

Mass grief as India political star Jayalalithaa buried



Trump on Boeing Air Force One contract: 'Cancel order!'



Alghanim Industries, Slim Chickens sign partnership



Lewandowski seals Bayern win over Atletico



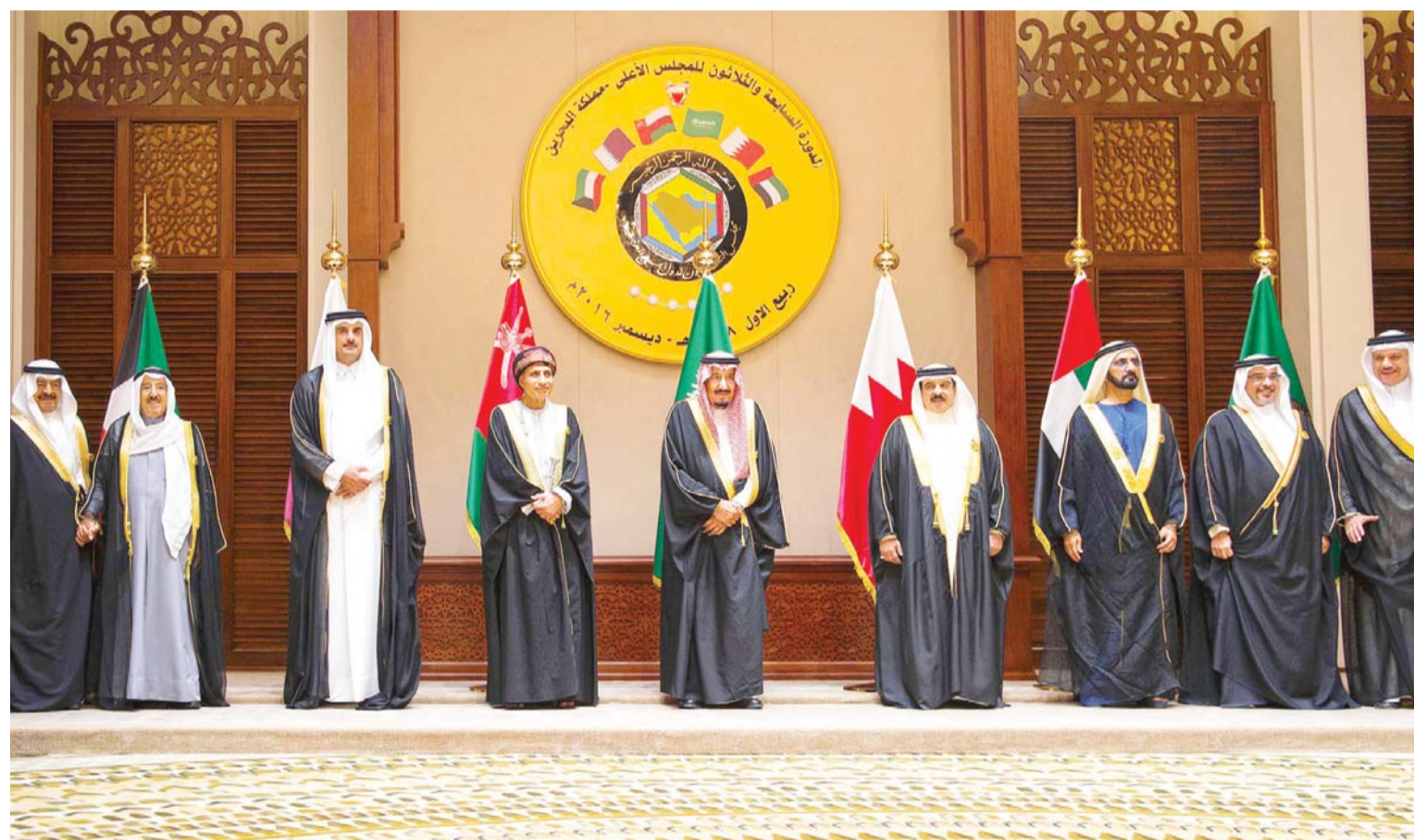
AMIR CALLS FOR CONCERTED RESPONSE TO INT'L CHANGES

BRITISH PM JOINS GULF SUMMIT FOR POST-BREXIT TALKS



Min 11°
Max 22°
High Tide 03:27 & 17:52
Low Tide 10:57 & 23:23

150 FILS
NO: 17073
40 PAGES



MANAMA: Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) leaders pose for a group picture during a GCC summit in the Bahraini capital yesterday. (Right) HH the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah meets British Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday. —AFP/KUNA

News

in brief

KFA chief Hasawi 'remains in post'

KUWAIT: Kuwait Football Association Chairman Fawaz Al-Hasawi remains at the helm of KFA, secretary general of an interim committee in charge of KFA Dr Mohammad Khalil said yesterday. "Al-Hasawi has not tendered his resignation," Khalil said, noting that KFA Deputy Chairman Assad Taki has stepped down for health reasons. Khalil dispelled allegations of "mass resignations" within KFA, adding that four KFA committee members have resigned and plans are underway to fill the vacancies. Notably, Hasawi, the owner of English Championship side Nottingham Forest, had announced his resignation on Twitter late Sunday without giving a reason.

Citizen arrested for publishing fake news

KUWAIT: Security forces arrested Khalifa Ali Al-Hashash, a Kuwaiti citizen, on charges of publishing "false news", the interior ministry said yesterday. Hashash, whose arrest was on a warrant issued by the public prosecutor, is accused of spreading false news on domestic affairs on social media, the ministry's public relations and security media department said in a statement. The department did not specify the nature of the false news Hashash published.

KOC: Restart of joint oilfields will take time

KUWAIT: The resumption of oil production from oilfields jointly operated by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait will take time and may face obstacles, the chief executive of the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) said yesterday. "The joint Khafji and Wafra fields... will need some rehabilitation before they resume production," Jamal Jaafar told reporters in Kuwait. He said bringing back the oilfields "will face some technical and administrative difficulties but Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are able to overcome them." The fields are in the Neutral Zone that lies between both countries.

Output cut monitoring meeting in Feb or March

DUBAI: Kuwait will request that an OPEC committee responsible for monitoring compliance with a global oil output reduction agreement meet in February or March next year, acting oil minister Anas Al-Saleh said yesterday. "In my capacity... as head of the committee... I will call for a meeting of the first Monitoring Committee to take place in February or March 2017," Saleh said in a statement. "We will soon inform (our) customers that we will incorporate and apply a cut to their monthly contractual commitments and liftings in accordance with OPEC's recent agreement," Saleh said.

MANAMA: HH the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said yesterday the Gulf Cooperation Council summit comes amid rapid international changes and critical conditions that necessitate continuing consultations and joint coordination to consider and preclude relevant reflections on GCC countries. Addressing the 37th GCC summit in Manama, the Amir said that the region is currently faced with grave challenges, where on the economic front, dwindling oil prices are a major concern.

HH the Amir also added that there needs to be a shift in national ideologies, together with fresh fields of cooperation in order to cope with these challenges. He spoke of notable achievements brought about by joint GCC work, which includes economic gains that represent the aspirations of GCC citizens. He also highlighted the need for increased strategies to bolster GCC cooperation in an effort to amass further accomplishments that will reinforce solidarity among the Gulf nations.

Moreover, on the scourge of terrorism, Sheikh Sabah said that it poses a threat to regional security and stability, which calls for concerted efforts to eliminate this mounting threat. On Yemen, HH the Amir recounted that Kuwait had hosted peace talks that aimed to restore peace in the war-torn nation, lamenting that the warring parties failed to reconcile, which induced further bloodshed.

On Syria, the Amir said that the GCC commiserates with the people of Syria, underscoring firm support of a political solution to a conflict that has remained unabated. Speaking on developments in Iraq, the Amir expressed satisfaction over the progress made in the fight against the so-called Islamic State (IS), as he wished the country a prosperous and bright future. On the Palestinian conflict, HH Sheikh Sabah regretted that efforts to establish peace remain at an impasse, noting that the international community is preoccupied with other issues.

Meanwhile, speaking on ties with Iran, HH the Amir said there needs to be constructive dialogue between the GCC and the Islamic Republic, noting that the talks should center on abidance by international law, including sovereign rights. The Amir also urged Tehran to cease meddling in the internal affairs of other nations, noting that the agenda of this GCC summit includes numerous pivotal issues.

Meanwhile, British Prime Minister Theresa May was to meet Gulf leaders for talks on trade ties after Britain leaves the European Union. King Salman of Gulf heavyweight Saudi Arabia opened the summit with a call for "doubling of efforts" to face regional challenges. May was expected to meet the leaders later yesterday before addressing the summit today, when she will become the first British premier and the first woman to attend the annual gathering of the six oil-rich GCC states.

Continued on Page 15



KUWAIT: Opposition MPs gather at the diwaniya of MP Mohammad Al-Mutair yesterday. — Photo by Yasser Al-Zayyat

OPPOSITION AGAIN FAILS TO AGREE ON SPEAKER

MPs WANT TO HOLD SPORTS DEBATE

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: Opposition MPs met again yesterday to discuss selecting one candidate to fight the speaker's election on their behalf, but remained undecided on one of the two lawmakers who have announced their intention to contest the post. Twenty-two lawmakers attended the meeting and five others could not attend because they were tied up with other appointments, making the opposition bloc looking stable at 27, a formidable number that will change many factors in the Assembly.

The meeting did not reach a final decision on who should run from the bloc for the speakership among the two candidates who already expressed the desire to contest - MPs Abdullah Al-Roumi and Shuaib Al-Muwaizri. The issue has

remained the most crucial topic for opposition lawmakers, which could undermine the unity of the grouping.

The meeting also discussed other issues including the issue of bedoons (stateless Arabs). MP Mohammad Hayef said they discussed a proposal to set up a committee for the bedoons in the Assembly, as the previous Assembly scrapped the committee and assigned the interior and defense panel to discuss their affairs. The lawmakers also discussed reaching a consensus on a number of priority issues that should be debated in the Assembly when it opens on Sunday. These include the issues of citizenship, amending the election law and scrapping some controversial laws. Opposition MPs plan to meet again before the opening session of the Assembly.

Continued on Page 15

PALESTINIAN WINS MULTAQQA ARABIC SHORT STORY PRIZE

KUWAIT: Palestinian author Mazen Maarouf won the Al-Multaqa Arabic Short Story Prize yesterday for the year 2015-16 for his collection of short stories, "Jokes for the Gunmen". The judging panel announced Maarouf as the winner in a ceremony held under the patronage of Minister of Amiri Diwan Sheikh Nasser Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, among 189 Arab short story writers. Maarouf will get \$20,000 in cash, in addition to translating of his winning short stories into English and French.

Dr Taleb Al-Rifaae, founder of Al-Multaqa, which was launched last year

by the American University of Kuwait (AUK) in partnership with the Cultural Circle, said Al-Multaqa was a dream that came true, aimed at developing the art of short stories. The short story is very concentrated and equals the writing of poems, he explained. This annual prize, he said, aimed at encouraging people to write short stories and maintain it. Maarouf said the writing of short stories "is an essential and urgent literary need". "Jokes for the Gunmen" is a surrealist collection of 14 short stories about the reality of a child living in a war zone. — KUNA



KUWAIT: The Al-Multaqa Arabic Short Story Prize for the year 2015-16 is awarded to Palestinian author Mazen Maarouf. — KUNA