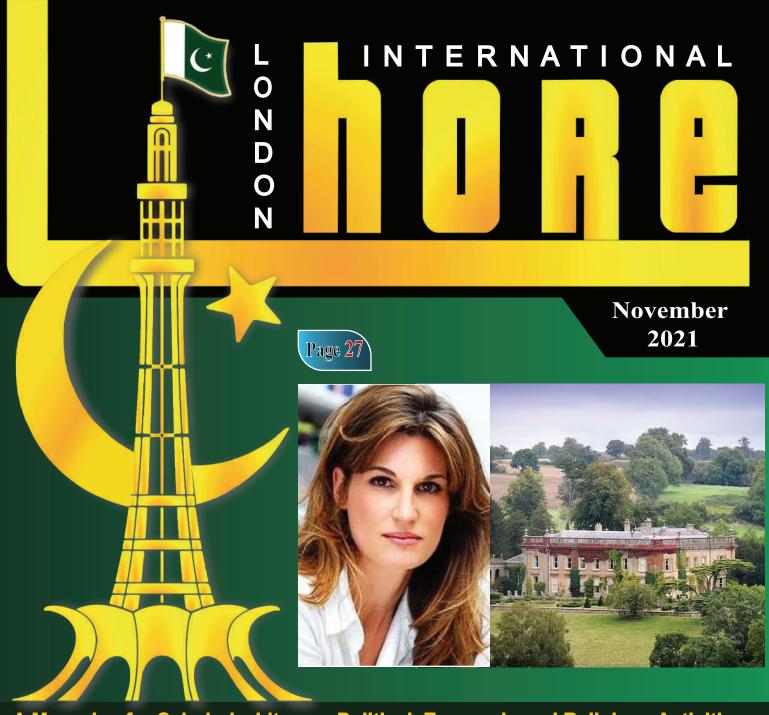
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EDITOR IN CHIEF *Mohiuddin Abbasi*





EDITOR *Zakaria Virk*



SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER

Syed Mubarak A. Shah Ph. No. 0047-91698367

ADVERTISING MANAGER

M. Sultan Qureshi Ph. No. +1(416)433-0112





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E-Mail: lahoreintlondon@gmail.com

Send your writeups at m.abbasi.uk@gmail.com

Write to:

Monthly Lahore International Phone: +44 794 007 7825

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Editorial

Dr. Busharat Elahi Jamil **Assistant Editor**

Political Parties and the Problems of Nationalism in Pakistan.

Political system in a modern democratic state cally. Over and above that, they this politics is staunchly responsible to educate and adorn the respective masses politically paving the way for a better tomorrow. Unfortunately, Pakistani nation have ever been deprived of such erudite political culture nourishing the future. Purposely the founding Party of Pakistan, the Muslim League, divided in various clutches. The ultimate reason being the opportunist politics and the role of power seeker elite, landlords and religio-political accumulations. Consequently, in 1950s-60s Pakistani politics begot various political factions and many new political parties emerged. Since 1947, a certain political stratum is ruling over Pakistan devoted to multiply in both status and strength by all means. Regrettably, the political elite is not trained enough to serve but only to rule. This incompetent political class is responsible for Pakistan's current tarnished socio-political and economic reputation. The power makes them arrogant that leads to ignorance making the lethal cocktail as Edward Graydon Carter stated, "Arrogance, ignorance, and incompetence. Not a pretty cocktail of personality traits in the best of situations. No sirree. Not a pretty cocktail in an office-mate and not a pretty cocktail in a head of state. In fact, in a leader, it's a lethal cocktail." Socially and politically, these political assemblages only produced the crowds, not a solid nation as they cannot afford an appropriate nation. It can be destructive for their hegemony. These political groups are cheating the nation politically. Religio-political parties like amaat-i-Islami, Sunny Tehrik, Tahrik Labaik and JUI have failed to train Pakistani nation religiously as well as politi-

and religion are inseparable now. Frequently, in the current political scenario they are successful in their objectives. The political elite are certainly responsible to create differences and breaches among the Pakistani masses for their own political gains and drives. Particularly to hide their corruption and to cover illegal activities, they usually used the religious and provincial cards as they learn during their political maturing how to manipulate anything of the sentimental values as means of divergence. Its worst examples are the rotten politics of PML-N, PPP and JUI-F ill-using the illiterate population for their so-called political mileage. The hereditary leadership of these religious and political assemblages is entirely unacquainted with the critical and serious issues of a common citizen. From Maryam Nawaz to Bilawal and Fazal-Ur-Rahman to Saad Rizvi are the productions of opportunistic and hereditary politics owing their status only to their elders with no practical contributions and political achievements to claim to be leaders of Pakistani nation. Leaving alone the religious card, the province-based politics of PML-N, PPP, Sindhi and Bloch nationalists are giving irreparable damages to Pakistan's security, solidarity and particularly nationalism. Fake democracy orchestrated by the current political leaderships is no doubt venomous for the national integration for the reason that to prolong their rule and power-seeking policies self-centred privileged political leaders can stretch more and countless damages to the interest of Pakistan and its nation, above all the nationalism.

5

The Indo-Pacific Strategy and Implications for Pakistan

By: Hifza Komal



The Indo-Pacific region

The Indo-Pacific region has been regarded as the single most consequential region for America's future. This region is spread from the West coast of the United States in North America to the Western shores of India in South Asia. The Indo-Pacific region includes the most populous state, the most populous democracy, the largest Muslim state, and half of the world's population. It is home of the seven largest armies of the world and six states possessing nuclear weapons. This region has nine of the ten busiest seaports of the world, 60 per cent of the global maritime trade transiting through Asia and its one third passing through the South China Sea. The Indo-Pacific region accounts for the 60 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP) and contributes the two-thirds of GDP. This region has the world's largest economies China, Japan and the United States, and the fastest growing economies of India, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, the Philippines, and Nepal.

Importance of the Indo-Pacific region to the United States

The United States of America has five Pacific states; Alaska, Oregon, California, Hawaii, and Washington. Along with this, it has Pacific territories outside its borders; the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), American Samoa, Guam, and Wake Island. The United States has been trading with the Indo-Pacific region since the eighteenth century and has invested \$2.3 trillion of two-way trade annually collectively more than China, South Korea and Japan. The United States sends quarter of its exports to the Indo-Pacific region and has increased exports to the double since last decade. This huge trade has been facilitated by the free and open trade routes through land, sea, air, space, and cyber commons that form the contemporary global system.

The concept of Indo-Pacific strategy

The President of the United States laid the

concept of Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP) during the Asia-Pacific Economic Conference (APEC) in Hanoi, Vietnam in 2017. FOIP is based on three pillars; economics, security and governance. The United States has formulated the Indo-Pacific strategy after observing trends in the global political landscape. The rise of China in economic, political, and military terms in the twenty first century has defined the whole strategy of the Indo-Pacific region. The United States believes that China is confronting with more confidence and China is also willing to expand economic, political and military interests assertively.

Challenges to the Indo-Pacific States

The South China Sea has been in the state of confrontation by the Indo-Pacific region countries. China is militarizing the South China Sea by employing Para-military forces, placing anti-ship cruise missiles and long-range surface-to-air- missiles on the disputed Islands. The People's Liberation Army of China has enhanced patrolling near Taiwan and Japan threatening the sovereignty of neighboring states. Additionally, China employs non-military tactics including economic tools during period of political tensions with countries that China alleges of harming its national interests. Other than that, military developments and coastal bases construction by China and illiberal and weak governments in the Indo-Pacific region are an utter cause of contention for the United States.

The United States' efforts to strengthen India through Indo-Pacific strategy

The United States is broadening and strengthening partnerships with India to respond and balance to the increasing influence of China in the Indo-Pacific region. The strategic partnership between India and the United States has seen boost from the past two decades to build new partnerships within and beyond the Indo-Pacific region. India is a key ally of the United States in confronting China in the

Indo-Pacific region. India and the United States share a similar outlook on the Indo-Pacific. The "Act East" policy of India is continuing to make significant security, developments, and economic investments to secure its interests in the Indo-Pacific region. The scope of defense trade between India and the United States has grown up to \$16 billion in past ten years as the interests and security cooperation of both countries have expanded. Both States are engaging to cooperate in defense technology, co-production of defense systems, industry-to- industry ties and other opportunities for strengthening defense capabilities. Moreover, the United States is assisting India for the sustainment and modernization of military forces to tackle China in the Indo-Pacific region.

Increasing strategic partnership between the United States and India

The United States has managed to marshal India in the Indo-Pacific strategy eventually. The recent visit of the Secretary of State Anthony Blinken of the United States to India on July 28, 2021 pledged to expand multilateral security partnership keeping in consideration the growing influence of China in the region and bilateral cooperation in Afghanistan. The United States is sharing advanced military hardware and technologies and have also signed a major pact on October 27, 2020 that would provide India top-secret satellite data. The commitment of the United States towards absorbing the power of China has led to the establishment of 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in September 2018 between the United States and India. In June 2016, the United States gave India a unique status of "Major Defense Partner". The designation of this status is to elevate the US-India defense partnership to a level that of the United States' closest allies. A range of initiatives have been pursued by the United States with India to enable cooperation, interoperability, defense trade, technology sharing, and defense innovation. A significant development was noticed after the signing of Communication, Compatibility and Security agreement in 2018. This agreement has potential to develop military to military relationship, secure information sharing, and facilitating greater interoperability. Both States' departments of Defense have intensified the complexity and frequency of military and other joint exercises. The United States and India aim to conduct tri-service exercises and collaborate on maritime security and other transnational issues to deter China in the Indo-Pacific region. The United States and India are also part of the Quad regional alliance with Japan and Australia, and China has opposed Quad by referring it an attempt to contain its ambitions.

Repercussions for Pakistan

However, the FOIP is purely China-centric, but the militarization and modernization of Indian forces and South Asian region particularly of India by the United States is not sustainable for the very existence of Pakistan and stability of South Asia. India has serious issues with its neighbor Pakistan notably on Kashmir, Siachen, Sir Creek and water distribution. It has been witnessed throughout the 70 years after the independence of India and Pakistan that both countries have fought full-scale wars in different periods. The further advancements and armament of India will yield bad repercussions for Pakistan.

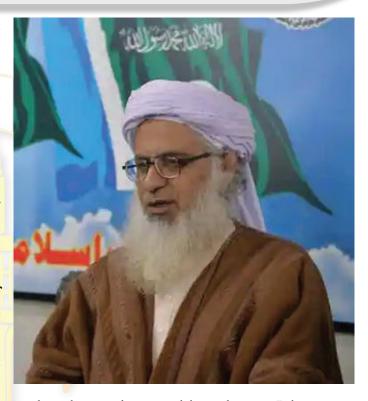
Furthermore, India is spending hundreds of billions on acquiring modern military capabilities and various air defense systems without getting sanctions from the United States. The nuclear cooperation agreement between the United States and India is aiming to enhance the nuclear stockpiles of the latter. Both states are collaborating in high-tech areas such as space and innovative technologies that would enable India to acquire sophisticated delivery systems as well as surveillance capability. The purchase of modern aircrafts and aircraft carriers by India is a matter of concern for Pakistan, because further armament of South Asia can create chaos. The continuous war-like situation on Line of Control (LOC) threatens the security of Pakistan. Moreover, the air defense systems of India would not allow Pakistan to retaliate in case of escalation. Pakistan cannot afford the disastrous conflicts with India now or ever, either.

Lal Masjid Cleric Reveals

The Real Goal Of Islam

By: Desk Blitz

Last week, UNewsTV released an undated audio alleged to be of Maulana Abdul Aziz, the head cleric of the Lal Masjid. An interviewer questions him about his mission in inviting people to dawah/dawats (a gathering called to appeal to non-Muslims to convert to Islam). Writes Ashlyn Davis Islamabad's Lal Masjid is again in the news, and for all the wrong reasons, as has been the case on other occasions. The mosque, prominently situated in Pakistani capital, is the oldest and second-largest mosque in the national capital. It made headlines in 2007 when hundreds of jihadists were killed there in a military raid by the Parvez Musharraf government. Last week, UNewsTV released an undated audio alleged to be of Maulana Abdul Aziz, the head cleric of the Lal Masjid. An interviewer questions him about his mission in inviting people to dawah/dawats (a gathering called to appeal to non-Muslims to convert to Islam). "Our goal is that in this world...we want Islamic rule to be established in Pakistan, Islamic rule to be established in Bangladesh, Islamic rule to be established in Hindustan (India), and eradication of Christianity in the world, eradication of Judaism, eradication of the Hindus, and eradication of the Sikhs, and apart from this, eradication of the Shias and the rawakhis, and the Qadianis [a demeaning word used to refer to Ahmadiyya]. In the whole wide world, as Prophet Muhammad had professed, by the end of times, the sound of kalma will be emanating from every mud house as well as concrete house, and the entire world will become Muslim," says the Maulana. Kalma is the Islamic oath of allegiance that proclaims that Islam is the only true religion. Non-Muslims are made to recite the kalma for their conversion to Islam. He adds, "We want to



make the entire world embrace Islam. He (Prophet Muhammad) had affirmed that the entire world will have to embrace Islam. Those who are men of honor will gracefully accept Islam, and those who are bereft of honor will be disgraced until they accept Islam. Our goal is to compel the whole world to embrace Islam, be it America, be it India, whether they are Hindus, Sikhs or any other community, they will have to convert to Islam. And that time is approaching, inshallah [Allah willing]. It is about time and there will be no other religion in the world except Islam, and in this land of Allah, the law of Allah only shall prevail, others will be finished. That is mission." The one-minute-40-secour ond-long soliloguy may appear to be the irrational rant of a deranged Pakistani extremist, but it would be foolish to dismiss Maulana Abdul Aziz's ambitions as the fantasies of an old Islamic cleric. A passionate supporter of terror organizations such as the Taliban and al-Qaeda, Maulana Abdul Aziz was expelled



from the Lal Masjid in 2007, but he managed to gain control over the mosque in 2009. the Army while he attempted to run away hiding in a burqa and was given the mock

In 2014, a leaked video from his madrassa showed his students declaring their support for the Islamic State. The same year, Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan carried out a bomb blast in Peshawar's Army Public school, killing 148 students and leaving over 110 children severely injured. Aziz defended the blast, for which he was banned from the mosque again. However, he stormed into the establishment again in 2020 and took complete control of the mosque. He also forced the Imran Khan government to grant him two large plots of land for building madrassas. He also demanded his reinstatement as the Lal Masjid chief, and his demands were duly honored.

Aziz wields immense influence over Pakistan's government, and this has been so for generations. His father, Muhammad Abdullah Ghazi, was allegedly a close associate of the dictator Zia ul Haq. During the 1970-80s, he had sent thousands of his madrassa students to fight as mujahiddin (warriors of Jihad) in Afghanistan. After Ghazi's assassination in 1998, Aziz's brother Abdul Rashid Ghazi, another hardliner, began training mujahiddin, while Aziz succeeded his father as the cleric of the mosque. During his reign as the mosque chief, he shot to prominence for promoting jihad activities against the West,

delivering inflammatory sermons, and promoting Islamic jihadist beliefs among thousands of his students. His foot soldiers took his message to the streets of Islamabad by abducting Chinese masseuses and vandalizing "un-Islamic" CD and DVD shops, which resulted in murderous clashes in the capital. This is what called for the siege of Lal Masjid by Pakistan's military in 2007. The cleric's brother, Abdul Rashid Gazi, was killed during this military raid. Interestingly, Maulana Abdul Aziz was apprehended by

hiding in a burga and was given the mock name, Mullah Burqa. On the other hand, the attack on the religious establishment led to an uprising in Pakistan's Waziristan that could be crushed only after the slaughter of hundreds of Pakistani soldiers. The influential Maulana hoisted the flag of the Taliban in Pakistan's capital city last month, and the authorities stood there as mere spectators. Aziz maintains amicable relations with both the Afghan Taliban and the Pakistani Taliban, though these entities often conflict with each other. Prime Minister Imran Khan, who leads the reigning Islamic government in Pakistan, bows down to Aziz, as he is aware of the immense authority he commands over the people of Pakistan. His power and position have been emboldened after the occupation of neighboring Afghanistan by the Taliban jihadis. An advocate of Islamic jihad across the world, Aziz is looking forward to the global caliphate, not sparing his home country of Pakistan, either, and he is backed by a generation of home-grown jihadis who are ready to go to any extent to establish the rule of Islam worldwide.

https://www.weeklyblitz.net/interfaith/-lal-masjid-cleric-reveals-the-real-goal-of-islam/

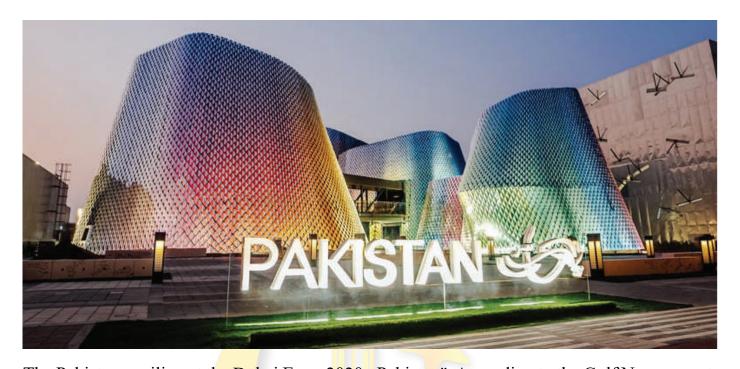
Pakistan Pavilion At Dubai Expo 2020 Draws Over **100,000 Visitors In 18 Days**







OFFICIAL PARTICIPANT



The Pakistan pavilion at the Dubai Expo 2020 Pakistan". According to the Gulf News report, attracted more than 100,000 visitors over a period of just 18 days, making it one of the busiest pavilions of the mega event since it started on October 1. The announcement was made in a tweet on the Pakistan pavilion's official Twitter account on Thursday. "The 18th of October marked our 100,000 visitors' milestone. On this joyous event, we would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude to the team who [have] operated round-the-clock behind the scenes to bring such an abundant flow of visitors," the tweet said. The news was also confirmed by Pakistan Pavilion Director General Rizwan Tariq, who told Dubai-based Gulf News that the "response has been phenomenal since the opening of Expo 2020 Dubai". "We are extremely happy to announce that the pavilion received more than 100,000 visitors during the first 18 days of October," he said, adding that the "pavilion has attracted the attention of visitors through its spaces and activities that reveal 'the hidden treasure' of One of Pakistan's leading visual artists,

around 8,000 guests visited the pavilion on the first day of the event and the footfall was recorded at 55,000 in the first week of October. "The pavilion reached 120,000 visitors in just three days of reaching its first milestone [of 100,000]," the report said, adding that the response had been exceptional particularly on weekends. Earlier this month, Adviser to the Prime Minister on Commerce Abdul Razak Dawood had also shared the news of the pavilion attracting 55,000 visitors in the first week of the Expo. "The response we received was overwhelming and the number of visitors we had in the first week was beyond our expectations," Dawood said in an official announcement. The adviser had thanked all visitors coming to the pavilion and showing their interest in Pakistan's culture, and appreciating the richness and diversity it holds. "It is a country of great opportunities for tourism and investment," he said at the time.

The pavilion's facade

Rashid Rana, is the visionary behind the game-changing design of the pavilion's façade that has taken both the Expo organisers and visitors by storm. Rana's design draws inspiration from the diversity that Pakistan has to offer. "Our country is one of the most diverse regions on the planet; geographically, climatically, culturally, racially, and ethnically, and I wanted that reflected in the design," he told Dawn. This artistic intervention titled 'Unity of All that Appears' comprises 24,000 seemingly identical but all, in fact, unique pieces, fractionally different from each other in size and colour but welded together in harmony. "The transition between seasons and the unity among characteristic groups within the country are the driving force behind the design," Rana explained. The construction of the pavilion and its internal displays was funded by a trust, which was formed to raise the required finances through private donations. The exterior is the first point of contact and Rana's design has truly succeeded in drawing in the crowd who leave the pavilion mesmerised after an engaging, multi-sensory inner journey, principally curated by Noorjehan Bilgrami, a noted multi-disciplinary artist, curator and educationist best known for her tireless work in reviving traditional crafts of Pakistan. Under the theme 'The Hidden Treasure', with an inviting façade and an immersive walk-through experience, the pavilion aims to showcase Pakistan's vast opportunities in tourism and commerce and investment to the expected 25 million global audiences.

The Dubai Expo 2020 kicked off on October 1 — a year late due to the Covid-19 pandemic — and will run until March 31, 2022.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1653406/paki-stan-pavilion-at-dubai-expo-2020-draws-over-100000-visitors-in-18-days

Lahore Court Rejects Mufti Aziz's Bail Petition In Sexual Assault Case

A sessions court in Lahore dismissed on Friday the bail petition of former Jamiat Ulema-i-Islam (JUI) leader Mufti Azizur Rehman, who is accused of sexually abusing a student of his madressah. Additional Sessions Judge Noman Muhammad Naeem rejected the post-arrest bail plea after the completion of arguments by the lawyers. This is the second time that the court has denied bail to Mufti Aziz, who was arrested in June this year after police had registered an FIR against him on charges of sexually assaulting a student of his madressah, Jamia Manzoorul Islam, in Lahore. The case was registered on the complaint of the victim under Section 377 (unnatural offences) and Section 506 (punishment for criminal intimidation) of the Pakistan Penal Code. In his complaint, the student had alleged that Mufti Aziz got him and another student expelled on the charge of cheating in examinations of Wafaqul Madaris for three years. The student had also shared a video clip of the sexual assault as proof with police and the seminary administration. Mufti Aziz's five sons have also been booked in the case for attacking the complainant with the intention to exact revenge and all of them have been granted bail. However, Mufti Aziz remains under arrest as his first bail petition was rejected by a judicial magistrate in Lahore last month. The cleric had then approached a district and sessions court for the grant of a post-arrest bail, which was denied on Friday. A sessions court had indicted him and his five sons in the case earlier this month. https://www.dawn.com/news/1653400/la-

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hore-court-rejects-mufti-azizs-bail-petition-

in-sexual-assault-case

Cyber Warfare and the National Security

According to the Research and Development (RAND) organization Cyber Warfare nvolves actions by an international organization or a nation-state to attack and attempt to sabotage nation's information networks through, for instance denial-of-service or computer virus attacks. States are frequently adopting various tactics to defeat other states including cyber warfare and Pakistan has also witnessed the impact of cyber warfare in the shape of cyber-attacks and violent use of cyber space in form of exploitation of religious sentiment and hate speech. Social media networks such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube are being used for political and religious movements. The threat of religious violence has exceeded tremendously even in Pakistan and the social media platforms may escalate violence and anti-state propaganda if left untapped by the state. Cyber warfare incorporates the use of cyber space for political aggression against an adversary to sabotage its digital capacity. The contemporary examples of cyber warfare against Pakistan include disinformation campaign disclosed by the European Union Disinformation Lab in early 2020 and infiltrated spyware Pegasus created for the purpose of combating terrorism by an Israeli technology firm NSO group technologies. The phenomenon of disinformation campaigns is not new and the sophisticated campaigns follow the predictable progression. It is a legitimate function of government to shape public opinions through licit means. However, governments have not shied away from embracing illicit means to accomplish their objectives. The disinformation campaigns are the cause of concern for numerous states irrespective of their success. Recent investigation report published by Euro-

pean Union EU Disinfo Lab has provided shocking disclosures about the fifteen years old Indian campaigns to malign Pakistan internationally. EU Disinfo Lab has named it as "Indian Chronicles: Deep Dive into a 15 Year Operation Targeting the EU and UN to serve Indian Interests". Investigation report is an unbiased well researched document with verifiable evidences on systematic media manipulations by Indian stakeholders.

The statistics of mega influence operation unveiled approximately 750 fake media houses operating in 116 States, with more than 550 domain names to supplement the entire disinformation campaign. Furthermore, the human rights group Amnesty Internationand Paris-based journalism nonprofit Forbidden Stories accessed the list of phone numbers reportedly included in the Pegasus surveillance net. The Washington Post reported that the Pegasus Report also included the Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan's contact number. This kind of surveillance is intensifying concerns about the erosion of civil liberties across the globe not only in India where journalists, opposition politicians, journalists, public health experts, foreign diplomats, Tibetan exiles and business executives were kept under the watch by the ruling Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). The widespread use of Pegasus spyware has emerged as a leading threat to democracies worldwide beyond the personal intrusion made possible by spying software. It has become need of an hour to build technologies that allow governments to collect data. But there exists a threat to the lives of opposition and dissidents, for instance, the Saudi regime spied on killed Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi's fiancé and ex-wife's contact num-

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bers, so humanity is not in a place to acquire enormous power.

National security of Pakistan

Pakistan's engagement in war on terror and traditional rivalry with India enhance the necessity of acquiring effective cyber-defense in order to prevent digital surveillance, hacking and political and religious incitement. Cyber warfare is enabling States to engage wide set of targets and also being clandestine in nature, low cost and low risk. Keeping in consideration the threat of nuclear war, South Asian neighboring States India and Pakistan are more likely to exploit cyber-space to degrade the potential and break the will of an adversary to wage a war. Strategy to combat Cyber Warfare

Cyber warfare has become a national security threat for Pakistan after the startling revelations about Indian Chronicles and Pegasus Project. Therefore, Pakistan needs cyber secure mechanism for the sake of national interest. Other than cyber-attacks on government institutions and personnel,

digital banking is also facing security threat of losing money and big data. The government of Pakistan does not view banking, Science and technology sectors as major priorities and allocate depressed budget to aforementioned fields. India is creating sophisticated future challenges for

Pakistan by investing more in cyber warfare. Pakistan needs prodigious budget and an efficient cyber army to counter cyber threats to deter India and other potential threats to the system and national security.

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Pandora Papers Opens Pandora's Box



By: Badaruddin Kalhoro - Bureau Chief Sindh

ICIJ Investigation to Reveal the Names of named in [the Pandora Papers] is higher than Several Pakistani Offshore Finance. ISLAM-The world is ready to dive into Pandora's offshore financial box when a new study from the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ) on international finance and tax havens opens to the public at 9:30 p.m. Sunday. The main ICIJ investigation titled "The Pandora Papers" is believed to be the result of 600 journalists in 117 countries who spent months studying around 11.9 million documents leaked from the offshore environment. The countdown has started when the names of several Pakistanis are said to be on the Pandora Papers. Late on Saturday, the ICIJ announced that it would publish the "most extensive exposition on financial secrecy to date." In 2016, the ICIJ published the Panama Papers that took the world by storm and ultimately led to the overthrow of governments, including that of Nawaz Sharif. Journalist Umar Cheema, who was part of the ICIJ team investigating Pandora Papers, told a private news channel that the names of several Pakistanis were on the Pandora Papers, adding that people should only wait one more day as the report will be officially published in October. 3, 2021 The number of people and big names. 4,444 reports say that Pandora

in the Panama Papers, "Cheema said, adding," The names are a bit interesting, but you have another 24 hours to wait. "He said that ICIJ teams worked on the project for two years. Cheema tweeted that the main international financial investigation was now closed and said it was the largest investigation yet. Political commentators were quick to add that it would be interesting to see how the government, the judiciary and the media this time. Also read: 90 leaks named in Panama use the PTI government amnesty program Mega-investigation into the hidden secrets of the financial world aims to explain what some of the world's rich have done to hide their wealth and evade state taxes. The Panama Papers were a major leak of more than 11.5 million financial and legal records that exposed a system that allows for crime, corruption, and misconduct hidden by clandestine offshore corporations. The project called Pandora Papers refers to the character from Greek mythology, in whose power all the evils of humanity would be. Pandora Papers is expected to open another Pandora's box that could lead to the demise of several world capitals



Papers are the result of a massive new financial record leak that reveals how the world's elite are transferring money from secret companies to tax havens. The investigation is said to reveal tax evasion by hundreds of world leaders, businessmen, celebrities, refugees and judges, past and present. Pandora Papers Have Opened Pandora's Box Against Imran



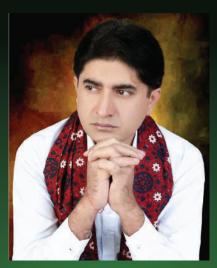
Khan: Ahsan Iqbal ISLAMABAD: **PMLN** Secretary General Ahsan Iqbal said Sunday that Pandora's leaks have "opened a new Pandora's box" when it comes to "Imran Niazi ". "This leader, who used to present himself as sadiq (honest) and ameen (trustworthy), has two other offshore companies," Ahsan Iqbal said in an interview with Narowal media. The loyal PMLN said government spokesmen had already started defending the prime minister before the data was released. Ahsan Iqbal said that the prime minister was misleading people by saying that inflation in the country was a consequence of the coronavirus pandemic. "Inflation continues due to the government's bad economic policies," he said. Ahsan Iqbal requested that the government provide details from the Toshakhana on gifts received from foreign dignitaries. "This corrupt, incompetent and unworthy government has no right to remain in power," he said, adding: "Something is not only rotten, it is super rotten. " Referring to Imran Khan, the PMLN leader said that he had put on "a cloak of honesty" and "deceived the people while undermining the respect and pride of Pakistan." Meanwhile, Maryam Nawaz's spokesman, Muhammad Zubair, speaking on the geo news program Naya Pakistan, said Prime Minister Imran should also ensure an investigation of the ministers mentioned in the Pandora documents and others around him, such as did in the case of Nawaz Sharif. Zubair said that

Junaid Safdar's name was defamed to divert attention from the names of people who are part of that government. He said that Ali Dar is not a resident of Pakistan, so his name should not be mentioned repeatedly. The new Pandora's box. There is no dull moment in Pakistani politics and the advent of Pandora Papers is testament to that old adage. The Pandora Papers are made up of 12 million documents that, in some cases, reveal the hidden wealth and offshore businesses of the world's rich and powerful, highlighting their dark secrets. These leaked documents were obtained by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ), which collaborated in the investigation and involved more than 600 journalists in 117 countries, the largest investigation of its kind ever organized. like it through another lens to see, but in Pakistan, the Pandora Papers revelations are a test for the Pakistani government Tehreek e Insaf (PTI), which won the 2018 elections on the promise of full responsibility. We all remember when then-Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif lost his post as Prime Minister due to a previous leak of that kind, the Panama Papers, and he and his family faced high-profile legal proceedings. At the time, the PTI, under the leadership of Imran Khan, welcomed the verdict, calling it "the beginning of a new era in Pakistani history where justice comes first." Now, in the Pandora leaks, some names have emerged associated with the PTI and the current government, and all the opposition parties have started asking the Prime Minister tough questions. According to media reports, the documents bear the names of Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin, Water Resources Minister Moonis Elahi, former Federal Minister and Senator Faisal Vawda, son of former Finance and Revenue Advisor to Prime Minister Wagar Masood Khan, family of Minister of Industry and Production Khusro Bakhtiyar and PTI - Leader Abdul Aleem Khan. Also included from the opposition are Sharjeel

Memon of the PPP and Ishaq Dar's son of the PMLN. These names are in the spotlight due to their political affiliation and are hotly debated across the spectrum. Although the Prime Minister has established a research cell to examine the 700 Pakistanis named in the Pandora Papers, the main voices of the opposition have described it as a simple eye wash. Opposition leaders have also called for the immediate resignation of the ministers so that an impartial investigation can be carried out. The Pandora leaks have "opened a new Pandora's box" against Prime Minister Imran Khan, said Ahsan Iqbal, leader of the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz). Sherry Rehman, a prominent MP for the Pakistan People's Party, described the ruling party's slogans as superficial. Furthermore, the Chairman of the National Awami Party, Asfandyar Wali Khan, has called for an independent and powerful commission to be established to carry out comprehensive investigations into the Pandora documents within a specified timeframe. In addition, the head of Jamate Islami, Siraj ul Haq, has also called for the resignation or removal of ministers named in Pandora newspapers. PTI and Prime Minister Imran Khan have promised a speedy and comprehensive process of accountability from above on many occasions. PTI leaders have identified this as essential for the survival and growth of democracy. They have also claimed in the past that such responsibility never occurred in Pakistan because corrupt politicians violated the law in their favor. Now the government has the ball. They must show their critics and the nation as a whole that they will not tolerate any past or current misconduct. It is time for the Pakistani Prime Minister to stay true to his words and embark on a process that will live up to his demand for "responsibility for all". The whole world is watching and everyone will judge and remember the current government based on the results of this investigation.

Oh, Bhittai!!

Poet: Naimat Khuhro



Oh, Bhittai! Let me express my displeasure! You had hurled an imprecation on my river!

Because of Suhni (one woman) You said.

"Oh river! I would complain about you on the day of judgement"! Oh. Bhittai!

What kind of complaint you would have against my river....??

This benevolent river is darling of millions and trillions of Suhnies,

A friend, a treasure!

A life!

This river is my faith and love! I'm unable to understand. How had you cursed this river...?? This very river which is sacred than you! Superior to you,

Venerated, And greater than you! This river means everything to me! This being vein of life of my Sindh! My river king! My river god! My lovely king! English rendering by: Prof.Muneer Domki

Uk Muslim Groups Brace For Rise In Hate Crime After Killing Of David Amess

By: Dan Sabbagh

Britain's leading Muslim organisation is to issue new guidance to help British Somalis and other individuals and mosques deal with any incidents of hatred emerging in the aftermath of Sir David Amess's death. Zara Mohammed, the secretary general of the Muslim Council of Britain, said that mosques in and around Southend were devastated by the killing of the local MP and "they had regarded him as a member of their family". "This is a heinous crime and we utterly condemn it," Mohammed said. "Nobody in the local Muslim community could believe how anybody could brutally murder anyone, never mind Sir David, who was so engaged with them." But she added there was "definitely an apprehension for Muslim communities at this time" after it emerged that Ali Harbi Ali, the 25-year-old man arrested on suspicion of murder following the fatal stabbing, came from a British Somali family. Details about Ali's motivations remain scarce, although the investigation into Amess's death at his constituency surgery on Friday lunchtime is being treated by police as terror-related following initial questioning of the suspect. There has been anecdotal evidence of threats against some British Somalis since the tragic incident, Mohammed said, particularly towards "visibly Muslim Somali women" – and against some Somali organisations. "Our own social media has been rife with hatred," Mohammed added, after the MCB released statements over the weekend in support of the late Conservative MP and his family, and condemning the killing as "an attack on democracy". As a result the MCB was work-16 ing on producing updated guidance on "reporting hate crime", which would be also translated into Somali and would be partly shared via WhatsApp, a popular means of communication among the community in the UK. Fresh

guidance will also be sent out to all mosques, Mohammed added, "reminding them of simple things like making a risk assessment, ensuring CCTV are fully functional and working with local communities and friends". It would also include a particular emphasis on the safety of Friday congregations. Four years ago worshippers leaving two Finsbury Park mosques were rammed by a van driver in a violent incident that left one dead and nine injured. The British Somali community dates back more than 100 years, and there are at least 100,000 British Somalis in the UK, according to census data, although the figure is generally believed by experts to be an underestimate. The majority live in London, although there are well-established communities in Cardiff, Liverpool and other major cities. Kahiye Alim, director of the Council of Somali Organisations, which represents 200 groups including 40 mosques, said his organisation, which had condemned the attack on Amess, was also braced for a possible rise in community tensions. "We are preparing material for community safety and personal safety on how to report hate crime," he said. One of its members based in London had received a death threat on Friday, Alim added, and had reported the incident to local police. "We are concerned the way this story has been running," he added, citing the focus on the family background of the man arrested. Mohammed said she hoped communities would remain united in response to the killing of the Conservative MP: "Division is what the terrorists want. A true remembrance of Sir David's life would be about coming together and showing we can build a better Britain."

https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2021/oct/17/muslim-group-to-issue-hate-support-after-killing-of-david-amess

Biden Administration Plans Wind Farms Along Nearly the Entire U.S. Coastline

By: Coral Davenport

Interior Segretary Deb Haaland announced that her agency will formally begin the process of identifying federal waters to lease to wind developers by 2025.

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration announced on Wednesday a plan to develop large-scale wind farms along nearly the entire coastline of the United States, the first long-term strategy from the government to produce electricity from offshore turbines. Speaking at a wind power industry conference in Boston, Interior Secretary Deb Haaland said that her agency will begin to identify, demarcate and hope to eventually lease federal waters in the Gulf of Mexico, Gulf of Maine and off the coasts of the Mid-Atlantic States, North Carolina and South Carolina, California and Oregon, to wind power developers by 2025. The announcement came months after the Biden administration approved the nation's first major commercial offshore wind farm off the coast of Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts and began reviewing a dozen other potential offshore wind projects along the East Coast. On the West Coast, the administration has approved opening up two areas off the shores of Central and Northern California for commercial wind power development. Taken together, the actions represent the most forceful push ever by federal government to promote offshore wind development. "The Interior Department is laying out an ambitious road map as we advance the administration's plans to confront climate change, create good-paying jobs, and accelerate the nation's transition to a cleaner energy future," said Ms. Haaland. "This timetable provides two crucial ingredients for success: increased certainty and transparency.

Together, we will meet our clean energy goals while addressing the needs of other ocean users and potentially impacted communities." Mr. Biden has pledged to cut the nation's fossil fuel emissions 50 percent from 2005 levels by 2030 by designing policies to promote the use of electric vehicles and clean energy such as wind and solar power. In particular, the administration has pledged to build 30,000 megawatts of offshore wind in the United States by 2030. In Congress, Mr. Biden is pushing for passage of a major spending bill that includes a \$150 billion program that would pay electric utilities to increase the amount of electricity they purchase from zero-carbon sources such as wind and solar, and penalize those that don't. Mr. Biden has also sought to unite his Cabinet in finding ways to promote renewable energy and cut the carbon dioxide that is warming the planet under what he has called an "all-of-government" approach to tackling climate. Experts in renewable energy policy said that the Interior Department's move represents a major such step. "This is very big, big deal. This is a signal like we've never had before in the United States about where we can go with offshore wind," said Dan Reicher, who served as assistant secretary at the Department of Energy in the Clinton administration and now advises Magellan Wind, which develops projects with offshore floating turbines. "I've been in the wind industry for a long time," Mr. Reicher said. "This is a repeat of what we did a couple of decades ago when we stepped

up onshore wind, when it went from being a small niche source of energy to being a mainstream, affordable source of power." Still, there is no guarantee that companies will lease space in the federal waters and build wind farms. Once the offshore areas are identified, they will be subject to lengthy federal, state and local reviews. If the potential sites could harm endangered species, conflict with military activity, damage underwater archaeological sites, or harm local industries such as tourism, the federal government could deem them unsuitable for leasing. As they have in response to other offshore wind farms, commercial fishing groups and coastal landowners will likely try to stop the projects. In the Gulf of Mexico, where oil and gas exploration is a major part of the economy, fossil fuel companies could fight the development of wind energy as a threat to not only their local operations but their entire business model. "To be making these announcements, and making them in ways that are very political, without looking at what that means, what area, when we still don't know what the effects are going to be of these projects is really problematic," said Anne Hawkins, executive director of the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance, a coalition of fishing groups. "In an ideal world, when you welcome a new industry, you do it in phases, not all at once." Interior Department officials said they intend to take such considerations into account. "We are working to facilitate a pipeline of projects that will establish confidence for the offshore wind industry," said Amanda Lefton, director of the Interior Department's Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. "At the same time, we want to reduce potential conflicts as much as we can while meeting the administration's 18 goal to deploy 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030."

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/13/climate/biden-offshore-wind-farms.html

School teacher fired from job in India for cheering Pakistan's victory in T20 World Cup match

A female teacher, working at a private school in the Indian state of Rajasthan, was shown the door after she celebrated Pakistan's victory against India in the World T20 match on Sunday, according to a report published in India Today. Pakistan had made history on Sunday night, defeating India for the first time in a World Cup fixture and ending a painful jinx that first began in 1992. Quoting the Kashmir Media Service, the report said the Muslim teacher, identified as Nafeesa Attari, was expelled from her job at the Neerja Modi School in Rajasthan's Udaipur area for expressing joy at Pakistan's triumph through a status on popular messaging application WhatsApp. The teacher bore the brunt of the school administration after she put up the WhatsApp status writing "Jeeeet Gayeeee... We wonnn" shortly after Pakistan hammered India in the much-hyped match of the World T20 in Dubai. She had also reportedly uploaded pictures of some Pakistani players from the match, while cheering the victory of the Men in Green. According to the report, the teacher didn't budge when one of the students' parents asked whether she supported Pakistan and she replied with a resounding "yes". The report said the school management expelled her after screenshots of her WhatsApp status spread among students. Following Pakistan's impressive win over India in the World T20 match, press and pundits from the other side of the border had also dissected the Virat Kohli-led side's humbling defeat and questioned his tactics.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1654150/school-teacher-fired-from-job-in-india-for-cheering -pakistans-victory-in-t20-world-cup-match

Illegal Border Crossings, Driven by Pandemic and Natural Disasters, Soar to Record High

By: Eileen Sullivan and Miriam Jordan

Migrants were encountered 1.7 million times in the last 12 months, the highest number of illegal crossings recorded since at least 1960.



world, many of them fleeing pandemic-rayaged countries, were encountered trying to enter the United States illegally in the last 12 months, capping a year of chaos at the southern border, which has emerged as one of the most formidable challenges for the Biden administration. It was the highest number of illegal crossings recorded since at least 1960, when the government first began tracking such entries. The number was similarly high for the 2000 fiscal year, when border agents caught 1.6 million people, according to government data. Single adults represented the largest group of those detained in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, at 1.1 million, or 64 percent of all crossers. There were also large numbers of migrant families — more A public health rule, invoked by President than 479,000, which is about 48,000 fewer Donald J. Trump at the beginning of the

A record 1.7 million migrants from around the than during the last surge in family crossings in 2019. But the nearly 147,000 children whom agents encountered without parents or guardians was the largest number since 2008, when the government started tallying unaccompanied minors. Finding shelter for these migrant children, until they can be released to relatives or other sponsors in the country, was one of the president's earliest challenges. As of Friday, nearly 11,000 remained in government custody. The crossers hailed from around the globe, many of them seeking economic opportunity as the coronavirus pandemic erased hundreds of millions of jobs. Agents caught people from more than 160 countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, with Mexico accounting for the largest share.



immigration judge for removal proceedings, according to Customs and Border Protection.

Senator Tom Cotton, Republican of Arkansas, called on Friday for the Biden administration to declare a national emergency on the southern border. The crossings this year followed a relative lull in 2020, when just over 400,000 people were encountered trying to

pandemic in 2020 to seal the border, has remained in place under the Biden administration. Over the last 12 months, the Border Patrol has carried out more than one million expulsions of migrants back to Mexico or to the migrants' home countries. Agents used the public health rule to expel migrants they encountered 61 percent of the time and to expel families 26 percent of the time. President Biden has walked a fine line between trying to control the influx and put in place a more humane approach to border enforcement. Republicans have blamed Mr. Biden's promises to reverse Trump-era immigration policies for fueling the surge, as word spread that the country's borders had become easier to breach. "What we are seeing at the southern border is a crisis," Mike Pompeo, a former secretary of state under Mr. Trump, said on Twitter Friday afternoon. "If the Biden Administration would've kept the policies we had in place, this would have never happened."

the Biden administration continues to use the Trump-era public health rule to deter migration, people from Mexico and the Northern Triangle countries — El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras — have crossed without authorization in high numbers for several consecutive months. In addition to the pandemic, two hurricanes destroyed livelihoods and homes in Guatemala and Honduras, where extortion and violence from gangs have persisted in many communities, further fueling an exodus. The sustained increase has led to overcrowding, and sometimes chaos, at processing centers along the border, where migrants must be held until the U.S. authorities have conducted background checks and entered every single person into a computer. More than 655,000 Mexicans were arrested, the most from any one country, according to the latest data, along with a combined total of more than 700,000 from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. Together, migrants from Mexico and Central America represented 78 percent of the total. Over the past year, there

enter the country illegally. The drop was large-

ly attributed to the pandemic's impact on international travel, which kept migrants leaving

far-flung countries from reaching Mexico,

their entry point to the United States. Even as

In particular, Republican lawmakers have been sharply critical of the admission of tens of thousands of unaccompanied children, along with many families, who would have been turned back under the Trump administration. The Border Patrol released nearly Mexico and Central America represented 78 percent of the total. Over the past year, there some with instructions to appear before an was a significant jump in the number of

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migrants — mostly families — from Brazil, which has been in the grips of the worst Covid crisis in South America. More migrants also arrived from Venezuela, Nicaragua and India, among many others. Southern border apprehensions previously reached such high levels in the late 1990s, peaking in 2000, when many migrants who entered the country unlawfully were drawn to jobs in construction, food processing and restaurants. As in the past year, most of those who entered were single adults from Mexico. Many of them tried more than once to sneak into the country, usually until they succeeded, because they did not face significant legal consequences, said Jessica Bolter, an analyst with the Migration Policy Institute. She added that there were "lots of incentives for migrants to try to cross over and over." When the Trump administration first invoked the current public health rule, known as Title 42, officials said it was needed to avoid the spread of the coronavirus in the United States. But it has had the unintended consequence of encouraging hundreds of thousands of desperate people to make repeated attempts to enter the country. Many of those subjected to the rule are expeditiously returned to Mexico, often by bus, only to try again a few days later. Before the public health rule was put in place at the beginning of the pandemic, migrants caught entering the country without authorization could be criminally prosecuted and detained for months. In September, about 25 percent of the arrests were of repeat crossers. The high rate of recidivism suggests the majority of border crossers in recent years have been caught, which was not the case during previous peaks. The number of Border Patrol agents has increased substantially in the last decade, and technology like heat sensors, cameras and drones makes it difficult to evade capture. "There were not nearly as many agents, they had little technology, and there were a lot of easy places to cross," said Jeff Passel, a demographer at

the nonpartisan Pew Research Center who studies the population of those who enter without authorization. "Data shows the Border Patrol now catch almost everybody who tries to cross illegally." When Mr. Biden took office, the administration was aware of an uptick in the number of migrants heading north, but it appeared to be caught flat-footed by the large jump in the numbers that followed and by how long the trend has lasted. The data released on Friday also shows a sharp increase in the number of Haitian migrants who crossed last month — more than 17,000, or 38 percent of the total number of Haitians who were caught crossing illegally over the past 12 months. The Biden administration's response to their arrival in high numbers in Del Rio, Texas, has drawn broad criticism and raised concerns about the mistreatment of Black migrants in particular. Of the Haitians who crossed in September, 36 percent were turned away under the public health rule, including more than 2,500 who had arrived in family units. In all, the Biden administration used the rule to turn away 54 percent of all the migrants caught crossing illegally last month. To comply with a recent court order, the Biden administration has said it plans next month to resume a Trump-era policy known as "Remain in Mexico," which mandates that asylum seekers wait in Mexico for their immigration court hearings in the United States, pending agreement from the Mexican government. The administration early this year had ended that program, which accounts for some of the increase in crossings this year. The program has been criticized for subjecting thousands of migrant families to violence, including kidnappings for ransom, in Mexican border towns controlled by drug cartels.

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/22/us/politics/border-crossings-immigration-record-high.html

Pope Urges Govts To Stop Sending Migrants Back To Libya

Pope Francis on Sunday urged governments to stop returning migrants to countries like Libya where they are sent to detention centres rife with abuse, and prioritise saving lives of those crossing the Mediterranean. pontiff's message comes as Italy sees an increase in migrant arrivals from Libya, and the debate within a divided EU shifts to migrants entering the bloc's eastern borders with Belarus. "I express my closeness to the thousands of migrants, refugees and also others in need of protection in Libya," Francis said in a heartfelt message following his Sunday Angelus prayer on Saint Peter's Square in the Vatican. "I don't forget you ever. I hear your cry and pray for you," he said. "So many of these men, women and are subject children to an inhumane violence," the pope said. "Yet again I exhort the international community to keep their promises and find common, concrete and lasting solutions, to manage the migrant flows in Libya and all the Mediterranean." Governments must stop returning migrants to "non-secure countries" like Libya, 84-year-old pontiff said. He urged them to prioritise saving lives in the Mediterranean, offer safe disembarkations at ports and guarantee migrants "alternatives to detention" and access to asylum. Italy and the European Union have for years financed, trained and equipped the Libyan coastguard to intercept migrants heading for Europe on makeshift boats. Those intercepted at sea and returned to Libya are placed in detention centres in deplorable conditions. Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi told Parliament Wednesday that arrivals to Italy from the Mediterranean had doubled thus far this year to 50,500 versus 26,000 in the same year-ago period. About 1,106 people died this year attempting the

crossing, he said. On Sunday, migrant rescue hotline Alarm Phone said two inflatable boats in the Mediterranean carrying 60 and 68 people, respectively, needed urgent intervention.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/833110/pope-urg-es-govts-to-stop-sending-migrants-back-to-libya/

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Trump's New Social Media Backer Tied To China Lifestyle Venture

New Trump platform 'Truth Social' backed by venture capitalist who runs a SPAC based in Wuhan, China.

Former United States President Donald Trump's new social media company, Truth Social, is backed by a Florida-based capitalist with ties to an investment vehicle in China, according to Securities and Exchange Commission filings. Patrick Orlando, who heads the blank-check company taking Trump's Truth Social public in US markets, is also the CEO of Yunhong International, a tax-haven Cayman Islands-registered company, with a business address in Wuhan, China. Yunhong International aims to "capitalize on growing opportunities created by consumer/lifestyle businesses that have their primary operations in Asia", it said in a recent SEC filing. Orlando is the CEO of Digital World Acquisition Corp whose shares have skyrocketed since disclosing the firm plans to acquire Trump's new social media company.

Shares in Digital World extended their rally

on Friday, surging above \$100 in heavy trading, up from \$10 a share before the announcement two days ago. Hedge funds that invested in Digital World are set to make five times their investment, regulatory filings showed, while Orlando, who backed the deal, is likely to see a \$420m windfall from the surge in shares, the Reuters news service reported. Digital World was the most discussed stock on trading-focused social media site Stocktwits. platform seen as a measure of interest from individual investors and meme stock players. Message volumes on Stocktwits related to the SPAC were up more than 9,000 percent, Reuters reported.

As US president, Trump bashed China for its trade practices and blamed the Chinese government for the coronavirus pandemic, which originated in Wuhan. Trump's rhetoric at the end of his presidency was so threatening, that the top US military general, Mark Milley called his counterpart to calm Chinese fears. SPACs are "special purpose acquisition companies" – hot but risky new Wall Street financing vehicles also known as blank-check companies – that raise funds on the public financial markets and then seek out existing businesses to acquire.

"No matter your politics this stock will rip ... I'll start my pick up at a meager 100 shares and then add to my position on dips,"

a Reddit message board user wrote. SPACs accounted for half of the newly listed public companies in the US in 2020 and, in the first



Patrick Orlando, the financial backer of Trump's new company Truth Social public, is also the CEO of Yunhong International, based in Wuhan. [File: Thomas Peter/Reuters]

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quarter of 2021, there were 295 new SPACs formed raising a record \$96bn, according to the Harvard Business Review. Saying he was creating the site "to stand up to the tyranny of big tech", Trump nnounced on October 20 that Truth Social, which has yet to launch, would be opened to invited guests in November and all users in early 2022. Trump, who had built a huge social media following during his presidency, was banned by major US social platforms, Twitter, Facebook and others, after his repeated false claims the 2020 election was stolen and his supporters violently stormed the US Capitol on January 6. "We live in a world where the Taliban has a huge presence on Twitter, yet your favorite American president has been silenced," Trump said.

"I'm excited to soon begin sharing my thoughts on TRUTH Social and to fight back against Big Tech," Trump said.

Trump's new company is planning video-on-demand service dubbed TMTG+ that will feature entertainment programming, news and podcasts. Some tech users were able to create fake accounts on the site, which one person said appeared to be based on open-source code. An earlier effort to launch a blog on Trump's existing website was abandoned after the page drew a low number of followers. Orlando is a 1995 graduate of the MIT Sloan School of Management who has been involved in finance, derivatives and commodities trading for more than 20 years, according to a profile statement on his company Benessere Investment Group's website.

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/10/22 24 /trumps-new-social-media-backer-tied-to-china-lifestyle-venture

Zayn Malik denies assault of Gigi Hadid's mum Yolanda Hadid

Zayn Malik has "adamantly" denied assault of Gigi Hadid's mum, Yolanda Hadid. The former One Direction singer told TMZ claims that he hit Yolanda Hadid are "false allegations". Zayn Malik didn't directly address the allegations in a statement posted on Twitter, but he did ask for privacy and said he hoped for "healing for all involved". Yolanda has not commented in public yet. Gigi Hadid also asked for privacy for herself and their daughter in a separate statement given to E! News. Zayn's statement to TMZ read: "I adamantly deny striking Yolanda Hadid and for the sake of my daughter I decline to give any further details and I hope that Yolanda will reconsider her false allegations and move towards healing these family issues in private." In his post on Twitter, he wrote: "I had agreed not to contest claims arising from an argument I had with a family member of my partner's.

"Despite my efforts to restore us to a peaceful family environment that will allow for me to co-parent my daughter in a manner which she deserves, this has been 'leaked' to the press." Zayn, 28, and Gigi, 26, started dating in 2015, and had their daughter Khai in 2020. TMZ reports they are no longer together. In Gigi's statement, her representative said she is "solely focused on the best for Khai". Newsbeat contacted Zayn, Yolanda and Gigi for a comment, but they haven't yet responded.

https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-59087450

Man With Bow and Arrows Kills Five in Norway

As the country went on alert, the police scrambled to investigate an attack in a town 50 miles outside Oslo. By Henrik Pryser Libell

OSLO — A man armed with a bow and arrows went on a rampage in a Norwegian town outside Oslo on Wednesday, killing five people and wounding two others in the deadliest attack in Norway in a decade, the authorities said. The police said they had taken a suspect into custody after the attack in Kongs-



berg, a town of 26,000 people about 50 miles southwest of Oslo. But the killings left a country where murder is rare, and the police usually unarmed, on edge, as Norwegians waited to learn what had happened — and why. "The incident has left us all shaken," said Prime Minister Erna Solberg. "The news is terrifying. I understand that people are getting scared." The authorities said they had yet to establish a motive. "I emphasize that we do not know if it is terror or not," Ms. Solberg said. An assistant police chief, Oyvind Aas, said investigators were not searching for accomplices. "The information we now have, this person carried out these actions alone," he told reporters. The attack began shortly after 6 p.m., when the assailant began making his way through the center of the town. The authorities, after urging residents to seek shelter inside, apprehended the suspect about a half-hour later. The killings mobilized public officials and services nationwide. Hospitals were put on alert, as was the Justice Ministry. Specialized national police units were summoned, and helicopters circled overhead. Across the country, the Norwegian police were given authorization to carry weapons

"due to the serious incident in Kongsberg," the authorities said in a statement late Wednesday. Officials described it as a precaution. "The police currently have no concrete indications that there is a change in the threat level in the country," the statement said. The police released little information about the suspect except to say that he was a 37-year-old Danish man living in Kongsberg. "It is natural to consider if it is a terror event," Chief Aas said at a news conference, adding that it was "too soon to say for sure what the man's motivation is." The assailant ranged over a broad swath of the city, leaving investigators with an extensive crime scene to scour. One witness, Kjetil Stormark, who is editor of a national security news site, said the police had secured a supermarket where part of the attack was said to have taken place and a section of a street. The authorities said they were looking into whether another weapon, a knife, may also have been used in the attacks. An off-duty police officer who was not in 25 uniform was among those injured in the attack, the authorities said. Murder is rare in Norway. In a country with a population of a bit more than five million, there were 31 mur-

ders in 2020, most involving people who knew one another. But the attack Wednesday came just months after Norwegians marked a somber anniversary: One decade ago, the country suffered its deadliest attack since World War II. In July 2011, a right-wing extremist detonated a bomb in Oslo and then went on a shooting rampage at a political summer camp for young people on the small island of Utoya. In all, 77 were killed. In the years since the massacre, Norway has struggled to reckon with the trauma and been forced to grapple with painful questions of what could cause an individual to veer so far from the democratic principles that, along with revenue from fossil fuel, have given Norwegians one of the world's highest standards of living. While that was the worst recent episode in the largely peaceful country, a little over two years ago, a young man entered a mosque near Oslo armed and wearing body armor and a helmet before being overpowered by a worshiper. The man had first killed his sister, the police said, and he was sentenced for that murder. The Norwegian authorities have expressed concern that not enough is being done to root out right-wing extremism, especially among young people. In July, analysts with the country's intelligence services warned that a decade after the Utoya attack, there are young men and boys who idolize the gunman. On Wednesday, as helicopters hovered over Kongsberg and investigators worked their way through the streets, residents expressed horror and disbelief that their country, and this time their hometown, could be the target of such violence. "This is a tragedy, completely terrible," said Mayor Kari Anne Sand. "This is the kind of thing you believe cannot happen in Kongsberg. Now we just have to handle it in 26 the best manner possible."

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/13/world/europe/norway-bow-arrow-attack.html

Covid-19: Milton Keynes Council issues Covid warning after cases rise



A council has urged residents to take Covid-19 measures seriously after an increase in the number of cases.

According to government data, 181 positive cases were reported in Milton Keynes on 28 October compared to 185 on 11 October. Between 22 October and 28 October, 1,344 people had a confirmed positive test result, an increase of 2.4% on the previous seven days. The council's leader Pete Marland said the town's hospital was "very busy". Vicky Head, Milton Keynes's director of public health, said getting vaccinated was "the single biggest thing" people could do protect themselves and others. She also said measures such as wearing a face covering in busy places, opening windows for ventilation, social distancing, washing hands and regular testing would help control the virus. "We can't reply on vaccination alone to keep the pressures on the NHS to a manageable level," Ms Head said. In the seven-day period up to 23 October, the case rate per 100,000 people in Milton Keynes was 530.7. The council said although cases "may be higher in children, the health impact is much greater amongst the adult population" and therefore "everybody must take precautions".

https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-59089868

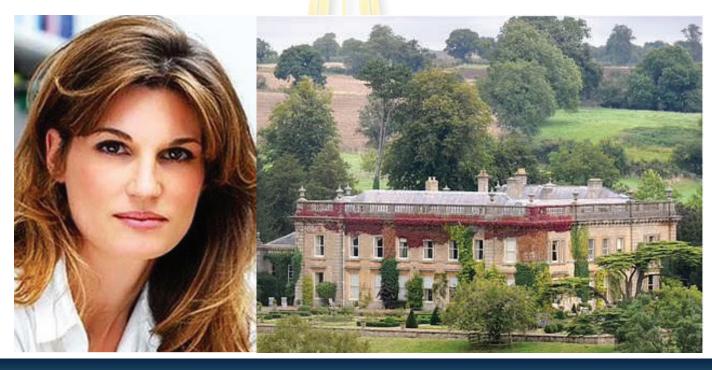
Jemima Khan In Row With Village Locals Who Say They Cannot Visit Loved Ones' Graves In Churchyard On Her £15m Estate Because The Gates Are Locked

By: Katie Feehan

- Christopher and Wendy Earl say they are often locked out of estate's churchyard
- Couple claim one day they were let in only after ex-PM David Cameron arrived
- Reps for Ms Khan say steps have been taken to ensure 24/7 access is available
- They cite concerns over two male stalkers as reason vehicle access is restricted

Multi-millionaire Jemima Khan is caught up in a row over car access to a churchyard on her £15million estate as locals claim they cannot visit loved ones' graves. A couple who make the 80-minute round trip to the churchyard on special occasions say they often find they are locked out and on one occasion had to be let in by former prime minister David Cameron. Ms Khan, a journalist and filmmaker now known by her maiden name of Goldsmith, bought Kiddington Hall, near Woodstock, Oxfordshire, in 2010. She claims, through representatives, that there are measures in place to ensure access is available at any time of day. A spokesman added that the gates are now kept locked as Ms Khan has had 'an ongoing problem with two male stalkers'. The Grade II listed stately home has 466 acres of surrounding landscaped parkland including St Nicholas' Church in the grounds.

There is pedestrian right of access to the churchyard but car access and parking is by courtesy. Christopher and Wendy Earl, from Cowley, Oxon, make the 80-minute round trip to the church on special occasions to lay flowers on family members' graves. They say while the previous owner used to leave the gate open for visitors to the graveyard, they now routinely find themselves locked out. Mr Earl said: 'We turned up one day and we could not get in. I have double arthritis and walk with two sticks. Walking up is difficult, not just for me but for any disabled person. 'The previous owner of the Hall always left the gate open, it's been like that forever. We never had a problem until it was bought by Jemima Khan. 'We wrote to the Bishop of Oxford and he passed us on to the Bishop of Dorchester. Apparently, they were meeting with Jemima Khan and it was resolved. 'There was a buzzer



system so that we could call the Hall for access and someone would open the gate.

'But we went in August and nobody was around at the Hall and it was only because some people were driving out that we could get in. 'Last week, the buzzer was not working at all.' Miss Goldsmith, who is the daughter of financier Sir James Goldsmith and former wife of ex- cricketer and now Prime Minister of Pakistan, Imran Khan, reportedly paid £15 million for the estate described as a 'jewel in the heart of Oxfordshire'. Mrs Earl added: 'I spoke to a young gardener and asked him what the problem was with the buzzer system and he said there's nobody in the hall to open the gate and all the staff had a day off. So we had to walk around again. 'One time we were there they would not open the gate and luckily David Cameron turned up, taking his daughter horse-riding and he had the code and let us in.' The home features nine bedrooms, five bathrooms, five reception rooms, an orangery and tennis courts. Dating back to 1673, Kiddington Hall sits in parkland designed by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, the 18th-century landscape architect. There are three further houses and cottages, a farm, woodland and a lake on the estate, as well as the church and graveyard. Revd Stephen Jones, the Vicar of Glympton Kiddington, Wootton, and explained that although the pedestrian access is a legal right of way, the driveway is not. He said: 'This has come up before. We should be able to press a button and someone should answer. 'It was not resolved because we have not got the right to demand entrance. People

coming to the gate should be able to get an answer through pressing the button on the machine.' Mrs Earl said: 'If there's nobody to answer the buzzer then surely they should leave the bottom gate open. 'They said originally it was because they had a burglary but anyone can get in anyway because there's a pedestrian gate.' The Bishop of Dorchester, the Rt Revd Gavin Collins, said: 'Jemima

Goldsmith is very supportive of the local church and community. We are grateful for all she has done to ensure ease of access for parishioners and graveyard visitors alike and we are happy to affirm the arrangements currently in place.' A spokesperson for Jemima Khan said the gardener who is resident on the property gave his personal mobile to the couple in question, in case they ever needed to gain vehicular access in the future. She added: 'There has always been a prominent sign up beside the gates indicating that you can ring the bell to gain vehicular access at any time of any day including weekends (it is currently being repaired after someone drove into it!) and the gates are always open for church services. 'The gate was not left open before by the previous owner- it didn't exist. Jemima reinstated the original gate for security reasons after having an ongoing problem with two male stalkers with criminal records. 'She has never had any complaints and all of her neighbours have been very understanding about the situation.'

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10107531/amp/Jemima-Khan-caughtcemetery-row-locals-say-visit-graves-Kiddington-Hall.html

Lahore International Magazine

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- 💶 lahoreinternational
- lahoreinternational
- **S** lahoreintl
- +447940077825
- +447940077825
- **⋈** lahoreintlondon@gmail.com

Amazon Founder Says His Company "Will Go Bankrupt"... amazon

By: Laila Husain

Jeff Bezos just shocked Amazon investors to the core with this bold prediction:

"I predict one day, Amazon will fail."

In a recent interview, Bezos explained that he believes "Amazon will be disrupted one day" and eventually "will go bankrupt." What might be even more alarming is that Bezos has been dumping roughly \$1 billion worth of Amazon stock every year... But Bezos isn't just cashing out, he's reinvesting his money into a fast-emerging technology that he believes will "improve every business." What most people don't know... is that there is a tiny component powering this tech revolution... a component that Amazon doesn't produce in-house. That's because another company (less than 1/6th the size of Amazon)...is producing a component so powerful that it is absolutely annihilating the competition. He's not alone in seeing it this way...

- A Shark Tank billionaire says it will create the world's first trillionaire
- Elon Musk is contributing to a \$1 billion investment in this technology
- Even super-investor Warren Buffett says that it's "enormously disruptive" and will have a "hugely beneficial social effect"

So what is it about this technology that has some of the most successful investors in the world pouring fortunes into it? They see it as a massive investing opportunity — much bigger than Amazon, Tesla, and Berkshire Hathaway combined. You see, even though these billionaires have been openly talking about this technology to anyone who will listen, most ordinary Americans still don't know about this remarkable opportunity!

Namely, some market researchers believe this technology could potentially be worth up to \$19 TRILLION! With numbers like that, and with so many of the richest investors and entrepreneurs in the world racing to get in on this new technology... you can see why paying attention could really pay off. But we believe the biggest returns are yet to come.

Which is why I don't feel like I'm very far out

on a limb with this "bold" prediction: Five years from now, you'll probably wish you'd bought this stock. And the good news is that you can find out all about this company and this incredible technology today. What I've told you so far is just the tip of the iceberg... So, to help regular Americans like you understand how to take advantage of this emerging trend, The Motley Fool's team of investment analysts has laid out the full story on this incredible tech trend in a brand-new, FREE report. And trust me... you are going to want to see this report before you invest \$1 on any tech company. You see, we've laid out the full story on this "powerful trend" in an exclusive report – but you'll need to act quickly...

Because according to our analysts, this next-gen tech revolution looks like it's about to take off, and I think you'll want to get in on this before that happens. This technology could hit the mainstream at any time.

https://www.fool.com/ext-content/ama-zon-ceo-says-his-company-will-go-bankrupt /?utm_source=liveintent&utm_medium=content-marketing&utm_campaign=ai-ceobankrupt &aid=8976&paid=8976&waid=8976&source=esalviwdg0500004&psource=esalviwdg0500004 &wsource=esalviwdg0500004 &utm_term=130&utm_content=907215&li_did=b7cbee6f-afa8-3cbc-ad5f-83935e97eb30&testId=ai-ceobankrupt&cellId=2&campaign=sa-ai

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Explainer: Beyond Delta, Scientists Are Watching New Coronavirus Variants

The continued spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has spawned a Greek alphabet of variants — a naming system used by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to track concerning new mutations of the virus that causes Covid-19. Some have equipped the virus with better ways of infecting humans or evading vaccine protection.

Scientists remain focused on Delta, now the dominant variant rising rapidly around the world, but are tracking others to see what may one day take its place.

Delta variant

The Delta variant first detected in India remains the most worrisome. It is striking unvaccinated populations in many countries and has proven capable of infecting a higher proportion of vaccinated people than its predecessors.

The WHO classifies Delta as a variant of concern, meaning it has been shown capable of increasing transmissibility, causing more severe disease or reducing the benefit of vaccines and treatments. According to Shane Crotty, a virologist at the La Jolla Institute for Immunology in San Diego, Delta's "superpower" is its transmissibility. Chinese researchers found that people infected with Delta carry 1.260 times more virus in their noses compared with the original version of the coronavirus. Some US research suggests that the "viral load" in vaccinated individuals who become infected with Delta is on par with those who are unvaccinated, but more research is needed. While the original corona-3() virus took up to seven days to cause symptoms, Delta can cause symptoms two to three days faster, giving the immune system less time to respond and mount a defence. Delta

reports emerging of a "Delta Plus" variant, a sub-lineage that carries an additional mutation that has been shown to evade immune protection. India listed Delta Plus as a variant of concern in June, but neither the US Centres For Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) nor the WHO have done so yet. According to Outbreak.info, an open-source Covid-19 database, Delta Plus has been detected in at least 32 countries. Experts say it is not yet clear whether it is more dangerous.

Lambda — on the wane?

The Lambda variant has attracted attention as a potential new threat. But this version of the coronavirus, first identified in Peru in December, may be receding, several infectious disease experts told Reuters.

The WHO classifies Lambda as a variant of interest, meaning it carries mutations suspected of causing a change in transmissibility or causing more severe disease, but it is still under investigation. Lab studies show it has mutations that resist vaccine-induced antibodies. Dr Eric Topol, a professor of molecular medicine and director of the Scripps Research Translational Institute in La Jolla, California, said the percentage of new Lambda cases reported to GISAID, a database that tracks SARS-CoV-2 variants, has been dropping, a sign that the variant is waning. In a recent call with the CDC, disease experts said Lambda did not appear to be causing increased transmissibility, and vaccines appear to be holding up well against it, said Dr William Schaffner, an infectious diseases expert at Vanderbilt University Medical Centre who attended the discussion.

B.1.621 — one to watch

The B.1.621 variant, which first arose in also appears to be mutating further, with Colombia in January, where it caused a major

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outbreak, has yet to earn a Greek letter name. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control has listed it as a variant of interest, while Public Health England describes B.1.621 as a variant under investigation. It carries several key mutations, including E484K, N501Y and D614G, that have been linked with increased transmissibility and reduced immune protection. So far, there have been 37 likely and confirmed cases in the UK, according to a recent government report, and the variant has been identified in a number of patients in Florida.

More on the way?

Dr Anthony Fauci, the White House's chief medical adviser, recently warned that the United States could be in trouble unless more Americans get vaccinated, as a large pool of unvaccinated people gives the virus more opportunity to spread and mutate into new variants. Proponents of greater international distribution of vaccine doses by rich countries say the same thing could happen as variants emerge unchecked among the populations of poor nations where very few people have been inoculated. Even so, a key issue is that the current vaccines block severe disease but do not prevent infection, said Dr Gregory Poland, a vaccine scientist at the Mayo Clinic. That is because the virus is still capable of replicating in the nose, even among vaccinated people, who can then transmit the disease through tiny, aerosolised droplets.

To defeat SARS-CoV-2, he said, will likely require a new generation of vaccines that also block transmission. Until then, the world will remain vulnerable to the rise of new coronavirus variants, according to Poland and other experts.

https://www.dawn.com/news/1639498/ex-plainer-beyond-delta-scientists-are-watching -new-coronavirus-variants

Aryan Khan restricted from leaving India in bail conditions



Aryan Khan restricted from leaving India in bail conditions. Aryan Khan's bail order has been released by the Bombay High Court. The order states 14 conditions in total, which Aryan Khan, Arbaaz Khan and Munmun Damecha. are to abide by. HC states that, "each accused be released on bail on furnishing personal bond of Rs. 1 lakh with one or more sureties of like amount." The court has restricted Aryan from leaving the country, has asked the 23-year-old to surrender his passport. The star kid is also scheduled to visit NCB every Friday.

ORDER

Applicants viz Accused No.1 – Aryan Shah Rukh Khan, Accused No.2 – Arbaaz A. Merchant & Accused No.3 – Munmun Amit Kumar Dhamecha are directed to be released on bail in C.R. No.94 of 2021 registered with the non-applicant for the offence punishable under the NDPS Act, 1985 on the following conditions:-

- (a) Each of the Applicants/Accused shall execute P. R. Bond of Rs, 1 lakh with one or more sureties in the like amount.
- (b) Applicants/Accused shall not indulge in any activity similar to the activities on the basis of which the said CR stands registered against them for offences under the NDPS Act.
- (c) Applicants/Accused shall not try to establish communication with co-accused or any other person involved directly or indirectly in similar activities or

www.thenews.com.pk/latest/904159-aryan-khan -restricted-from-leaving-india-in-bail-conditions

Afghanistan Pullout, Smart Move Or Huge Mistake?

By: Masood Ashraf

After a two-decade war, US troops have thize with the Mujahadeen, they are accused begun to withdraw from a nation in which of helping terrorists, and if they side with the they first trained their forces to fight their war against Soviets and named them Mujahadeen in the 80's. In 1989 the US packed up and left without rebuilding and having some sort of solid government in place. Thus, with the government in turmoil and the country in chaos those trained Mujahideen betrayed by the US started to preach their hate for the United States and its allies. Neighboring country Pakistan which played a critical role in accommodating the wishes of the United States in training these Mujahideen and providing all logistics support throughout the war became an enemy of the Mujahideen also because they were helping the US. Sectarian violence from these groups of Mujahideen which were working out of Pakistan and the refugee crisis became a huge problem for Pakistan with no or little help from the US. Then 9-11 happens and all of sudden focus is shifted back to Afghanistan. Those same freedom fighters were now named terrorists by the US government. On the other hand, Pakistan is caught in crossfire and now dealing with a double-edged sword. If they sympa-

US, they are the enemies of the Mujahideen who have integrated into Pakistan's society over many years of war and now are an integral part of Pakistan. With the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan these past few months, an opportunity was provided to the Taliban to regain support and power throughout the nation. After 20 years, the once US-backed country has rapidly started to fall into ruins, with millions of civilians attempting to leave the country and into safer areas. It is important to understand, that as important as some may believe it is important to pull US troops out of Afghanistan, it is just as important to understand that with no stability left it was almost inevitable what happened next. The decision to pull US troops out of Afghanistan was widely disputed as President Biden claimed to stand "squarely behind" his decision. In actuality, the almost immediate collapse of the Afghani government after the decision was almost too unexpected and unanticipated, A country that was heavily influenced by US aid, support and almost overnight turned leadership was



upside down into one of the most unstable areas the world has ever seen after they were cut off from everything that kept them together. Soon after, many US intelligence services responded by saying that the total overturn of Afghaniincredibly stan was unanticipated and not to the extent to which

they had expected. It is worth noting that in the teachings of Islam, no action of sudden impulse or withdrawal is encouraged, for fear of the inevitable instability that will follow after. Sixteen-hundred years ago in the era of Islam's most beloved Prophet Muhammad (sa), Islam introduced a new teaching that encouraged the freedom and independence of every individual from bondage. It not only valued every person's right to be free, but also their right to stand on their own two feet and be their own person. However, emancipation did not necessarily mean a good life for those who left bondage. After many years of living a certain lifestyle, integrating into society was more difficult than ever because of lack of guidance and training. Therefore, there was an additional teaching practiced by the Holy Prophet (sa) that ensured the success and freedom of all those who had been emancipated. That is that before freeing an individual, guidance and instruction was given so that after being freed, individuals were capable and competent enough to integrate society and make a means for themselves in the best possible way and not be nuisance to society in any way instead be productive member of society. Similar thought process was behind US affirmative action implementation in 1960s but not followed through to its full extent. In the same way, should the Afghani government have received aid and support before being weaned off US support. Abruptly cutting off spontaneously withdrawing from and anything can only result in confusion, disarray and chaos. However, with time, slow withdrawal, and guidance, and close monitoring could the US have chosen to use in the process of separating from Afghanistan and truly granting them their independence. In the same way a parent raises a child over years to become an adult, should countries who offer support to developing nations realize that a hand might be needed to provide stability and peace before leaving.

Duchess Camilla 'holds key' to pull Prince Charles away from royal responsibilities: report



An expert recently got candid about the "fun, naughty and spontaneous" relationship Duchess Camilla has with Prince Charles. The body language expert even spilled the beans on the shocking tactics the Duchess uses when attempting to pull Prince Charles' attention away from his royal duties. The Sun's Judi James made this claim and admitted that the couple's wedding anniversary photograph hints at an extremely close personal relationship.

"This pose probably reveals more about the secret of Charles and Camilla's marriage and enduring relationship than some of their royal appearances ever could."

"Casually dressed and clutching their dogs, the pair's body language resembles that of two giggly, naughty children rather than two high-ranking royals."

Not only that, "She looks far more relaxed than him, holding her dog casually while Charles appears to be clutching his awkwardly, like a guitar."

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/904140-duchess-camilla-holds-key-to-pull-prince-charles-away-f rom-royal-responsibilities-report

Sikhs Release New Map Of Khalistan

The Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) has released a new map of India showing not just Punjab but Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and several districts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh as part of Khalistan. Sikhs for Justice is a US-based Sikh organization that supports the secession of Punjab from India for the creation of Khalistan. It was founded and primarily headed by lawyer Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. It was banned in India in 2019 as an unlawful association.

The ban came after it started campaigns for a Punjab independence referendum in 2019 to carve out a separate Khalistan. The organization has been fighting a long peaceful legal battle against the Indian government and politicians involved in the 1984 deadly operation against Sikhs since 2011. Sikhs For Justice had filed criminal and human rights cases in the US courts against prominent leaders of the Congress Party (involved in Golden Temple Massacre). In February 2014, the organization filed human rights violation case against then Indian PM Dr. Manmohan Singh (a Sikh himself) for his role as finance minister of India in the 1990s accusing him of "funding crimes against humanity perpetrated upon the Sikh community in India".

They also submitted a report to United Nations Commission on Human Rights on 1984 anti-Sikh riots. SFJ started organizing a campaign for 'Referendum 2020' for the secession of the Indian Punjab state from India. The campaign was delayed due to the covid-19 pandemic.

34 Sukhpal Singh Khaira, MLA of Punjab Legislative Assembly and the Leader of Opposition at the time, said, "Sikh Referendum 2020 was a result of consistent policy of bias, discrimination and persecution towards the Sikhs by

successive governments in India".

The new map clearly depicts that the area will be cut off from India and made the Sikh country "Khalistan".

SFJ has designated areas that would be seceded from India for the establishment of Khalistan. In Rajasthan, far-flung Bundi and Kota have also been counted as 'Khalistan.' It has been claimed that these parts will be cut off from India. The map was released ahead of the organization's effort to hold a world over the non-binding peaceful referendum to gauge support for creation of Khalistan beginning next week (Oct 31st) in London, at the Queen Elizabeth Centre. The referendum is likely to gather huge support for the just cause and demands of Sikhs of India. Sikhs have been facing systematic persecutions and continuous exploitation at the hands of successive Indian governments. The movement itself is a big question mark on the secular face of India.

The latest move by the organization fully supported by Sikhs all over the world is a clear sign of the desperation of minorities in India to get out of the hold of highly biased and brutal Hindutva regime. The demands of Sikhs also exhibit that minorities of India now clearly understand that the future of their coming generations is at serious risk. The world community and international stakeholders/ organizations must take appropriate measures to avert the looming human catastrophe for Muslims and minorities in general and Kashmiris in particular.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/832808/sikhs-re-lease-new-map-of-khalistan/

CEO Says This Is Worth 35 Amazons

amazon

By: Rex Moore

Amazon's Jeff Bezos surprised investors recently when he revealed that one emerging technology is the key to Amazon's future success....

In fact, Bezos argues that "it's hard to overstate the impact" of this game-changing technology. The CEO of ARK Investments takes Bezos further: "We think [it] could approach \$17 trillion in market cap — which would be 35 Amazons."

What in the world could be worth 35 Amazons? The answer is a radical breakthrough that Wired says is "the rocket fuel of the AI." And this giant leap forward has many on Wall Street very excited. And if you're an investor, I haven't even told you the best part... Because one remarkable company is absolutely dominating this exploding market. More on that in a second, but I'm amazed at how the super-rich are reacting to this technology:

- A Shark Tank billionaire says it will create the world's first trillionaire
- Baidu CEO Robin Li pivoted his entire company — which includes his \$8.7 billion stake — to take advantage
- Even super investor Warren Buffett says that it will have a "hugely beneficial social effect"

When so many successful people are all saying the same thing, it usually pays to listen That's because another company (less than 1/6th the size of Amazon)...is producing a component so powerful that we see it as one of the true, enduring leaders in this futuristic technology. And with everything I'm hearing coming out of Silicon Valley and Wall Street... I don't feel like I'm very far out on a limb with this "bold" prediction: Five years



from now, you'll probably wish you'd bought this stock. And the good news is that you can find out all about this company and this extraordinary technology today. Because I've laid out the full story on this incredible tech trend in an exclusive report. And you are going to want to see this report before you invest \$1 on any tech company. Because inside you'll discover why some mega-rich investors are rushing to cash-in on this tech trend. And you'll find out how one legendary investor is preparing for this incredible opportunity. But if you want to get in on this opportunity, I encourage you to act quickly. Because the story of the coming boom is already starting to leak out.

https://www.fool.com/ext-content/-ceo-says-this-is-worth-35-amazons/?utm_source=liveintent&utm_medium=contentmarketing&utm_campaign=ai-35amazons&aid=8976&paid=8976&waid=8976&source=esalviwdg0310002&psource=esalviwdg0310002&wsource=esalviwdg0310002&utm_term=130&utm_content=875578&li_did=2d7230de-3e1c-389b-a7c0-2c0127c4c1c2&testId=advert-35-amazons&cellId=1&campaign=sa-ai

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'Starting a Fire': U.S. and China Enter **Dangerous Territory Over Taiwan**

By: Chris Buckley and Steven Lee Myers

Taiwanese helicopters flying through Taipei, the capital. China's growing military might has for the first time made a conquest of Taiwan conceivable, perhaps even tempting.-Credit...Lam Yik Fei for The New York Times

The 25 Chinese fighter jets, bombers and The United States wants to thwart any invaother warplanes flew in menacing formations off the southern end of Taiwan, a show of military might on China's National Day, Oct. 1. The incursions, dozens upon dozens, continued into the night and the days that followed and surged to the highest numbers ever on Monday, when 56 warplanes tested Taiwan's beleaguered air defenses. Taiwan's jets scrambled to keep up, while the United States warned China that its "provocative military activity" undermined "regional peace and stability." China did not cower. When a Taiwanese combat air traffic controller radioed one Chinese aircraft, the pilot dismissed the challenge with an obscenity involving the officer's mother. As such confrontations intensify, the balance of power around Taiwan is shifting, fundamentally pushing decades-long impasse over its future into a dangerous new phase. After holding out against unification demands from China's communist rulers for more than 70 years, Taiwan is now at the heart of the deepening discord between China and the United States. The island's fate has the potential to reshape the regional order and even to ignite a military conflagration — intentional or not. "There's very little insulation left on the wiring in the relationship," Danny Russel, a former assistant secretary of state, said, "and it's not hard to imagine getting some crossed wires and that starting a fire." China's military might has, for the first time, made a conquest of mate the staunch determination, firm will and Taiwan conceivable, perhaps even tempting. powerful ability of the Chinese people to

sion but has watched its military dominance in Asia steadily erode. Taiwan's own military preparedness has withered, even as its people become increasingly resistant to unification. All three have sought to show resolve in hopes of averting war, only to provoke countermoves that compound distrust and increase the risk of miscalculation. At one particularly tense moment, in October 2020, American intelligence reports detailed how Chinese leaders had become worried that President Trump was preparing an attack. Those concerns, which could have been misread, prompted Gen. Mark A. Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, to call his counterpart in Beijing to assure otherwise. "The Taiwan issue has ceased to be a sort of narrow, boutique issue, and it's become a central theater — if not the central drama — in U.S.-China strategic competition," said Evan Medeiros, who served on President Obama's National Security Council. China's ambitious leader, Xi Jinping, now presides over what is arguably the country's most potent military in history. Some argue that Mr. Xi, who has set the stage to rule for a third term starting in 2022, could feel compelled to conquer Taiwan to crown his era in power. Mr. Xi said Saturday in Beijing that Taiwan independence "was a grave lurking threat to national rejuvenation." China wanted peaceful unification, he said, but added: "Nobody should underesti-

defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity." Few believe a war is imminent or foreordained, in part because the economic and diplomatic aftershocks would be staggering for China. Yet even if the recent flights into Taiwan's self-declared air identification zone are intended merely as political pressure, not a prelude to war, China's financial, political and military ascendancy has made preserving the island's security a gravely complex endeavor. Until recently, the United States believed it could hold Chinese territorial ambitions in check, but the military superiority it long held may not be enough. When the Pentagon organized a war game in October 2020, an American "blue team" struggled against new Chinese weaponry in a simulated battle over Taiwan. China now acts with increasing confidence, in part because many officials, including Mr. Xi, hold the view that American power has faltered. The United States' failures with the Covid-19 pandemic and its political upheavals have reinforced such views. Some advisers and former officers in China argue that the United States no longer has the will to send forces if a war were to break out over Taiwan. Under the right conditions, others suggest, the People's Liberation Army could prevail if it did. "Would the United States court death for Taiwan?" Teng Jiangun, a former Chinese navy captain, said in a recent interview on Chinese television. Such posturing, in turn, ignites more tensions. In Taiwan, China's military provocations have bolstered political support for the island's president, Tsai Ing-wen, who has sought to forge ties with countries increasingly wary of China. The Biden administration is trying to bolster Taiwan's defense capabilities and international standing, hoping to delay or prevent the need for American military intervention. "The three sides have seen their interactions caught in a vicious spiral," Jia Qingguo, a professor of international relations at Peking University who advises the Chinese government, recently wrote. "The process of vicious interactions between Taipei, Beijing, and Washington resembles the forming of a perfect storm."

A 'Historic Mission'

Two days after the fall of Kabul in August, as the Biden administration scrambled to evacuate thousands stranded by the American withdrawal, China staged military exercises explicitly designed to show off its prowess. Chinese warships fired missiles into the sea south of Taiwan, while amphibious landing vehicles swept ashore a beach in China. It was one of the largest exercises ever to simulate an invasion across the Taiwan Strait. In previous drills, the People's Liberation Army maintained a gauze of deniability about its imagined adversary, but this time it left no doubt. One officer on Chinese television warned the United States and Taiwan "not to play with fire on the Taiwan issue and immolate themselves." The question is whether Mr. Xi intends to act. He has vowed to lead the "great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," including bringing Taiwan under Chinese control. Some interpret that to mean within a decade, if not sooner. His hard-line policies have made it less likely that Taiwan could ever willingly agree to China's terms, especially after Mr. Xi throttled political freedoms in Hong Kong. Every leader since Mao has vowed to absorb Taiwan, but Mr. Xi is the first who commands a military strong enough to make forced unification plausible, albeit still a formidable task. Any assault on Taiwan, which lies 100 miles off the coast, would require overwhelming military advantage. Even if Chinese forces seized control over the island of 24 million, the war would badly shake China's economy and international relations, while exacting a significant human 37 toll. "Even moderate voices in Beijing have been calling for tossing out peaceful reunification," said Oriana Skylar Mastro, a fellow at Stanford University's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. "I think the military option is the option now." China's leaders began the long, politically fraught process of overhauling the People's Liberation Army after watching the United States put its military power on display in the Persian Gulf war against Iraq in 1990. Six years later, they understood just how far behind their military had fallen when the United States dispatched two aircraft carriers near Taiwan in response to China firing missiles into the seas near the island. After the American show of force, China backed down. Robert L. Thomas, a former vice admiral who commanded the United States Navy's Seventh Fleet in Japan, recalled a meeting with a Chinese admiral in 2015. The admiral told him that the 1996 confrontation still stung nearly two decades later. "It's clear to me that they won't allow themselves to be embarrassed again by a Taiwan Strait crisis where the U.S. Seventh Fleet shows up and says, 'Everybody calm' down," Mr. Thomas said. Since then, China's leaders have poured money into the People's Liberation Army. In a decade, military spending grew by 76 percent, reaching \$252 billion in 2020, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. (The United States spent \$778 billion on its military last year.) Mr. Xi has also reorganized the military, raising the status of naval and air forces and pushing commanders to master joint warfare. In an exercise last year, the military conducted a drill that simulated sealing off the Taiwan Strait from outside forces. What was unthinkable in 1996 could now be within reach. The exercise was like "trapping a turtle in a jar," said a website run by China's office for Taiwan affairs.

'A Matter of Time'

When the United States Air Force held its own war games over Taiwan in autumn last year, the outcome rattled Washington's political and military establishment. In war games since at least 2018, American "blue" teams

have repeatedly lost against a "red" team representing a hypothetical Chinese force in part by design, since the exercises are intended to test officers and war planners. In a game simulating a war around 2030, reported earlier by Defense News, the "blue" team struggled even when given new advanced fighter planes and other weapons still on the Pentagon's drawing board. The classified game culminated with China launching missile strikes against American bases and warships in the region, and then staging an air and amphibious assault on Taiwan, according to a Defense Department official. officials concluded that Taiwan, backed by the United States, could hold out for maybe two or three days before its defenses crumbled. The Pentagon's annual assessments of China's military have since 2000 chronicled its evolution from a large but ineffective force into a potential rival. Its latest report said Chinese capabilities have already surpassed the American military in some areas, including shipbuilding, conventional ballistic and cruise missiles, and integrated air defense systems. All three would be essential in any conflict over Taiwan. "I worry that they are accelerating their ambitions to supplant the United States," Admiral Philip S. Davidson, the retiring commander of the Indo-Pacific Command, told the Senate Armed Services Committee in March. "Taiwan is clearly one of their ambitions before then, and I think the threat is manifest during this decade; in fact, in the next six years." His bleak prediction has since colored debates in Washington over what to do. Some have argued that explicit security guarantees for Taiwan are needed. Others have called for building up of military forces around China, and helping Taiwan to do the same. "To us, it's only a matter of time, not a matter of if," Rear Admiral Michael Studeman, the director of intelligence with the United States' Indo-Pacific Command in Hawaii, said in a July talk, about the possibility of armed conflict over Taiwan. It is far sessions with the Taiwanese military. The from clear that Taiwan is ready. Since Taiwan's government has phased out mandatory conscription for most young men, it has struggled to sustain a professional, all-volunteer force. The state of its military has declined steadily, punctuated by a series of accidents, including a helicopter crash last year that killed its top commander. "The training isn't as intense as it was before," said Chang Yan-ting, a former deputy commander of Taiwan's air force. He said that decades of prosperity encouraged a view that the island no longer needed to maintain a heightened military alert. "That's in keeping with the whole tide of the times," he added, "but certainly it has some relative strategic impact, even if there hasn't been a war to test it." An internal assessment of the Chinese military by Taiwan's defense ministry, reviewed by The New York Times, also documented the increasing challenge. China's military, for example, has developed the capability to cripple communications around the island, the assessment found. That could hamper the arrival of American reinforcements. "This really is the grimmest time I've seen in my more than 40 years working in the military," Taiwan's minister of defense. Chiu Kuo-cheng, told lawmakers on Wednesday. China already had the means to invade Taiwan, though still at a high price, he said. "By 2025, the cost and attrition will be squeezed lowest, and so then it could be said to have 'full capability'." Since coming to office in January, the Biden administration has stepped up support, continuing moves made under President Trump. American warships sailed through the Taiwan Strait eight times in the first eight months of the year. The administration approved a new arms sale in August worth about \$750 million. Since at least last year, small teams of American troops, including Marines and Army special forces, have conducted training

administration has also marshaled statements supporting Taiwan and criticizing China from a succession of international summits, including the Group of 7. Chinese leaders, for their part, fear that American support for Taiwan is entrenching pro-independence tendencies. None of the American moves are entirely new, but as mutual animosity has deepened, Beijing views them as an increasingly belligerent strategy to "contain China by using Taiwan." The depth of American and allied assistance for Taiwan, though, has not been tested. "You get to this issue of how far are you willing to go to defend Taiwan," said Mr. Thomas, the former Seventh Fleet commander. "I've thought about it a lot, and I don't know if the United States is willing to see U.S. young people coming back in body bags for the defense of Taiwan." Behind the scenes, Biden administration officials have expressed worry that China is trying to normalize a new baseline of hostile pressure on Taiwan, and they have deliberated on ways to slow or thwart its military development. Mr. Biden is also trying to lower the temperature, speaking last month with Mr. Xi. On Tuesday he said he and the Chinese leader had agreed to the standing agreements on Taiwan. A day later, the White House announced that he and Mr. Xi would hold a virtual summit by the end of the year. The two leaders know each other well. A decade ago, Mr. Biden, then vice president, went to China to size up Mr. Xi before he became the nation's top leader. "My father used to tell me, Joey, the only thing worse than a war is an unintentional war," Mr. Biden told Mr. Xi, according to Mr. Russel, the former national security aide. Mr. Russel added: "I think it is a prescient warning."

https://www.nytimes.com/2021/10/09/ world/asia/united-states-china-taiwan.html

Kailash Temple Has Become The Icon Of Indian Heritage

were possessed by our ancestors to create the marvels in the form of temples? Kailash temple at Ellora is top on the list. The only man-made structure in the world where shikhara was constructed first and foundation in the last. Can anyone ever imagine building the peak first and then making the foundation of the temple? Writes Dr. Ujwala Chakradeo There is a great deal of mystique about temples. There is some kind of secretive element about temples that imparts this mystique aura. Attempts have been made in the past to unfold the mystery associated with temples and most of the time these efforts have resulted in causing an injury to these prestigious structures. The wounds are still bleeding in many places. What knowledge, strength and capability were possessed by our ancestors to create the marvels in the form of temples? Kailash temple at Ellora is top on the list. The only man-made structure in the world where shikhara was constructed first and foundation in the last. Can anyone ever imagine building the peak first and then making the foundation of the temple? This temple is said to be the replica of Mount Kailash in the Himalayas. Amazing and astonishing work of art is this Kailash temple at Ellora; about 30 KM away from the city of

What knowledge, strength and capability Aurangabad in Maharashtra. Completed by Rashtrakuta Raja Krishnaraja in the eighth century. The temple must have taken almost a hundred years to complete. The construction of the temple was started by King Dantidurg. This temple is one of the several caves on the site. Huge rock was first identified, a 30m x 60m rectangle was marked on it and this rectangular piece was then separated by digging a 30 m deep trench in the solid rock. Not a simple job to be performed. Almost 100 years were taken to complete the temple construction, better word would be temple carving. To dig the trench almost 40-thousand-ton stone was carved out and thrown outside. Even today, with all kinds of modern machinery available to man, it seems impossible to imagine how such a thing could have been manifested at that time. Moreover, it is impossible to imagine how the details and maps of the temple would have been made available from one generation to another over a period of one hundred years. There are many beautiful sculptures on the walls of the temple from top to bottom, all carved in a similar manner. one wrong stroke of a chisel would spoil the work of many hours. but not a single mistake is observed in the entire temple. The inner gabhara, which is also made of stone, has sculptures on the inner side of the roof. How difficult it must have been for the sculptors to carve such a beautiful sculpture without letting the pieces of stone get into the eye. The flagpole in front of the temple has become the icon of Indian heritage.

> https://www.weeklyblitz.net/interfaith/ kailash-temple-has-become-the-icon-of-indian-heritage/

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The Coronation Necklace 1858 - 1911



Jewellery, diamonds in particular, played a central part in Queen Victoria's conception of what a monarch, especially a female monarch, should wear on public and state occasions to uphold the dignity and splendour of the Crown. Diamonds conveyed the appropriate sense of magnificence, but her jewellery also needed to be of the appropriate scale to suit her unusually small stature (she was slightly under 5ft tall). With these considerations in mind, much of her inherited jewellery was remade in the early years of the reign under the direction and supervision of Prince Albert, in whose judgement and taste she had absolute trust. Winterhalter's portrait of the Queen in 1856 shows some of her most splendid diamonds: the Regal Circlet (remade for her by Garrards in 1853 with some of her grandmother Queen Charlotte's diamonds); the re-cut Koh-i-nûr, set as a brooch; and Queen Charlotte's diamond rivière necklace. A year later, to the Queen's very great dismay, the commission investigating the claim of the King of Hanover to Queen Charlotte's jewels ruled against her; and in 1858 a substantial portion of her jewellery (including the Circlet and the Oriental Tiara) had to be dismantled so that all the Hanoverian stones capable of identification could be returned. For this extensive work, which included the supply of a considerable number of additional stones, Garrards charged £8,851 1s. The replacement for Queen Charlotte's necklace was made at a cost of £65, using twenty-eight stones (three of which were subsequently removed) taken from two of the Queen's Garter badges and a sword hilt. At the same time, the central pendant of the Timur Ruby Necklace, known



as the Lahore Diamond, was made detachable so that it could be used on the new necklace; and the two side drops from the Timur Necklace (originally the side stones in the Indian setting of the Koh-i-nûr) were made into a pair of earrings at a cost of £23 10s. In 1859 Winterhalter painted the Queen in Robes of State wearing the new necklace and earrings; these were among the relatively small number of jewels the Queen allowed herself to wear in her long widowhood. The 'Coronation' sobriquet derives from the wearing of the necklace at the 1902, 1911, 1937 and 1953 coronations. Text adapted from Victoria & Albert: Art & Love, London, 2010

https://www.rct.uk/collection/themes/exhibitions/a-royal-welcome/buckingham-palace/the-coronation-necklace

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My Journey To Hajj Through Stamps

(Hajj - the Fifth Pillar of Islam) Part - 1

By: Rashed Ahmed - Canada

As ordained in the Holy Qur'an "Surely the first House founded for all mankind is at Baka (Makkah) abound in blessings and guidance" (3:97) It's obligatory for every Muslim to perform it once in a lifetime if he/she has the means, health permits and where there is no threat for life. However, there are very clear statements in the Qur'an describing it as an ancient institution, starting from times immemorial when the first House of God was built in Makkah. In the olden times, Makkah was pronounced Baka. It is also called Bait-ul-Ateeq, or the most ancient house. Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham)(as) raised it from the ruins, which he discovered under Divine guidance, he was commissioned by God to rebuild with the help of his son Ismail (Ishmael)(as). It is the same place where he left his wife Hadrat Hajirah (Hager) and son Ismail, again under Divine instruction, both of them worked together to rebuild the house and restarted the institution of pilgrimage. The culmination place 9th Dul-al-Hijjah takes on Waquf-e-Arafah at the plains of Arafat around Jabal-al-Rahmah (Mount of Mercy) where millions display universality in repenting for their past mistakes and seeking lord's forgiveness for the sins they committed in a clarion call to the Almighty invoking His mercy and blessings. There are other rituals and traditions which will be briefly explained. In Hajj, the male pilgrims do not wear any sewn garments; rater, they dress in two loose sheets called Ihram, which they don at Migats, the places where prophet Ibrahim (as) is know to have remembered God in the style of an inebriated lover, and extolled His glory with loud chanting, the pilgrims are required to do the

performed during pilgrimage are rooted in those early days of reconstruction of the House of God, and some even go beyond that. For instance, Sa'i, the running between Safa and Marwah, two small hillocks close to the House of God, is done in memory of Hadrat Hajira's search for some sign of human presence to help her and her child in their dire hour of need. The child is described as having become extremely restive with the agony of thirst, striking the earth with his heels in desperation. There, it is said, sprouted a fountain which still exists today. The source of water is today called the well of Zamzam, is considered to be blessed water. Most of the pilgrims who perform the Hajj try to bring some water from there by way of blessing for their relatives and friends. The Hajj is based on a pilgrimage that was ancient even in the time of Holy prophet Muhammad (swa) in the 7th century. Prior to prophet Muhammad (saw)'s era, each year tribes from all around the Arabian Peninsula would converge at Makkah, as part of the pilgrimage. The exact faith of the tribes was not important at that time; Arabs were as likely to make the pilgrimage as the, refer to the time before Muhammad (swa) as al-Jahiliayah, the days of ignorance, during which the Ka'aba contained hundreds of idols of pagan gods such as Hubal, al-Lat, Uzza and Manat. Muhammad (saw), was known to have regularly performed the Tawaf (encircling) Ka'aba and Umrah (lesser pilgrimage) even before, he began receiving revelations in 632 AD. When Hardrat Muhammad (saw) led his followers from Madina to Makkah, it was the first Hajj to be performed by Muslims alone, and the at the same places. Many rites only Hajj ever performed by Holy Prophet of

the idols, and re-ordained the building of Ka'aba as the "House of God". It was from this point that the Hajj became one of the Five Pillars of Islam. Let us take the journey of Hajj through stamps:

Pilgrims generally travel to Hajj in groups, by Airplane, Ships and by road. During Hajj, during the days of Hajj, male pilgrims are required to dress only in the Ihram, a garment consisting of two sheets of white unstitched cloth, with top draped over the torso and the bottom secured by a white sash; plus a pair of sandals. Women are simply required to maintain their normal modest dress, which does not cover the hands or face. It indicates that the institution of Pilgrimage began when man had not learned to wear sewn clothes As such, it seems that it is in memory of those ancient people who used to circuit the first house built for the worship of God. Ihram is meant to show equality of all pilgrims in the eyes of God; that there is no difference between a prince and a pauperState of Ihram is spiritual state of purity, during which the person must not quarrel, commit any act of violence or engage in sexual activity, and are not allowed to shave, clip nails, wear perfume swear, hunt, kill any creature, uproot or damage plants, marry perform any dishonest acts or carry weapons.. Normally a pilgrim who travels by Air, don their Ihram at the point of departure. The place designated for changing into state if Ihram is called Miqat.

The Migats are: Sahil Al-Kabir, Wadie Muhreem, Juhfa, Zat-i-Irq Mashar-al-Haram, Za'l-Hulafa and Miqat Al-Taniem or **Umrah Mosque**

Migat ('a stated place') are the stations at which pilgrims on the hajj, the pilgrimage to Makkah are required put on Ihram. These stations were set by Holy Prophet Muhammad (saw). After donning Ihram they chant Labbik Allahummah Labbaik......(Oh God! I am here...) and proceed towards the Sacred

Islam. He cleansed the Ka'aba, removed all of Mosque Masjid Al-Haram in Makkah for Tawaf-e-Qadum

> On the first day of Hajj (the 7th day of Dul-al-Hijjah the 12th month of lunar calendar) pilgrims perform Tawaf-e-Qdum or arrival Tawaf for hajj, which involves all the pilgrims entering the Sacred Mosque (Masjid Al-Haram) and encircling seven times counter-clockwise around the Kaa'ba, kissing the Hair Al Aswad (the Black Stone) they start their Tawaf . If kissing is not possible they simply point towards the stone on each circuit with their right hand. In each complete a pilgrim says "In the name of Allah, Allah the Greatest, Allah the Greatest and for Allah we are thankful" (Bism Allah Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar wa lil Lahi Alhamd) with 7 circuits constituting a complete Tawaf.

> After completing Tawaf on the same day, the pilgrims perform Sa'i (running or walking seven times between the hills of Safa and Marw'ah) this is a re-enactment of the frantic search for water for her son Ismaiel by Abrahms's wife Hagar. As she searched, the Zamzam Well was revealed to her by angel, who hit the ground under the hell of Hadrat Ismail upon which the water of Zamzam started gushing from the ground. Pilgrims are advised to make Sa'i and run through two green pillars a short section of the path. There is also an internal "express lane" for disabled, who are pushed in wheel chairs.

As part of this ritual the pilgrims also drink water from the Zamzam well, which is being made available in coolers through out the Holy Mosque. After performing the Tawaf and Sa'i, the pilgrims returns to their tents in Mina. Zamzam water has no color and smell, but it has distinct taste, and its' pH is 7.9 - 8.0indicating it is alkaline to some extent. On 43 their return journey home pilgrims bring with them the water from the well of Zamzam as source of blessings.

(To be Continue....)

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