



3 Kuwait renews commitment in search of missing Kuwaitis



6 6 killed as violence erupts in Indonesia after election



28 Raptors thump Bucks, level Eastern Conference finals



Ramadan KAREEM

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Amir: Region faces critical, dangerous circumstances

Kuwait's diplomacy playing a realistic and balanced role



KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah is pictured with His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and other top officials at Bayan Palace yesterday.

KUWAIT: His Highness the Amir Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah said "the Foreign Ministry has a further responsibility to carry amidst critical and very dangerous" circumstances in the region. His Highness the Amir (accompanied by His Highness the Crown Prince Sheikh Nawaf Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah) visited the Foreign Ministry building on Tuesday.

He said escalation has been accelerating in the region and "we hope calm is restored and wisdom prevails." "These circumstances and challenges place upon you (diplomats) a doubling responsibility, and you should continue your diplomatic endeavors to achieve the higher interest of your country," he added.

His Highness the Amir, received by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Sabah and Deputy Foreign Minister Khaled Al-Jarallah, commended ministry's employees for building bridges of peace and cooperation with people around the world away from interfering in domestic affairs of others and promoting good neighborliness.

"We, from a humanitarian approach, extended a helping hand to every needy in different parts of the world ... and Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development and Kuwait charitable institutions are a clear example ...," he said. It has been almost a year and half Kuwait took the position as a non-permanent

member in the UN Security Council, "through which Kuwait diplomacy succeeded in playing a realistic and balanced role towards a host of issues."

This role, he added, "was admired by many world countries despite sensitivity and importance of issues discussed at the Security Council. Kuwait diplomacy succeeded in representing the Arab and Islamic group, and defending causes of our Arab and Islamic causes," said His Highness the Amir.

His Highness the Amir was also accompanied by deputy head of Kuwait National Guard Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah and His Highness the Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Hamad Al-Sabah. The meeting was attended by National Assembly Speaker Marzouq Al-Ghanem.

Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, on his part said Kuwait has been adopting a balanced diplomatic role that honors Kuwait's higher interest as well as meeting aspirations of the Arab and Islamic people. Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled, commending His Highness the Amir for setting foundations of Kuwait's diplomacy, said "we are living in an uncertain region and a dark political scene. We see deterioration of situation of our brothers and a prolonged conflict that tarnished our skies, and on the other hand we experience an escalation ... which requires the strengthening of efforts to protect our region from tension and confrontation." — KUNA

India launches world's fastest cruise missile

NEW DELHI: India said the world's fastest cruise missile passed another key test yesterday when it successfully hit a land target after being fired from a fighter jet. India is developing the supersonic BrahMos missile - which has a top speed of 3,450 kilometers per hour - with Russia, and according to media reports wants to soon start selling it abroad. The missile is one-and-a-half times faster than the old Concorde supersonic jet.

The Indian defense ministry said a specially converted Su-30 MKI fighter jet successfully fired the 2.5-tonne missile, which has a range of about 300 kilometers. "The launch from the aircraft

was smooth and the missile followed the desired trajectory before directly hitting the land target," a ministry statement said. It did not say where the test was staged or give other details apart from saying "very complex" mechanical, electrical and software modifications were made to the Russian-origin fighter jet. The first test on a sea target was staged in November 2017.

India said then it was the first country "to have successfully fired an air launched 2.8 Mach surface attack missile of this category on a sea target". "The BrahMos missile provides Indian Air Force a much desired capability to strike from large stand-off ranges on any target at sea or on land with pinpoint accuracy by day or night and in all weather conditions," the ministry said. India has already ordered sea-launched versions of the missile for its navy, and specialist defense media reports have said the

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IN THE AIR: Photo shows a Sukhoi Su-30MKI fighter aircraft carrying a BrahMos air to surface cruise missile. — AFP

Advisor defends expats against racist remarks

By B Izzak

KUWAIT: A senior Kuwaiti legal advisor yesterday defended expatriates against what he called a "rising trend of racism and arrogance among the Kuwaiti society against expatriates". Hesham Al-Saleh, a professor of law at Kuwait University, said on his Twitter account that expatriates in the neighboring United Arab Emirates make up over 85 percent of the population and the state is progressing.

"Do not blame expatriates and hold them responsible for the failure of the government" said Saleh, a former parliamentary candidate, adding that one of the reasons of such a trend is that some MPs are benefiting from it with the blessing of leading officials.

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Ramadan Kareem

Why some supplications are not answered by God

By Hassan T Bwambale

First of all, it should be well-understood that supplication to Allah (to Whom belongs all might and majesty) is an act of worship. Whether you are given what you invoked Him for or not, you will be rewarded. An-Nu'man Bin Basheer (Prophet Muhammad's companion) narrated that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said what can be translated as, "Supplication is worship."

Then he (the Prophet) quoted a verse from the Noble Quran: "And your Lord said, 'Call upon Me, I will answer you. Indeed, those who disdain My worship will enter Hell, humiliated.'" (Ghafir 40:60) (This Hadeeth was rated by Al-Albani as authentic in Saheeh At-Tirmidhi # 3, 247) It is a matter of grave concern if someone invokes God earnestly and doesn't get his supplication answered.

Abu Hurairah (RA) said, "Among the supplications of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is: 'O Allah, I seek refuge with You from knowledge that is not beneficial, a supplication that is not heard, from a heart that is not humble, and from a soul that is not satisfied.'" (Muslim # 2, 722) The following are some of the reasons some people's supplications are not answered by God Almighty:

(A) Earning money illicitly by which one feeds himself and his family: Abu Huraira (RA) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said what can be translated as: "O people, Allah is Good and doesn't accept except what is good. Moreover, Allah

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US says robust military action deters Tehran

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump's administration on Tuesday appeared set on easing weeks of escalating tensions with Iran, assuring worried lawmakers it does not seek war and crediting robust US military moves with deterring the clerical regime. After a month of fiery warnings to Iran, top Trump officials delivered a classified briefing to the full US Congress where Democrats have accused the administration of hyping intelligence and pushing the United States dangerously close to war.

"This is about deterrence, not about war. We are not about going to war,"

Patrick Shanahan, the acting defense secretary, told reporters after exiting the closed-door briefing he gave with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. Shanahan cast the US deployment of an aircraft carrier strike group and nuclear-capable B-52 bombers as reactive actions - and said they sent a strong signal.

"We have deterred attacks based on reposturing of assets - deterred attacks against American forces," Shanahan said. "Our biggest focus at this point is to prevent Iranian miscalculation. We do not want the situation to escalate," he said. Pompeo and Shanahan are believed to have shared intelligence that blamed Tehran - enemy number one for Trump - for security incidents involving US-allied Arabs.

Pompeo, in an interview earlier Tuesday, said it was "quite possible" Iran was behind sabotage of oil tankers off the

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Maid's body flown to the Philippines

By Ben Garcia

KUWAIT: The Philippine Embassy's Charge d'Affaires Mohd Noordin Pendorina Lomondot confirmed that the remains of Filipina domestic helper Constancia Lago Dayag will be flown back to Manila today morning. Dayag was brought to Sabah Hospital in the afternoon of May 14 from Qairawan and pronounced dead on arrival.

Initial reports published by several papers in the Philippines said Dayag's body bore various contusions and hematoma and signs of sexual assault. But according

to the results of preliminary investigations published in local newspapers, Dayag's death was of natural causes and there are no criminal suspicions.

"Through our strong representation, our request to shift the body out of Kuwait as soon as possible was granted," Lomondot said in a press statement yesterday. He was instructed by the Department of Foreign Affairs' Undersecretary for Migrant Affairs Sarah Lou Arriola to accompany Dayag's remains. "Her body will be flown back tomorrow by the 2 am KU417 flight. Arrival in the Philippines will be at 4 pm," he said.

Lomondot affirmed the forensic investigation is almost done and that gathering DNA and other necessary evidence is completed, so the body was permitted to be sent to Manila. "As per diplomatic procedure, the report will go through the proper channel.

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WASHINGTON: Acting US Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan (left) speaks to members of the media as Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (right) listens after a closed briefing for Senate members on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. — AFP



Constancia Lago Dayag