicles and other things on fire.

Police say 53 officers were wounded, at least eight of them seriously, and that they had arrested four suspects.

The scenes of violence have been widely condemned, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer vowing that those responsible would “face the full force of the law”. During a visit there yesterday, Kennedy said her

officers were “well prepared” and had had “sufficient resources”.

But she added: “The people who turned up on Tuesday were bolstered very quickly and it very quickly escalated.”

Acknowledging communities in Southport were “really worried” about further disturbances, she added that Merseyside Police would continue to be supported by other regional forces.

That would ensure “that we don’t see a repeat of what happened”, she added.

Officers have been granted new temporary powers to disperse any crowds that attempt to gather in the area.

The violence erupted shortly after a vigil was held in the town centre, where hundreds fell silent in tribute to the victims of the stabbing attack that also critically injured five children and two adults.

Police have said they are not treating it as terror-related.

Few details have emerged about the suspected attacker, other than that he is 17 years-old and born in the Welsh capital Cardiff. His parents were from Rwanda, according to the BBC.

Police have been granted more time to question him. He cannot be named because of his age.

Hours after the attack, unverified information about the suspect’s

background began spreading on social media.

Far-right influencer Andrew Tate had posted a video on social media, viewed by nearly 15mn people, blaming the stabbing on an “illegal migrant”.

The Muslim Council of Britain said the Islamophobic backlash started with a false online rumour stoked by misinformation from a Russian news site, wrongfully associating the crime with Muslims.

“At a time of great tragedy, loss, and mourning, we must stand firm against the cynical forces of hatred and division,” MCB secretary-general Zara Mohamed said.

Merseyside Police’s assistant

chief Alex Goss said there had been “much speculation and hypothesis” about the suspect while “many people who do not live in” the local area had participated in Tuesday night’s violence.

“What did we do to deserve this? We’ve already lost our children,” 53-year-old Suzanne Jerram, owner of a store that was vandalised, said.

“Our community’s grieving, how dare they come here to our town and do this? It’s disgusting, it really is disgusting.”

Shadow interior minister James Cleverly urged the government to respond “hard and fast” to the disturbances and online misinformation.



CHAIRMAN

Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Attiyah

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Faisal Abdulhameed al-Mudahka

Deputy Managing Editor

K T Chacko

- P.O.Box 2888, Doha, Qatar
- editor@gulf-times.com
- 44350478 (News),
- 44466404 (Sport),
- 44466636 (Home delivery)
- 44350474
- facebook.com/gulftimes
- twitter.com/gulftimes\_Qatar
- instagram.com/gulftimes
- youtube.com/GulftimesVideos

GULF TIMES

Poll conundrums of France, Britain

The outcome of the United Kingdom's general election, in which Keir Starmer's Labour secured two-thirds of the seats in Parliament despite receiving just 33.8% of the vote, shows that Roman statesman Marcus Tullius Cicero was right: "Nothing is more uncertain than the masses, nothing more obscure than human will, nothing more deceptive than the whole electoral process."

Shortly after the election, advocates of electoral reform in the UK attributed Labour's overwhelming victory to the country's first-past-the-post (FPTP) system and called for a shift to proportional representation. Labour's share of the vote, the argument goes, was too small to justify such a supermajority, especially in comparison to previous elections. The fragmentation of votes across multiple political parties contributed significantly to this seemingly disproportionate outcome, as did Labour's strategy of maximising the ratio of seats per voter.

A few days later, the second round of France's snap election resulted in a hung parliament and political uncertainty that will likely persist for months, if not years. Although Marine Le Pen's National Rally (RN) became the single largest party in the National Assembly, it ended up in third place, behind the left-wing New Popular Front (NPF) coalition and President Emmanuel Macron's centrist alliance, Ensemble. Remarkably, despite receiving 37% of the vote, RN won just 24% of the seats.

France's majoritarian electoral system was supposed to prevent such a deadlock. Established in 1958, it was designed to overcome the Fourth Republic's structural instability (frequent changes in government) by awarding a de facto seat premium to the largest party – a principle known in France as "fait majoritaire." But no party has been able to secure an absolute majority since 2022, owing to a combination of political fragmentation and convoluted alliances.

Both have experienced a gradual political and economic decline since the end of their respective empires

The French election's outcome can be attributed largely to a series of candidate withdrawals between the first and second rounds. To prevent RN from gaining a majority, all other parties – including Macron's coalition – withdrew their candidates in various constituencies, leaving only one contender to face the far-right. This approach resulted in many close races, but proved effective in getting voters to reject RN.

Instead of producing a majority, however, this anti-RN tactic may alienate many voters who view

political alliances as either ineffective or unstable, further eroding trust in politicians and reinforcing populist trends. Moreover, it resulted in a fragmented parliament that is divided into three main blocs of similar size. The largest coalition, the NPF, claims the mandate to govern, despite not having a majority and receiving only 26.3% of the vote.

Similarly, Macron's allies believe they still have a pivotal role to play in governing, despite being rejected by the vast majority of voters in both the European Parliament elections and the general election. Macron himself, essentially a lame duck, will find it difficult to navigate the next three years, even without a major political or economic crisis.

Meanwhile, RN is capitalising on the situation, claiming that being excluded from power is proof that the system is rigged. Staying in the opposition will allow the party to avoid making any massively unpopular budget decisions, thus solidifying its position as the favourite to win the 2027 presidential election.

Given this current deadlock, where the three main blocs lack both a majority in Parliament and compatible ideas, some commentators are urging French political leaders to embrace compromise and consensus-building. After all, countries like Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium, and Sweden have faced similar challenges: the rise of far-right populist parties, voter fragmentation, and the collapse of bipartisan systems, driven by economic decline, uncontrolled immigration, and rising crime.

Yet despite these issues, former adversaries have managed to set aside their ideological differences and form effective coalition governments. France, according to this argument, must learn from these examples to overcome its own political turmoil.

But neither France nor the UK can easily change its political culture, given their long histories of centralised governance. In both countries, a strong state has created a vertical power structure, preventing the emergence of consensus-seeking practices or collective decision-making. This is exacerbated by the dominance of bipartisanship in the UK and the pervasive influence of ideology in France. Consequently, there is little appetite for compromise and coalition-building on either side of the Channel. Changing these political dynamics will likely require a prolonged process of devolution.

France and the UK have much in common beyond their electoral systems. Both have experienced a gradual political and economic decline since the end of their respective empires and a surge of support for populist parties, fuelled by disaffected voters lamenting the loss of purchasing power and cultural identity. — Project Syndicate

To Advertise

gtadv@gulf-times.com

Display

44466621 44466609 44418811 44418811

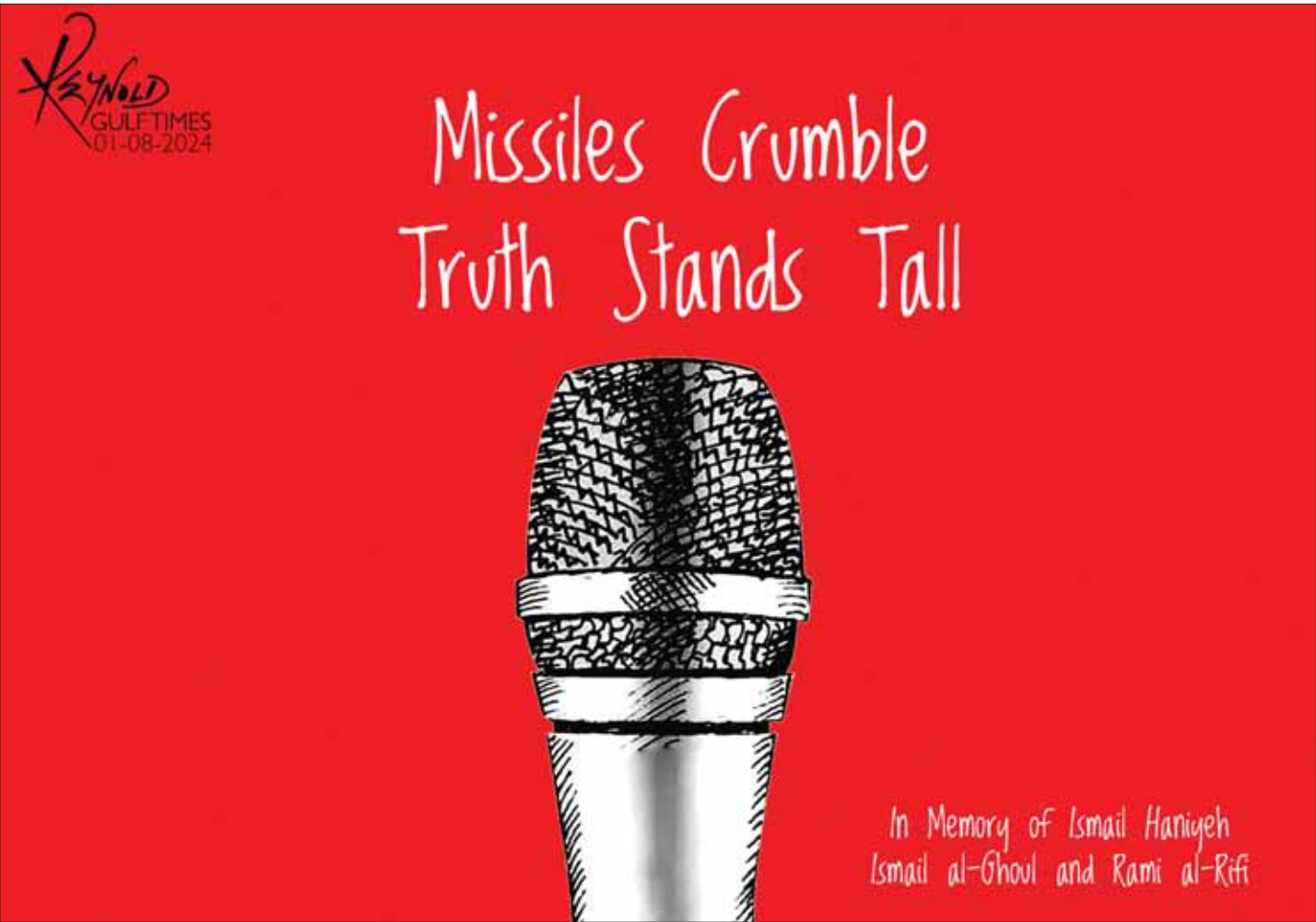
Classified

gtcad@gulf-times.com

Subscription

circulation@gulf-times.com

© 2024 Gulf Times. All rights reserved



Harris needs to challenge Trump overtures to American workers

By Mark Leonard  
Washington, DC

July 2024 will go down in history as one of the most momentous months in American politics. Between the attempted assassination of Donald Trump, US President Joe Biden's withdrawal from the

presidential race, and the rise of Vice-President Kamala Harris as the Democratic Party's presumptive nominee, it is hard to keep up with the frantic pace of political events. While some may look to the past for guidance or reassurance, it is unclear if any historical comparison can truly match the sheer drama of recent weeks.

Since it became clear that Trump would once again be the Republican Party's nominee, Democrats have framed the election as an existential battle between democracy and authoritarianism. Biden is portrayed as a Winston Churchill-like leader who will not only protect democratic institutions and values in the United States, but also defend Europe's freedom, by supporting Ukraine.

By contrast, Trump is often depicted as "America's Hitler" – as his own running mate, Senator JD Vance, once called him – bent on turning the country into an autocratic dystopia. This was the Biden campaign's narrative, and if her early remarks are any indication, it will also be Harris's.

Not surprisingly, Republicans see things differently. In a private conversation, one adviser to the Trump-Vance campaign used an unexpected historical analogy. Instead of comparing the US to the United Kingdom during World War II, he drew parallels with postwar Britain,

which was, in his view, victorious but overburdened. In WWII's aftermath, the UK's primary political battle was internal, with the UK's Conservative Party, which stood for the elites and the British Empire, facing off against the worker-friendly Labour Party, which focused on winning the peace at home.

My interlocutor said that today's Democrats remind him of the Conservatives, who represented the upper class, embodied the political establishment, and sought to maintain the trappings of a global empire during a period of retrenchment. Trump and Vance's pro-worker agenda, he claimed, more closely mirrors that of the postwar Labour Party.

After WWII, the Labour Party held particular appeal for the working class, who felt that they had borne more than their fair share of the burden of WWII, suffered the consequences of internationalist foreign policies, and been generally "left behind". Similarly, Trump and Vance claim to speak for "forgotten" Americans, and the key focus of their campaign is reinventing the Republican Party's class base.

Trump and his supporters often point out that the Democratic Party is now the party of Wall Street, Hollywood, and Silicon Valley. Now, GOP advisers are seeking to rebrand "country-club Republicans" as "working-class Republicans". When Vance said he hoped to celebrate his mother's ten years of sobriety in the White House, he was speaking to a very specific audience of working-class Americans struggling in places "blown out by globalisation", as one Republican strategist put it to me.

Moreover, just as the postwar British left railed against the pernicious influence of upper-

class elites, Trump and Vance are targeting the Washington establishment. In his iconic 1941 essay *The Lion and the Unicorn*, George Orwell – a fervent Labour supporter – called for replacing the UK's out-of-touch mandarin. The MAGA movement is similarly suspicious of the national-security establishment, military leadership, and Big Business, all of which today's Republicans associate with the Democratic Party. As part of its Project 2025 agenda, the Heritage Foundation advocates firing the 50,000 federal civil servants who comprise the administrative state and replacing them with a new leadership class – a step Vance has enthusiastically endorsed.

But for my interlocutor, the most relevant parallel between today's US Republican Party and the postwar UK Labour Party lies in their stances on their respective countries' global role. After WWII, Britain faced the choice either to maintain its empire or – as Labour advocated – to focus on improving welfare at home. According to Trump's strategists, the US now faces a similar choice.

At his rallies, Trump often criticises what he views as US strategic overreach, noting that, as president, he did not start a major war or initiate any foreign interventions. Electing him, he argues, would bring both greater peace and a renewed focus on domestic prosperity. Vance's vision – which focuses on raising the minimum wage, expanding social protections, and bolstering corporate regulation – has a quasi-social-democratic quality.

To be sure, my Democratic friends – much like most reputable historians of postwar Britain – will see the comparison to Labour as absurd. After all, Trump's first term focused

more on courting plutocrats and cutting taxes for the rich than on building a welfare state. The Biden administration, for its part, has done a lot to help left-behind voters, especially through major policy initiatives like the Inflation Reduction Act. But, if the Trump-Vance campaign gets its way, voters will not recognise that.

In the lead-up to November's presidential election, Democrats will undoubtedly attack Trump and Vance for their extreme views on women's bodies, the US Constitution, and Ukraine – views that do not align with mainstream public opinion. But they must also work to dismantle the narrative that Trump and Vance are champions of the working class.

In a sense, postwar Britain does carry an important lesson for Democrats today. Churchill was widely expected to win the 1945 general election, but the majority of British voters ultimately embraced the Labour Party's agenda of trading imperial glory for rebuilding the domestic economy. Trump, Vance, and their strategists hope that their promise to Make America Great Again will resonate in a similar way.

Consequently, Harris will need to devote as much effort to countering Republicans' cultural and policy-based appeals to workers as she does to addressing the threats to reproductive rights and the Constitution. To defeat Trump in November, Democrats must convince voters that they are the true party of the American working class. — Project Syndicate

• Mark Leonard, Director of the European Council on Foreign Relations, is the author of *The Age of Unpeace: How Connectivity Causes Conflict*.



THE BATTLE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE: Democratic presumptive presidential candidate Kamala Harris (left) and Republican candidate Donald Trump.



### 3 inmates killed in Nevada prison fight

A Nevada maximum-security prison went into lockdown after a brawl that left three inmates dead and nine others hospitalised, officials said.

Nevada Governor Joe Lombardo's office said the brawl on Tuesday was gang related. Fox channel KVVU-TV in Las Vegas reported. The deadly melee broke out on Tuesday afternoon at the Ely State Prison in a rural mining town some 250 miles north of Las Vegas. The prison, the state's only maximum security facility, is also the site of its death row.

No corrections officers were injured in the fight, officials said in the statement, which did not provide a cause for the fight or say how many others may have been injured.

The nine inmates who were hospitalised were stabbed, ABC affiliate KOLO-TV reported.

A spokesperson for the Nevada Department of Corrections did not immediately respond to phone calls and e-mail seeking more information.

It was unclear if the prison remained on lockdown yesterday, but the Department of Correction's website said that visitations were cancelled indefinitely at all state prisons.

Prison officials were concerned about retaliation, CBS affiliate KLAS-TV reported.

The Ely prison can hold 1,183 inmates and has more than 400 employee positions. Nevada currently has 60 inmates on death row at the facility, according to the Death Penalty Information Center. There have been 21 deaths across all Nevada prisons this year, according to the state's website, including two at the Ely prison.

### Ex-news presenter in 5 new probes over alleged rape

French investigators have opened five new probes into rape allegations against former prime-time news presenter Patrick Poivre d'Arvor, prosecutors said yesterday.

The 76-year-old has denied repeated accusations of rape or sexual assault. In December he was charged with the rape of writer Florence Porcel in 2009. That probe was widened in February to look into claims of the rape of two more women and a sexual assault of another committed between 2007 and 2018, which could lead to fresh charges.

The new investigations are into accusations of rape during an earlier period, the prosecutor's office in the Paris suburb of Nanterre and a lawyer told AFP.

The five accusers had filed previous complaints that had been rejected for being past the statute of limitations, a source at the prosecutor's office said.

Their lawyer used a different legal channel to get the investigations opened. Poivre d'Arvor's lawyer was not immediately available for comment.

Amongst the five accusers, journalist Helene Devynck has alleged the television presenter raped her when she was his assistant in 1993.

Another journalist, Stephanie Khayat, has accused him of two rapes in 1994 and 1997.

Marie-Laure Eude-Delattre claims Poivre d'Arvor raped her as a 23-year-old intern at the Cannes Film Festival in 1985.

Margot Cauquil-Gleizes, now a teacher, said he raped her the same year when she was 17.

All four were identified by their lawyer Corinne Herrmann. It was not immediately clear who the fifth person was.

## Self-driven Tesla kills Seattle motorcyclist

Reuters  
San Francisco

A Tesla Model S car was in "Full Self-Driving" mode when it hit and killed a 28-year-old motorcyclist in the Seattle area in April, police said, making it at least the second accident involving the technology on which Tesla CEO Elon Musk is pinning his hopes.

The 56-year-old driver was arrested on suspicion of vehicular homicide based on his admission that he was looking at his cell phone while using the driver assistant feature, the police said in a statement.

"The case is still under active investigation," said Chris Loftis of Washington State Patrol, adding that drivers are responsible for the safe operation of their vehicles.

Musk has this year shelved Tesla's all-new affordable cars and increased his bets on self-driving vehicles, saying he will be shocked if Tesla can't achieve full self-driving capability next year.

"The overwhelmingly important thing is achieving unsupervised full self-driving," he said in an interview with the Tesla Owners of Silicon Valley club last weekend.

He said a future vehicle will be like a "tiny mobile lounge" where drivers will be able to watch movies, play video games, work and even drink and sleep.

Musk has been aiming to achieve self-driving capability for several years, with the technology under growing regulatory and legal scrutiny. Tesla calls its driver assistant features Autopilot or "supervised" Full Self-Driving, but says they require active driver supervision and do not make its vehicles autonomous.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) previously said there was one fatal accident between August 2022 and August 2023. The regulator began a probe of Autopilot in August 2021 after identifying more than a dozen crashes in which Tesla vehicles had hit stationary emergency vehicles, and reviewed hundreds of crashes involving Autopilot.

Tesla was forced to recall nearly all its vehicles on US roads over a lack of safeguards.

## Khan offers conditional talks with the military

Reuters  
Islamabad

Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan has offered to hold "conditional negotiations" with the powerful military as he serves a year into a jail term that he said he was given on trumped up charges designed to keep him out of power.

Khan did not specify what he wanted to discuss with the military, but in a post on his official X account yesterday said that one of the conditions for negotiations was that "clean and transparent" elections be held and that "bogus" cases against his supporters be dropped.

He said he had appointed Mahmood Khan Achakzai, a close political ally and a known critic of the military, to represent him in any talks.

The military has previously ruled out talks with Khan.

"We will hold conditional negotiations if the military leadership appoints its representative," Khan said on X.

"The country is under an undeclared martial law," he added.

"We prefer negotiations with the military leadership, who are



**UNIMPRESSED:** Former prime minister Imran Khan has refused to sit with what he has described as a 'puppet' government.

the actual decision-makers," he said, adding that he refused to sit with the "puppet" government for any talks.

In response to Khan's offer, the military released a video clip from a May 7 media conference in which its spokesman, Major General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry, said it was not possible to sit with "any political ideology, any political leader, or any political group who is involved in attacks on its own

## Germany summons Chinese envoy over cyberattack

Germany has summoned the Chinese ambassador to Berlin over a 2021 cyberattack by "state actors" who were seeking to spy on a crucial government mapping agency, officials said yesterday.

Western nations have been increasingly voicing concerns about cyber breaches by Beijing-backed groups directed at targets ranging from lawmakers to democratic institutions. In the latest case revealed yesterday, the German government said the Federal Agency for Cartography and Geodesy — a branch of science related to studying the Earth — had been hit.

The agency, which officials said performs an "important function" for state and private-sector institutions, makes products such as

printed and digital maps and other digital tools.

"This serious cyberattack on a federal authority shows how great the danger posed by Chinese cyberattacks and espionage is," Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said.

"We call on China to refrain from and prevent such cyberattacks... (which) threaten the digital sovereignty of Germany and Europe."

Intelligence services concluded after an investigation that "Chinese state actors" were behind the attack and that it was for "espionage purposes", according to the foreign ministry.

The investigation found that one of the agency's networks had been compromised.

## Trump on Harris: 'Is she Indian or Black?'



Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump (left) answers questions during the National Association of Black Journalists annual convention in Chicago, Illinois. (AFP)

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump questioned whether his Democratic rival Kamala Harris is "Black" during a contentious appearance at the country's largest annual gathering of Black journalists yesterday.

"Is she Indian or is she Black?" Trump said of his opponent in the presidential race, drawing a smattering of jeers. "She was Indian all the way, and all of a sudden she made a turn and became a Black person."

Harris, whose mother was Indian and whose father is Black, is the first Black and the first Asian American US vice-president.

Since launching her White House campaign earlier this month, Harris has faced a barrage of sexist and racist attacks online, while Republican Party leaders have urged lawmakers to refrain

from personal attacks and focus on her policy positions.

The interview — in front of a gathering of about 1,000 journalists — started on a tense note, when ABC News reporter Rachel Scott asked Trump to explain why Black voters should support him despite a history of racist comments.

In response, Trump called the question "horrible," "hostile" and a "disgrace" and described ABC as a "fake" network.

"I have been the best president for the Black population since Abraham Lincoln," he said.

Trump's first-ever appearance at the National Association of Black Journalists' annual convention in Chicago received a backlash from some members, prompting a co-chair of the convention to step down in protest.

## Venezuela in chaos amid fears of more opposition arrests

Reuters  
Maracay/Valencia

Stores were closed and buses not running around much of Venezuela yesterday, as tensions over a disputed presidential election and rumours of opposition arrests kept many people home.

Socialist President Nicolas Maduro, who has ruled since 2013, was declared the winner of the weekend vote by the electoral council.

But the opposition says its tally of about 90% of votes shows that its candidate Edmundo Gonzalez received more than double the support attracted by Maduro.

The US-based Carter Center, which observed the vote, said in a statement late on Tuesday that the election "cannot be considered democratic."

It said the process was flawed throughout and called the electoral authority's failure to publish disaggregated results a "serious breach."

Maduro yesterday presented a writ to Venezuela's top court to "activate an electoral dispute."

"The United Socialist Party of Venezuela is ready to present 100% of the electoral tallies that are in our hands," he said.

The United States, Brazil, Chile and others have urged the electoral authority — which the opposition accuses of being in Maduro's pocket — to publish a full breakdown of results.

"Our patience and that of the international community is running out," said White House national security spokesperson John Kirby yesterday. "It's running out on waiting for the Venezuelan electoral authorities to come clean and release the full detailed data on this election."

The dispute has led to widespread protests that Maduro and

his government have denounced as an attempted coup.

Gonzalez has said 11 protesters have died.

Maduro has said Gonzalez and Machado should be held accountable for alleged crimes of the protesters.

Jorge Rodriguez, the head of the Congress for Maduro's ruling socialists, insisted on Tuesday that both opposition figures should be arrested.

"The bosses (of the protesters) should go to prison," he told lawmakers.

The government has said two members of the security forces also died and has invited people to report crimes associated with what it calls "fascist activities" via an app.

Fears were growing among the opposition on Wednesday that police would arrest Gonzalez and Machado, who last appeared in public in Caracas on Tuesday.

"I alert the world about a cruel and repressive escalation by the regime," Machado said on X yesterday.

Attorney general Tarek Saab said 162 people had been arrested and 77 public officials injured in the protests.

Last week, he denied to Reuters that Venezuela prosecutes people for their political beliefs.

Opposition members who have sought asylum at the Argentine ambassador's residence in Caracas said on social media there were police cars parked outside and the building's electricity had been cut.

The six staffers have lived at the embassy since March, when warrants were issued for their arrests, part of a series of warrants and arrests directed at the opposition prior to Election Day.

Brazil has urged Maduro to respect the boundaries of the Argentine embassy in Caracas, according to a Brazilian official familiar with the matter.

# Is America ready for its first-ever First Gentleman?

If Kamala Harris wins the US presidential election she will make history — and so will her husband Doug Emhoff.

The ebullient 59-year-old lawyer will be the first-ever First Gentleman if Harris, succeeds in becoming the first woman president in the United States' nearly two-and-a-half-century existence.

Emhoff has already got used to blazing something of a trail of his own alongside his trailblazing wife, who's also 59.

He has leaned into his role as the first Second Gentleman, proving an energetic campaigner and fierce defender of Harris in her initially bumpy tenure as the first female, Black and South Asian vice-president.

In yet another milestone, Emhoff is also the first Jewish spouse of an American president or vice-president, taking a very visible role in President Joe Biden's

administration combating anti-Semitism.

He is now enthusiastic about the prospect of following in the footsteps of famous Democratic first spouses, like Jackie Kennedy, Michelle Obama and Jill Biden — but as the first man to hold the role.

Where he doesn't have a record is in being the first prospective First Gentleman, a title claimed by former president Bill Clinton during his wife Hillary Clinton's failed 2016 run.

"I'm honoured now to have my wife be at the top of the ticket," he told a podcast recently.

The sudden change in Harris's fortunes caught Emhoff short.

He said that when Joe Biden dropped out of the race he was in the gym with his phone off — leading to a flood of missed texts and calls, including from Harris.

"Never leaving my phone in the car again," he said on X.



US Vice President and Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris and Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff acknowledge the crowd before speaking at her campaign headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware, last month. (AFP)

The swift swap in the Democratic ticket has raised questions about whether America is ready to overcome racism and sexism

to choose a Black woman president — but Emhoff would be a paradigm shift too. Republicans are already attacking

him, based partly on race.

Harris's campaign on Tuesday slammed "Trump's despicable attack against the Second Gentleman" after Trump nodded along while an interviewer said Emhoff was a "crappy Jew."

Trump himself then said that Harris "doesn't like Jewish people."

Yet Emhoff has long shown he can give as good as he gets.

"Mr Trump, I know you have so much trouble pronouncing her name," Emhoff said in a recent video, referring to Trump's habit of mispronouncing Kamala.

"After the election, you can just call her Madam President."

An entertainment lawyer, Emhoff met then-California Attorney General Harris on a blind date in 2013 and they married a year later.

That made Harris a stepmother to Emhoff's then-teenage son and daughter from his previous marriage, Cole and Ella.

Famously, they dubbed her "Momala".

In 2020 he took a leave of absence from his law firm to campaign for Harris in her first presidential bid, and then in January 2021 officially became Second Gentleman.

Emhoff admits the transition wasn't easy, with some of the "toughest moments" caused by "leaving the career that I loved."

"It was always the president (Biden) who came up to me and said, 'Look, I know, I know, kid. You're a great lawyer. I know this must have been tough,'" Emhoff told campaign staff last week.

Since then he's taken a high-profile role in the Biden administration, particularly in a series of speeches calling out anti-Semitism after the October 7 attacks by Hamas on Israel.

At the same time Harris has been vocal in urging Israel to ease the suffering in Gaza, meaning that as a couple they have effectively bridged a deep divide in the Democratic Party.





## Aspire Zone Foundation summer camp children visit Qatar Rail

Aspire Zone Foundation (AZF) organised its second visit for children participating in its summer camp to Qatar Rail on Tuesday and Wednesday.

This visit is part of a series of trips included in the "Explore Doha Metro" programme and covered both Sports City Station and Msheireb Station.

The tour began at Sports City Station, where a video was shown explaining how to use tickets to

enter the station and to follow safety, security instructions for boarding and alighting, as well as guidelines for standing and sitting on the train.

At Msheireb Station, the children visited the main control room, where the control and monitoring screens were explained to them. The tour concluded with a speech from the tour guide on the importance of using the metro and its impact on protecting the environment.



# GA champions sports for good at global conference

◆ **Generation Amazing Foundation takes part in United by Sports Forum in Paris**

Generation Amazing Foundation (GA) participated in the United by Sports Forum, a global conference focused on the social inclusion of youth through sports, held at the Jardin d'Acclimatation in Paris, a statement said yesterday.

Taking place one day before the opening ceremony of the Paris 2024 Olympics, the conference underscored the critical role of sports in promoting social inclusion and gender equality, aligning with the principles and values championed by the Olympic and Paralympic movements.

With opening remarks made by the French Minister of Sport, Amelie Oudea-Castera, the United by Sports Forum convened key figures from sports organisations, international institutions, NGOs, and international athletes. The forum facilitated discussions on the role of sport in social inclusion, the sharing of best practices, the formation of new alliances, and the strengthening of collective ambitions in this field.

Sharing the stage with executives from Lacoste and La Compagnie des Alpes, GA executive director Nasser al-Khori, highlighted its significant contributions as a human and social legacy initiative of the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022. He stressed GA's success in engaging and empowering youth, emphasising the transformative impact of Goal 22, a groundbreaking year-long global exchange programme for youth empowerment and sports development that kicked off at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 and culminated at the Closing Summit during the Concacaf



Festival 24 and the Paris 2024 Olympics represent a significant milestone for Generation Amazing.



Nasser al-Khori with the Minister for Sport and the Olympic & Paralympic Games, Amelie Oudea-Castera and other panelists at the event.

Gold Cup 2023 in Miami, Florida.

"Goal 22 was the first programme of its kind to be hosted alongside a FIFA World Cup, engaging young leaders from 32 World Cup participating nations in a year-long global exchange and showcasing the kind of sport for development legacy and social impact that can emerge from mega sporting events," said al-Khori.

"Through this programme, young leaders developed sport-led projects that address critical community challenges such as mental health, social cohesion, and gender equality, receiving grants and expert feedback to turn their ideas into reality." Together, foundations like ours and private sector partners can empower communities and cre-

ate sustainable social impact through sports."

At the Forum, GA youth advocate Mohamed al-Qassabi and GA director of operations Paulette Sanchez showcased the foundation's transformative initiatives through a series of workshops, aimed at addressing the everyday challenges faced by young leaders.

Al-Qassabi engaged in a dialogue with key figures from major sporting events like Paris 2024, Dakar 2026, and Salt Lake City 2032, exploring how football equips a generation with the skills to become influential change makers in their communities. Sanchez emphasised the urgent need for increased investment in the Sport for Good sector, highlighting its potential to

drive significant social impact.

The United by Sport Forum took place during Festival 24, an international solidarity youth festival organised by Sport Dans La Ville and held on the sidelines of the Paris 2024 Olympics and Paralympics. As a leading sponsor of the Festival - alongside the European Union, the French Ministry of Sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and Visa, among others - GA organised two delegations of youth from Right to Play in Pakistan and Força Foundation in Senegal along with young leaders from Qatar to participate in the Festival.

"Festival 24 and the Paris 2024 Olympics represent a significant milestone for Generation Amazing. As we broaden our focus from football to include other sports for development, we are poised to increase both our impact and our reach," said al-Khori. "This expansion underscores our commitment to leveraging the power of sports to foster positive change in communities worldwide."

Generation Amazing's participation in Festival 24 is made possible with the support of the Delegation of the European Union to Qatar. "Together, we are aiming to break down barriers, foster peace and resilience, and unite communities through the power of sport," the statement added.

العرض متاح في جميع منافذ سفاري بتاريخ: ٠١/٠٨/٢٠٢٤ في جميع منافذ سفاري Promotion available at all Safari outlets on: 01-08-2024 at all Safari Outlets

 <p><b>18 QR</b> 75</p> <p>سمك فاروس الدوحة ١ كجم Fresh Sea Bass Doha 1kg</p>	 <p><b>22 QR</b> 75</p> <p>جمبري وسط عمان ١ كجم Fresh Prawns Medium Oman 1kg</p>	 <p><b>14 QR</b> 00</p> <p>لحم غنم تنزاني ٥٠٠ جم Tanzanian Mutton 500gm</p>	 <p><b>14 QR</b> 00</p> <p>لحم بقر محلي بالعظم ٥٠٠ جم Local Beef With Bone 500gm</p>
 <p><b>7 QR</b> 50</p> <p>بيض أبيض ٣٠ حبة Fresh White Egg 30's Tray</p>	 <p><b>2 QR</b> 75</p> <p>جزر صيني ١ كجم Carrot China 1kg</p>	 <p><b>2 QR</b> 50</p> <p>برتقال فالنسيا مصري ١ كجم Orange Valencia Egypt 1kg</p>	 <p><b>3 QR</b> 50</p> <p>موز إكوادور ١ كجم Banana Ecuador 1kg</p>
 <p><b>12 QR</b> 50</p> <p>هورليكنس ستاندر ٥٠٠ جم • ١ حبة Horlicks Standard 500gm x 1pc</p>	 <p><b>5 QR</b> 50</p> <p>تفاح رويال جالا إفريقيا ١ كجم Apple Royal Gala Africa 1kg</p>	 <p><b>58 QR</b> 00</p> <p>وليمة أرنب مجمد لكل كجم Walima Frozen Rabbit Per Kg</p>	 <p><b>12 QR</b> 00</p> <p>ساديا دجاج شواية ١٣٠٠ جم • ١ حبة Sadia Chicken Griller 1300gm x 1pc</p>
 <p><b>16 QR</b> 75</p> <p>ليفيا بودي لوشن هينكل ٢٥٠ مل • ٢ حبة Nivea Body Lotion Asstrd 250ml x 2pcs</p>	 <p><b>11 QR</b> 50</p> <p>نسكافيه ٣ في ١ ماي كوب ٢٠ جم • ٣٠ حبة Nescafe 3 In 1 My Cup 20gm x 30pcs</p>	 <p><b>7 QR</b> 75</p> <p>بريتانيا جود داي بسكوت بالفستق ٧٢ جم • ٨ حبة • ١ عبوة Britannia Good Day Pista Badam 72gm x 8pcs x 1pkt</p>	 <p><b>28 QR</b> 50</p> <p>كيت كات ٢ أصبع ١٧.٧ جم • ٣٦ حبة Kit Kat 2 Finger 17.7gm x 36pcs</p>



**SUPER MEGA SAVINGS**

**WIN 25**

**Shop n' Drive**

**MG RX8 & MG5 2024 CAR**

Spend QR 50/- & get an E-Raffle coupon to Win 25 MG 2024 Car

**Win 4 Car in Every Lucky Draw**

(First Prize: MG RX8 2024 Car x 6 Winners, Second Prize: MG5 2024 Car x 19 Winners)

**Third Lucky Draw on: 08-09-2024 at Safari Hypermarket, Al Khor**

Safari Mall, Abu Hamour, Tel: +974 44191441, Safari Hypermarket, Salwa Road, Tel: +974 44099088, Safari Hypermarket, Al Khor, Tel: +974 44482555, Safari Hypermarket, Barwa Village, Tel: +974 44118704, Safari Hypermarket, Industrial Area, Tel: +974 44689058

 www.facebook.com/safarihypermarket

 www.instagram.com/safarimallqatar