Emir inaugurates three new hospitals

Qatar Rehabilitation Institute, the Ambulatory Care Center and Women's Wellness and Research Center opened

The Peninsula

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani inaugurated three new hospitals in Hamad Medical City yesterday, which include the Women’s Wellness and Research Centre (WWRC), Qatar Rehabilitation Institute (QRI) and Ambulatory Care Center (ACC).

During the inauguration, the Emir listened to a briefing on the implemented and future projects in the Medical City and the developments of healthcare and health services in the country. The Emir was accompanied by Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani and a number of senior officials in the health sector.

The hospitals will have 500 beds as well as 3,000 highly trained clinical and support staff, forming part of the region’s biggest healthcare facilities expansion project. Minister of Public Health H E Dr Hanan Mohamed Al Kuwari said the new Medical City complex will provide patients with access to an unprecedented level of care by increasing bed capacity, improving services, and granting faster access to specialized treatment.

‘Dignity Image’ portrait of Emir unveiled

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani unveiled the curtain of the ‘Dignity Image’ portrait of Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani at Doha, yesterday. The ‘Dignity Image’ was unveiled in the presence of the large number of participants who were keen to take part in painting the image. The portrait entered Guinness World Records with participation of 13,824 persons in colouring it. The portrait, which was launched by Qatar Police College, will be presented to the Emir as a gift to the people. The length of the largest portrait is 12 metres and its width is 7 metres. It expresses the love and loyalty of the people to H H the Emir. → See also page 6

National Day sends many messages to siege countries: FM

The Peninsula

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser Al Thani has said the national day ‘is an opportunity to rediscover the potential of the Qatari community which is full of faith, determination, will, ideas and ambition.

“The day will be a new start towards hard work and productions to ensure needs, build wider economic and trade relations and to continue the implementation of the developmental plans and Qatar’s future projects,” he said in a statement on the occasion of Qatar National Day.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister said celebrating National Day is a unique event, which reflects the keenness of the people of Qatar to commemorate the Founders Sheikh Jasim bin Mohammed bin Thani, who made Qatar a unified, strong and independent entity.

“This glorious occasion, sense of pride is embodied in the generosity of the forefathers, and it paints bright images of identity, unity, cohesion and loyalty to the nation and wise leadership.”

Al Rayyan Interchange Flyover opens

The Peninsula

The Public Works Authority - Ashghal, opened yesterday Al Rayyan Interchange Flyover, as part of Al Rayyan Road Upgrade project - Phase II.

Senior officials were present in the inauguration of the new flyover, including Ashghal’s Assistant President Eng. Abdullah Hamad Al Attiyah, Expressway Department Manager Eng. Yousef Al Emadi, Traffic Engineering and Safety Brigadier Mohammed Manafiya, along with a number of Ashghal’s project engineers.

The new bridge is 1km long with two lanes in one direction, connecting traffic from Al Amir Street and Doha Expressway with New Al Rayyan Road. The key overpass provides an alternative direct route from areas of Al Sadd and Al Waab to New Al Rayyan Road towards areas of Al Rayyan, Bani Hazer and Duhail, sparing Al Rayyan Roundabout and the diversions in Old Al Rayyan.

On this occasion, Expressway Department Manager Eng. Yousef Al Emadi said that Al Rayyan Interchange Flyover was part of the construction of Al Rayyan Road Upgrade project - Phase II, it was built to cross traffic over 22 February Road in alleviate traffic pressure on the Al Rayyan Interchange roundabout.

Emir receives greetings on National Day

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani issued an Emir gesture pardoning a number of prisoners, on the occasion of Qatar National Day.

Emir and Abbas discuss Jerusalem

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and President of Palestine Mahmoud Abbas discussed the latest developments of the Palestinian issue, particularly those related to the city of Jerusalem. The Emir stressed Qatar’s leadership and people’s support for the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian people in all necessary measures to protect Islamic and Christian holy sites.

Emir meets Iraq’s Interior Minister

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani met Interior Minister of the Republic of Iraq, Qasim Al Araji, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

Emir greets Bhutan King

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani sent a cable of congratulations to H. M King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck of the Kingdom of Bhutan on the occasion of his country’s national day. The Emir expressed his appreciation to H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Hamad Al Thani also sent a similar cable of congratulations to the King of Bhutan.

Qatar condemns Quetta explosion

The State of Qatar strongly condemned the bombing targeting worshipers inside a church in the city of Quetta in southwestern Pakistan, which resulted in a number of deaths and injuries.
Emir inaugurates three new hospitals

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani visiting different facilities at the new hospitals. Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani is also seen.

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To enjoy your Qatar National Day celebrations, please call 4045 5555 /mondriandoha.com

Mondrian Doha wishes the State of Qatar and its people, Happy National Day.

Emir inaugurates three new hospitals

Continued from page 1

“The new Medical City hospitals represent the biggest concentration of healthcare facilities in the history of our nation and are a central part of our commitment to providing patients with the safest, most effective, and most compassionate care. These facilities have been planned in accordance with the highest medical standards and the latest international technologies. They will introduce new services and significantly increase the capacity of HMC’s system to meet the country’s growing demand for specialized care.”

While the inauguration of the Medical City complex, also marks official opening of the three state-of-the-art facilities - QRI, ACC and WWRC, which have been providing services throughout this year, with more than 90,000 outpatient visits recorded to date.

As the region’s largest tertiary rehabilitation hospital, QRI provides world-class integrated rehabilitation services and the most technologically advanced patient-centered care. The care provided is based on the most current rehabilitation research and practised in an environment that encourages both mental and physical healing. QRI offers five main rehabilitation programs—Stroke, Traumatic Brain Injury, Spinal Cord Injury, Pain Management and Paediatric Rehabilitation.

Spiral Cord Injury: Pain Management and Paediatric Rehabilitation. These programs are made up of clinical and surgical services which are selected and adapted according to each patient’s needs by a multi-disciplinary team of clinicians and therapists. The ACC is providing patients with access to the latest treatment using advanced clinical and surgical practices offered within the same day and in a single dedicated location. Within 23 hours of receiving surgery or a medical procedure, patients are able to leave the hospital and return to recover in the comfort of their own home. The facility also houses a number of outpatient clinics. As the region’s largest tertiary hospital dedicated to providing women in Qatar with specialized care through all stages of their lives, once fully operational the WWRC will provide a range of surgical and clinical services from preconception to childbirth, post-natal care and beyond.

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani visiting different facilities at the new hospitals. Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani is also seen.

Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani visiting different facilities at the new hospitals. Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani is also seen.
On the occasion of
Qatar National Day, 18th of December
and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878
when Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammed Bin Thani,
founder of the State of Qatar, set up the
pillars of the Modern State of Qatar.

We extend our heartiest
congratulations and greetings to

His Highness
Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani
Emir of the State of Qatar

His Highness
Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani
Father Emir

His Highness
Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani
Deputy Emir

and to all the honorable people of Qatar
We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion and wish
that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity
under the wise leadership of His Highness The Emir
The Ambassador announced the decision to issue tourist visa for Pakistan upon arrival at Doha Airport.

In the humanitarian field, he said that Qatar, through the Kuwaiti initiative, is carrying out various projects throughout Pakistan, serving a large segment of the Pakistani people, especially in construction of schools and health centers and the provision of water to a number of villages.

Ambassador Saqib bin Moharar Al Mansouri expressed gratitude for Pakistan's position in the Gulf crisis and its keenness to resolve the dispute through dialogue and its efforts from the outset to contain the crisis and its support for the Kuwaiti initiative.

The Ambassador referred to Qatari initiatives in enhancing cooperation, whether by transporting passengers or goods between the two countries, which has a prominent role in filling the energy gap in Pakistan, especially in the field of electricity, as well as studying joint projects in the field of energy, which were discussed during the meetings of the Joint Ministerial Committee.

Qatar seeks to intensify cooperation in the fields of education and training in the framework of cooperation, whether by the role of Qatar Airways in enhancing cooperation in the humanitarian field.

Qatar is seeking to intensify cooperation in the fields of education and training through the programme of such a child in cooperation with Punjab province.

The Ambassador attended the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee, which include a number of international universities, he expressed the hope to find students from Pakistan to study in Qatar.

Kia launches 'Award-Winning Cars, Unbeatable Prices' promotion

The Peninsula

A t Al Fattal Motors & Trading Co., the exclusive dealer of Kia in Qatar, has rolled out its latest offer to give its customers the chance of saving thousands of rials on a brand new Kia.

Car buyers looking to snag a Kia motor are in for a treat as Kia Qatar is introducing a limited time only offer called "Award-winning cars, Unbeatable prices" promotion from December until the end of January.

As part of the promotion Kia is offering these lucrative deals and discounts on the following 2016 and 2017 models:

- Sportage
- Cadenza

A special offer of 10% down payment, free registration and free insurance.

The Peninsula

Rabia Thani's crescent to appear today

According to astronomical calculations by Qatar Meteorological Centre (QMC), the New Crescent of Hijri month “Rabia Thani 1439 H” will appear today December 18 at 9:30 am Doha local time (6:30 Universal Time).

The new crescent will be before sunset over Qatar sky and all Arab countries sky and all African countries sky on Sunday Rabia Anew 29 (Dec 17), astronomer expert at Dr. Becker Marzouk said.

The time set of the moon over Doha sky on Sunday will be at 4:20pm, while the sunset time will be at 4:47pm Doha local time, the moon will be set before sun by 26 minutes, while the time set of the moon will be before sunset over the sky of two holy mosques (Alhakik & Alminah) and over all Gulf countries by 1:24 - 27 minutes.

The new crescent will be impossible to view with astronomical telescopes or naked eye over Qatar sky and all Arab countries sky on this night (Sunday Dec. 17); however it will be visible after sunset time over Doha sky and all Gulf countries sky.

Dr. Marzouk added. Consequently and according to astronomical calculations, the Hijri month “Rabia Anew 1439 H” and on Monday while the first day of “Rabia Thani 1439 H” will be on Tuesday December 19.

Emir meets Interior Minister

Ambassador of Qatar in Pakistan Muharar Al Mansur has reminded the country hosts more than 120,000 Pakistani workers and tenders projects to bring more skilled and trained Pakistani workers to work in Qatar. He said that the selection of suitable workers will be in private and public sectors in the country has already started.

In a statement, he added that the occasion of the country’s National Day, the Ambassador announced the decision to issue tourist visa for Pakistanis upon arrival at Doha Airport.

The Ambassador said that historical ties spanning decades and the strong ties between the two brotherly peoples are getting strengthened day by day. He expressed Qatar’s keenness to develop relations between the two brotherly countries on sound basis.

“Qatar seeks to enhance cooperation and investment through Qatar Investment Authority and small and medium-sized companies in the field of agriculture and other spheres through the framework of cooperation of these countries within the economic and humanitarian fields.”

The Ambassador also thanked the UAE and the Arab countries for the energy agreements signed between the two countries.

Emir and Palestinian President discuss Jerusalem issue

The Emir stressed Qatar’s leadership and people’s support for the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian people in all necessary measures to protect Islamic and Christian holy sites. He also pledged to continue sending Qatari delegations and for his part, the President of Palestine expressed his thanks to the Emir for the State of Qatar’s firm and continuous backing of the Palestinian people and its support for the just cause.

Emir exchanges National Day greetings with Advisory Council Speaker

The Emir has sent a reply cable of thanks to the Advisory Council Speaker in which the Emir exchanged good felicitations with the Council Speaker and the members on the happy occasion. The Emir expressed appreciation to the precious feelings of the Advisory Council Speaker and the members wishing them the best of health and more welfare, progress and prosperity to the people of the State of Qatar.

Qatar hosts over 120,000 Pakistani workers: Envoy

The Ambassador announced the decision to issue tourist visa for Pakistan upon arrival at Doha Airport.

In the humanitarian field, he said that Qatar, through the Kuwaiti charitable organisation, is carrying out various projects throughout Pakistan, serving a large segment of the Pakistani people, especially in construction of schools and health centres and the provision of water to a number of villages.

The Ambassador said that Qatar is seeking to intensify cooperation in the fields of education through the programme of such a child in cooperation with Punjab province.

Pointing out in this regard to the educational relationship witnessed by Qatar through the Education City, which include a number of international universities, he expressed the hope to find students from Pakistan to study in Qatar.

Ambassador Saqib bin Moharar Al Mansouri expressed gratitude for Pakistan’s position in the Gulf crisis and its keenness to resolve the dispute through dialogue and its efforts from the outset to contain the crisis and its support for the Kuwaiti initiative.

He expressed his strong belief that relations will witness further progress and development for the benefit of the two brotherly peoples, guided by the recommendations of HH the Emir of Qatar and the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The Ambassador attended the meeting of the Joint Ministerial Committee, which include a number of international universities, he expressed the hope to find students from Pakistan to study in Qatar.

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Emir’s Personal Representative takes part in Arda

ON A

H H Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Personal Representative of the Emir participated yesterday in the Arda (traditional sword dance) which was held at the Emiri Diwan yard to commemorate the National Day of the State.

Participating in the Arda also were H H Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani and H H Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa Al Thani.

The Advisory Council Speaker H E Ahmed bin Abdullah bin Zaid Al Muhmoud and a number of Their Excellencies Sheikhs, Ministers and citizens also took part in the Arda.

H H Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Personal Representative of the Emir participated yesterday in the Arda (traditional sword dance) which was held at Darb Al Saai to commemorate the National Day of the State.

Participating in the Arda also were H H Sheikh Jassim bin Khalifa bin Hamad and a number of Their Excellencies Sheikhs, Ministers and citizens.

15,000 people visit Made in Qatar Exhibition

ON A

The fifth edition of the Made in Qatar exhibition, which witnessed the participation of about 320 Qatari industrial companies and 140 productive families concluded yesterday.

Director General of Qatar Chamber and Chairman of the Organising Technical Committee of the expo Saleh bin Hamad Al Sharqi said that the exhibition was a remarkable success both in terms of the wide participation of the Qatari industrial companies, or the large attendance at the industrial forum accompanying the exhibition, which hosted discussions on various industrial issues and ways to promote the national industry, in addition to the attendance of El 000 visitors.

Chairman of Qatar Chamber Sheikh Khalifa bin Jassim Al Thani said that the exhibition allowed the Qatari companies to showcase their industries and products to local and international visitors. He noted that the exhibition also provided opportunities to discuss with business delegations and businessmen who visited it to explore the possibility of forging partnerships and alliances that contribute to the promotion of Qatar industry and bringing in more industries needed by the Qatari market, especially those depending on modern technology.

The Chairman stressed that the wide participation in the exhibition reflected the desire of the public and private sectors to develop the industrial sector and achieve the desired industrial growth. He noted that the Qatari industrial sector witnessed a remarkable development following the unjust siege imposed on the state. His Excellency explained that the existing factories expand their production lines in addition to the establishment of new factories, as the number of industrial licenses issued by the Ministry of Energy and Industry for investors since the beginning of the siege to date is 200 licenses.

Al Sharqi pointed out that the exhibition witnessed the signing of cooperation and partnership agreements between several national companies participating in the exhibition and others wishing to enter the Qatari market and benefit from the national industry available.

H H Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Personal Representative of the Emir, taking part in Arda.
Guinness World Record certificate

OF celebrates QND at Darb Al Saai

Visitors at the Qatar Foundation (QF) tent at Darb Al Saai have the opportunity to learn about many initiatives which has local and international impact. They were also engaged in range of activities designed to showcase national pride.

The QF tent is centred around the QF timeline, as well as the colours of the Qatar flag. Various activities at Darb Al Saai, are represented by QF’s four core mission areas: Pre-University Education, Higher Education, Science and Research, and Community Development. It is designed to demonstrate QF’s ongoing dedication to supporting the development of Qatar.

Among many other initiatives, visitors also have the opportunity to learn about the new initiative of QF, the ‘Akhlaquna’ award, aimed at recognizing young people with exemplary moral character. They also get a chance to nominate individuals who best embody the four morals of their Akhlaquna initiative – mercy, tolerance, honesty, and generosity, ahead of official nominations to open in October.

“Qatar Foundation is doing impressive work within Qatar and in other countries and here we get to see almost everything at a glance. Its opportunity to know about education, research and many other important areas. Some activities designed here at the tent are informative and others are entertaining,” Abeer, an Arab expat who visited the QF tent with her family.

National Reading Campaign booth is also a popular feature at the QF tent. Through several activities it encourages children to read outside school.

Visitors have the opportunity to learn about the new initiative of QF, the ‘Akhlaquna’ award, aimed at recognising young people with exemplary moral character.

Visitors at the QF tent at Darb Al Saai get a chance to nominate individuals who best embody the four morals of its Akhlaquna initiative – mercy, tolerance, honesty, and generosity. (Photo: The Peninsula)

Emir appoints Secretary for Security Affairs

The Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani issued yesterday Emiri order No. 7 of 2017 appointing HE Mohammed bin Ahmed AlTamimi as Secretary for Security Affairs.

The Emiri Order is effective from the date of its issue and is to be published in the Official Gazette.

Al Jazeera journalists win UN correspondents award

Al Jazeera’s Rosiland Jordan and Azad Essa won the Ricardo Ortega Memorial Prize and International Prize at the UN Correspondents Association (UNCA) Global Prize during UNCA’s Awards Gala on Friday in New York.

Azad was awarded the UNCA International Prize Silver Medal for his outstanding investigation into accusations of sexual abuse and exploitation against the UN and what is being done to stop them. Why some peacekeepers rape?

Rosiland Jordan was awarded the Ricardo Ortega Silver Medal for her story on the UN Secretary-General’s efforts to highlight near famine in Somalia. UNCA established the prize in honour of Ricardo Ortega, formerly the New York correspondent for América TV, of Spain, who died while on an assignment in Haiti in 2004.

Some of the souvenirs.

Huge response for innovative National Day souvenirs

Innovative National Day accessories and souvenirs have witnessed brisk sales attracting huge number of customers, said traders.

They said that local companies also made significant contribution in providing high quality National Day merchandise at reasonable prices in the local market.

The products having some sort of innovation attracted huge number of customers. Abu Ahmad from a major outlet having so many branches across the country told The Peninsula.

Giving example of new National Day products, he said: “One of our best-sellers are cups in which the image of Qatar’s National flag emerges when hot water, tea or coffee is poured into. All the cups can be used in just a few hours.”

A transparent sticker bearing the famous Tamim Al Majd portrait is another National Day accessory which sells fast at Ahmad’s shop.

The good thing with this sticker is that it could be used in convert any item into a National Day accessory and look as it is part of the product not an accessory,” said Abu Ahmad.

Huge quantities of National Day accessories and souvenirs which are imported from various countries including China, Turkey, India and Bangladesh are also available in the local market.

“We imported flags and many other items including trays, hangbags, T-shirts, caravans, stickers, caps carrying National Day related insignias, images and messages in large stocks directly from China and Turkey.”

Some of the souvenirs.

Visitors have the opportunity to learn about QF through its impressive ‘global’ activity, and record wishes and memories on the dedicated ‘ledge wall’. A number of QF centres and partner universities also host activities at the QF tent.

Activities of Sahlah Al Aryan – Your Health First public health campaign of Well Gorrell Medicine – Qatar WCM-Q also attracted many visitors. It promotes healthy living and through ‘Yalla Natural’ offered advice and about growing and cooking healthy produce. It also has the popular activity to make juice by cycling.

Some of other activities include Qatar Green Building Council offering a range of sustainability games and recycling activities and the HBKU Press is giving the opportunity for children to create their own book with their own name on it. Also the Qatar Science and Technology Park is showcasing its incubator programs as well as the Qatar Science Flagship edutainment reality of QF is also present at the tent.

The QF tent at Darb Al Saai will run from 8am to 12pm and 4pm to 10pm.

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani met yesterday with UNCA Chairman of the Booming Company, Raymond Conner, on the occasion of his visit to the country. They discussed a number of topics of common interest.

PM receives National Day greetings

Prime Minister and Interior Minister H E Sheikh Abdullah bin Nasser bin Khalifa Al Thani met yesterday with UNCA’s Awards Gala on Friday in New York. Azad was awarded the UNCA International Prize Silver Medal for his outstanding investigation into accusations of sexual abuse and exploitation against the UN and what is being done to stop them. Why some peacekeepers rape?

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Qatar’s Embassies abroad host National Day events

Qatar’s diplomatic celebrations in the capitals and cities of the world have been characterized by a high level official and public representation that reflects Qatar’s distinguished relations with different countries of the world.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Germany H E Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, representatives of parliamentary, diplomatic and economic institutions as well as heads of diplomatic missions accredited to Germany and Qatar nationals, cutting cake to mark National Day in Germany.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Germany H E Sheikh Saud bin Abdulrahman Al Thani held a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in the German capital of Berlin.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Austria H E Fahad bin Saleh Al Subaihi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Vienna.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Switzerland, H E Fahad bin Saleh Al Subaihi, held a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Bern.

Qatar’s Ambassador to France H E Fahad bin Saleh Al Subaihi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Paris.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, H E Fahad bin Saleh Al Subaihi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Tehran.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the United Kingdom H E Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in London.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Spain H E Mohammed Al Khulaifi held a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Madrid.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Belgium H E Mohammed Al Khulaifi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Brussels.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Italy H E Fahad bin Saleh Al Subaihi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Rome.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Turkey H E Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Mohammad Al Kuwari hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Ankara.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Russia H E Mohammed Al Khulaifi hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Moscow.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates H E Sheikh Khalifa bin Ahmed Al Thani hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Abu Dhabi.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Egypt H E Sheikh Al Thani hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Cairo.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, H E Ali bin Fahad Al Hajri, Shihhab bin Tariz Al Said, Adviser to H H the Sultan of Oman, Ministers, Deputies, State Council and Shura Council Members, senior officials of the Sultanate of Oman, and representatives of the media and representatives of the Arab community in the Netherlands.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the Kingdom of Spain H E Fahad Al Hajri hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Madrid.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the Netherlands, H E Sheikh Jassim bin Thani Al Thani, hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in The Hague.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Qatar’s Embassies abroad, H E Sheikh Jassim bin Thani Al Thani, hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day.

Qatar’s Ambassador to the United States (US), H E Sheikh Jassim bin Thani Al Thani, hosted a reception on the occasion of Qatar National Day in Washington D.C.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Canada, HE Fahad Mohammed Yousuf Kafoud, senior Canadian officials, military commanders, senators and the general public as well as representatives of diplomatic missions, academics and journalists during the ceremony in Canada.

Qatar’s Ambassador to Qatar’s Embassies abroad in Houston.

In Canada, H E Qatar’s Ambassador Fahad Mohammed Yousuf Kafoud, hosted a reception on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Qatar.

In Belgium, Ambassador of the State of Qatar to the Kingdom of Belgium and Head of the State of Qatar Delegation to the European Union and NATO, H E Abdulrahman bin Mohammad Al Khulaifi held a reception on the occasion of the National Day of the State of Qatar.

In Germany, H E the Ambassador stressed the importance of promoting relations between the States of Qatar and the Kingdom of Spain. He wished Qatar’s National Day be a source of pride and a stepping stone for further progress and prosperity.

In Switzerland, the ceremony was attended by a number of senior officials, diplomats and businessmen.

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Msheireb Downtown Doha project nearing completion

The project is spreading over 319,200 square metres and consists of 100 commercial, and residential buildings, 5-star hotels, 800 housing units, medical office building containing clinical, administrative spaces and four various museums.

Sidi Mohamed
The Peninsula

More than 30,000 workers, 10 main contractors and 900 safety supervisors are part of Msheireb Downtown Doha (MDD) project. The (MDD) is a pioneering project developed to revitalize an old commercial centre of Doha. It is a new smart city and the first sustainable project in the world developed at a cost of around $5.5bn.

The work of the project started in 2000 and it has reached its last and fourth phase while the three phases are under the final test and check-up. The project is spreading over 319,200 square metres and consists of 100 commercial and residential buildings, 5-star hotels, 800 housing units, medical office building containing clinical, administrative spaces and four various museums.

H E Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister added that the State of Qatar has succeeded at delivering its integrated vision in solving the crisis to the world through different communication channels. "Qatar once again confirms its readiness for a transparent comprehensive dialogue based on mutual respect for the sovereignty and common obligations," His Excellency added.

His Excellency highlighted that the siege revealed the harmony, cohesion and solidarity between the people and leadership in facing the imposed challenges and the great efforts exerted to break the will and impose guardianship.

Regarding the most important and prominent achievements made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the past year, especially under the auspicious reign, he said the Ministry is keen to reflect the directives of HH the Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani by providing updated services to the Qatar citizens, internally and externally.

The Deputy Prime Minister highlighted that Qatar continues to deliver humanitarian aids to more than 100 countries confirming that the highest aids go to the Middle East and Africa. He said Qatar is especially aiding in development, education and infrastructure projects, and it has offered aids worth USD 4.3 billion to more than 100 countries during five years. Today, Qatar ranks third in the main donors list of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), His Excellency added.

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A health care practitioner of Al Ahli Hospital advises students about oral health at Darb Al Saai. It is for the sixth consecutive year that Al Ahli Hospital participates in the event as the medical emergency response team. The tent also hosted several events to educate and increase awareness among the community on health issues.

Pic: Kamruty / P / The Peninsula

Officials during the opening of Al Rayyan Interchange Flyover.

French President Emmanuel Macron yesterday predicted the Islamic State group would be crushed in Syria by February, pushing for the Syrian government and opposition to come together for a peace talks early next year.

"We have followed the war in Iraq with the coalitions," he said in an interview with France 2 television. "And I think that by the middle of the first quarter of next year, we will have won the war in Syria." Macron described President Bashar Al-Assad as "an enemy of the Syrian people", but insisted: "We have to speak to Assad and his representatives."

And despite this week's failure of the latest UN-brokered peace talks in Geneva, he wants to see "a process emerge at the start of next year with Assad's representatives, but I hope also representatives of all of the opposition".

He underscored that France's top priority as part of the US-led coalition palling IS is "the extermination" of the jihadists group rather than ousting Assad, which has been the concern in the current stage since June.

And the French president will not be leaving any room to negotiate, he said. "The process of the talks will not be like that of the previous negotiations," Macron said. "There will be a clear path to peace, there will be no secondary option."
A proud moment

The opening of the Lusail Expressway project, coinciding with National Day celebrations, is a proud moment for Qatar.

Qatar has managed to open new air routes to face the air siege and launch several agreements to open shipping lines with many international and strategic partners, which enabled the country to manage the crisis and efficiently face the siege.

Wile reviewing the domestic and international achievements accomplished by Qatar on occasion of National Day, it becomes evident that the State of Qatar is moving ahead in its march with determination towards achieving all desired goals.

The opening of the Lusail Expressway project in the capital of Qatar is an iconic achievement with characteristics inspired by Qatar’s cultural and historical legacy.

The opening of the project offers direct access to all areas of the country and is expected to improve transportation in the capital of Doha, as well as the growth of the economy and the reduction of congestion and time spent in traffic.

The project is expected to contribute to the sustained economic growth of Qatar, where it is a key element in the implementation of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

The project includes a series of tunnels, roads, and viaducts that will connect the north and south of the city, providing a modern and efficient transportation system.

Moreover, the project is expected to create job opportunities for nationals and contribute to the development of the transport sector in Qatar.

The opening of the project is a significant milestone for Qatar’s development, as it will provide a new transportation network that will improve connectivity and accessibility across the country.

The project is also expected to contribute to the sustainability of the transport sector in Qatar, where it will reduce carbon emissions and promote the use of public transport.

The opening of the project is a testament to Qatar’s commitment to its National Vision 2030, where it is expected to attract domestic and international investments, boost economic growth, and create job opportunities for nationals.

The project is also expected to contribute to the realization of Qatar’s long-term goals, where it will play a vital role in the development of the transport sector in the country.

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Congratulations to all the people of Qatar for this proudest moment.
Sheikh Jassim was a pure religious man of great piety and fear of God. He was a devout worshipper, an iman leading people in their daily or Friday prayers. He delivered the Friday sermon and he was a good orator. He was one of Arabic language pillars and supporters and he taught people in person.

M Sheik Jassim was the helper of the oppressed, releaser of the prisoners, and set the enslaved free. In all these, Sheikh Jassim only sought to please God, as he didn’t obey anyone but God in defending his religion and homeland.

He was characterised by generosity, kindness and charity. He was a generous philanthropist who would love his family and good deeds. He was such a generous man that people would attract to him with love and always be remembered by good deeds.

The Founder turned away on the afternoon of Thursday, the 13th day of the month of Shawal, 1311 H, corresponding to July 17, 1993 and was buried in the village of Lilas, a village located 24 kilometers north of Doha. By his death, Qatar lost one of its most outstanding leaders and a symbol of its unique history; a literateur, a man of knowledge, virtue and generosity.

Sheikh Jassim bin Mohammed bin Thani was the founder of Qatar. He was one of the most prominent leaders and the trendsetter of the modern history.

Concerning the concepts of faith and belief, Sheikh Jassim was a pure religious man of great piety and fear of God. In all these, Sheikh Jassim only sought to please God, as he didn’t obey anyone but God in defending his religion and homeland.

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Erdogan hopes to open embassy to Palestine soon

President Recep Tayyip Erdogan expressed hopes yesterday that Turkey would soon be able to open an embassy to a Palestinian state in East Jerusalem, as he again denounced Donald Trump’s recognition of the city as the Israeli capital.

Erdogan has sought to lead Islamic condemnation of the US counterpart’s move, calling for a summit of the leaders of Muslim nations last week in Istanbul which was attended by three of the East Libya and Skhirat (in Morocco) were from Ghadames and ending in

The East Jerusalem was annexed by Israel in 1967, in a move never recognised by the international community.

“All the dialogues starting from Ghadames and ending in the political process. It’s a tradition in rural South Africa’s ANC formally nominated two candidates in a race to succeed President Jacob Zuma as leader of a party that has ruled since the end of apartheid but lost its luster in a welter of scandal and corruption allegations.

Whose emerges at the helm of the African National Congress, a 105-year-old liberation movement that dominates Africa’s most industrialised economy, is likely to become the country’s next president after elections in 2019.

Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa and former cabinet minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma were the only candidates nominated for the leadership of the African National Congress at a party conference yesterday, an election official said.

The election is perhaps the most pivotal moment for the ANC in its 23 years of power. Scandal and graft accusations have hounded Zuma’s presidency and the party that launched a black majority rule under Nelson Mandela is now deeply divided, its image tarnished at home and abroad.

After procedural delays that held up the start of balloting, the ANC set to elect leader to replace President Zuma

South Africa’s President Jacob Zuma and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa listen to delegates disputing votes at the NASREC Expo Centre during the 54th ANC National Congress in Johannesburg, yesterday.

The leadership race means it is far from certain who will win when the rival candidates are counted. Owing to the delays, the results were not expected today only. ANC Deputy Secretary General Jesse Duarte.

“We don’t rush results, we would like them to do it in a thorough and proper job,” she said.

Turkey will never let Palestinians disappear: Yildirim

Kirkikale

Prime Minister Binali Yildirim said today that Turkey would never allow any Palestinian authori-

The witnesses and officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they feared retaliation or were not able to brief the media.

The deputy president is set to succeed Zuma, who has been the leader of the ANC for 15 years. The party has long been divided over whether it can compete in an election without Zuma.

Fielding questions from South Africa’s party members, brotherhood splinter group led by Ahmadinejad, which has provoked anger in its own home country and across the Middle East. However, it is unlikely that any resolution would pass the Congress.”

The witnesses and officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they feared retaliation or were not able to brief the media.

The party is due to elect a new leader on December 13, which was attended by three of the East Libya and Skhirat (in Morocco) were from Ghadames and ending in

Before the meeting, President Donald Trump announced his decision to recognise Jerusalem as Israel’s capital, sparking angry demonstinations in many Muslim countries and worldwide condemnation

In a speech on the eve of the summit, Erdogan had warned

Yildirim’s comments came a day after he reiterated his support for a Palestinian bid for a Muslim bloc meeting in Istanbul which would be a welle-st by Israel, could be a cause of conflict. Yildirim said the government will develop a weapon industry in Kirkikale. “Kirkikale will be

Yildirim said: “At the summit, the Middle East

Turkey has remained in a state of turmoil since 2010, when a bloody uprising led to the ouster and death of longtime President Muhammad Ghadafi. In the six years since, the country’s stark political divisions have

It has been at war with Islamist

Turkish commander says UN deal to resolve crisis ‘over’

Tripoli

Libyan commander says UN deal to resolve crisis ‘over’

SANAA: Witnesses and health officials said today that 10 women died in an air strike in Yemen.

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After more than 20,000 people have also died of cholera this year

The move never recognised by the Istanbul as the Palestinian

A massacre by Israeli forces scattered across the country. But the complexity of

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Travel curbs for Indian nationals visiting Yemen

Any Indian national who travels to Yemen in violation of this notification, shall be liable for action under section 12 of the Passport Act, 1967 and the passport shall be liable for impounding or revocation. The Government is irrevocable for the holder to travel to Yemen. Indian national who travels to Yemen in violation of this notification, shall be liable for action under section 12 of the said Passport Act, 1967 and the passport shall be liable for impounding or revocation.

Interpol snubs India's appeal on preacher

New Delhi, Nov 25 (IANS) National Investigation Agency (NIA) said it will file a fresh appeal to Interpol after it turned down a request to issue a red notice for popular preacher Zakir Naik – a move which could have hindered his international travel.

Alok Mittal, NIA’s spokesperson, said in a statement: “NA’s request for a red corner notice against Zakir Naik was not accepted by Interpol as a charge sheet had not been filed when the request was made to its international headquarters.

Now, NIA will submit a fresh request to Interpol as a charge sheet has already been filed in the concerned NIA court in Mumbai.

Naik, 52, who has been on the run, in a video message welcomed the decision.

“I am relieved about it. But would have been much more relieved if my Indian government and Indian agencies gave me justice and cleared all the false charges,” Naik had hinted by the agency in October for bail speech and did nothing to intend to wound religious feelings.

His passport was revoked and impounded or revoked, as schoolgirls chanted a dhikr of millions of dollars” if we have ever seen on Australian soil,” he said.

claim of the same representation made in the office of the Prime Minister of the Government of India.

We expect the Prime Minister of the Government of India to respect the order of this Court.

Passports of both countries will be liable for impounding or revocation.

Drugs mules arrested in China

Beijing (IANS) Chinese police have busted a cross-border drug gang and arrested four smugglers from Myanmar who had swallowed 838 packets of drugs, authorities said yesterday.

Police in Sichuan province carried out X-rays and discovered a number of thumb-size figures on their stomachs. Eventually, 380 plastic packets were recovered weighing a total of 500 grams, reports Xinhua news agency.

The investigation found the four men had been asked smuggle the drugs from Myanmar to Chongqing and promised $40 for each packet successfully transported.

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Congress Party sweeps Punjab municipal polls

Chandigarh (IANS) Punjab’s ruling Congress swept the municipal elections in the state yesterday even as the opposition Shiromani Akali Dal and BJP alleged both capturing and misuse of power.

The Congress won 58 wards in the Patiala municipal corporation while the opposition failed to open its account.

In Jalandhar, the Congress won 66 wards while the Akali Dal-BJP won 12. In Amritsar, the Congress won 69 wards while the Akali Dal-BJP combined won 12.

Vice President Venkaiah Naidu yesterday called on all states to give women reservation in state legislatures and both houses of Parliament.

The Women’s Reservation Bill, that seeks to provide women 33.75 per cent representation, will help empower women, he said.

Naidu, who took part in a special convention of women’s self-help groups (SHGs), said: “Women are not helpless anymore; they are strong and daughters are not a burden but a boon. They are performing their duties in various fields.

Citing the example of some of the women in top positions in the government, he said: “The country’s Defence Minister is Nirmala Sitharaman, External Affairs Minister is Sushma Swaraj and Speaker of the Lok Sabha is Sumitra Mahajan – all women. In fact, women’s contribution to the freedom struggle is also immense.”

Naidu said: “Empowering women has brought about a massive change in the society we work in but still there is a need to change old attitudes.

Ambiya Praudh said: “This case is like nothing we have ever seen on Australian soil.”

Gaugha said the trade could have been worth “tens of millions of dollars” if successful.
Eight dead, 30 hurt in Quetta church bombing

Two women were among the dead at a Methodist church. Several of the wounded were in serious condition, said provincial Home Secretary Akbar Harfall.

Policemen escort children after the attack in Quetta, yesterday.

Two women were among the dead at a Methodist church. Several of the wounded were in serious condition, said provincial Home Secretary Akbar Harfall.

Officials said police inter-cepted and shot one bomber outside but the second managed to reach the church’s main door and blew himself up.

“The police were quick to react and stop the attackers from entering into the main hall,” a police spokesman said.

Further reports indicated that the attackers had carried out the attack but provided no evidence for the claim.

A witness, a member of the congregation, said he was “shocked by the violence and feared for his life as the gunfire erupted between one attacker and police, who were later reinforced by paramilitaries and regular troops.

“I am devastated to see many of our dear ones dead and wounded today here in front of me,” said Ms. Sahdi. “15 hours before the attack the religious officers warned us about the possibility of an attack.”

Information officer said as she described footage to check the claim and had launched a search for any further suspects.

Chinese military plane flies over Taiwan

Taipei

At least one Chinese Air Force Y-8 transport plane conducted a long-haul flight near Taiwan yesterday, the island’s Defence Ministry said, amid simmering tension between the two rivals.

Taiwan dispatched its air-craft to monitor and deal with the Y-8, which reported to have flown through the Bashe Channel and Miyako waterway. Defence Min-ister Fong Shih-luan said it was unclear whether one plane or more made the flight.

There was no immediate re-port from the public, who should not be alarmed. Fong said the Chinese Air Force did not give further details. Chinese media reported that the Y-8 was part of a group of aircraft flying in a group.

Meanwhile in Pakistan’s Karachi city thousands staged a protest demonstration against US President Donald Trump’s decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel’s capital. Organized by Jamaat–e-Islami party, a large number of women and children also participated the march. Jerusalem belongs to Palestine and Down with USA and Israel; were some of the slogans the participants raised. “The march is a message to the US and Israel that Jerusalem can never be the capital of the Zionist state till the last Muslim survives,” said Shahid H. Rifat, chief of the demonstration. The US decision has sparked anger in many Muslim countries and worldwide condemnation. Rebuffing the move, the Egyptian-American Connecting Organizations of Islamic Cooperation summit in 2018.

Terrorists attacking schools have become a common threat to students and faculty on campuses around the world. Many students and faculty members have expressed concern about the safety of their institutions.

This is my solidarity as a Muslim to my fellow Muslims brothers and sisters in Palestine— the Al-Aqsa mosque, a historical mosque for Muslims, is there for Jerusalem,” said Her-mantius, from the nearby city of Bogor, who like many Indonesi-ans got on by name. Stressed mostly in white, the demonstra-tors urged the US to change its decision. Indonesia’s religious affairs minister and Jakarta’s governor were among those at the protest site just a few metres from the US embassy.

American man recaptured in Bali

Authorities have recaptured an American citizen who escaped from a prison in Bali, police said yesterday. Christian Bale, 32, is believed to have escaped during heavy rain last Monday by sawing through a ceiling and then climbing over a 6-meter high wall behind the prison. The official said Tony Bale, a British man, was last seen trying to escape along with Bale.

Fire leaves 4 dead, 7 injured in Japan

Four people were killed and seven injured yester-day in a fire at a building, Japanese police said.

A fire broke out on the top floor of an apartment building in Saitama, 23km from Tokyo, when a family of fire-fighters battled the blaze.

The province is about two hours by train to Tokyo. An official said two phones were cut off to extinguish the fire. “A man in his 40s and two women who appeared to be in their 20s died after being burnt in a hospital,” a police spokesman said.

Landslide plays havoc in Philippines after storm; 26 dead

Endless rain triggered by Tropical Storm Rai-Tak have killed 26 people and are still more are missing in the eastern Philippines, authorities said yesterday. The deaths were reported in the small island province of Biliran, a day after the storm pounded the east of the archipelago nation.

Kai-Tak trees across the major islands of Samar and Leyte on Saturday, toppling power lines and leaving homes, cars and trucks un-der roads and bridges, the national disaster agency said. Some 87,700 people were forced from their homes in the region. But the previous death toll stood at just three.

Solomon Dacua, provincial disaster risk management and early warning system information officer said as he described 30 families being struck by floodwaters. Dacua gave rain warnings in at least four areas. The death toll was not immediately confirmed.

At least 11 Afghan police of-icers were killed yesterday when Taliban insurgents attacked their checkpoint in volatile Hel-mand province in southern Afghanistan, authorities said.

The assaults on two police post are the latest in a series of deadly attacks on Afghan security forces claimed by the Taliban.

Taliban insurgents staged the attacks in the early morning in the Qalasi Sangar area of the provincial capital Lashkar Gah. “Our police fought them back, but unfortunately 11 of our police were martyred and two were wounded,” provincial gover-nor Hayatullah Hayat said.

Also a suicide car bomb attack targeting NATO forces in neighboring Kunar province killed at least one woman and wounded four other Afghan civilians yester-day. General Abdul Razaq, provincial police chief, said:

SOUTH KOREA FM to visit Japan

Seoul

South Korea’s Foreign Minister will visit Japan next month as the two vis-itors are expected to boost cooperation over the handling of North Korean nuclear and missile pro-grams. The need to strengthen the confrontation threat posed by North Korea’s nuclear and missile tests to top agenda during the visit.

Kang Kyung-wha who will arrive in Tokyo on Tuesday and meet Japanese Foreign Minister Tarō Kono during her second visit in less than a year, said the talks will focus on the need to boost cooperation in the wake of North Korea’s nuclear test in September, the US Con-gress passed the National Defense Authorization Act for the 2018 fiscal year, which author-izes funding for a naval base in Okinawa.

BANGKOK

Insurgents torch bus in Thailand

The attack occurred in Yala, where a separat-ist insurgency is on for more than a decade.
I won’t be derailed on Brexit: Theresa May

London Reuters

Prime Minister Theresa May said yesterday she would not be forced to delay her plans for leaving the European Union, saying she would go ahead with the Brexit divorce vote despite efforts by critics to stop her. "I won’t be derailed on Brexit," May said on Monday. "I will be a champion for our country’s interests."

May has been under pressure from fellow eurosceptics in her Conservative Party to delay the vote on leaving the bloc, the first of a series of votes on the terms of Britain’s departure from the EU, which is set to be held in the House of Commons on March 29 - the day Britain is due to leave the bloc.

"I am determined to get this job done," May said in a speech at the National Gallery in London. "We need a government that is working for everyone, not just the richest."

May added that she would continue to deliver on the promises she made during the general election last year, when she won a majority for her Conservative Party. "We need a government that is working for everyone, not just the richest," she said.

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Austrian govt vows tougher migrant policy

Austrian Anadolu

Austria’s newly formed conservative-far-right coalition government plans a tougher approach to migration and stronger domestic security measures.

The leaders of center-right Austrian People’s Party (OVP) and its partner far-right Freedom Party (FPO) announced their coalition programme at a press conference in Vienna. OVP’s young leader Sebastian Kurz and FPO leader Heinz-Christian Strache told reporters that the new government would prevent a “security package” and also adopt a tougher approach to refugee policy.

Both leaders tried to address concerns that their coalition will steer the country over the far-right FPO, and stressed that the new coalition government would adopt a pro-European approach.

The 31-year old Kurz said in the new coalition government, he will work for a near reversal of last year’s migration andstronger security measures.

Until recently, the EU has been a near reversal of last year’s migration and stronger security measures.

A number of new asylum seekers in Germany has fallen for a second year in a row following the mass influx that peaked in 2015, the government said yesterday.

For all of 2017, 512,000 new asylum seekers arrived in Germany, the lowest level since 2013, and 52% of Britons voted to leave the EU last June. But the head of polling at BMG said the result was a “biggest lie” in the UK. The British government has said that “Brexit means Brexit” and that Britain will not be derailed from this course.

May said yesterday that Britain must deliver a clear and decisive Brexit.

According to the coalition agreement, the new FPO would hold key ministerial posts, including the Defence Minister and Interior Minister. The For the Foreign Ministry, the two parties agreed on a non- party candidate, former diplomat Elisabeth Beiglhofer, who was appointed as the FPO’s possible position. The conservatives OVP won the parliamentary elections on October 15 by capturing 31.6% of the vote, but fell short of a majority in parliament.

The anti-immigration FPO got 26%. A near reversal of last year’s migration and strongereffects measures.

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Putin thanks Trump for tip on bombings

Washington AP
Special counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation into Russian contacts with President Donald Trump's campaign has resulted in records of emails sent and received by Trump officials before the start of his administration, according to several people familiar with the documents.

But the investigators did not directly request the records from Trump’s still-existing transition team and, instead, obtained them from the Department of Justice, a federal agency that is still working under the Trump administration.

The investigators are reviewing the records of emails and phone calls that Mueller’s team has already obtained the transition records to Mueller’s investigation.

In the letter to the Russian chairman of the House Oversight and the Senate Home Land Security committees, Mueller contents that the disclosure by GSA was “unlawfully obtained,” and it considers the documents private and privileged, and not government property.

Langhofer also said that a GSA official appointed by Trump in May had assured the transition in June that any request for records from Mueller’s office would be referred to the transition co-attorneys. According to Langhofer, the assurance was made by then-GSA General Counsel Richard Beckler, who was hospitalized in August and has since died.

But late Saturday, another GSA official present for the conversation told BuzzFeed News that the GSA had improperly provided the transition records to Mueller’s investigators.

In a letter to the Republican chairman of the House Oversight and the Senate Home Land Security committees, GSA Deputy Counsel Lenny Lowentritt said that Beckler didn’t make a commitment to the transition team that requests from law enforcement for materials would be handled through transition lawyers.

Lowentritt said that the transition was informed that by using government devices, the agencies would hold back records from law enforcement. Transition officials signed agreements that limited them to materials kept on the government servers and subject to monitoring and auditing, but not to any expectation of privacy.

The documents were provided to Mueller’s team by the transition group, sent a letter to two congressional committees arguing that the GSA had improperly provided the transition records to Mueller’s investigators.

The letter to the Republican chairman of the House Oversight and the Senate Home Land Security committees.

Pinera in tight race for return to power

Santiago AP
A billionare businessman turned former President Sebastian Pinera, who scored 34.5 percent in the first round of presidential election, but he 36.1 percent vote share fell short of what polls had predicted.

He faces Sen Alejandro Guillier, a centre-left former journalist who got 22.7 percent in the first round and is counting on support from backers of other left-leaning candidates who were eliminated.

Public opinion polls have been banned since a November’s first round, so it’s unclear where support will go.

“Will it be the election with the greatest uncertainty in history of Chile,” said Congress- man Pedro Araujo, an electoral expert.

The 64-year-old Guillier is backed by outgoing President Michelle Bachelet, but many Chileans have been disillusioned by lagging economic growth under last President, a problem based largely on lower international prices for copper, which is the backbone of Chile’s economy. Many leftists also feel she failed to catered to pro- found social changes in labor and education policies.

Pinera, 68, struggled with large protest over Chile’s inequality and demands for education reforms and his first term in office in 2014 with low popularity ratings. But he also saw annual economic growth of about 1 percent a year.

“I think we’ll lose the elections and better times will come for all Chileans,” Pinera said after casting his vote in the Chilian capital.

The conservative politician proposes slashing taxes on international airspace as well as cabled assessments of candi- dates for top government posts.

On Sunday, Kor Lyng- hofer, general counsel for the two congressional committees arguing that the GSA had improperly provided the transition records to Mueller’s investigators.

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CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Yesterday’s answer

Conceptis Sudoku is a number-placement puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

ACROSS
1 Knight’s address 44 Nay
2 Decorate 46 Boisterous
3 Martial art 50 Panorama
12 College UFO 62 Uneven
13 Greek vowel 57 Chinese
14 “Young Frankenstein’s” role 58 Glassy
15 PC key 60 Small
16 Small candle 61 Type
18 India’s golden state 64 Measure
20 Work unit 65 Idiot
21 Exile’s island 66 Fun
24 Lucky number 67 Weight
25 Chess term 68 Aries
30 Learn 70 Xylophones
32 On the rocks 78 Kitchen cloths
33 Witty one 79 Soap
34 Plays 80 LAX info
37 On the rocks 84 Kitchen cloths
41 “Ta-dah!” 85 Chopsticks
43 Cupid’s specialty 86 Adidas
3 Babe of baseball 25 Player’s suffix
4 In name only 27 Huh
5 Flash eggs 28 Call —
6 Call — 29 Winner
7 Like 30 Gardens
8 Small 31 James
9 “This tastes 32 Adobe
33 Small 35 Tricky
35 Small 38 Ducklings
39 Measures 40 Meeples
41 India’s gold 42 Splosh
42 Idiot 43 Envy
44 Nay 47 Cannes
46 Boisterous 48 Bronco
48 Bronco 49 Candles
49 Candles 50 Capote
51 Ornery 52 Exeodus
55 Common 53 Common
56 English 54 Writer
57 Chinese 55 Writer

11:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 12:30pm 1:00pm 1:30pm 2:00pm 2:30pm 3:00pm 3:30pm 4:00pm 4:30pm 5:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm 9:30pm 10:00pm 10:30pm 11:00pm

BUSTED

NOVO — Pearl

ROYAL PLAZA

ALL IN THE MIND

ADAPTATION, AUTHOR, AUTOBIOGRAPHY, BIOGRAPHY, BOOK, CRITICISM, COMPOSITION, DAVY, ESSAY, ISSUE, JOURNAL, LEEVER, LETTER, LITERATURE, MANUSCRIPT, MEMO, MEMOIR, MEMOIR, NOTATION, NOTE, NOVEL, PAPER, PLAY, POEM, PROSE, PUBLICATION, RECORD, SCRAPBOOK, SCRAPBOOK, SONNET, TEXTS, THESIS, TOME, VOCABULARY, WITTEN, WRITINGS.
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Tamim Al Majd: A symbol of pride & defiance

Dr Noureddine Miladi
Head of Department of Mass Communication, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University.

In an attempt to demonise Qatar and its leadership the various media outlets from the blockading coun-
ties attempted to associate Qatar with support of terrorism, breach-
ing way from the rules of the Gulf Cooperation Council and abusing international law.

Articles appearing in various newspapers for instance from Saudi Arabia and Emirates have kept man-
ufacturing false claims about Qatar’s foreign policy and its activities abroad. Manifestos to symbolize dan-
ger and despair have become recurrent on such blockading coun-
ties newspapers.

For instance in Okaz (published from Riyadh) on 2 July 2017 a caption under an article portraying the Qatari Ruler note being squeezed in arrest shackles ‘International companies are getting ready to leave Qatar. Also in another article in Okaz on 2 July 2017 showing a bloody stained hand the caption reads: ‘Terror funds in London tamed with blood’.

In Alhayyan newspaper based in UAE on 6 July 2017, an image showing an arm with hands bearing long nails and a caption reads: ‘Abdullah bin Zayed call Qatar stop supporting terrorism has destabilized Dhaka’. A final example from another article in the Alhayyan newspaper showing a ticking bomb on the map of Qatar sig-
alling that time is out. The caption reads: ‘Tamim sacriﬁces Qatar’ (Alhayyan: 2 July 2017).

Icons, symbolic images and graffiti as tools to challenge the blockade.

Images and graffiti writing have been recurrently employed by various nations for thousands of years. Graffiti or writing slogans on street walls is not a new phenomenon started with the Arab Spring events but a practice as old as the human race. Humans learnt a lot from other civilizations through carvings, sym-
 bols screeched on walls and ornamental objects which we see nowadays exam-
 ples of it in museums and historical sites (The Pyramids in Egypt and other
 worldwide places). With reference to the Tunisian revolution, graffiti writings and political slogans painted on street walls, doors and sometimes on pavements and grounds of public spaces became signiﬁcant means of effective communication. Strong short statements decorating walls across the capital were part of the fuel of the revolution. Colourful graffiti and drawings, which called people for action, stop the regime’s corruption, and encourage the public to stand up to injustice covered large areas of inner city streets.

How has Qatar challenged the blockade?

The blockade of Qatar has invi-
gated unprecedented initiatives among Qatari nationals as well as residents from all nationalities. Various initiatives have been developed to challenge the blockade. Political, economic, social and cultural. The media outlets headed by Al Jazeera network have also played a decisive role in revealing the fail-
ures and deception of the Saudi, UAE and Egyptian media.

However, the development of iconic images in Qatar as part of a col-

Unity campaign has proven instrumental. Iconic images like ‘Tamim Al Majd’ and ‘All of us are Tamim’ have become symbols of unity, defiance, and determination to defeat the oppressors.

The ‘Tamim Al Majd’ iconic image sends therefore a very strong message to the world: ‘We are proud of our leadership and we stand united to mat-
ter what’. As a consequence, the icon has become a symbol for resistance, pride and national belonging. Citizens have proudly reproduced the iconic images in different forms and shapes as an expression of national pride and a declaration that the time is out. The caption reads ‘Tamim Al Majd icon shows that time is out’. The caption got a new life. Images and graffiti writing among Qatari nationals as well as residents from all nationalities. Various initiatives have been developed to challenge the blockade. Political, economic, social and cultural. The media outlets headed by Al Jazeera network have also played a decisive role in revealing the fail-
ures and deception of the Saudi, UAE and Egyptian media.

However, the development of iconic images in different forms and shapes has become a symbol for resilience, unity, and determination. The iconic image ‘Tamim Al Majd’ has become an emblem of the failure of the blockade in placing a total control on Qatar. Qatari citizens have therefore managed to break free from the blockade thanks to their determination to stand together as a cemented block.

Fath Al Kheir returns after month-long journey

Raymond C Rivera
The Peninsula

On the eve of National Day, lea-
troops and patriots favour flying all corners of Katara with a blend of traditional and modern spec-
tacles which took the breath away of thousands of visitors at the Cultural Village yesterday.

Kicking off the evening’s events was the traditional Al Gaffal ceremony which welcomed the arrival of Fath Al Kheir after its month-long journey which took it to Kuwait and Oman shores spreading the message of love and brotherhood.

Al Gaffal is a traditional ceremony done in the past to welcome fishermen and pearl divers on their safe return from expeditions out into the open sea which were often fraught with danger.

The traditional Qatar jowie, whose mainstay carried the image of Emir H H Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, reached Katara at 4pm. The H H Qatari sailors disembarked on Katara Beach to a warm reception with the maritime songs. National Qatar Arab performative and ﬂowers.

The team headed by the shwer’s captain Mohammad Yousef Al Salam was received by a large crowd led by Katara General Manager Dr Noureddine Miladi, Sheikh Fahad bin Hamad Al Thani and Sheikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Thani along with Qatari elders and the families of the sailors. Sixty paratroopers from the Joint
Greetings
On the Occasion of
Qatar National Day, 18th of December
and in remembrance of the historic day in 1878
when Sheikh Jassim Bin Mohammad Bin Thani,
founder of the State of Qatar
set up the pillars of the Modern State of Qatar.
We extend our heartiest congratulations and greetings to
His Highness
Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani
Emir of the State of Qatar

His Highness
Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani
Father Emir

His Highness
Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani
Deputy Emir

And to all the honourable people of Qatar
We hope for more returns of this memorable occasion
and wish that Qatar always enjoys security, welfare and prosperity
under the wise leadership of His Highness the Emir.