Emir: Siege a form of terrorism

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, while addressing the opening session of the 72nd United Nations General Assembly, said Qatar is open to resolving the dispute through talks without preconditions.

The Emir added despite the disclosure of the hacking and fabrication of quotes of the Emir of a sovereign state, the blocking countries did not back down on applying his force, but rather intensified their campaign, in the hope that the blockade would cause a cumulative effect on the economy and the society of my country, after it failed to bring the Emir down or apologize for lying, but rather intended to resolve the dispute through talks without preconditions.

The Emir said Qatar is open to resolving the dispute through talks without preconditions. The Emir added the issue of settling the dispute through talks is still being addressed as an episodic and non-binding dialogue between the GCC countries and Iran on the basis of common interests, the principle of good neighbourliness, respect for the sovereignty of States and non-interference in the internal affairs. In order to achieve security and stability in the Gulf region, we renew the call for unconditional dialogue based on mutual respect for sovereignty.

The countries who imposed the blockade on Qatar have intervened in the internal affairs of the State. The siege imposed to put pressure on its citizens to destabilise a sovereign country. Isn’t this one of the definitions of terrorism?

Qatar has fought terrorism and it is still fighting it and will continue to do that.

This time I stand here, while my country and my people are subjected to a continuing and unjust blockade imposed since June 5th by neighbouring countries.

The blockade involves all aspects of life, including the intervention by these countries to rip off family ties. Qatar is subjected to a continuing and unjust blockade imposed since June 5th by neighbouring countries.

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I highly value and appreciate the sincere mediation of His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait.

The Emir said Qatar will spare no effort in providing support and assistance to alleviate the humanitarian suffering of our Syrian brothers and to implement our humanitarian pledges within the framework of the United Nations.

I call upon the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the international community to assume their legal and moral responsibility to take the necessary measures to stop the violence against Rohingya minority, provide them with protection, repatriate the displaced to their homeland.

I call for an unconditional dialogue based on mutual respect for sovereignty.

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In the Name of God, the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate,

Honourable Audience,

It pleases me to congratulate His Excellency Mr Miroslav Lajčák on assuming the tasks of the 72nd Session of the General Assembly, wishing him every success.

I wish also to express my appreciation to His Excellency Mr Peter Thomson for his valuable efforts in managing the affairs of the 71st Session of the General Assembly, and I take this opportunity to commend the efforts of His Excellency the Secretary-General, Mr Antonio Guterres, to strengthen the role of the United Nations.

Mr President,

Maintaining the regional and international peace and security is a priority in the State of Qatar’s foreign policy, whose principles and objectives are based on the United Nations’ charter and the rules of international legality which calls for constructive cooperation among States, mutual respect and non-interference in the internal affairs of good neighbours, as well as promoting peaceful coexistence and pursuing peaceful means to settle disputes.

The issue of settling disputes by peaceful means is still being addressed as an episodic and non-binding proposal. Perhaps the time has come to impose dialogue and negotiation as a basis for resolving disputes through concluding an international convention on settling disputes between States by peaceful means.

In this context, I call upon the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the international community to assume their legal and moral responsibility to take the necessary measures to stop the violence against Rohingya minority, provide them with protection, repatriate the displaced to their homeland, prevent sectarian or ethnic discrimination against them, and ensure that they have their full legitimate rights as full-fledged citizens, and we in this regard urge all States to provide humanitarian assistance to them.

Mr President,

Every time I stand here I speak in favor of the constructive international cooperation, just peace, the rights of peoples under occupation, as well as those who are subjected to crimes against humanity and those who are under siege.

This time I stand here, while my country and my people are subjected to a continuing and unjust blockade imposed since June 5th by neighboring countries under threat have to stand on their own through their alliances and relations, in the absence of a system of provisions of international law, and the binding conventions and charters.

Mr President,

We commend opting for the theme of this session: Focusing on People: Striving for Peace and a Decent Life for All on a Sustainable Planet.

In this context, I call upon the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and the international community to assume their legal and moral responsibility to take the necessary measures to stop the violence against Rohingya minority, provide them with protection, repatriate the displaced to their homeland, prevent sectarian or ethnic discrimination against them, and ensure that they have their full legitimate rights as full-fledged citizens, and we in this regard urge all States to provide humanitarian assistance to them.

The blockade was imposed abruptly and without warning, prompting the Qataris to consider it as a kind of treachery.

It seems that those who planned and implemented it had envisaged that their move would cause a shocking and direct impact that will bring the State of Qatar to its knees and to capitulate to a total siege that was imposed on it.

And what is worse, the blockade planners found it necessary to rely on fabricated quotes attributed to me and posted on the website of Qatar News Agency after hacking it.

The mobilized and guided media of these countries was ready to launch an all-out campaign of incitement prepared in advance in which all values, morals and norms were breached, and the truth was infringed by a torrent of lies. Funds are still being spent unaccountably on the machine of lying and disseminating fabricated lies in the hope of fooling people by distorting the truth with lies.

Despite the disclosure of the hacking and falsification of quotes of the Emir of a sovereign State, the blocking countries did not back down or apologize for lying, but rather intensified their campaign, in the hope that the blockade would cause a cumulative effect on the economy and the society of my country, after it failed to bring about any direct impact. The perpetrators of the hacking and the falsification of the quotes have committed an assault against a sovereign State. The crime was deliberately committed for political aims, and was followed by a list of political dictations which contravene sovereignty, and caused worldwide condemnation.

This disgraceful act has once again raised international querie about digital security and the unreliability in cyberspace and electronic piracy.

It also revealed the anxiety of a list of public and official circles in the world over the absence of clear-cut international legislations and institutions to organize the digital and virtual real and vital field and punish the perpetrators of transcontinental crimes.

It is time now to take steps in this regard, and we are ready to put our potentials to serve a joint effort in this connection.

The countries who imposed the unjust blockade on Qatar have intervened in the internal affairs of the Emirate by putting pressure on its citizens through foodstuff medicines and stopping off consensual relations to force them to change their political affiliation to destabilize a sovereign State, which is not one of the definitions of terrorism.

This dialogue must not be continued to the economic aspect and the countries’ trade relationships, but also expanded to the political sphere, and it was followed by consensual relations.

However, things did not stop at this point, but the blocking countries went beyond this to chase their own citizens and residents of their territory by imposing penalties of imprisonment and fines on them for the mere expression of their sympathy with Qatar, even if that was on the social media, in a precedent never seen before in the world, in violation of the human rights conventions and agreements that guarantee the citizens the right to freedom of opinion and expression of ideas.

There are countries that permit themselves not only to attack a neighboring country to dictate its foreign and media policy, but also believe that their possession of funds qualify them to put pressure and blackmail other countries to participate in their aggression, while they are supposed to be held accountable internationally for what they have done.

Continued on Page 3
Emir meets US President

Dr. Khalid Al-Shafi
Editor-in-Chief

HH the Emir: Proud of his people and expatriates

As always, HH the Emir speaks the truth, addresses the global issues with transparency and objectivity.

In his comprehensive and clear speech at the UN General Assembly meeting yesterday, His Highness urged the whole world to address with full responsibility and legally the problems being faced by some countries of the world. In his speech, HH addressed several issues and outlined his views and Qatar’s position on them.

He said candidly and clearly that he always would ask for protection of the rights of states, not insults or interference in their internal affairs. However, “Today my country and its people are facing an unjust siege since June 5, imposed by neighbouring countries which is treachery.” The aim of this siege was to create a shocking impact and make the country surrender to full guardianship over it.

The Emir urged Member countries to take its legal and moral responsibility and stop migration and religious discrimination against the Rohingya, asking the international community to provide them with support. Regarding the first Muslims issue, the Palestine cause, HH refused the Justification of Al Quds and the siege imposed on Gaza Strip demanding to give priority to the peace process and appealing to Palestinians to accomplish the reconciliation process and unite against risks and challenges.

HH did not forget the Syrian and Libyan causes where he appealed the international community to play its role in line with the aspirations and ambitions of the people in these countries.

Let me express my pride of my people and expatriates in the State of Qatar, from different nationalities and cultures, for resistance against the siege and rejection of dictations with dignity and determination for independence of Qatar sovereign decision.

HH the Emir reiterated his call for dialogue without preconditions and mutual respect for sovereignty. He highly appreciated the Kuwaiti mediation being led by HH Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah which is supported by Qatar from the beginning of the diplomatic crisis. He also thanked all countries which supported the Kuwaiti mediation.

The Emir’s clear and clear speech outlined the unjust siege on Qatar, the reasons behind it, the aims and means of resolving the crisis and restoring ties of GCC member countries.

The success here is the presence of HH among the world leaders, while the siege countries were unable to convene the global forum in New York. The reason is their weak excuses and fabricated claims which have nothing to do with international relations, laws and humanitarian values.

Thanks to HH the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani for his strong arguments, confidence in this people, presenting Qatar’s strong position to the UN members. We are proud of our leader who does not accept humiliation of Qatar and he is the best who can represent the people and every day we renew our pledge to our leader and our guard-
ian Tamim Al Majd. Go ahead and the people are behind you and your dearest and no people are disappointed as long as you are the leader.

Allah, the Nation and Tamim.

Emir: I thank countries which supported Kuwaiti mediation

Continued from Page 2

The countries who imposed the blockade on the State of Qatar interfere in the internal affairs of many countries and accuse all those who oppose them domestically and abroad with terrorism. By doing so, they are inflicting damage on the war on terror, while at the same time opposing reform and supporting the tyrannical regimes in our region where terrorists are initiated in their premises.

We were not alone to be taken by surprise by the imposition of the blockade, as many countries whose leaders have questioned its motives and na-

tions were also taken by surprise. The blockading countries have promised all those who asked for evidence about Qatar’s contri-

butions to the fight against terrorism, which is recognized by the entire international community.

The State of Qatar has fought terrorism - the whole interna-
tional community bears witness to that - and it is still fighting it and will continue to do that. It stands in the camp of those who are fighting by security forces, and believes that it is necessary to fight it ideologically as well.

It goes beyond that to par-
ticipate in drawing its sources through teaching seven million children around the world, so that they do not feel the igno-
rance and radical ideas.

We have refused to yield to dictations by pressure and siege, and our people was not satisfied by less than that. At the same time we have taken an open attitude towards dia-

logue without dictation, and have expressed our readiness to resolve the differences caused by compromises based on con-
moments and understanding the conflicts by peaceful means is actually one of the priorities of our foreign policy. From here, I remove the call for an uncon-
tinued dialogue based on mutual respect for sovereignty and I highly value the sincere and appreciated mediation that the State of Qatar has sup-
ported since the outbreak of the crisis, and which was ini-
tiated by my brother, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah, the Emir of the sisterly State of Kuwait. I also thank all the countries that have supported this mediation.

Allow me, on this occasion and from this podium to express my pride in my Qatari people, along with the multicultural and multicultural residents in Qatar.

The people have witnessed the conditions which they rejected the dictations with resilience and pride, and insisted on the independence of Qatar’s sovereign decision and strengthened its unity and solid-
arity, and maintained their refined manners and their progress despite the ferocities of the campaign against them and their country.

Continued on Page 4
Emir: Qatar will remain a safe haven for the oppressed

Qatar condemns explosion in Northern Iraq

The State of Qatar voiced its strong condemnation and denunciation of the explosion that occurred in a restaurant at the Jalibani Governorate in Northern Iraq, leaving a number of people killed and wounded.

In a statement issued Tuesday, the Foreign Ministry reiterated the State of Qatar’s firm stance in rejection of violence and terrorism whatever the motives and reasons were.

The statement expressed the State of Qatar’s condem-

nation to the suffering of the victims as well as the govern-

ment and people of Iraq and its wishes of speedy recovery to the injured.

Emir’s speech has made entire country proud, say residents

Residents have praised the speech of Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani at the opening session of the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The residents said that the speech has made everyone proud. The Emir will always support poor people across the globe and mitigate their suffering. The residents showed that despite being under the illegal blockade by some countries, Qatar’s commitment towards humanity remains intact,” said Ahmed, a Qatari citizen.

“H H the Emir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani expressed the speech to all the people living in his country,” tweeted Emir’s speech.

The residents also praised the Emir for terrorism and its financing and through the participation in the International criminal court, regional relations and bilateral relations with the United States and many countries of the world. The State of Qatar will continue its regional and international efforts in this regard and will develop them. While reaffirming our commitment of all forms of extremism and terrorism, we reject tackling this phenomenon with double standards according to the identity of the perpetrators, or linking it with any particular religion, race, civilization, culture or society.

Mr. President,

The issues of the Middle East continue to pose a threat to international peace and security. The residents also praised the Emir for his leadership and contributed to ending the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories within a specified time frame and reaching a just, comprehensive and final settlement in accordance with the two-state solution agreed upon by the international community, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace initiative. The Emir has achieved through the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the basis of the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as its capital. I reiterate my appeal to the Palestinian brothers to complete national reconciliation and unite positions and words in confronting the dangers and challenges facing the Palestinian cause and the rights of the Palestinian people.

Mr. President,

We call upon the international community to facilitate the access of humanitarian assistance to various Yemeni regions. The State of Qatar supports the efforts of the UN envoy to end this crisis and realize the aspirations of the brethren Yemeni people in unity, security and stability.

In order to achieve security and stability in the Gulf region, we renew the call that we have already launched from this podium. For conducting a constructive dialogue between the GCC countries and Iran on the basis of non-interference in the internal affairs of States and non-interference in their internal affairs.

Mr. President,

The international community remains unable to achieve a comprehensive, lasting and just peace in the Middle East. The implementation of its decisions and international resolutions to end the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian territories within a specified time frame and reaching a just, comprehensive and final settlement in accordance with the two-state solution agreed upon by the international community. Through the resolutions of the international legitimacy and the Arab Peace initiative. Qatar is proud and committed to realize.

Qatar Foundation.”

H H Sheikh Hind bint Hamad Al thani, Vice-Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation, alongside a number of senior QF officials, and families from across the country, listened to Emir’s speech at the UN General Assembly.

Qatar Foundation holds special screening

Qatar Foundation (QF) hosted a special screening of a speech delivered by H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar, to the 72nd Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York this evening at Education City. The screening was attended by H H Sheikh Hind bint Hamad Al Thani, QF’s Vice-President and CEO of QF, alongside a number of senior QF officials, and families from across the country. The screening was also attended by a number of local and social media influencers, who held a series of live discussions on the speech with media and audience.

Maryam Zehabi, Chief Communications Officer of QF, said, “This one-off screening is an opportunity to reach the whole community together. It’s wonderful to see so many people of different nationalities and of all ages gather at Education City this evening.”

The event was also attended by a number of local and social media influencers, who held a series of live discussions on the speech with media and audience.

Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation (QF), established in 1995, is a non-profit entity to support and advance the country’s vision of becoming a global knowledge powerhouse. Its primary mission is to support and advance education, research and community development in Qatar and the region. QF’s initiatives include the Hamad bin Khalifa University, the Qatar National Library, QF’s Student Center, and the screening open to the public.

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Emir: Qatar will remain a safe haven for the oppressed

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International criminal court, regional relations and bilateral relations with the United States and many countries of the world. The State of Qatar will continue its regional and international efforts in this regard and will develop them. While reaffirming our commitment of all forms of extremism and terrorism, we reject tackling this phenomenon with double standards according to the identity of the perpetrators, or linking it with any particular religion, race, civilization, culture or society.

Mr. President,

The issues of the Middle East continue to pose a threat to international peace and security. The residents also praised the Emir for his leadership and contributed to ending the Israeli occupation of the Arab territories within a specified time frame and reaching a just, comprehensive and final settlement in accordance with the two-state solution agreed upon by the international community, based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the Arab Peace initiative. The Emir has achieved through the establishment of an independent Palestinian State on the basis of the 1967 borders, with Jerusalem as its capital. I reiterate my appeal to the Palestinian brothers to complete national reconciliation and unite positions and words in confronting the dangers and challenges facing the Palestinian cause and the rights of the Palestinian people.

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**Primary Health Care 2017 to discuss best practices**

**The Peninsula**

The International Conference on Primary Health Care 2017 will be held in Doha, Qatar, to discuss best practices in primary health care with the aim of developing research on health, training and the care of patients, says a senior official.

Mohammed Al Naht, assistant general manager of the Primary Health Care Corporation for Financial and Administrative Affairs, said that holding this prominent conference in Doha reflects the transmission messages delivered by the wise leadership of H H Shaikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, which highlighted the need for innovation and driving forward our efforts for successful international collaboration, particularly in the field of health, in order to continue to provide excellent services.

Underlining the significance of adhering to modern technology and inventions as well as partnership between the public and private sectors.

The International Conference on Primary Health Care 2017 will showcase an eclectic platform to showcase Primary Health Care in the field of primary health care, and its contribution in applying the best global practices, conducting research and developing health care models best suited in Qatar to encourage communities to lead healthier lifestyles, avoiding chronic diseases.

**HMC offers traffic safety tips during school hours**

**The Peninsula**

Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) Hamad Trauma Center in Doha and the Hamad Injury Prevention Program, urged road users to take extra precautions due to more traffic on the roads during school hours.

The Hamad Injury Prevention Program is offering the following road safety recommendations including that parents should encourage their children to use seat belt and an age-appropriate car safety seat or booster seat. It also advises on traffic rules and patterns which will reduce the risk of death and the need to rush to meet school start times be a good role model and always abide up, wear a helmet when biking, and follow pedestrian road safety rules. Ensure safety seats are of the proper specification.

Children, especially those under 10 years of age, should be supervised as they walk to school, or as they wait at the school bus stop, and it is essential to slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits.

According to Dr. Rafat Al-Ghobain, medical director of the Hamad Injury Prevention Program (SHIP), the community outreach arm of HMC’s Trauma Surgeon Section, the school aged children are those that are well planned. “We caution parents to be responsible about their child’s pedestrian skills. Children are impulsive and less cautious adults. It is recommended that only children older than 10 years of age walk or bike to school with a parent, a friend, or supervision,” he said.

If children are walking or biking to school, it’s also a good idea to provide bright color clothing and the use of lights. “Children should stay on sidewalks and not walk in the street. If they must be in a car seat that is appropriate for their age and size and properly restrained, including when traveling on a school bus,” Dr. Al-Ghobain said. “If your child rides by bus, it’s important to review school bus safety tips such as waiting for the bus to stop before approaching the curb, only boarding and exiting at designated locations and remaining seated while the bus is in motion.”

**QA offers luxury global chauffeur service**

This new service provided by Qatar Airways is bookable for a fee online through qatarairways.com and the Qatar Airways app. Qatar Airways passengers, no matter what cabin they are flying in, can choose from a wide-range of high-end vehicles, provided by top auto manufacturers including Audi, BMW, Mercedes-Benz and Cadillac to take them to and from their chosen airport.

“We are delighted to launch this new premium global chauffeur service for all Qatar Airways passengers, bringing a personal luxury service to their doorsteps. Our partnership with Blacklane is an innovation that we know our passengers will value. Offering luxurious door-to-door transfers will enhance their overall travel experience as they fly with Qatar Airways. We are always looking at ways to improve our unrivalled five-star service,” said H E Qatar’s Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein, HE Ambassador Ali Khalifa Al Mansouri.

“We call on all Member States to continue their support to activate the UNCTAD efforts in this regard, Ambassador Ali Khalifa Al Mansouri concluded.

**Qatar: Israeli policies complicate Palestinian issue**

Despite the unyielding siege, Qatar continues to support the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and calls on all Member States to continue their support to activate the UNCTAD efforts in this regard, HE Ambassador Ali Khalifa Al Mansouri said.

H E Qatar’s Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Geneva, Ambassador Ali Khalifa Al Mansouri, in his statement to the 66th Session of the UNCTAD Secretariat for preparing the annual report on UNCTAD’s assistance to the Palestinian people, which clearly points to the disastrous consequences of the Israeli occupation policies on the Palestinian economy in all its agricultural, industrial, commercial and financial sectors.

“UNCTAD has consistently supported the efforts of UNCTAD to achieve the economic development of the Palestinian people. In 2013, it responded to the invitation of the UNCTAD Secretariat to finance a post in the Unit for the years 2016-2017. He also noted Qatar’s 58th donation at the Cairo conference for the reconstruction of Gaza in October 2014, as well as the 480,000 grant from the Father Emir H H Shaikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani for the reconstruction of Gaza in 2012”. The Ambassador referred to paragraph 8 of the official statement adopted at the 13th UNCTAD Conference in Doha in 2012, on the mandate of the Assembly to UNCTAD to prepare a report on the economic costs incurred by the Palestinian people because of the Israeli occupation. In particular, its recent decision No. 71/20, which stated under paragraph 7 that it called for all efforts to be made in order to provide resources to expedite the completion of the report, including facilitating and coordinating the relevant contributions of the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system.

Despite the unyielding siege imposed on the State of Qatar, it continues to support the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and calls on all Member States to continue their support to activate the UNCTAD efforts in this regard. Ambassador Ali Khalifa Al Mansouri concluded.

**Outgoing ambassadors of Ethiopia and Vietnam honoured**

Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dr Ahmed bin Hasani Al Hammadi, met yesterday separately with Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Mesghan Argo Moach, and Ambassador of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to Qatar, Nguyen Hoang, on the occasion of the end of their tenure in the country. The Secretary-General thanked the Ambassadors for their efforts in supporting and strengthening bilateral relations and wished them success in their new tasks.
QU signs MoU with Sidra for research projects

The Peninsula

With an aim to facilitate collaboration in education, clinical training and research, QU and Sidra have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sidra Medical and Research Center (Qatar), the announcement follows the recent presence of QU Vice-President for Research, Prof. Mustafa Al-Maadeed, and Dean of the College of Medicine and Dentistry at Sidra, Dr. Eign E. Dean. The MoU was signed by QU President, Dr. Hassan Al-Derham, and Sidra Chief Executive Officer, Peter Morris, as part of QU’s strategy to bring normalcy to the region after the recent Hurricane Harvey.

Both institutions also collaborates the design and implementation of professional development activities in the field of pharmacy, health sciences and medical education. The terms of the MoU include collaboration between QU and Sidra on medical and health research through the establishment of joint research projects in line with Qatar’s national priorities and the National Research Strategy, and through the cross-funding of joint research and graduate student projects. They also plan to offer QU students and Sidra health practitioners will fully support QU students and deliver specific courses and feedback. Clinical staff will carry out patient-care opportunities to work with Sidra clinical staff and gain access to facilities relevant to their specialities as the interests at QU.

Both institutions will also collaborate on the design and implementation of continuing professional development activities in the field of pharmacy, health sciences and medical education. The terms of the MoU include the provision of scholarship and internship opportunities for research professionals from QU and other research administration professionals from Sidra.

The MoU will facilitate QU to enhance the exchange of knowledge and expertise between QU and Sidra's researchers. Health care providers at QU, and QU clinical staff will collaborate on the design and implementation of joint conferences and workshops.

"QU signs MoU with Sidra’s researchers. Health care providers at QU, and QU clinical staff will collaborate on the design and implementation of joint conferences and workshops," said Morris. "Sidra is built on a foundation of these pillars as patient care, biomedicine, research and medical education. Our partnership with QU is an obvious showcase of our collaboration across all three pillars. This is the start of a strong relationship that is necessary and therefore will change lives. Not only of that the young professionals coming out of QU, but also how our joint efforts will impact the health care needs of the women and children of Qatar."

Omar said: "This agreement highlights QU Health’s commitment to address the increasing need for high-qualified doctors, and to support the country’s national strategies in health care and education. We hope that through shared areas of interest we can create the necessary platform for relevant research and ultimately contribute to advancing the health care sector in Qatar."

QU President, Dr. Hassan Al-Derham (right), and Sidra Chief Executive Officer, Peter Morris, during the event.

QUH to mark International Day of Peace

Qatar Youth Hostels (QYH) will on Saturday, September 23, mark the International Day of Peace with a panel discussion with more than six different nationalities. The panel will include Chairman of the Board/President of Qatar Red Crescent Society Dr. Moham- med bin Hamad Al-Maadeed, Member of the Board/President of Qatar Red Crescent Society Dr. Ali Sada and Chairman of Doha International Centre for Interfaith Dialogue (ICID) and President of QYH’s Community College Ibrahim Sally Al-Najmi.

The Youth Hostel confirms its eagerness to organize qualitative programmes that meet the needs, desires and expectations of visitors and help build their capabilities, skills and knowledge. QYH is also keen on strengthening the partnership with community entities and institutions to suitable topics that matter to the youth and that can help to build youth leaders that engrave the deep under-learning among the young and the international target. Qatar youth Hostel will organize a number of programmes for different parts of community to work on extending the youth with knowledge and different expert.

Hurricane Harvey: Texas A&M students raise funds

Students from Texas A&M University at Qatar are handing together to raise funds for their fellow students and faculty at Laredo College who have been affected by the recent Hurricane Harvey in Texas, which caused devastating floods in Houston and southeast Texas.

The Qatar Student Association (QSA) and Al Sama student organizations have organized the Texas Tough Together festival, in the Texas A&M University at Qatar Auditorium, Education City, which will feature food sales, juice stalls, games, music, (‘Aggies’) – come on from one of the countries affected by Harvey – and students for raising classes for the Laredo College students who are studying in Texas.

At least a few students from main campus are studying in Laredo as their families who have been affected by the flood in their home state, said Al Sama Unions’ President of student clubs and QSA’s Al Muttamaa Khatibi. A student also said: "It is our duty to help our fellow Aggies.

Rabia also said she has gone to Texas to visit other students from main campus who are studying in Laredo for their families whose families were affected by the flood.

The workshop sought to establish a framework for research professionals to engage in sponsored projects administration, including pre-approval and review of proposals, negotiation and acceptance of awards, financial and administrative management, and compliance with relevant research committee issues. It is designed for researchers, administrators and others involved in the administration of sponsored research projects, including education and research institutions.

Speakers were California Institute of Technology Office of Sponsored Research, Professor, Dr. David Mayo, and University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of Research Financial Services, Associate Research Administrator, Ms. Andrea Winton. Speakers discussed several critical topics such as the difference between grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements, the understanding of legal framework surrounding sponsored projects, co-funding with end-users, audit, and compliance, and ways of finding sources of funding.

Individuals who successfully completed the training program received IS-6 Continuing Education Credits, which can be recognized credits to a participant’s credentials or individuals’ continuing education accumulation and which can be used as educational credits for certification. Certificates were also issued to those who completed the course.

Social media abuzz with news of test run by Doha metro train

The Peninsula

Some Twitter and Instagram users have posted images of the Doha metro train running a short distance and it is going viral with all users expressing their happiness about seeing it in action.

"It was like a dream come true to see the metro being completely clear when or where the video was taken. The work of metro is progressing at a fast pace and the first four trains of Doha metro will be put into service this year, arriving at Hamad Port last month and from Kobe port in Japan.

Doha metro will be one of the fastest driverless trains in the world and will cut travel time in half.

Doha metro will be one of the fastest driverless trains in the world which is expected to be put into service in the region in the near future. Qatar Rail’s Managing Director, Mr. Taffat, had said that the first group of teams will arrive in two months to test the system and they are kept at the relevant location. At a workshop in July, Qatar Rail's Managing Director, Mr. Taffat, and Qatar Rail's Technical Director, Eng. Abdulla Al-Hashemi, had said that the driverless system way systems installation is on schedule and the first trains will be tested on the test section a few months before the end of this year.

Man summit Kilimanjaro to show support to Qatar

The Peninsula

In the bid to express solidarity with Qatar, a group of four men—dubbed "Aggies") — come from one of the countries affected by Harvey — and students are also keen on extending the youth with knowledge and different experts.

The project aims to increase private sector participation in Qatar’s transport sector, attract more of its investments, develop a PSP Strategy and Framework for the transport sector at a national level, and understand transport sectors readiness to receive such participation.

It also aims to drive private sector investment into mobility and transport projects by creating a chain of potential mobility and transport projects by engaging stakeholders at all levels to establish a PSP Framework for the transport sector at all levels, including local, regional and international.

Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) is aiming to reach all modes of transport including rail, marine, bus, taxi, and aviation.

The workshop sought to understand preferences and views of all the entities for the best solution and execution of the project. The project transmits directives of Qatar’s wise leadership on the importance of establishing sponsored project participation in economic projects across the country with a view to maximize the contributions to the development process nationwide. It also reflects the concerned authorities at the Ministry of Transport coordination with the regulation, standards, policies, and programs that help encourage larger private sector participation in national projects.

The Youth Hostel will encourage larger private sector participation in national projects. The project aims to increase private sector participation in Qatar’s transport sector, attract more of its investments, develop a PSP Strategy and Framework for the transport sector at a national level, and understand transport sectors readiness to receive such participation.

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Malabar Gold & Diamonds gets ‘Superbrand’ award

The Peninsula

Malabar Gold & Diamonds, one among the largest jewellery retailers globally with a strong retail network of over 1,800 retail outlets spread across nine countries, has been recognised with prestigious ‘Superbrand’ award by the Superbrands council. Malabar Gold and Diamonds is being awarded Superbrand for the fifth time in a row.

Superbrand organisation, the independent authority and arbiter of branding, announced the achievement in the fifth edition of Superbrands exhibition programme for this year. Speaking during the event, Diplomatic Institute Associate Director, Nadia Ahmed Al Saadi, highlighted the importance of following up on the brand’s political and economic developments at the local and international levels. She urged students to be punctual, stressing its significance as it reflects seriousness and attention, which are basics of diplomatic work. Al Saadi said that whoever joins the diplomatic work continues to learn and to cope with developments in the political and diplomatic work. She made a brief presentation about the specialisation and departments of the Diplomatic Institute and explained the objectives of the foundation program and the qualification programs of the ministry staff that help them learn about the leading experiments in diplomatic work. The Diplomatic Institute’s assistant director also presented a briefing about the training program, including the enrollment requirements, objectives and duration, and its importance for new Foreign Ministry staff members.

Mannai’s exclusive offers on GMC Acadia & Terrain

The Peninsula

The heat is definitely on. So why not take advantage of some of the coolest deals under the sun from Mannai Automotive, GMC’s dealer partner in Qatar. As we near the back to School season, Mannai Automotive has launched a new GMC Campaign offering two great offers on the Acadia and Terrain brands, available at just QR2.22 a month (Acadia) and QR1.555 (Terrain) respectively.

The GMC Campaign gives customers an ‘In-Home Financing’ option to pay a 10 percent deposit, with the remaining amount being paid within those three years or more.

Both GMC Terrain and Acadia include three years comprehensive insurance, three years’ service package and three years’ registration package. ‘These deals are some of the best around in Qatar, so we would encourage potential buyers to come and talk to us about these fantastic offers for the GMC Acadia and Terrain brands,’ commented Mr. Ishaq D’Cunha, Senior General Manager – Mannai Automotive. 2017 GMC Acadia

A crossover aimed at the heart of the mid-sized segment, designed to offer great value for the money, GMC Acadia offers advanced safety technologies including Front Pedestrian Braking, Lane Departure Warning, Following Distance Indicator and Lane Change Alert with Side Blind Zone Alert, ensuring the highest safety levels. GMC Terrain

The 2017 Terrain has room for five, premium features and technologies that allow passengers to stay connected wherever the road takes them. It also offers an EPA-estimated 17/24/28 city/highway/ freeway (I/FWD) model with the standard 2.4L engine. All Terrain models are distinguished from the rest of the Acadia lineup with a body-color grille surround, roof rails, and unique wheels. Inside is exclusive passenger seating offering dynamic, All Terrain interior accents and covered storage bins in the rear cargo floor.

Qatar-Bangladesh business event on October 5

The Peninsula

The Embassy of Bangladesh in Doha, in cooperation with the Bangladesh Embassy in Doha and the Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is hosting a business event on October 5 at Doha Bank, Read office Towers in West Bay.

A delegation consisting of businessmen from the pharmaceutical industry from Bangladesh, a number of diplomats, high Qatari officials, and local businessmen will attend the event.

‘S’hail 2017’ opens today

The Peninsula

The first edition of Katara International Hunting and Falcon Exhibition ‘S’hail 2017’ opened today with 87 exhibitors from 11 countries. The exhibitions include 54 from Qatar, 15 from Kuwait, five from Spain, four from Pakistan, three from Germany, one each from the US, England, France, South Africa, Austria, and Lebanon. They include supplies for hunting, jewellery related to hunting, equipment and falcon-related equipment. Katara will present a wide array of services to its visitors throughout the duration of the exhibition such as free water and Arabic coffee, valet parking services and limousine and Karwa stalls at the exhibition. In addition, helpers will be present to aid visitors in carrying their shopping items. Restaurant kiosks will be scattered across the exhibition venue, including Poletti, Chaquit, Karak, Cham, Mijjar, Flat White, Al Emara, Sukkar Basha, Megal, Orange, Darshan, Farokhi, Le Vesuvo, L’Wzaar, and Sweetio.

Visitors will also enjoy discounts up to 15 percent at all restaurants at Katara throughout the exhibition. Additionally, the exhibition will feature special restaurants specialized in traditional BBQ. The exhibition visitors will receive substantial discounts from Qatar Airways in addition to many other offers.

The Ministry of Interior will be one of the distinguished participants at the exhibition as an office will be present in the venue to raise awareness amongst the attendees of all matters related to purchasing and using hunting weapons and observing safety and hunting. Katara has also been promoting the cultural restaurants at Katara through various initiatives, including Front Pedestrian Braking, Low Speed Forward Automatic Braking, Following Distance Indicator and Lane Change Alert with Side Blind Zone Alert, ensuring the highest safety levels. The Ministry of Interior will be one of the distinguished participating entities at the exhibition. As an office will be present in the venue to raise awareness amongst the attendees of all matters related to purchasing and using hunting weapons and observing safety and hunting.

Samsung brand shop opens at Doha Festival City

The Peninsula

Samsung along with its partner Electronova has opened another state-of-art brand shop in Qatar at Doha Festival City, the newest mall in Qatar. This start of the art outlet displays the latest and the best of Samsung’s extensive product portfolio including smartphones, tablets, accessories, wearables, smart TVs, home appliances, printers and monitors.

Combined with the quality (VF) zone and 4D motion chair, the outlet lets customers experience many thrill rides and outdoor adventure activities.

Doha, E.; The brand shop is part of Samsung’s growing mobile ecosystem, which is centered around the specific Galaxy smart TV. This experience many thrill rides and outdoor adventure activities.

Qatar’s environment many thrill rides and outdoor adventure activities.

Photo: Samsung

One of the stalls at the Katara International Hunting and Falcon Exhibition ‘S’hail 2017’ which opened today.

The Diplomatic Institute holds introductory session

The Peninsula

The Diplomatic Institute held its introductory session for this year. A delegation consisting of businessmen from the pharmaceutical industry from Bangladesh, a number of diplomats, high Qatari officials, and local businessmen will attend the event.

The Diplomatic Institute’s assistant director also presented a briefing about the training program, including the enrollment requirements, objectives and duration, and its importance for new Foreign Ministry staff members.

New nominees for the diplomatic corps as part of the second foundation program for this year. Speaking during the event, Diplomatic Institute Associate Director, Nadia Ahmed Al Shalhi, highlighted the importance of following up on the brand’s political and economic developments at the local and international levels. She urged students to be punctual, stressing its significance as it reflects seriousness and attention, which are basics of diplomatic work. Al Shalhi said that whoever joins the diplomatic work continues to learn and to cope with developments in the political and diplomatic work. She made a brief presentation about the specialisation and departments of the Diplomatic Institute and explained the objectives of the foundation program and the qualification programs of the ministry staff that help them learn about the leading experiments in diplomatic work.

The Diplomatic Institute’s assistant director also presented a briefing about the training program, including the enrollment requirements, objectives and duration, and its importance for new Foreign Ministry staff members.

One of the stalls at the Katara International Hunting and Falcon Exhibition ‘S’hail 2017’ which opened today. Officials during the inauguration.

QNA

The Foreign Ministry’s Diplomatic Institute held an introductory session for its new nominees for the diplomatic corps as part of the second foundation program for this year. Speaking during the event, Diplomatic Institute Associate Director, Nadia Ahmed Al Shalhi, highlighted the importance of following up on the brand’s political and economic developments at the local and international levels. She urged students to be punctual, stressing its significance as it reflects seriousness and attention, which are basics of diplomatic work. Al Shalhi said that whoever joins the diplomatic work continues to learn and to cope with developments in the political and diplomatic work. She made a brief presentation about the specialisation and departments of the Diplomatic Institute and explained the objectives of the foundation program and the qualification programs of the ministry staff that help them learn about the leading experiments in diplomatic work. The Diplomatic Institute’s assistant director also presented a briefing about the training program, including the enrollment requirements, objectives and duration, and its importance for new Foreign Ministry staff members.

Participants during the event.
Awqaf Ministry programmes to improve quality of services

The Peninsula

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs H E Dr Ghailhin bin Muhammad Al Kuwari has inaugurated two new programmes in the framework of efforts to develop administrative work, and ensure the quality of its services to employees.

The programmes “Khidmati (my service)” and Muhimmati (my task), developed by the IT Department at the Ministry, will provide administrative work at the Ministry, said the Head of the IT Department at the Ministry, Abdulrahman Abdullah Al Marri. Al Marri said that the programme “Khidmati” was developed for service evaluation with a self-evaluation system for employees. “Khidmati” will ensure the quality of work and performance of the employees.

The programme also will help in presenting reports based on the evaluations of the services. Another feature of the new electronic service is that the employee will send text message on the mobile phone of the employee about accepting or rejecting the service, said Al Marri.

Explaining the second programme, Muhimmati, the head of the IT Department said that this programme would help officials assign tasks to their colleagues and staff, and follow up of the completion of the tasks with speed and quality.

The new programmes will serve all users of the system including employees, partners, and other officials allowing officials and heads of departments to access it to know the tasks carried by their subordinates.

The system will allow the head of the sector to access the reports about financial transactions made by their employees in a bid to keep a track on it, said the Head of the Administrative and Financial Affairs Department.

The new programmes will ease many works related to the human resources department like vacation of the employees, their promotion and loan, attendance among other many procedures, said Mohamad Haruna Al Makhi, Head of the Human Resources Department.

Georgian art exhibition opens at Katara

Raynald C Rivero
The Peninsula

The exhibition by Vanda Art Gallery, the oldest and first private art gallery in Qatar, follows the success of the Record II exhibition by Qatar Art Al Dasmal in Katara last year and marks the final event of Georgian Artists’ Government Ministry-Mikado in Qatar before her tour and ends.

“Following Qatar artist Ali Dasmal Al Kuwari’s magnificent exhibition in Qatar, which was visited by the art awardees in Qatar, Vanda Art Gal- lery is honoured to bring seven accomplished Georgian artists in Doha in a first of its-kind exhibition in Qatar,” said Mentor Mi- kado, who concludes her first year as the first Georg- ian ambassador since Georgia opened its embassy in Katara.

A wide variety of artworks of the artists are showcased at Gallery 2 of Katara Building 5 and is an idea of Georgia art in a nutshell. It is through art, more than anything else, that Georgia can speak. Art travels and art great travels even. Express Space is an invitation to embark on this journey towards the known and the unknown,” said Mentor.

From realism to surrealism to abstract, the artworks beckon the viewers to look beyond the horizon on which art manifests itself.

Katara General Manager Dr Khalid bin Ibrahim Al Sulaiti who attended the opening of the exhibi- tion, said: “Expressing Space Exhibition is not the first Georgian event organized by Katara. Numerous cultural events were hosted earlier in a noble aim to extend communication bridges between Qatar and Georgia, to acquaint the visitors with the innovative arts of Georgia. Expressing Space Exhibition plays spectacular creative pieces, painted by renowned Georgian artists who participated in global exhibitions.

Speaking to the media, Mentor Mikado said she was grateful to Katara and the Ministry of Culture and Sport for the wonderful exhibitions, concerts and film screenings on Georgian art that were successfully undertaken in the past few years.

She revealed a book which contains Arabic translations of short stories by a famous Geor- gian writer will be published in Qatar and likely released next month in cooperation with the Cultural Ministry.

On the sidelines of the exhibition, three workshops are scheduled until tomorrow at Katara Art Studios presented by the Georgian artists. The work- shops focus on topics, such as the concept of color and texture, Images of the arts in the arts field, and Children and modern art.

The exhibition runs to the public until October 2.

Qatar Airways extends its Global Travel Boutique promotion

Qatar Airways yesterday announced to extend its Global Travel Boutique promotion for the second year running, offering passengers from Qatar and beyond a choice of worldwide fares, as well as exclusive companion fares and discounted group bookings.

Qatar Airways Chief Commercial Officer, Ehab Amin, said: “We are delighted to extend this spectacular promo- tion, allowing our passengers even more opportunity to take advantage of amazing discounts on fares in both Economy and Premium. Passengers can take advantage of a variety of exciting new additions to our extensive global network, including Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Chiang Mai, Thai- land; Kyiv, Ukraine; and Almaty, Kazakhstan – among many others.”

To avail this offer, customers can visit any Qatar Airways office, preferred travel agency or qatarairways.com to learn more about Qatar Airways destinations and available offers. Qatar Airways will add flights to many more exciting destin- ations to the network in 2018, including Abuja, Ivory Coast, Kigali, Antananarivo, Dakar, Casablanca, Chittagong, Goa, Jakarta, Kuching, Phnom Penh, Seoul, Yangon, Phnom Penh, Dubai, Riyadh, Kuala Lumpur and many other destinations.

Qatar Airways has a modern fleet of 200 air- craft flying to business and leisure destinations across six continents.

The award-winning airline has received a number of accolades this year, including Airline of the Year by the prestigious 2017 Skytrax World Airline Awards which was held at the Paris Air Show. This is the fourth year that Qatar Airways has been given this global recog- nition, having previously been awarded best carrier on four of the youngest fleets in the world. Now in its tenth year of operations, Qatar Airways has a modern fleet of 200 aircraft flying to business and leisure destinations across six continents.

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MIDDLE EAST / AFRICA

Macron defends Iran deal at UN

UNITED NATIONS: French President Emmanuel Macron stood firm yesterday that landmark agreements on Iran and climate change would not be open to renegotiation. “It would be a whole new approach to international relations,” Macron said on Monday, reaching between Tehran and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany — a “whole new approach” to international relations. Macron today acknowledged concerns that the US, engaged in new negotiations after 2015, may again rejoin the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. “I think we are not so far from a nuclear war,” Macron said. “The only way to stop the war is through more dialogue and cooperation between the parties.” He added that although the agreement was not perfect, it had been a step forward in reducing tensions between Iran and the West. “We have to work on it,” he said. “It is not perfect, but it is better than nothing.”

US will forfeit trust if it exits N-deal: Rowhani

WASHINGTON AFP

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani yesterday said that the United States would lose the trust of the international community if it abandoned a nuclear accord with Tehran. “If the United States were to not adhere to the commitments and trappings upon this agreement, this will mean it will carry with it the subsequent lack of trust of countries,” Rouhani, in New York to attend the UN General Assembly, told NBC. “After such a possible scenario, which country would be willing to sit across a table from the United States of America and talk about international issues?” In his address to the UN yesterday, Trump strongly hinted that his administration was ready to abandon the agreement by calling it an “embarrassment to the United States.” Rouhani said Iran “had always been peacefull.”

Trump’s remarks shameless, ignorant: Iran

UNITED NATIONS: Iran denounced US President Donald Trump’s remarks as “shameless and ignorant” and said his cognition on Iran’s fight against terrorism, the semi-official Fars news agency reported. “Trump’s shameless and ignorant remarks, which he has repeatedly shown his lack of knowledge about Teheran’s fight against terrorism, the semi-official Fars news agency reported. “Trump’s shameless and ignorant remarks,” he said. “If the United States were to not adhere to the commitments and trappings upon this agreement, this will mean it will carry with it the subsequent lack of trust of countries,” Iran’s Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was quoted as saying.

Kenyan police fire tear gas at protesters outside Supreme Court

NAIROBI: Kenyan police officers used tear gas to disperse protesters outside the country’s Supreme Court yesterday. According to the police, the protesters were disrupting the court proceedings by waving placards and shouting slogans. The police said they had arrested two protesters who were allegedly involved in the disturbance.

Kuwait aid to Rohingyaas

A member of the Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) uses a ballpoint pen to point at Myanmar on a world map, as a recipient of the society’s worldwide donations, at their headquarters in Kuwait City, yesterday. KRCS and IHH Humanitarian Relief Foundation are working together to deliver relief aid and assistance to Rohingya refugees of Myanmar.

Global conflict if Iraq or Syria break up: Turkey

ANKARA: Turkey on Monday warned that a conflict in Iraq or Syria could lead to a global conflict. Turkey’s defense minister said yesterday that Turkey was deeply concerned about the situation in both countries. “The military situation in Iraq and Syria is tense,” Turkey’s defense minister said, adding that Turkey was prepared to take action if necessary.

Saudi Arabia arrests two rights activists

TOKYO: Saudi Arabia threatened to arrest two human rights activists earlier this year for calling for demonstrations and what authorities described as threatening public order. In another sentence, a Saudi court sentenced 10 people to prison for demonstrating against government. “There was no immediate comment from the Saudi authorities on the arrest of the two activists,” a Saudi official said. “If the United States were to not adhere to the commitments and trappings upon this agreement, this will mean it will carry with it the subsequent lack of trust of countries,” Iran’s Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was quoted as saying.

Tanzanian newspaper suspended for ‘insulting President’

NAIROBI: A Tanzanian newspaper has been suspended for two years, a government spokesman said, accusing the publication of sedition and endangering national security. The critical Mshahara newspaper was shut after publishing an article that was critical of President John Magufuli and his government. A government spokesman said the paper had received four invitations to submit a story of the past few months. “The paper has been shut because it is critical,” he said.

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People ride on their motorbikes near a damaged military tank that belonged to forces loyal to Syria’s President Bashar Al Assad, in the rebel-held southern town of Bosra Al Sham, Syria, yesterday.
Suu Kyi's hypocrisy

I t took several months for Yangon Suu Kyi to finally break her silence on the persecution of the Rohingya Muslim minority in her country who has been branded "a textbook example of ethnic cleansing" by the United Nations, and that too after intense international pressure which would have given sleepless nights to any ordinary government. So it was with a modicum of optimism that the world awaited her speech, with an expectation that she would finally wake up to the global call for action. But her speech yesterday came as a complete disappointment, which the American opposition denounced as "a mix of untruths and victim-blaming".

Suu Kyi showed with a shameless audacity and disdain that she doesn’t care about the international outcry and that she neither has a strategy nor the intention to stop this ethnic cleansing and bring justice to a community which has been persecuted for years. "I’m aware of the fact that the world’s attention is focused on the situation in Rakhine state. As a responsible member of the community of nations Myanmar does not fear international scrutiny", she said in her first public address since a bloody military crackdown on the Rohingya. At the same time, she had no words to please the international community.

She said her government was ready to start the verification process to bring back any refugees who wish to return to Myanmar after the verification process to bring back any refugees who came as a complete disappointment, which the American opposition denounced as "a mix of untruths and victim-blaming".

Amnesty International denounced as a “mix of untruths and victim-blaming”.

When she finally broke her silence, Suu Kyi made it clear that she has no sympathy for the persecuted Muslim Rohingya minority.

She tried to justify the ethnic cleansing by saying that “there have been allegations and counter-allegations” and made it clear that she has no intention of punishing the guilty by adding “we have to make sure those allegations are based on solid evidence before we take action.” In other words, she was in a state of denial. Suu Kyi’s reputation will sink further after the speech and all that her critics have said has been proven true.

However, Suu Kyi’s speech has brought clarity to the international community to plan its next course of action on the Rohingya issue. The speech also makes it clear that Suu Kyi is powerless before the army and she will do nothing that will antagonize the domestic audience, which are the feelings against the Rohingya are very strong.

It is now time for the world to act against Myanmar to stop the ethnic cleansing. The UK must impost sanctions on the country. British secretary said it was suspending training courses for the Myanmar military due to the ethnic violence in Rakhine state. Other countries too must follow suit.

UAE’s brutality exposed layer by layer

Anthony Harwood

We hope that an independent and impartial investigation (of the kind that will not take place in UAE) will not only expose the truth about what happened to us, but also act as a deterrent to those governments that flagrantly disregard international law and basic human rights. We are bringing this complaint in London because we know that this city will not allow itself to become a safe haven for torturers.

The writer is a former foreign editor at Daily Mail, ex-Head of News and US Editor at Daily Mirror. In 2015 he set up Cha Media, a news and picture agency, with parenting author and feature writer, Farih Carey.
When Hurricane Irma made landfall in the United States last weekend, it first brought fury to the Florida Keys. For most of the past century the Keys have been one of the most physically dangerous places to live. People who still think of the Keys as a pink and white shell-shaped tourist destination are in for a surprise. A few hundred miles offshore, the Keys are threatened at least part of the time by a combination of extreme storms and the rising sea. Irma was the first hurricane to hit the Keys since 1935; the next is due in 2019.

Most people who live in the Keys would be hard-pressed to even remember a time when they were not directly threatened by a major hurricane. The Keys are part of a long chain of barrier islands that stretch from Key West to Miami. The islands are composed of limestone and coral, and are located in the same general area as the Everglades National Park. The land is low-lying and karstic, which means it is highly susceptible to flooding and erosion.

The Keys are a critical source of biological diversity. They are home to a wide variety of plants and animals, including many species that are found nowhere else in the world. The Keys are also home to a large number of people, many of whom are struggling to make ends meet in the face of rising costs and declining incomes.

The Keys are also home to a large number of people who are struggling to make ends meet in the face of rising costs and declining incomes. Many of them are elderly or disabled and have difficulty paying their rent. In recent years, the Keys have seen a sharp increase in the number of people who are losing their homes to foreclosure and eviction. This has led to a significant increase in the number of people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

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India reaﬀirms support to Palestinian cause

New Delhi (IANS) An AICTE panel yesterday reiterated its commitment to the Palestinian cause and solidarity with the Palestinian people.

"India's support for the Palestinian people and the cause of Palestine is historical, going back to a period before our own independence," External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said in her intervention at the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Meeting on Palestine on the margins of the UN General Assembly.

"For independent India, support for the Palestinian cause has been a point of utmost concern," she said.

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Political developments in Tamil Nadu in the wake of the disqualified 18 AADMK MLAs gathered momentum yesterday with the arrival of Governor C. Vidyasagar Rao here and the Madras High Court set to hear the petition of the legislature against the Speaker’s action.

Rao, who met Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in the national capital in the morning, was expected to take stock of the situation and discuss measures, even today to review the economic situation and discuss measures, among others, Railways Minister and Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal, said the official.

Meanwhile, the railways minister, who heads the panel, and the other panel members, including Finance Minister Arvind Subramanian and Secretary in the Finance Ministry Raajiv Kumar and Neeraj Kumar Gupta; Finance Secretary Hasmukh Adhia, Revenue Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey, and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation Secretary Sanjeev Sinha, who held a meeting yesterday to review the economic situation and discuss measures, among others, Railways Minister and Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal, said the official.

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Suu Kyi fends off criticism over Rohingyas

In her 30-minute speech Suu Kyi reached out to critics who have condemned her failure to speak up for the stateless Rohingya.

Although both nations are under Communist rule, they are divided on the question of how to deal for the Muslim minority.

An address to the UN General Assembly in New York — delivered entirely in English and aimed squarely at an international audience — the Nobel Peace Laureate voiced in a recent mission to Myanmar to probe a grave and ongoing crisis, but the government renewed its rejection of the investigation.

“It is important for us to see with our own eyes what the UN calls army-led ‘eth- nic cleansing’ in Rakhine state,” Suu Kyi said.

The head of the UN-backed fact-finding mission, Marzuki Darusman, said the Human Rights Council.

“Rohingya Muslims have been left at the mercy of the army... it never has accounted for any violations...” he told AFP.

Suu Kyi was “burying her head in the sand” over documented army abuses and claims of rape, murder and the systematic clear- ing of villages, he said.

At the General Assembly, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres joined the international outcry: “The authorities in Myanmar must end the military operations and allow unimpeded humanitarian access.”

Guterres said the assembly’s opening: “We must also address the grievances of the Rohingya, whose state’s been left unresolved for far too long.”

Supporters and observers say the 72-year-old Suu Kyi lacks the authority to rein in the military, which rules the country for 30 years and only recently ceded limited powers to her civilian government. “She is trying to claw back some degree of credibility with the international community, without saying too much that will get her in trouble with the military and Buddhist people who don’t like the Rohingya in the first place,” said Phil Robertson of Human Rights Watch.

Communal violence has torn through Rakhine state since Buddhist militiamen staged deadly attacks on police posts on August 25. An army-led operation has left scores dead and sent hundreds of thousands of Rohingya fleeing into Bangladesh.

In her 30-minute speech Suu Kyi reached out to critics who have condemned her failure to speak up for the stateless Rohingya Muslims, saying she wanted to “restore dignity” and “human rights to Rohingya.”

Rohingya Muslim refugees carry an elderly woman along a road near Balukhali refugee camp near the Bangladesh district of Ukhiya, yesterday. RIGHT: A Rohingya refugee runs after receiving supplies at the refugee camp.

One language, two audiences for Suu Kyi’s speech

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In her speech Suu Kyi aimed squarely at an international audience — the Nobel Peace Laureate faced a daunting task in defusing a crisis that is fueling regional tension and has been condemned by the UN and human rights groups.

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Suu Kyi earlier yesterday delivered a national address in Naypyidaw yesterday.

UN probe seeks ‘unfettered’ access to Myanmar

UN human rights investigators yesterday said the UN probe a grave and ongoing crisis, but the government renewed its rejection of the investigation.

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Five men in court over Hong Kong explosives plot

Hong Kong

Tokyo

Abe campaign to focus on education

Philippines

Duterte facing three-finger ‘Hunger Games’ protests

Manila

Apatow walks past a display for the “Pakistan Girl” comic series at a bookstore in Islamabad.
Trump threatens to decimate North Korea

Ballistic, bellicose and bombastic: US President puts into Pyongyang

United Nations Agencies

President Donald Trump, in a farrago of false boasts to the UN General Assembly, threa-
tened the "total destruction" of North Korea if the nation's "Rocket man" leader does not abandon his drive toward nuclear weapons.

Trump, who has ramped up his rhet-
oric throughout the escalating crisis with North Korea, told the murmuring crowd of world leaders yesterday that it is far past time for the nations of the world to confront "Kim Jong Un and said that Kim's "reckless pursuit of nuclear weap-
ons" poses a threat to "the entire world with an unholy mix of human life.

"Rocket man" is on a suicide mission for himself and his regime," said Trump, using a belittling nickname for the North Korean leader. He said of the US: "If it is forced to defend itself or its allies, we will be facing a war unlike anything the world has ever seen.

North Korea shot most of Trump's attention and anger.

His lashing was a vigorous restate-
ment of the warning he delivered in diplomatic prime time at the UN General Assembly. After a flurry of accusations

- the starvation of millions, the abduc-
tion of a Japanese girl - he questioned the legitimacy of the Communist gov-
ernment by referring to it as a "sick and depraved regime that has killed by its troops.

Though he used bellicose rhetoric
to draw a red line at the UN, the speech was textbook Trump, a stark depiction of good-vs-evil and a brash, in-your-face approach to America's foes.

Trump, who has previously warned of "fire and fury" if Pyongyang does not back down, claimed that "we will have no choice but to totally destroy North Korea."

He said the excesses by a military, "Rocket man" may have included the use of chemical arms, "an outrage" to enable and trade with North Korea, seeming to slight China, though he did not mention it by name.

Trump, however, stopped short of calling for regime change, which North Korea regards as the ultimate American intention and treats as a reason for its development of nuclear weapons. That may offer some reassurance to China and Russia, which have urged the US to tone down its rhetoric and restart dia-
logue with North Korea.

Addressing the General Assembly is a milestone moment for any president, but one particularly significant for Trump, a relative newcomer to foreign policy who has at times ruffled the interna-
tional community with his unpredictability. He has pulled the United States out of multilateral agreements, considered withdrawal from the UN military footprint in the world and deployed bombastic language on North Korea that has been criticised by other world leaders. After a flurry of accusations

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A military report later told the BBC

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tional community with his unpredictability. He has pulled the United States out of multilateral agreements, considered withdrawal from the UN military footprint in the world and deployed bombastic language on North Korea that has been criticised by other world leaders.
The man accused of throwing the flare into the car, a Swiss resident, is on the run. The day of the attack saw police raiding across France against violence suffered during a wave of protests last year against labour reforms initiated by the deeply unpopular government of then-President François Hollande.

Officers said their resources were dangerously stretched as they overran stepped-up security measures to counter Islamist attacks while also policing increasingly restive protests.

In the two months before the assault, some 50 members of the security forces were injured during protests, including patrol cars that were set on fire.

French cardinal to face trial for alleged church abuse cover-up

Lyon AFP

BISHOPS AROUND the world were waiting for a French cardinal to be formally accused for failing to report a predator priest, will make it the third strongest Catholic leader to be tried on sex charges in recent years.

The 66-year-old French cardinal is accused of failing to face trial for report a predator priest, will make it the third strongest Catholic leader to be tried on sex charges in recent years.

The attacker struck after they had broken into a patrol car was torched with two officers still inside it. Video of the May 2016 assault, which have been viewed hundreds of thousands of times on YouTube, shows youths dressed in black, most with their faces covered, surrounding the police in the middle of traffic on the French capital are working on it anywhere, are just so disappointed that something like that can happen on the back of such a huge tragedy,” he said.

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Germany arrests 2 IS suspects in Berlin

Berlin, Aug 14

TWO IRAQI men have been arrested in the German capital accused of membership in a terrorist organization and being involved in acts of terrorism, as part of the Islam State (IS) group, federal prosecutors said on Wednesday.

A 31-year-old identified only as Abu Hamad A.A. was arrested on Tuesday in Berlin while a 19-year-old, identified only as Raad Riyadh A.A., in Germany’s capital a week ago.

According to prosecutors, Abu Hamad is a resident of the northeastern Iraqi city of Kirkuk. He had been in contact with Islamist networks in Germany.

Meanwhile, Raad Riyadh, a 24-year-old Iraqi national, is suspected of membership in the Islamic State and of being involved in acts of terrorism.

European Union launches citizens’ initiatives to counter cyberattacks

European Commissioner for Digital Single Market Andrus Ansip (left), European Commissioner for Security Union Julian King (centre) and EU Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Mariya Gabriel, during a joint press conference over the package of EU’s response to cyber-attacks, in Brussels, Belgium, yesterday.

The 17-page EU proposal is designed to improve the protection of all civilians, to allow full access for humanitarian aid to areas affected by armed conflicts, and to ensure that the law of war is respected.

The rules would apply to any party to an armed conflict, including states and their security forces.

The EU is also seeking to ensure that any rules it establishes are legally binding.

The commission has already submitted a proposal to EU member states.

Military experts say the AK-47 has killed more people than all other types of modern weapons taken together.

Kalashnikov, who died aged 94, had repeatedly said that pride in his invention was mixed with the pain of seeing it used by criminals and children.

As well as being embraced by armies, anti-Western revolutionary movements and leftist world leaders, the relatively cheap and sturdy rifle has been used by gangsters, drug traffickers, militants and terrorist organizations.

The coming of a large anti-American militia will cause problems for Russia. Kalashnikov's ideas are to increase production volumes to meet the needs of the world.

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Confidence in UN’s global goals faltering amid slow progress: Survey

WASHINGTON

Cohen denies any ties to Russian poll meddling

WASHINGTON

McCain for end to 100-hour work weeks in Navy after collisions

BRASIL

Police and protesters clash after vigil for slain Georgia Tech student

New York

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WASHINGTON

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49 dead as powerful quake rocks Mexico

Mexico City AFP

At least 49 people were killed when a powerful 7.1 magnitude earthquake rocked central Mexico on Tuesday, bringing down buildings in the capital and swaying panic on the anniversary of a devastating 1985 temblor. The preliminary toll fell to the 80s after Mexican authorities confirmed no more fatalities.

In Mexico City, emergency crews and hundreds of volunteers were digging through the rubble of collapsed buildings looking for survivors and bodies. “I am so worried. I can’t stop crying,” one woman said.

The earthquake, which rattled the downtownlezado region, was magnitude 7.1 and hit at 2:14 p.m. on Tuesday, the US Geological Survey said. It was centered 40 kilometers southeast of the city.

San Juan

Hurricane Maria devastates Dominica

September 20, 2017

People look for possible victims after a quake rattled Mexico City yesterday.

WEDNESDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2017

AMERICAS

WASHINGTON D.C.

Senate passes $700bn defence spending bill

The US Senate overwhelmingly authorized $700 billion in defense spending on Monday, setting off a substantial increase over 2017 funding and high expectations for a bill that trumps presidential politics.

The legislation, one of the cornerstones of congressional compromise over the decades, passed 89 to 8.

WASHINGTON D.C.

New hurdles as Republicans rush to Obama health law

Not all the Senate’s work will be done in 2017. Republicans have been calling for an end to the Affordable Care Act since 2010, and the legislation’s fate is certain to be decided in 2018.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Venezuela politics

Supporters of Venezuela’s President Nicolas Maduro wave national flags during a rally against imperialism in Caracas yesterday.

WASHINGTON D.C.

Venezuela politics

The $700bn is $91bn more than President Donald Trump requested. The bill provides for spending caps on a bipartisan bill.

WASHINGTON D.C.

As an example of Trump’s stated goal of reimbursing Russia for its actions, one of the cornerstones of congression compromised bipartisan legislation.

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News media trustworthy than social media

Paizena Saleem  The Peninsula

The trust of readers and viewers remains high on news media in the Middle East and less on social media according to the fifth annual survey of media use and public opinion by Northwestern University in Qatar (NU-Q).

Among the respondents of the study ‘Media Use in the Middle East’ 2017, seven nations were covered. The study found that news media are a trusted source of news. The results were released yesterday at the NU-Q campus in the Education City. It examines patterns of news consumption, perceptions of news bias, and attitudes toward free speech in seven countries of the Arab world, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Lebanon, Jordan, Tunisia, and Egypt.

Some questions were replicated in the United States for context and comparison. Media Use in the Middle East survey was first conducted in 2012/2013 and is the only one of its kind in the region and one of the few such efforts in the world.

Eveestine E Dennis, Dean and CEO of NU-Q, said: ‘The big thing about it is that’s a massive study, severaL subjects were covered in seven countries involving people and languages. At a challenging time in the region and around the world, we offer these findings as impartial data for use in much-needed, considered discussion and understanding of the current media environment.’

Findings of Media Use in the Middle East 2017 reflect nationally representative samples of over ten thousand respondents in each country. 7,096 in total. Interviews were conducted face-to-face in most countries, and by phone in Qatar.

Not only most Qataris are online, they also spend a lot of time on Internet. Qataris estimate they spend an average of 4 hours per week on Internet compared with just 27 hours among other Middle East nationals.

Also the popularity of Snapchat remains high (64%). The survey also found that Qataris are online as likely as Americans (32 percent) to use Instagram (66 percent) of Facebook users get news on the platform. Two-thirds trust media from their own country (68 percent), but only half trust news from other Arab countries (52 percent). Americans are more likely than Arab nationals to believe that news is biased against the Arab world. Among the survey respondents, 35 percent Arab nationals think international news is biased against the Arab world; 43 percent of Americans think the same.

Some 45 percent of the Arab respondents think people should not be able to publicly criticize the government’s policies. In comparing this year’s findings to the previous four years, the survey has shown a rise in internet access in every country in the region.

While social media platforms once dominated by Facebook with up to 30 percent penetration has now reduced to 24 percent, Twitter fell from 47 percent to 24 percent. WhatsApp has 80 percent penetration in 2017 and Instagram has grown from 6 percent to 9 percent penetration among internet users. According to the survey among social media users, 28 percent of the WhatsApp users got news on the platform. 40 percent from the Facebook. 25 percent from Youtube. 13 percent from Instagram. Eight percent from snapchat and 14 percent from Twitter.

People attend the session announcing the survey results.


Joyalukkas gets Superbrand honour for 8th year in a row

An official of Joyalukkas with the prestigious ‘Superbrand’ award.

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manning the world for over thirty years, Joyalukkas is not just the world’s favourite jeweller; it is also among the global jewellery retail industry’s most respected and most awarded brands.

‘We thank the Superbrands Council for giving us this honour once again,’ said Joy Alukkas, Chairman & MD, Joyalukkas Group. ‘At Joyalukkas we celebrate every recognition like it’s our first, and always remember that we would not have made it this far without the support of our loyal patrons around the world. Receiving Superbrand status once again, now our fifth consecutive win in a row, is a privilege we attribute to the customers who keep inspiring us to work harder – offer more choices, and maintain the highest level of service to bring them the joy of jewellery shopping with every visit. It is with great humility that we thank the Superbrands Council and our patrons for giving us this honour once again.’

Superbrands is one of the world’s most respected independent brand excellence authorities, strengthening a brand’s image and reassuring consumers and suppliers that they are dealing with the best in a specific category in the jewellery industry. Joyalukkas has the distinction of being the only brand to have received this honour eight times in a row.

With a growing presence across the UK, USA, Singapore, UAE, Malaysia, Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and India, the 50-world-class jewellery showrooms, Joyalukkas has become a household name for variety, quality and value.

With unique offerings like the world’s first and only Diamond Cave, a dedicated wedding planning service and the most comprehensive loyalty programme, Joyalukkas is not only recognised as one of the world’s best brands in the industry but also as the ‘world’s favourite jeweller’.