



A4

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN
Sayyid Badr takes part in Manama Dialogue

1 Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, participated in the Manama Dialogue 2025 Forum, hosted by Bahrain in cooperation with the International Institute for Strategic Studies. **>A2**

OMAN
Shura Council session

2 The Shura Council will start its 3rd regular session on November 9. **>A3**

HIS MAJESTY TO VISIT SPAIN ON MONDAY

The leaders will explore areas of cooperation between Oman and Spain

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik will go on a state-visit to Spain on Monday.

A statement was issued by the Diwan of Royal Court to this effect. It reads as follows:

"In response to an invitation received by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik from King Felipe VI of the Kingdom of Spain, His Majesty the Sultan will go on a state-visit to Spain during 3-5 November 2025.

The visit comes in a manifestation of ties of friendship between the Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Spain. It aims to meet the aspirations of the two countries.

During the visit, the two monarchs will explore areas of cooperation between the two countries in

various spheres, and means of promoting them to serve the joint interests. The visit will also address a set of regional and international developments.

His Majesty the Sultan will be accompanied during the visit by a high-ranking official delegation comprising HH Sayyid Shihab bin Tarik Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for Defence Affairs, Sayyid

Khalid bin Hilal Al Busaidi, Minister of the Diwan of Royal Court, Gen. Sultan bin Mohammed Al Nu'amani, Minister of the Royal Office, Sayyid Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, Dr. Hamad bin Said Al Aufi, Head of the Private Office, Abdussalam bin Mohammed Al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority, Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef,

HM's visit to enhance Oman-Spain relations

Muscat: Under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Sultanate of Oman is committed to leveraging its distinguished international relations to achieve shared interests and uphold the principles of global peace and security.

His Majesty's forthcoming state visit to Spain represents a significant international engagement in this pursuit, building upon over five decades of bilateral ties founded on mutual respect and understanding. **Full story on >A7**

Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, Eng. Salim bin Nassir Al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals and Thamer bin Fayez Al Alawi, Ambassador of Oman to Spain.

May the Almighty Allah protect His Majesty the Sultan in his journeys, grant him good health and well-being and guard him as a source of pride for Oman and its people!" **-ONA**

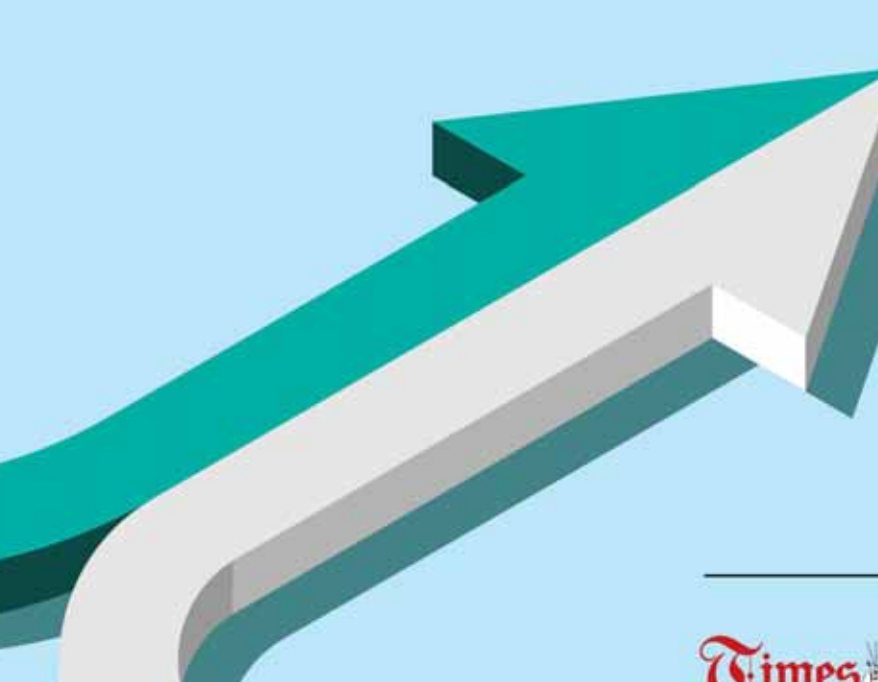


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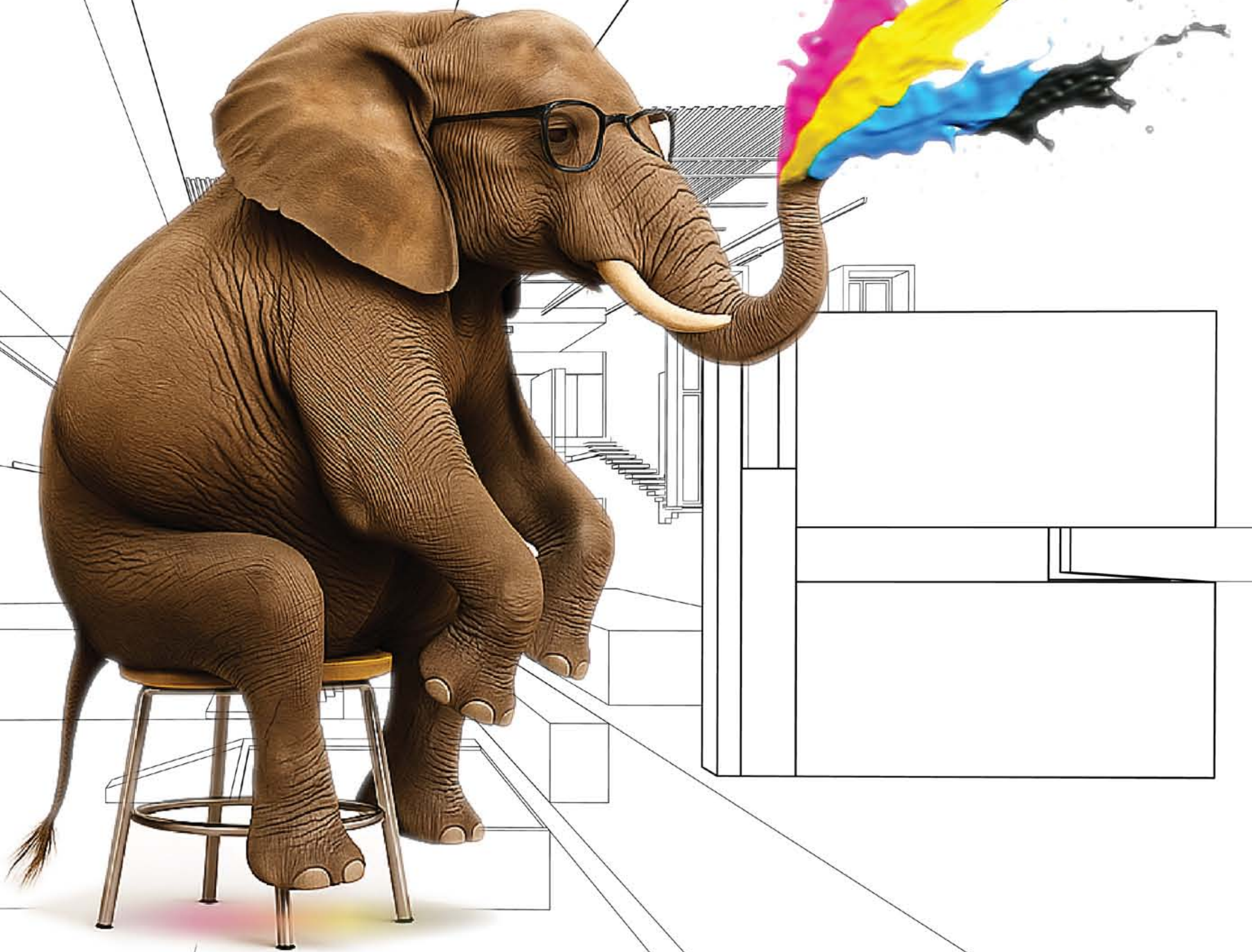

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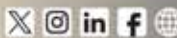




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Stability can only be achieved through dialogue: Sayyid Badr

Sayyid Badr participated in the Manama Dialogue 2025 Forum

Times News Service

MANAMA: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, stressed that true security is not built on policies of isolation, containment, or exclusion, but rather is based on inclusiveness and positive engagement among the countries of the region, noting that historical experiences have proven that policies of marginalisation have only led to exacerbating ten-



sions and prolonging conflicts. This came during Sayyid Badr's participation in the Manama Dialogue 2025 Forum, which is being hosted by the Kingdom of Bahrain in cooperation with the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), with broad participation from senior officials and experts in international security and political issues. In his remarks, Sayyid Badr expressed his gratitude to the Kingdom of Bahrain and the International Institute for Strategic Studies for organising this event,

which has become an important platform for exchanging views and promoting mutual understanding, stressing that regional stability can only be achieved through constructive dialogue and mutual understanding. His Excellency explained that the Sultanate of Oman has long believed that the policy of isolating Iran was not a solution, and that involving it in the comprehensive regional security system contributes to consolidating stability and joint cooperation. He emphasised that Iran has shown, at various stages, openness and readiness for constructive dialogue, and has demonstrated restraint in multiple incidents despite repeated attacks. This confirms the importance of adopting a comprehensive diplomatic approach that includes all parties to address common challenges such as maritime security, combating smuggling, and climate change. In this context, His Excellency pointed out that earlier this year, the nuclear negotiations between Iran and the United States had made tangible progress during five rounds of talks between the two sides. However, just days before the sixth round, which was almost decisive, Israel launched illegal military attacks against Iran. He explained that Israel's deliberate practices to prolong the tension had, in this case, resulted in the killing of hundreds of innocent Iranian civilians, noting that Iran nevertheless responded with remarkable restraint, just as it did when Israel bombed its consulate in Syria, wounded its ambassador in Lebanon, and assassinated a senior Palestinian negotiator in Tehran. His Excellency stressed that such acts of sabotage constitute a serious violation of international law and clearly reveal that Israel – not Iran – is the main source of insecurity in the region. Sayyid Badr also stressed that exclusionary policies fuel extremism and instability, while comprehensive partnership contributes to creating an atmosphere of trust, mutual respect and shared prosperity, calling for the establishment of a regional security framework that includes all countries, including Iran, Iraq and Yemen, to deal effectively with common challenges. The Foreign Minister concluded his remarks by emphasising that the Sultanate of Oman will continue to support inclusive dialogue as a strategic option for achieving security, peace and prosperity in the region, noting that dialogue alone is the way to build a more stable and developed future for its peoples.

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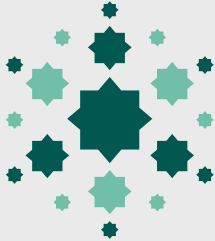
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COMMENTARY

Company liquidation in Oman: Lawful closure with defined timelines and safeguards

In the life cycle of a business, closure is sometimes inevitable. Whether due to financial loss, fulfilment of the purpose, or shareholders agreement, Oman's Commercial Companies Law promulgated under Royal Decree 18/2019 ensures that liquidation is carried out through a transparent legal process that protects creditors, shareholders, and the public interest.

Speaking exclusively to the Times of Oman, Dr. Mohammed Ibrahim Al Zadjali, Founding Partner of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm a leading law office in the Sultanate stated: "Liquidation is not just winding down operations. It is a legal procedure with serious implications, governed by strict timelines, defined roles, and formal requirements."

"The company may be dissolved for various reasons, including failure to conduct business for over two years, loss of most of its capital, or by shareholder agreement or court order.

"Once a dissolution event occurs, liquidation procedures must begin immediately. The company enters a liquidation phase and must add under liquidation to its name," he explained.

He further stated that "the law requires the appointment of a licensed liquidator, either by shareholder agreement or court order, who takes full control of the company's assets and liabilities. The liq-



DR. MOHAMMED IBRAHIM AL ZADJALI, Founding partner of Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm

uidator must notify all creditors via registered letters and publication, giving them 180 days to submit claims, settle debts in legal order of priority, and distribute remaining assets to shareholders based on their shareholding."

"The liquidator must maintain detailed records, submit periodic reports, and complete the liquidation within three years unless extended by the authorities Upon completion, the liquidator submits a final report and a final statement of accounts audited by the company's auditor for shareholder approval and filed with the Registrar," he said.

He added that the company is only removed from the commercial registry once the final report is accepted and filed with the Registrar, ensuring that all obligations have been legally closed. Failure to follow the procedure can expose liq-



uidators to personal liabilities for damages resulting from violations of law, exceeding authority, fraud, forgery, negligence, or failure to act as a prudent person.

"Oman's Commercial Companies ensures that business closure is handled with legal responsibility, fairness, and financial discipline," he concluded.

(Mohammed Ibrahim Law Firm (info@mohammedibrahim.net), (+968 244 87 600) was established 18 years ago and is serving clients through its offices in Muscat and Sohar, as well as operating on a request basis in other areas. It offers legal representation across a wide range of practice areas that include Labour Law, Corporate, Commercial, Contracts, Banking and Finance, International Trade, Foreign Investment, Insurance, Maritime Law, Construction and Engineering Contracts, Intellectual Property and more).

IN MUSANDAM GOVERNORATE

Final phase of marine mammal survey project completed

KHASAB: The Environment Authority has concluded the final phase of the marine mammal survey project in Musandam Governorate on November 1, 2025.

The aim was to monitor marine mammal species in the governorate, identifying their distribution locations and seasons of presence, and creating an integrated database on them.

The final phase of the project saw the opening up to volunteers, with Asyad Shipping Company participating in supporting the project by having its employees participate in the introductory workshop and awareness events held on Basah Beach in Khasab.

The project team also organised visits to a number of state schools to introduce students to the project through an interactive game called "Searching for Treasure with the Whale Sabour," which combined education and fun.

Interactive workshops targeting rural women were also conducted in cooperation with the "Zari Khasab" project to create products and artworks inspired by marine mammals, in addition to organising a dialogue evening that brought together fishermen, students of the Environmental Council and a number of environmental activists to exchange experiences and proposals on protecting marine life.

Haitham bin Sulaiman Al-Rawahi, Head of the Wildlife Management Department at the Environment Authority, said that the last phase recorded 12 sightings, including the monitoring of the Indian Ocean Humpback Dolphin, Spinner Dolphin, Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin, Long-beaked General Dolphin, and Yellow Spot.

He pointed out that the number of sea trips during this stage amounted to 9, bringing the total



number of trips carried out since the start of the project to 41, with a total distance covered amounting to 5,367.8 km, of which 1,173 km were during the last stage.

He explained that the number of participants in the survey work during the last stage amounted to 15 specialists from the Environment Authority, in addition to a participant from the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, another from the Student Environmental Council, 10 volunteers from Asyad Shipping Company, and 5 participants from various media outlets.

Al-Rawahi explained that during the survey operations, the team used the "spinner spinner" application to record field data, in addition to devices for listening to and recording the sounds of marine mammals, a device for measuring chemical and physical factors, and a marine navigation device installed on the survey boat.

For her part, Engineer Aida bint Khalaf Al Jabri, head of the project team, explained that the final stage included surveying the coastline extending from Ras Musandam to the Lima district, in addition to a deep water survey experiment at a distance of more than 11 km from the coast, which is an experiment that was carried out for the first time

within this project.

She added that the project contributed to documenting field data on marine mammal species on the coasts of Musandam Governorate, and raising community awareness of the role of these creatures in maintaining ecological balance.

Its results will also contribute to supporting the Sultanate of Oman's efforts to protect marine biodiversity.

She confirmed that the project was implemented in cooperation with a number of civilian and military government agencies, including the office of the governor of Musandam, the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, the Ministry of Agricultural Wealth, Fisheries and Water Resources, the Musandam Naval Base, the ship "Shinas", the Coast Guard in the state of Khasab, the Royal Air Force of Oman, the Directorate General of Education in the governorate, in addition to a number of small and medium enterprises.

She indicated that the team will work during the coming period on analysing the data and presenting the outputs, while ensuring the continuity of data flow through reports submitted by the local community and fishermen through the hotline and the electronic link dedicated to that. -ONA

TENTH TERM

Shura Council session to begin on 9 November

MUSCAT: At the behest of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Shura Council will commence its third ordinary convening (2025-2026) of the tenth term (2023-2027) on 9 November.

Sheikh Ahmed Mohammed Al Nadabi, Secretary General of the Shura Council stated that the Council continues to perform its legislative and oversight roles in active partnership with state institutions, within the framework of implementing Oman Vision 2040.

He noted that the first half of the tenth term involved discussing 47 draft laws and agreements, and 466 follow-up instruments, in addition to the consensus between both councils on 14 draft laws, 13 of which have been issued



as Royal Decrees.

He added that the agenda for the third convening will include discussing the state's general budget for 2026 and the eleventh five-year development plan (2026-2030), alongside the election of the Council's office members for the second half of the tenth term and the discussion of several draft laws and agreements.

He also indicated that the Council will hold its annual media briefing on 5 November to enhance communication with the media, affirming the Council's commitment to ensuring information availability and promoting community partnership, reflecting its role in following up on national issues and supporting development efforts across various sectors. -ONA

TODAY

RGO to mark its Annual Day

MUSCAT: The Royal Guard of Oman (RGO) will celebrate its Annual Day on Sunday, corresponding to the first of November each year.

The celebration will be held at the RGO military parade ground under the patronage of Sayyid

Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister.

The ceremony's events will include the graduation of a batch of recruits, alongside a number of activities that embody the meanings of pride and honour on the RGO Day.



HISTORICAL EVENTS

2 eminent Omani persons included in UNESCO's list



Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Sultanate of Oman has successfully added two new Omani figures to UNESCO's programme for commemorating the 50th or 100th anniversaries of significant historical events and globally influential personalities.

The honoured individuals are poet Abdullah bin Ali Al Khalili, in recognition of his birth centenary, and the renowned Omani linguist, grammarian, and poet Muhammad bin Yazid Al-Azdi, known as "Al-Mubarrad," marking 1,200 years since his birth.

With their inclusion, the total number of Omani figures recognised in this international program has risen to nine.

This achievement was announced during the 43rd session of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), held from October 30 to November 13, 2025, in the city of Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

Poet Abdullah bin Ali Al Khalili was born in the Wilayat of Samail in 1922 and lived there with his family.

He was known as the "Prince of Eloquence" for his mastery of language and expression. His writings were distinguished by frequent use of themes such as love, longing, remembrance, and transcendence. He also wrote short stories and plays in poetic form.



Throughout his life, Al Khalili authored nine poetry collections, including Al-Khayal Al-Wafir, Faris Al-Dhadh, and Bayn Al-Fiqh wal-Adab. His literary contributions extended to short stories, poetic maqamat, and several plays, most notably Jadhima wal-Malik. He passed away in Muscat on July 30, 2000.

As for Al-Mubarrad, he hailed from the village of Maq'aisa in North Al Batinah Governorate.

He was given the title "Al-Mubarrad" by Sheikh Abu Uthman Al-Mazini in recognition of his eloquence and compelling arguments. Among his most famous works are Al-Kamil in language and literature, Al-Muqtadab, Al-Maqsur wal-Mamdud, and Al-Ta'azi wal-Marathi.

His book Al-Muqtadab is con-

sidered the second most important work in Arabic grammar after Sibawayh's book. It has been a foundational reference for subsequent works in grammar, interpretation, and Qur'anic readings.

Al-Mubarrad was also known for his contributions to the philosophical interpretation of sacred texts, a discipline known as hermeneutics.

He often cited poetry and traced words back to their Qur'anic origins to deepen understanding and instill values. In his treatise 'Al-Balagha', he laid out a comprehensive concept of rhetoric, establishing foundational principles and procedural frameworks essential for any artistic expression.

It is worth noting that Oman has previously succeeded in registering seven Omani figures in UNESCO's commemoration programme.

These include linguist Al-Khalil bin Ahmad Al-Farahidi in 2005, physician Rashid bin Umairah Al-Hashimi Al-Rustaqi in 2013, encyclopedic scholar and social reformer Sheikh Noor Al-Din Abdullah bin Hamid Al-Salmi in 2015, physician and physicist Abu Muhammad Abdullah bin Muhammad Al-Azdi, known as Ibn Al-Dhahabi, also in 2015, Abu Muslim Al-Bahlani Al-Rawahi in 2019, navigator Ahmad bin Majid Al-Sa'di in 2021, and historian and poet Hamid bin Muhammad bin Ruzayq in 2023.

Sayyid Theyazin attends opening of Grand Egyptian Museum in Cairo

The museum houses over 50,000 artifacts representing various eras of Egyptian history, a scientific restoration centre, educational and cultural zones, and open gardens

CAIRO: On behalf of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth, attended the official opening ceremony of the Grand Egyptian Museum on Saturday evening.

Upon his arrival at the museum, HH Sayyid Theyazin was received by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt, his spouse and some Egyptian government officials.

Prior to the beginning of the ceremony, a commemorative photograph was taken of the Egyptian President with the heads of the delegations participating in the opening ceremony.

His Highness witnessed the opening ceremony, which included a visual presentation about the museum's contents.

The museum houses over fifty thousand artifacts representing various eras of Egyptian history, a scientific restoration centre, educational and cultural zones, and open gardens.

The ceremony also featured musical and theatrical perfor-



mances embodying Egypt's ancient civilisation.

In a statement on the occasion of the museum's inauguration, His Highness Sayyid Theyazin expressed his profound honor at having represented His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik at the inauguration ceremony of the Grand Egyptian Museum.

He emphasised that this monumental achievement reflects the new Egypt's vision to safeguard its human heritage and present it through a contemporary lens, positioning the nation among the leading countries that successfully balance cultural authenticity and modern innovation in the fields of culture and museums.

HH Sayyid Theyazin affirmed

that the Sultanate of Oman views this monumental achievement with profound pride and honor, noting that it represents not only Egypt but the entire Arab world.

He described the project as an inspirational milestone that strengthens the presence of Arab culture on the global stage and establishes a foundational platform for intra-Arab cultural cooperation in heritage, archaeology, and museum management.

He emphasised that it offers a significant opportunity to construct enduring bridges of understanding and knowledge exchange among cultural institutions throughout the Arab world.

His Highness concluded his statement by extending his con-

gratulations to the Arab Republic of Egypt, its leadership, and its people for this monumental cultural achievement.

He noted that this historic moment stands as a testament to Egypt's enduring legacy of accomplishments, expressing his sincere wishes for the nation's continued prosperity and brilliance in its cultural, civilisational and developmental pursuits.

President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi of the Arab Republic of Egypt, delivered a speech in which he welcomed the participants at the opening ceremony of the Grand Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

He emphasised that this achievement was realised through extensive international coopera-

tion with major global companies to serve as a platform for dialogue and a destination for humanity.

The idea for the Grand Egyptian Museum began in the 1990s, with the foundation stone laid for the project in 2002 at a prime location overlooking the Giza Pyramids. The design concept was inspired by the extension of sunrays emanating from the peaks of the three pyramids, converging at the museum's main structure.

The museum stands as an integrated global cultural and civilizational landmark, housing thousands of rare artifacts, most notably the complete collection of King Tutankhamun's treasures displayed together for the first time, alongside the collection of

Queen Hetepheres and the Khufu Solar Ships, in addition to possessions spanning from the pre-dynastic period to the Greek and Roman eras.

HH Sayyid Theyazin was accompanied during the inauguration by an official delegation comprising Salim bin Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism, Sayyid Said bin Sultan Al Busaidi, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth for Culture, Jamal bin Hassan Al Moosawi, Secretary-General of the National Museum and Abdullah bin Nasser Al Rahbi, Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to the Arab Republic of Egypt and its Permanent Representative to the Arab League. -OMA



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IN MANAMA

Sayyid Badr holds talks with UK Foreign Secretary

MANAMA: Sayyid Badr Hamad Al Busaidi, Foreign Minister, met with Yvette Cooper, British Foreign Secretary, on the sidelines of his participation in the Manama Dialogue 2025.

During the meeting, the historical relations between the two friendly countries were emphasised, as well as ways to develop bilateral cooperation in the political, economic and security fields, in addition to exchanging views on regional and international developments.

The two sides discussed ways to enhance coordination on issues of common interest, particularly efforts to support regional security and advance peace processes in the Middle East. -ONA



BANGLADESH SCHOOL MUSCAT

Board of Directors election held

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The election for the Board of Directors of Bangladesh School Muscat (BSM) was held on Friday, October 31, 2025, from 9am to 5pm at the BSM Multipurpose Hall.

The election was conducted smoothly through Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs), ensuring transparency, efficiency, and accuracy.

In full compliance with official guidelines

Rafiu Islam, Labour Counsellor of the Bangladesh Embassy in Oman and Head of the Election Conducting Committee, announced the results immediately after the completion of voting. Representatives from the Ministry of Education, Oman, were also present to supervise and monitor the entire election process, ensuring that all procedures were conducted in full compliance with official guidelines.



A total of 709 parents votes were cast out of 942 registered parent voters, reflecting a high level of participation from the Bangladeshi community.

Five candidates were elected as members of the Board of Directors: Md. Ismail Hossain (166 votes), Monsur Ahammad (128 votes), Mohammad Iqbal (121 votes), Jamal Uddin — 88 votes and Md. Rashidul Haque (75 votes).

Two other candidates Muhammad Riazul Islam Chowdhury received 73 votes and Md. Humyun Kabir received 58 votes.

Subsequently, Mohammad Iqbal was elected as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bangladesh School Muscat by elected parents.

Sirajul Hoque, CIP, Chairman of the Bangladesh Social Club, extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to the newly elected Chairman and members of the Board of Directors.

Iftakher Chowdhury, former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bangladesh Schools, also conveyed his warm greetings and expressed confidence that the new Board will continue to work dedicatedly for the advancement and betterment of the institution.

The Bangladesh School Muscat community expressed optimism that the new leadership will strengthen the school's commitment to providing quality education, enhance student development, and uphold the values of excellence, inclusivity, and unity among the Bangladeshi expatriate community in Oman.

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Oman attends Unesco meeting in Samarkand

SAMARKAND: Oman is taking part in the 43rd session of the Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco), the activities which commenced on 30 October and lasts for 13 November in Samarkand in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Delegations from the Unesco member states and representatives of the civil and international organisations are taking part in the session. Oman's delegation is chaired by Dr. Madiha bint Ahmed Al Shibani, Minister of Education and chairperson of Oman National Commission for Education, Culture and Science.

During the General Conference of the 43rd session of the Unesco, Dr. Madiha conveyed the greetings of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik coupled with His Majesty's wishes for the success of the conference and achievement of its noble goals.

She also expressed her thanks to the Republic of Uzbekistan for hosting this conference in Samarkand and to Unesco for organising the conference and for their efforts in boosting dialogue, peace and protection of human heritage.

She said, "We meet today under increasing humanitarian and security challenges that affect the present and future of the generations, notably the humanitarian tragic in Gaza." She said that Oman welcomes the implementation of the first stage of the ceasefire agreement, which reaffirms the necessity for continuation of the regional and international efforts to ensure the respect and sustainability of this agreement.

She pointed to Oman's efforts in the field of the education and added that the Sultanate has developed Inclusive education policies and expanded the scope of vocational and technical education to comprise various specialisations that cope with the requirements of national development and meet the needs of the local and international labour market. — ONA

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CDAA

Blaze in Nizwa doused, cleaning work continues

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Efforts continued on Saturday to remove dead trees and dry, flammable weeds in Wadi Al-Abyad in the Wilayat of Nizwa to prevent fires.

A number of military, security, and civilian entities, as well as the people of the governorate took part in the mission.

These steps were taken to limit the recurrence of fires and ensure the safety of the environment, property, and lives.

The Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority (CDAA) has called on everyone to adhere to safety guidelines and refrain from igniting fires in farms or leaving waste and dry weeds, to

enhance community awareness and prevent fire accidents.

Earlier, firefighting teams from the Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority in the Al Dakhiliyah Governorate successfully contained a fire that broke out in the Wadi Al Abyad area of the Wilayat of Nizwa.

The blaze was extinguished without any reported injuries.

The fire affected a number of trees in Wadi Al Abyad, and teams worked for several hours to bring it under control and prevent it from spreading further.

The Civil Defence and Ambulance Authority urges everyone to rely on official sources for information and to avoid circulating rumours.



DHOFAR TOURISM COMPANY SAOG

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present to you the report for Dhofar Tourism Company SAOG ("the Company") for the period ending 30 September 2025.

Executive Highlights (January to September 2025)

- Revenue: OMR 1,355,148 (2024 OMR 1,190,455)
- Net Loss: OMR 716,229 (2024 OMR 845,070)
- Cash Loss Before Interest: OMR 147,006 (2024 OMR 263,978)
- Net Assets: OMR 46.00 million (2024 OMR 46.72 million)
- Tourism Season: Strong performances across winter, Khareef, and Sarb seasons
- Major Project: Progress on the MADANA tourism development master plan
- Funding: Bridge financing secured; rights issue scheduled for 2026
- Strategic Partnerships: Wyndham Garden, UNESCO Chair for World Heritage, ECAHO and Office of His Highness the Governor of Dhofar.

About the Company

Dhofar Tourism Company SAOG owns two million square meters of prime coastal land in Mirbat, designated for development under the Integrated Tourism Complex program. This exceptional property features over one mile of pristine beachfront and a five-star resort with 186 rooms and 51 chalets, offering substantial future development opportunities.

Following the reconstitution of the Board in July 2023, the Company launched a comprehensive strategic transformation aimed at restoring long-term profitability. Key initiatives include a full management restructuring to strengthen internal controls, operational efficiency, and overall corporate resilience.

Our Vision

Aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and in partnership with the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, we are committed to enhancing Dhofar's position as a premier tourism destination. Our flagship project, "MADANA," is designed to generate employment, stimulate economic growth, and enrich the local community through reviving Oman's heritage and sustainable tourism in Mirbat and across the Dhofar region.

Dhofar Tourism Company achievements

Since partnering with Wyndham Garden through a franchise agreement in October 2021, the resort has seen significant improvements in both service quality and operational efficiency. Building on steady sales growth in recent years, we expect continued momentum into the upcoming winter season, driven by collaborative alliances with our operators.

Strategic partnership with the Office of His Highness the Governor of Dhofar reflects the company's commitment to advancing the tourism sector and driving high-quality, sustainable investments in the Dhofar Governorate. This collaboration aims to promote year-round tourism by reshaping the region's tourism landscape through bold initiatives centered on long-term financial growth, cultural preservation, and youth empowerment.

Tourism Development Project (MADANA)

Following a transition from the previous consultant (F&M) to a new engineering consultant (ADC), we have submitted the updated ITC master plan for approval and remain confident in achieving outstanding results, guided by a clear strategic vision, strong project governance, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. Below are the key tourist attractions at MADANA.

Dhofar DOME & The EDGE - A year-round cultural hub hosting exhibitions, immersive events, and R&D where tradition meets innovation. This is envisioned to attract the international cultural events specially aiming the region.

Qatar Museum (EARTH MUSEUM) - Crafted for the premium tourism scene, the museum is a vibrant fusion of culture and commerce — planned to deliver lasting impact and unforgettable experiences that resonate far beyond the visit.

Dhofar International Arabian Horse Championship - A globally recognized niche event designed to unlock new investment pathways and to deliver measurable returns. As part of our marketing campaign, we have had yet another successful championship during 29-30 August 2025, at the new horse show arena built to internationally accredited standards encouraging encourages investors and motivates the local community and horse lovers to interact and participate.

To maintain steady progress, interim funding support was secured from Dolphin International LLC on an arm's length basis. Looking ahead, a rights issue is planned for 2026 to support the phased rollout of the project. Following the appointment of the new CEO and Vice President, the project has gained strong momentum, with their leadership bringing enhanced focus, improved coordination, and renewed drive to execution efforts.

Financial Performance

For the period ended 30th September, the Company recorded an income of OMR 1,355,148, reflecting a 13.83% increase compared to OMR 1,190,455 in the same period last year. The net loss for the period decreased to OMR 716,229 from OMR 845,070, representing a reduction of 15.25%. Additionally, the cash loss before interest stood at OMR 147,006, marking a 44.31% decrease compared to the same period last year. The Company maintains a strong net asset base of OMR 46,004,511.

The consistent reduction in losses over recent years reflects a positive trend in the Company's operational direction and demonstrates the strong commitment of the DTC team.

Project Risks and Mitigation

- Project Delivery: Ensured through immediate reassignment to a new consultant.
- Funding Requirements: Addressed through temporary related-party financing and the upcoming rights issue.

Organisation and Talent Development

We proudly report a 30% Organisation rate, demonstrating our steadfast commitment to empowering Omani talent and contributing to national workforce development.

Internal Control and Corporate Governance

The Board is fully committed to adhering to the highest standards of corporate governance and compliance in accordance with Financial Services Authority regulations. A dedicated internal audit function operates under Board oversight to uphold best practices, with full details available in the Annual Report.

Strategic Collaborations

Our partnership with the UNESCO Chair for World Heritage supports the promotion of sustainable tourism and the digital preservation of Mirbat's rich historical and cultural legacy, in alignment with Oman's national tourism strategy.

Call to Action for Shareholders

We are excited about the path ahead and invite our valued shareholders to continue supporting this transformative journey. Your participation in the upcoming rights issue will be instrumental in realizing the full potential of Mirbat and bringing the MADANA vision to life.

A Tribute to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq

With all feelings of pride and honor, we raise to the esteemed presence of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, may Allah bless and preserve him, our sincerest expressions of loyalty and gratitude for His Majesty's wisdom and sound vision that steadily and competently leads the march of Oman's renewed renaissance.

Indeed, what Dhofar Tourism Company strives for in terms of developing and establishing projects, foremost of which is the "MADANA" project, in terms of growth and prosperity, is but a blessed fruit of his lofty directives and ambitious visions, which embody the aspirations of "Oman Vision 2040"

towards a brighter and more sustainable future.

We ask God Almighty to protect His Majesty and grant him His aid and success to continue the march of construction and progress.

Acknowledgements

We sincerely thank our shareholders, the Dhofar Governorate, government ministries, and the Financial Services Authority for their enduring trust and support. Special recognition is extended to our management team and staff for their dedication, resilience, and commitment to excellence.

Thank you and best regards,

Fatma Youssef Alawi Al Ibrahim
Chairperson
Dhofar Tourism Co. (SAOG)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (UNAUDITED) AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	30 Sep 2025	31 Dec 2024
	RO	RO
ASSETS		
Non-current assets:		
Property, plant and equipment	27,441,924	27,843,693
Investment properties	28,700,000	28,700,000
Total non-current assets	56,141,924	56,543,693
Current assets:		
Inventories	19,609	33,284
Trade and other receivables	288,722	384,152
Amount due from related party	246,758	153,888
Cash and bank balances	28,442	53,031
Total current assets	583,530	624,355
Total assets	56,725,455	57,168,048
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity:		
Share capital	14,160,000	14,160,000
Legal reserve	448,607	448,607
Special reserve	80,848	80,848
Revaluation reserve	34,013,698	34,013,698
Accumulated losses	(2,698,543)	(1,982,314)
Total equity	46,004,611	46,720,839
Non-current liabilities:		
Non-current portion of term loans	1,742,027	1,473,123
Deferred tax liabilities	5,828,037	5,828,037
Employees' end of service benefits	60,392	66,959
Total non-current liabilities	7,630,456	7,368,119
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of term loans	679,032	652,688
Bank overdraft	403,194	404,921
Trade and other payables	860,350	912,110
Due to related party	100,694	62,253
Loan from a related party	1,047,118	1,047,118
Total current liabilities	3,090,388	3,079,090
Total liabilities	10,720,844	10,447,209
Total equity and liabilities	56,725,455	57,168,048
Net assets per share	3.249	3.299

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (UNAUDITED) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

	Period ended 30 Sep 2025	Period ended 30 Sep 2024
	RO	RO
Income from operations	1,355,148	1,190,455
Direct costs	(1,111,309)	(1,113,688)
Gross profit	243,839	76,768
Other income	13	8,807
General and administrative expenses	(390,858)	(349,553)
Loss from the operations	(147,006)	(263,978)
Finance cost	(151,006)	(129,892)
Loss before depreciation	(298,013)	(393,870)
Depreciation on property, plant and equipment	(418,216)	(451,200)
Loss before income tax	(716,229)	(845,070)
Income tax	-	-
Loss for the period	(716,229)	(845,070)
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-
Total comprehensive loss for the period	(716,229)	(845,070)
Loss per share - basic and diluted	(0.051)	(0.060)

جامعة صحر

Sohar University

Pro-Vice-Chancellor – Administration and Finance Office
Sohar University
P.O Box 44, P.C. 311, Sohar. Sultanate of Oman.
Telephone: 26850100 Ext.: 421 & 289
(Procurement and Contracts Department)

TENDER NOTICE

Sohar University announces the issuance of the following tenders and invites specialized and certified companies with sufficient experience in the relevant field within government or private institutions to provide the services and perform the tasks outlined below:

Tender Date	Tender Description	Tender Fee (OMR)	Tender Collection Start Date	Tender Collection Last Date	Bld Submission Last Date
005/2025	Comprehensive Tender for Mechanical, Civil, and Finishing Works Including RO Plant, Gas Storage, Chiller Maintenance, Toilet and Sports Facility Renovation and Painting Works	100	03.11.2025	10.11.2025	26.11.2025
006/2025	Supply and Delivery of Different Types of Buses and Cars, in accordance with the specifications and conditions outlined in the tender documents.	100	03.11.2025	10.11.2025	26.11.2025
007/2025	Supply, Delivery and Installation of Various Types of Furniture and Fixtures	100	03.11.2025	10.11.2025	26.11.2025
008/2025	Supply and Delivery of Desktop Computers and Laptops	100	03.11.2025	10.11.2025	26.11.2025
009/2025	Supply and Delivery of Network equipment (Switches and Access Points)	100	03.11.2025	10.11.2025	26.11.2025

- The tender document can be obtained from the Procurement and Contracts Department from 08:00 am to 03:00 pm at Sohar University campus in Sohar after payment of tender fees (non-refundable) at the cashier counter in the Al Khauboora Building/ Ground floor, or via bank transfer to account number 002020004411 at Sohar International Bank, Sohar Branch. The receipt of payment has to be provided to the Procurement and Contracts Department to collect the Tender Document.
- Tender offers must be submitted in closed sealed envelopes. The tender number should only be written on the envelope, no other indication shall be written. The deadline to submit offers is 3:00 pm on 26 November 2025.
- Site visits will be on 10 & 11 November 2025 from 11:00 am to 01:00 Noon for tender#005&007/2025.
- Offers should be addressed to the office of Pro. Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance and deposited in the tender Box at PVCAF Office as details below during office hours 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Sunday to Thursday.
- The University reserves the full right to accept or reject any offer, without being obliged to select the lowest price and without providing justification.

His Majesty the Sultan’s visit to enhance Oman-Spain relations

His Majesty’s forthcoming state visit to the Kingdom of Spain represents a significant international engagement in this pursuit, building upon over five decades of bilateral ties founded on mutual respect and understanding

MUSCAT: Under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the Sultanate of Oman is committed to leveraging its distinguished international relations to achieve shared interests and uphold the principles of global peace and security.

His Majesty’s forthcoming state visit to the Kingdom of Spain represents a significant international engagement in this pursuit, building upon over five decades of bilateral ties founded on mutual respect and understanding.

For the past fifty years, Omani-Spanish relations have been defined by mutual respect and constructive cooperation, culminating in a robust partnership across diverse fields, with politics and economics being particularly prominent.

This is demonstrated through a consistent exchange of views, high-level meetings, and bilateral agreements, including the visit of King Felipe VI of Spain to meet with His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to offer condolences on the passing of the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

Further reinforcing this dialogue, the two leaders held a telephone conversation on 8 October



2024, reviewing bilateral relations and exchanging perspectives on a range of regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Additionally, the former King of Spain, Juan Carlos I, conducted several visits to the Sultanate of Oman, the most recent in 2014, which resulted in the signing of numerous agreements and memoranda of understanding across various sectors.

The Sultanate of Oman and the Kingdom of Spain enjoy collaborative ventures in numerous sectors, especially economic and investment fields.

Business forums, bilateral agreements, MOUs between public and private entities, and investment funds all contribute to a synergistic relationship that enhances mutual benefits and capitalises on opportunities in renewable energy, tourism, food security, infrastructure, technology, and defence.

The economic and investment partnership between the two nations has seen remarkable growth since the 1980s, a trajectory that accelerated with the establishment of the Oman-Spain Private Equity Fund in 2018.

This fund emerged from the economic partnership between the Oman Investment Authority and the Spanish state-owned company ‘COFIDES’ and was strengthened in 2023, reaching a total value of approximately OMR133 million. The fund has invested in 11 Spanish companies across diverse sectors, including food industries, renewable energy, technology, industry, healthcare, and marketing.

Total trade volume between the two countries surpassed OMR94 million by the end of 2024. Omani exports to Spain amounted to OMR33.8 million, while Oman’s imports from Spain reached OMR60.4 million, according to data from the National Centre for Statistics and Information.

Key Spanish imports included ships, aircraft, vehicles, foundry products, flooring, and ammunition. Conversely, Omani exports to Spain comprised aluminum, plastics, electrical materials, organic chemical products, and frozen fish.

By the end of September 2025, the number of Spanish companies registered in Oman stood at 58, with a total invested capital exceeding OMR69 million and a Spanish contribution rate of 66.5 percent. These companies are primarily focused on construction, transport and storage, and wholesale and retail trade, as per data from the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

Inbound tourism to Oman from the Spanish market showed significant growth, increasing by 19 percent during the third quarter of this year (2025) to reach 6,764 Spanish visitors, according to the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism.

The Ministry is actively targeting the Spanish market through promotional campaigns and established a tourism representation office in Spain in July 2025. This office aims to strengthen ties with Spanish tourism partners, explore cooperative ventures and opportunities, and familiarise Spanish travel agencies with Oman’s diverse tourist attractions, landmarks, and products.

Thamer bin Fayez Al Alawi, Oman’s Ambassador to Spain, stated that this historic visit reflects the profound and solid bonds of friendship between the two nations and their peoples.

He affirmed that the meeting between the two leaders will provide powerful momentum to elevate the strategic partnership, which began with the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1972, towards broader horizons in all domains.

In remarks to the Oman News Agency (ONA), the ambassador

noted that Omani-Spanish relations are experiencing consistent development and growth, characterised by close bilateral cooperation that has yielded multiple partnerships across different levels. He highlighted a significant recent expansion in agreements between the sovereign wealth funds of both nations, which operate internationally.

Consequently, Oman has become the third-largest recipient of Spanish investments in the GCC states, with investments nearing OMR37 million, positioning Oman as a reliable and attractive partner for various Spanish economic sectors, including tourism, civil engineering, chemical and metal industries, water management, and commercial activities.

On cultural relations, the ambassador emphasised their deep historical roots, tracing back to the Arab migration to Al-Andalus and their role in its civilisation.

A notable Omani figure from that era was the physician Abdullah bin Muhammad Al-Azdi Al-Sohari (Ibn Al-Thahabi), author of the “Encyclopedia of Water” – considered the first medical-linguistic glossary in history – who died in Spain’s Valencia region in 1064.

Further evidence of the longstanding historical connections includes the discovery by Spanish researchers of royal emblems of Spanish monarchs engraved on historic cannons located in Omani forts and castles, notably at Jabrin Fort.

He added that Oman is dedicated to promoting its cultural, heritage, tourism, and academic assets in alignment with the “Oman Vision 2040”. This commitment was vividly demonstrated through its participation in the Fitur international tourism fair in Madrid, a premier global event, where the Omani pavilion received the award for best pavilion with innovative design. This achievement enhances Oman’s profile as a tourist destination for the Spanish public.

He affirmed that bilateral and multilateral coordination between the two countries is paramount for reinforcing regional and global stability through joint action in security, mediation, and conflict resolution. The political stances of Oman and Spain are closely aligned and harmonious, as evidenced by their

congruent votes on key issues at the UN General Assembly, including resolutions concerning ending the occupation of Palestinian territories, recognizing the Palestinian state, and supporting the two-state solution.

This alignment underscores a shared commitment to protecting the international community, upholding multilateralism, and affirming the right of peoples to self-determination and peaceful coexistence.

For his part, Francisco Javier Simone, Spanish Ambassador to Oman, stressed that the relations between the two countries are exceedingly friendly and solid, marked by mutual respect and strong institutional ties. He added that both nations take pride in their collaborative efforts to foster international understanding and cooperation, as well as their support for dialogue and respect for international law in conflict resolution.

The ambassador described the visit of His Majesty the Sultan to Spain as being of the highest importance for bilateral relations, providing a unique opportunity to assess years of cooperation and identify new collaborative areas.

He noted that Oman’s strategic location and its distinctive relations with various countries, coupled with its trade links to major markets like the US and India, make it an ideal regional partner.

He indicated that Spanish companies have grown increasingly aware of the importance of a sustained presence in Oman. Many Spanish firms specialising in engineering and construction have executed numerous projects in the Sultanate of Oman over the past two decades.

Cooperation also extends to energy, civil aviation, defense, logistics, and tourism, with promising future opportunities in space and clean energy.

Culturally, the ambassador highlighted the importance of promoting Arabic and Spanish language studies in both countries to bolster academic relations and medium-term expertise exchange, which would significantly enhance bilateral ties. He noted a strong sense of affinity between the two countries’ peoples, with Omanis frequently travelling to Spain for business

and tourism, and a growing number of Spaniards expressing interest in visiting Oman.

Faisal bin Abdullah Al Rowas, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), stated that His Majesty the Sultan’s visit to Spain marks a significant milestone in strengthening bilateral relations between the two friendly nations, representing a culmination of the strong ties between them. He emphasized the visit’s importance in light of His Majesty’s dedication to enhancing economic cooperation and opening new avenues for trade and investment partnerships.

He elaborated to the Oman News Agency (ONA) that economic cooperation and trade exchange between the two countries have seen notable development.

The Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with its Spanish counterpart, is working to identify promising investment opportunities in multiple economic sectors.

Trade meetings and forums have been instrumental in enhancing communication channels between private sector institutions in both countries, facilitating discussions on trade and the development of joint projects, thereby supporting economic diversification efforts and stimulating mutual investment.

Al Rowas stated that the successes of the Oman-Spain Joint Fund exemplify the two countries’ commitment to fostering long-term economic partnerships.

The fund allows the Omani market to benefit from the expertise and technical knowledge of Spanish companies through knowledge and technology transfer, generating valuable investment returns and contributing to the economic growth of both Oman and Spain.

He pointed to promising cooperation opportunities in several vital sectors, most notably industry, tourism, the digital economy, medical tourism, and food resource management.

He clarified that the Spanish market is one of the most significant tourism markets globally and serves as a crucial gateway for Omani investments seeking access to European markets.

— ONA

CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS



Legendary Peace Awards Council felicitates international achievers

Times News Service

MUSCAT: In a glittering ceremony held on Friday at the Crowne Plaza Muscat Hotel, the Legendary Peace Awards Council (LPAC) presented the Dynamic Excellence Awards, celebrating outstanding individuals from around the world.

The event also featured the conferral of Honorary Doctorate awards on several distinguished recipients during a Peace Seminar, recognising their remarkable achievements and contributions to humanity.

Awardees from across the globe were honoured for their excellence in fields such as engineering, education, social service, innova-

tion, leadership, and humanitarian initiatives. The prestigious event was jointly sponsored by Divyanka Technical Services and Trading LLC and Safcons, and endorsed by various Indian government-approved bodies.

The evening commenced with the traditional Indian lamp-lighting ceremony, symbolising the triumph of knowledge and peace. This was followed by inspiring addresses from dignitaries and peace ambassadors representing both Oman and India.

The ceremony also underscored the enduring friendship and historic ties between the Sultanate of Oman and India, reaffirming a shared commitment to cross-cultural collaboration, mutual respect, and global peace.

Representatives from LPAC extended heartfelt gratitude to all guests, participants, and sponsors for their invaluable support, reiterating the organisation’s mission to honour changemakers and promote peace-driven initiatives worldwide.

“This ceremony is not just about recognition — it’s about celebrating humanity, service, and the enduring friendship between Oman and India,” said an Legendary Peace Awards Council spokesperson.

The evening concluded with a networking and high-tea session, leaving attendees inspired by the spirit of unity, respect, and international harmony.



MUSCAT GOVERNORATE

MUSCAT MUNICIPALITY

Advertisement No. 42 / 2025

Muscat Municipality invites interested companies to participate in the following Bids:

Sr.	Bidding No.	Bidding description	Document fee		Deadline for Purchase	Deadline for inquires	Deadline for submission
			LO/RE	SMEs			
1	16/2025	Investment of plot No. (271), Block (M/2), in the Muttrah area,	104/- OMR	10/- OMR	23/11/2025	27/11/2025	08/12/2025

Registered companies with Muscat Municipality which are Specialized in above bids are invited to participate as per the following procedures:

1. Company registration with Muscat Municipality must be valid to obtain the bid document.

2. Pay the specified document fee for the requested bid via bank deposit to Muscat Municipality's Bank account as follows:

Bank Muscat	0423010702710024
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3. A copy of the transaction's receipt MUST be sent to the following e-mail (SQ.SQS@mm.gov.om), provided with the company data (name and bid number, delegate name, office phone number, mobile number, email address approved by the company and commercial registration number of the company).

4. The tender document will be provided to the company via email.

5. 2:00 PM on the above mentioned dates, is the last timing for obtaining Bidding Documents.

6. Documents must be enclosed in a plain closed envelope (without any company information) and place in the box located in building (A) in Muscat Municipality, Head Office, Darsait.

NOTES:

1. Companies which are not registered in Muscat Municipality or their registration has been expired shall register through the municipality's website (www.mm.gov.om).

2. For technical support, please contact Muscat Municipality through this email (crm@mm.gov.om).

3. If the bidders have any inquiries regarding the scope of the work, they have to sent their inquiries through the following e-mail (mais.h.alnofli@mm.gov.om)

4. 10:00 AM on the above submission mentioned dates, is the last timing for receiving bids. Offers submitted after the above mentioned date & time shall not be accepted for any reason.

5. Muscat Municipality has the right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason. Website: www.mm.gov.om

Website: www.mm.gov.om

SPORTS

EIGHT TEAMS IN FRAY

Final round of His Majesty’s Cup hockey to begin today

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The final round of the 55th His Majesty’s Cup Hockey Championship 2025 is set to begin from Sunday (2 November) at the Hockey Oman Stadium in Al Amerat, featuring the top eight teams. The qualified teams are split into two groups: Group A comprises Ahli-Sidab, Salalah, Dhofar, Masirah while Group B includes Seeb, Al Amerat, Quriyat, Sohar. The top two teams from each group will advance to the semi-finals, with Group A’s topper facing Group B’s second-placed team,

and vice versa. The final is set for 10 November. Three neutral international umpires from South Africa, Poland, and Kenya, along with an umpire manager from Pakistan, will officiate the matches. On the sidelines, Hockey Oman will host a National Umpiring Course, an FIH Academy Level 3 Coaching Course, and a “Road to Los Angeles 2028” High-Performance Umpiring Course. Spectator entry is free, as the tournament continues to celebrate Oman’s rich sporting heritage and the spirit of competitive hockey.



Al Shabab to meet Kuwait SC in AFC Challenge League quarters

Seeb Club, Oman’s other entrant in the competition, bowed out after a 2-1 defeat to Al Ansar on Friday

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Oman’s Al Shabab Club rallied from a goal down to defeat Turkmenistan’s Altyr FC 3-1 in their decisive AFC Challenge League 2025/26 Group A clash in Thimphu, Bhutan, on Friday, booking a place in the quarter-finals. Altyr Asyr’s Zafar Babajanow gave the Turkmen side an early lead with a first-half header at Changlimithang Stadium, but Kenean Maleko and Hatem Al Rushaidi, who scored twice, turned the game around for Al Shabab. The Omani club will now face Group B winners Kuwait SC in the quarter-finals. Oman’s other entrant, Seeb Club, exited the tournament after a 2-1 defeat to Lebanon’s Al Ansar, finishing third in Group B. In Thimphu, Al Rushaidi came close to scoring early with a low drive from outside the area in



the fourth minute that narrowly missed the post. Mohamed Al Ghafri and Yousuf Al Malki also had early chances, but wet conditions and poor finishing kept the scores level. Altyr Asyr broke the deadlock just before the half-hour mark when Babajanow rose above defender Majid Al Saad to head in from a Hosgeldi Hojowow corner. Al Shabab responded before half-time, with Maleko delivering a

through ball that allowed him to slip past two defenders and slide the ball past the keeper for the equaliser. The second half belonged to Al Shabab. Al Rushaidi’s curling strike from outside the area in the 53rd minute put them ahead, and goalkeeper Ibrahim Al Mukhaini made key saves to maintain the lead. Al Rushaidi sealed the 3-1 victory in stoppage time, calmly



chipping the ball over an out-of-position Berdiyev after a clever run by Maleko. Meanwhile, in Sulaibikhat, Al Ansar FC secured a quarter-final berth by coming from behind to beat Seeb 2-1 in Group B on Friday. The win moved Al Ansar to six points, finishing second behind Kuwait SC, who defeated Bashundhara Kings 2-0 later in the day. Al Ansar advanced as the

best second-placed team from the West Zone and will face Group C winners FC Muras United of Kyrgyzstan in the quarter-finals. Al Ansar started brightly, with Hichem Khalfallah twice testing Seeb’s goalkeeper Ahmed Al Rawahi in the opening minutes. Seeb responded through Zahir Al Aghbari, and they took the lead in the 16th minute when Abdulaziz Al Miqbali finished a clever through

ball from Arshad Al Alawi. Salah Al Yahyaei nearly doubled the lead in the 22nd minute, but the Lebanese side grew into the game, eventually drawing level in the 66th minute through Mohamad Hebous, set up by substitute Mohammad Nasser. Samuel Konney completed the turnaround in the 71st minute, converting another Nasser layoff to eliminate Seeb from the competition.

EUROPE’S TOP SCORER



Real Madrid’s Kylian Mbappé awarded European Golden Boot

MADRID: Real Madrid and France striker Kylian Mbappé on Friday officially received the 2025 Golden Boot, the award that recognises him as the top scorer across Europe’s leagues. The trophy, presented by MARCA on behalf of the European Sports Media (ESM), celebrates a brilliant individual campaign for the Frenchman — despite an inconsistent season for Real Madrid. With 31 goals in LaLiga EA Sports, Mbappé surpassed Viktor Gyökeres and Mohamed Salah, who rounded out the podium. To reach the milestone, he needed 2,915 minutes over 34 matches, confirming his status as one of the most lethal forwards on the planet.

With this triumph, Mbappé succeeded Harry Kane, the 2023–24 winner, and Erling Haaland, who won it in 2022–23. He also became the first Real Madrid player to lift the Golden Boot since Cristiano Ronaldo, who achieved it three times (2010–11, 2013–14, and 2014–15). The French striker once again asserts his dominance in Europe and moves closer to the records of legends like Messi and Ronaldo, who turned this trophy into a symbol of attacking supremacy. Although Viktor Gyökeres scored 39 goals for Sporting CP, the Golden Boot scoring system weights goals according to each league’s coefficient. Goals scored

in Europe’s top five leagues (Spain, England, Germany, Italy, and France) are worth 2 points, while goals in lower-ranked leagues, like Portugal’s, are multiplied by 1.5. As a result, Gyökeres tallied 58.5 points (39x1.5), while Mbappé’s 31 goals earned 62 points, enough to secure the trophy. **Final Golden Boot Standings:** Kylian Mbappé (Real Madrid): 31 goals (x2): 62 points. Viktor Gyökeres (Sporting CP): 39 goals (x1.5): 58.5 points. Mohamed Salah (Liverpool): 29 goals (x2): 58 points. Harry Kane (Bayern Munich): 26 goals (x2): 52 points. Robert Lewandowski (Barcelona): 25 goals (x2): 50 points. - Agencies

WELLINGTON ODI

NZ secure 3-0 ODI series sweep against England

WELLINGTON: Blair Tickner and Zakary Foulkes made decisive contributions with bat and ball to secure a tense two-wicket win for New Zealand over England on Saturday and a clean sweep of the three-match ODI series. The two tailenders put on an unbroken stand of 30 for the ninth wicket to lift the home side to 226/8 in the 45th over after England struggled with the bat to be dismissed for 222. Seamers Tickner and Foulkes took six wickets between them after England collapsed to 44-5. The dismal form of Test batsmen Ben Duckett and Joe Root will be of concern less than three weeks from the start of the Ashes Test series in Australia. England’s top four made a total of 84 runs across the three matches, the fewest by any team in a comparable men’s ODI series or tournament. Tickner (4-64) claimed four for the second successive game, while Foulkes (2-27) removed Jamie Smith and Root inside the first four overs. Foulkes’ partner Jacob Duffy



(3-56) then accounted for Duckett, Brook and Jacob Bethell. Jamie Overton’s maiden ODI half-century was the foundation of an England recovery, with the all-rounder the last man out for 68 in the 41st over. Brydon Carse also achieved a career-best score in the format, blasting four sixes on his way to 36. New Zealand opener Rachin Ravindra scored a bright 46 and Daryl Mitchell continued his fine form with 44, but a steady loss of wickets set up an exciting finish. Overton and Sam Curran took

two wickets each, while the home side lost two batsmen to the same unfortunate means of dismissal. Devon Conway and Tom Latham were both run out, caught short of their crease at the bowler’s end. Foulkes was unbeaten on 14 and Tickner not out on 18, with their late heroics extending New Zealand’s exceptional run of ODI results on home soil. **Brief scores:** New Zealand 226/8 in 44.4 overs (Ravindra 46, Overton 2-22) beat England 222 in 40.2 overs (Overton 68, Tickner 4-64, Duffy 3-56) by two wickets.

OFA welcomes AFC President

MUSCAT: The Oman Football Association (OFA) welcomed Sheikh Salman bin Ibrahim bin Hamad Al Khalifa, President of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) and First Vice President of FIFA, on his official visit to the

Sultanate on Saturday. The visit aims to strengthen ties between the Omani and Asian football communities and to review ongoing initiatives to develop football in Oman, both on technical and administrative fronts. During the

visit, Sheikh Salman met OFA President Sayyid Sulaiman Al Busaidi and other board members. The OFA expressed its deep appreciation for the visit, highlighting it as a testament to the strong relationship with the AFC.

OMAN LNG RENEWS PACT

Oman LNG has renewed its long-term services agreement with Baker Hughes, marking a new chapter in a partnership that has successfully spanned nearly two decades.

MARKET
BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSX HITS RECORD HIGH

The Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) trading value in October soared to a new record of more than 110 percent to OMR1.0746 billion compared to OMR511 million in September.



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Duqm strengthens position as global hub for investment, industrial growth

The second edition of the Duqm Economic Forum 2025 reinforced Duqm’s position as one of the most prominent economic cities globally

MUSCAT: The Special Economic Zone at Duqm (Sezad) is considered a global investment destination due to its strategic location, modern infrastructure (including roads, an airport, and a port), its vast area of 2,000 square kilometres, and the availability of diverse industrial areas, a logistics zone, clean energy projects, in addition to the incentives and facilities offered to investors.

The second edition of the Duqm Economic Forum 2025 reinforced Duqm’s position as one of the most prominent economic cities globally. The forum saw the attendance of over 400 participants and 54 speakers and experts from within and outside the Sultanate of Oman.

Eng. Ahmed bin Ali Akaak, CEO of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, explained that the second edition of the Duqm Economic Forum is an affirmation of Sezad’s potential and capabilities, which encompass numerous investments across various sectors.

In a statement to Oman News Agency, he affirmed that Sezad has been equipped with services and facilities to attract qualitative investments, not just in the processing industries sector, but also in the logistics sector, smart industries, and food and fisheries industries. He added that Sezad is also focusing on green industries, including aluminium and iron, in addition to hydrogen production.

He noted that the wide participation in the Forum from outside Oman confirms the investment attractiveness of Sezad, which possesses numerous opportunities for investment, especially with the availability of diverse energy sources, vast land area, and complete infrastructure.

Akaak explained that the second edition of the Forum focused on new sectors, such as tourism, as it will contribute to creating and developing lifestyles in the Zone. He added that the Forum also focused on smart cities powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and digital innovation, pointing out that Sezad has a dedicated area of 18 square kilometres to attract



this type of technology. Over two days, the Forum included nine discussion sessions with the participation of government officials, decision-makers, investors, business owners, academics, and economic experts from within and outside Oman. They affirmed that the Duqm Special Economic Zone possesses promising and attractive opportunities for investors in various fields, in addition to its ready infrastructure.

Dr. Sulaiman bin Salim Al Hashmi, Researcher at the Centre for Environmental Studies and Research at Sultan Qaboos University, explained that Oman possesses unique competitive advantages in the region for renewable energy. This is particularly evident through the mega-projects underway in solar power, wind energy, and green hydrogen, which align with global trends towards reducing reliance on fossil fuels and lowering carbon emissions.

He pointed out that the Sezad is one of the most promising economic zones in Oman, thanks to

its distinguished geographical location on the Arabian Sea and its modern infrastructure, making it a strategic centre for investment in renewable energy projects.

He added that Duqm’s location makes it a global attraction point for clean energy investors. It has high solar rates and stable wind speeds throughout the year, along with vast available land and advanced infrastructure that allow for the implementation of large-scale projects for efficient electricity generation and storage.

Al Hashmi explained that Duqm can become a regional model for a sustainable energy mix. Its geographical nature allows for integrated projects that combine solar power, wind energy, and green hydrogen to supply major industries with clean energy and reduce their emissions.

Caragh Curran, CEO and Founder of Sustainable Tourism Consultants, affirmed that the plans set for the development of Sezad are encouraging for investors. They reflect a government

commitment to developing infrastructure and providing investment opportunities in various sectors, which will increase the inflow of foreign direct investment (FDI).

She also noted that holding the Duqm Economic Forum and other economic and tourism events in the Zone contributes to attracting investors and promoting its many appealing features. She added that Duqm is distinguished by its geographical terrain and natural assets, making it a preferred destination for tourists from around the world, thanks to its beautiful and extended beaches and its biodiversity.

Wendy Werner, Country Manager for the World Bank Group in Oman, pointed out that Oman has many attractive qualities. She added that Oman has clear goals centred on diversifying income sources and developing free zones, which enhances future potential and investments.

She noted that Oman has a future vision with clear objectives, especially regarding income diversification, which increases op-

portunities in various fields such as industry, tourism, and the financial sector.

She added that Oman is a suitable destination for investors due to its stability in policies, an aspect on which investors focus. She also stated that Oman’s improved credit rating is an additional attractive factor for investors, alongside Oman’s promotional efforts to attract more local and international investments.

Yusra bint Hamad Al Busaidi, Chief Financial Officer at Marafiq, explained that economic forums provide participants with an opportunity to learn about the experiences of countries, governments, and international companies in investment and how to advance their sectors, leveraging the comparative advantages of each country. She added that the Duqm Economic Forum 2025 covered many rich topics in economic work, which enhances the investment environment and allows for the exchange of expertise with participants.

She indicated that the signing of

a strategic partnership agreement between Marafiq and the German University of Technology in Oman (GUtech) to establish the Marafiq social complex in Duqm will contribute to serving children and providing an integrated educational and recreational environment for the residents of the wilayat and neighboring areas.

Andy Payne, Global Creative Chair & Creative Partner at Interbrand, pointed out that there is diligent work underway to make Oman in general, and Duqm in particular, a preferred brand destination for investors, tourism, and economic activity related to special economic zones.

He added that Duqm is a suitable tourist destination due to its geological diversity and seasonal weather, which contributes to increasing the interest of wide segments of visitors. This makes it a suitable area for both tourism and economic activities simultaneously, as it possesses the necessary components for the sustainability of both fields. -ONA

STATISTICS

Domestic liquidity in Oman jumps 6.1% to over OMR25bn

MUSCAT: Liquidity and lending indicators in the Sultanate of Oman recorded remarkable growth at the end of August 2025. Domestic liquidity increased by 6.1 percent to reach OMR25.84 billion compared to OMR24.35 billion in the same period of 2024.

Preliminary data from the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI) showed a 5.2 percent decrease in currency in circulation, reaching OMR1.4869 billion by the end of August 2025, compared to OMR1.5681 billion during the same period last year.

Meanwhile, narrow money supply increased by 6.9 percent to reach OMR7.4071 billion compared to OMR6.9273 billion at the end of August 2024.

Regarding the distribution of credit, total loans and financing granted by commercial banks and Islamic windows amounted to OMR34.10 billion, recording a growth of 8.6 percent compared to the same period last year, which amounted to OMR31.40 billion, with private sector deposits in local banks increasing by 7.5 percent to OMR22.36 billion by the end of Au-

gust, compared to OMR20.80 billion during the same period of 2024.

Regarding interest rates, the average interest rate on total loans decreased by 2 percent to reach 5.492 percent, compared to 5.603 percent. Data also indicated a 7.1 percent increase in net foreign assets, reaching OMR 7.3386 billion by the end of August 2025, compared to OMR6.8545 billion during the same period in 2024.

In contrast, the effective exchange rate index of the Omani rial decreased by 0.6 percent to record 114.3 points at the end of August. -ONA



MARKET

MSX trading value hits record high of over OMR1bn in October

The total value of trading from January to October rose to OMR3.49 billion compared to OMR1.24 billion in the same period last year

MUSCAT: The Muscat Stock Exchange (MSX) trading value in October soared to a new record of more than 110 percent to OMR1.0746 billion compared to OMR511 million in September. The Muscat Stock Exchange has witnessed high levels of trading since last July, with local investment funds and companies injecting more liquidity into trading. The total value of trading from January to October rose to OMR3.49 billion compared to OMR1.24 billion in the same period last year. Last month witnessed high investor demand for bank stocks and a number of leading companies. Bank Sohar International topped the list of most traded companies in terms of trading value at OMR221.1 million, representing 20.5 percent of the total trading value. Bank Muscat came in second with trading value worth OMR165.9 million, OQ Basic Industries came in third with trading value of OMR161.2 million Omani riyals, OQ Gas Networks came in fourth with trades worth OMR138.6 million, while Asyad Shipping came in fifth with trades



amounting to OMR126.5 million, representing 11.7 percent of the total trading value. In the bonds and sukuk market, the value of trading in October increased by 164 percent to reach OMR15.1 million compared to OMR5.7 million in September. This increase was supported by the 70th issue of government development bonds (GDBs), which witnessed trading worth OMR3.5 million. The 73rd issue of government development bonds came in second place with trading at OMR3.2 million, while Bank Dhofar 2022 bonds came in third place with trading amounting to OMR2.9 million. Monthly trading data issued by the Muscat Stock Exchange

showed an increase in various statistics and indicators. The number of transactions executed last month rose to about 134,000 transactions, registering a growth of 63.9 percent compared to its level in September, which amounted to 81,614 transactions. The market capitalisation of securities listed on the exchange rose at the end of October to OMR31.33 billion, registering gains of OMR802 million compared to its level at the end of September. The main index of the Muscat Stock Exchange rose by 8.2 percent in October to reach 5,610 points, an increase of 428 points. The financial sector index recorded the highest gains, rising by more than 703 points and closing

Oman bourse hits multi-year highs in weekly trading

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The Oman stock market delivered a strong performance this week, rising 4.47% to continue its momentum and reach new multi-year high levels, according to an industry watcher. “The market found support from the US Federal Reserve’s rate cut, which was mirrored by the Central Bank of Oman, bringing its key interest rate to 4.5%. The easing monetary policy could continue to support broader economic activity and the stock market,” said Daniel Takieddine Co-founder and CEO, Sky Links Capital Group. “In contrast, investors’ attention could turn to the upcoming Opec+ meeting, where another potential increase in output is expected. This meeting, and the broader Opec+ strategy, continue to weigh on oil prices, which remain at low levels. “Declining crude prices remain a risk for the Omani economy and other regional



economies, and could potentially impact market sentiment if conditions worsen,” said Daniel Takieddine. Oil price volatility highlights the critical importance of the nation’s diversification efforts. On this front, the latest “Oman 2040 Vision” follow-up report provides a crucial anchor of confidence, he said. “It confirms that more than 74% of performance indicators are showing positive progress, validating the strategic path

and underscoring a growing resilience against such external shocks, which could provide long-term confidence in the Omani economy and its stock market,” he further added. Performance during the week was strong across all sectors. The Services sector was a top performer, rising 3.81%, led by significant jumps in key names like OQ Gas Networks by 8.24% and Asyad Shipping by 12.26%. OQ Exploration and Production also finished the week higher, gaining 2.61%. The Financial sector also advanced, gaining 3.04%. Notable movers included Bank Muscat, which rose by 4.32% and Sohar International Bank, which gained 3.90%, while Omnivest made a substantial jump of more than 12%. The Industrial sector was similarly positive, rising 2.22%. Gains were seen in Asaffa Foods at 2.08% and Al Anwar Ceramic at 3.18%, alongside a strong performance from OQ Base Industries of 8.75%.

ALIZZ CARES INITIATIVE



Alizz Islamic Bank celebrates graduation of job seekers empowered to work as dental assistants

MUSCAT: As part of the banks pioneering role in lending a hand to the community, Alizz Islamic Bank attended the graduation of a group of qualified candidates who successfully completed a professional training and development programme qualifying individuals to work as dental assistants in clinics and healthcare centers across Oman. Her Highness Sayyida Hujaija bint Jaifer Al Said graced the graduation ceremony held on 28th October 2025 by awarding the certificates to the participating Omani students. The programme was designed by Cyber Knowledge Institute in collaboration with the bank’s strategic partner, the Ministry of Social Development. Total number of graduates exceeded 300 candidates. Under the ‘Alizz Cares’ – education pillar, the bank supported a total of 10 job seekers to enroll in an intensive training program that equipped them with the essential technical and practical skills to start their careers in the dental healthcare field. This initiative reflects the Bank’s firm commitment to supporting national efforts that promote social development and

economic empowerment. Touching on the graduation Lina Al Abdulsalaam, Head of Marketing & Communications at Alizz Islamic Bank said “At the core of Alizz Islamic Bank values lies a strong belief in knowledge sharing and supporting youth development. We strongly believe for us to build a sustainable future; we must join hands and take responsibility to help equip the next generation by focusing on impactful objectives to ensure long-term prosperity for the country. Through knowledge, compassion and innovation we can build healthier communities and transformative change”. Through ‘Alizz Cares’, Alizz Islamic Bank continues to champion initiatives that create lasting social impact, support national development goals and uplift communities across the Sultanate of Oman. The Bank has embarked on many projects that have a positive impact on society with the goal being to strive to provide a better life for the people beyond their banking needs. Accompanied by a belief that investing in sustainable initiatives is the decisive element in creating a brighter future for the country and its people.

STRATEGIC

Oman LNG, Baker Hughes extend two-decade partnership with long-term services agreement renewal

MUSCAT: Oman LNG has renewed its long-term services agreement with Baker Hughes, marking a new chapter in a partnership that has successfully spanned nearly two decades. Awarded in Q2 2025, the 10-year extension reinforces the two companies’ shared commitment to operational excellence, reliability, and the continued advancement of sustainable LNG production in the Sultanate of Oman. Under the renewed agreement, Baker Hughes will continue to support the availability and reliability of critical rotating equipment across Oman LNG’s three liquefied natural gas (LNG) trains—ensuring safe, efficient, and uninterrupted production. A key highlight of this milestone is the establishment of the Oman iCenter™, powered by Cordant™, a major step forward in localizing digital expertise and enabling future innovation. Oman iCenter will serve as a hub for 24/7 monitoring of critical equipment, offering actionable digital insights and proactive solutions to enhance performance, improve efficiency, and contribute to Oman LNG’s sustainability goals.



Beyond supporting Oman LNG’s operations, the iCenter is envisioned to serve Omani customers across the energy sector, expand its digital services footprint developing skills for Omanis, and ultimately support global customers from Oman—positioning the country as a regional hub for advanced digital monitoring and predictive analytics. In alignment with Oman Vision 2040 and the company’s In-Country Value (ICV) objectives, Baker Hughes has committed resources

toward Omani workforce development, including specialized training and capability-building initiatives linked to the iCenter. “This renewal marks an important milestone in our journey with Baker Hughes, reflecting a partnership built on trust, performance, and shared aspirations for sustainability and innovation,” said Eng. Hamad Al Nu’amani, Chief Executive Officer of Oman LNG. “The establishment of Oman iCenter represents a forward-looking investment in

our people and in Oman’s digital future—strengthening our ability to deliver reliable and efficient energy while creating long-term value for the nation.” Through this renewed agreement and the creation of the Oman iCenter, Oman LNG continues to advance its mission to deliver cleaner energy responsibly, while supporting the development of national talent and contributing to Oman’s transition toward a knowledge-based and sustainable economy. -ONA

ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION

APEC summit adopts declarations on AI

SEOUL: The 2025 summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum adopted a joint leaders’ declaration as it concluded in South Korea on Saturday. Leaders assembled in Gyeongju also agreed on an Artificial Intelligence Initiative and the APEC Framework for Cooperation on Population Structure Changes. APEC member countries adopted a statement acknowledging the importance of a trade environment that promotes resilience and benefits for all. The host, South Korea, said the United States has the most important role in Seoul’s relations with neighbouring North Korea. South Korean President Lee



Jae Myung said he hoped to help US President Donald Trump play “peacemaker” on the Korean Peninsula, but he also urged China and Russia to play a part. Speaking at the summit’s closing

ceremony, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced that China will host the annual APEC summit at the tech hub of Shenzhen next year in November. It will be the third time China

has hosted the meeting. Xi said Shenzhen, often described as China’s Silicon Valley, is “a miracle in the history of world development created by the Chinese people.” He also proposed the establishment of a global organization to cooperate on artificial intelligence. In his speech, Xi noted that APEC is the most important platform for economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. The APEC region accounts for 50% of global trade and 61% of the world’s total economic output. Speaking at the summit on Friday, Xi had called for protecting the multilateral trading system and deeper economic cooperation. -BW



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FINANCE MANAGER well experienced M.Com with 20 yrs of Oman experience looking for senior position in finance and accounts, can join in short notice.

CONTACT: 95392251

ADMIN / WAREHOUSE ADMIN

Indian male with strong experience in Administration & Warehouse Management. Skilled in handling operations, documentation, staff coordination, and inventory management. Currently residing in Muscat and available for suitable positions.

Contact: 90223655
Email: pradeeshraju.12@gmail.com

ADMINISTRATION

Senior HR & administration professional with strong advisory experience, expert in Oman labour law, office management, business operations setup & administration. Indian male, valid Oman D/L, NOC available.

Contact: 94948676

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HOSPITALITY

Urgently required Cook with experience of minimum 15 yrs in prestigious family or 5 star hotel, he should know Arabic & Continental cuisine. Position is for distinguished. Please send CV iblitaunited@gmail.com or 77450707

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian male, MBA finance, 15 yrs experience in accounting up to finalisation, VAT submission. Immediate joining. Contact: 96290882, Email: ajithakes@gmail.com

Indian male Accountant, 12 yrs experience (8 yrs in Muscat & 4 yrs in GCC) valid Oman D/L NOC available. Contact: 93538803

JOB WANTED

ACCOUNTS/FINANCE

Indian (M), 28, Accountant with overall exp 3 yrs valid D/L. Contact: 78624277

Chartered Accountant Inter holder and M.com graduate with more than 8 yrs Oman experience Looking for suitable position. D/L and NOC. Contact: 78793414 Email iqbalpmr@gmail.com

Sri Lankan Accountant, reading CA. 3+ yrs of experience. Expertise in accounting, audit, bookkeeping, VAT, finalization. Contact: +968 76297279

Indian male Accounts assistant (2yrs of GCC experience) seeking job and available to join Immediately. Contact: 93100261 Email: askarmhd5506@gmail.com

Indian female Accountant M.Com graduate with 2 yrs of accounting experience seeking suitable position in Oman. Ready to join immediately. Contact: +968 93898297. Email: ashlyabraham99@gmail.com

Indian male, Sr. Accountant (Mcom & MBA Finance), having 10 yrs of Oman experience up to finalization with D/L. Contact: 97524285. Email bobykkj@gmail.com

Indian male, M.com (finance) 12 yrs accounting experience in Oman. Handling accounts up to finalization independently & business development. Noc & D/L available Contact: 98859141

MBA in Finance, 8 yrs of experience including ERP & Excel. Valid Omani D/L. Contact: +968 77225024

Indian male, Bcom, MBA finance, 14 yrs of Oman and Indian experience, seeking suitable jobs. Contact: 97436925. sasdrk@gmail.com

Highly skilled Chief Accountant looking for suitable position. Contact: 79888153

ADMINISTRATION

Indian (M) 29 yrs, MBA graduate with 4 yrs experience in operations, stores management, office administration, yard management, accounts, finance and graphic designing. Looking for suitable job. Contact: 78439875

B.A urdu qualified Diploma in hospital administration 1 yr experience (India). Contact: +968 76219596 WA: 7356942365. Email farzanafazn2@gmail.com

Indian M (26 yrs) BBA graduate with 3 yrs Gulf experience, admin and accounts - Contact: 75026482

A qualified professional with a Bachelor's in Business administration and Bachelor's in Law (LLB), along with 1-2 yrs of experience, is currently in Oman and seeking suitable job opportunities. Ready to join immediately. Contact: +96871757652 Email: has-sankolabbal@gmail.com

Highly skilled accounting and administrative professional with diverse experience in technical and office administration roles Contact 90473476 Email: kpsanjoy202@gmail.com

ARCHITECT

Architect, Interior designer having more than 8+ yrs of experience with design and engineering consultants. Contact: 95759832, Email: ar.ahmedfaizal@gmail.com

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Driver with 25 yrs experience, PDO licence looking for job. Contact: 99116288

Looking for driving job with 15 yrs experience. Contact: 78037801

Looking for driving job have car. Contact: 98586920

EDUCATION/TRAINING

Indian female, completed MCA and also having experience in teaching, available in Oman on family visa, looking for a suitable job. Contact: +91 79090343/ +968 94117967, Email: induchan-dran01@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Diploma in Electrical Engineering looking for Fire Fighting site supervisor/suitable job. Contact: 95933453, Email: haquefaizan3786@gmail.com

Experienced Biomedical Engineers seeking opportunities in Oman. Presently in Oman & available for immediate joining. Email: asmathalipvl@gmail.com Contact: +968 72031225

Project Manager (Civil) Indian, 18 yr GCC experience, valid D/L and transferable visa, can join immediately. Contact: 97723786

Indian male with 9 yrs experienced Civil Engineer (Indian) available in Oman for immediate joining. Contact: 75003783

Indian male seek a suitable role in Electronics engineering, technical support, or field operations in Oman. Contact +96898799576 Email: kpharidath586@gmail.com

Quantity surveyor (B.Tech civil, AIQS), 4+ yrs Oman experience. Skilled in primavera, BIM, Revit, ongoing RICS accreditation, valid Oman D/L. Seeking infrastructure, oil & gas roles. Contact: 97649953

LOGISTICS

Indian male graduate with 25 yrs of proven experience in Car rental, fleet Management & logistics. Currently seeking for Senior/ middle management position. Contact: 92152334.

LOGISTICS

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MEDICAL

Indian female chemist experienced in food and water testing, seeking a lab role. Contact: +968 95418558. Email sumithasubair@gmail.com

PURCHASE/ PROCUREMENT

Indian male had 13+ yrs experience with Procurement at construction field in civil and MEP. Worked for a well reputed company's in Oman. Currently seeking jobs in Oman. Contact: +968 97438087

Procurement Engineer 19 yrs experience construction and trading whatsapp +96895839964

Indian male 40 yrs Bcom MBA having 13 yrs experience in procurement UAE & Oman with valid UAE D/L, seeking suitable opportunities. Contact: +971529546753

SALES/MARKETING

Sales & Marketing Manager MBA Indian 28 years' experience for Consumer durables, FMCG. Strong relationships with major retailers across Oman. Contact: 93340457

Indian, MBA, 20yrs of experience in Sales (FMCG/retail) with D/L seeks suitable placement. Contact: 95548480

Indian male, 08 yrs experience having Oman D/L looking for suitable placement in Sales and Marketing. Contact: 94566786

Indian male, 14+ yrs sales exp. (IT, software). Open to Sales/BD roles in any industry. Valid Oman D/L. Contact: 94110178

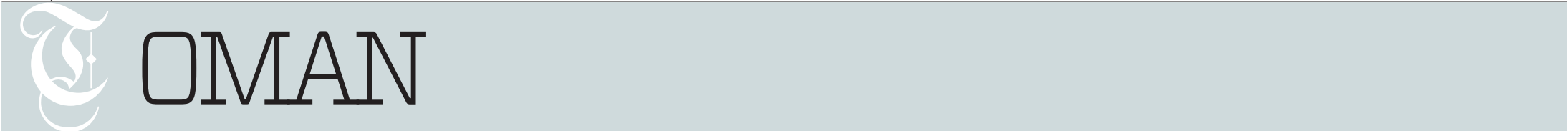
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Al Busaidi State

281 years of enduring legacy

The Al Busaidi Dynasty has remained at the forefront of steering the Oman’s course, preserving its internal balance

MUSCAT: The Al Busaidi Dynasty Foundation Day by Sayyid Ahmed bin Said, in 1744, was a pivotal event and a landmark in Omani history. It laid the foundations of national unity and delineated the contours of national sovereignty.

Since that time, the Al Busaidi Dynasty has remained at the forefront of steering the state’s course, preserving its internal balance, confronting external challenges, upholding the values of stability and openness, and continuing the march of nation-building.

The adoption of 20 November as a National Day in the Sultanate of Oman affirms the deep connection to the roots of the Al Busaidi State. Oman draws on its historical memory to embody the continuity of its approach; the founding legacy was not a fleeting moment, but an enduring project whose significance continues into the present phase of the Renewed Renaissance, under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik.

His Majesty referred to this in his Royal speech last January, on 11 January—the day he assumed the reins of power—stating: “It is a source of our pleasure and an honour to our ancestors, the Sultans, and a commemoration of a glorious day in Oman’s history filled with bright days, that we announce on this occasion that 20 November of every year shall be a National Day for the Sultanate of Oman. This is the day on which the Al Busaidi Dynasty has been honoured to serve this dear nation since 1744, at the hands of the Founding Imam, Sayyid Ahmed bin Said Al Busaidi, who unified the banner of the Omani nation and led its struggle and noble sacrifices for the sake of full sovereignty over the land of Oman, and freedom and dignity for its faithful sons. After him came great Sultans who carried its banner with all courage and competence and completed its triumphant march with all determination and resolve.”

In this context, Dr. Nasser bin Abdullah Al Saqri, Assistant Professor of Modern History in the Department of History at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), told Oman News Agency (ONA) that the rule of the Founding Imam, Sayyid Ahmed bin Said Al Busaidi, established the roots of the Al Busaidi State and set the foundations of leadership that made him a pivotal figure in confronting internal and external challenges, extending to the establishment of the concept of national sovereignty, which remains to this day the cornerstone of the independence of Omani political decision-making. His legacy also illustrates how the Al Busaidi Dynasty has been able to maintain the stability of the state over the centuries, while enhancing national unity, so that the Founding Imam’s project remains a living reference for the new generation in understanding leadership and national strategy.

He added that the Founding Imam established the roots of the Al Busaidi State with firmness and steadfastness, thereby laying the foundations of a historic state that has ruled Oman to this day. This, he added, was no easy task amid the internal and external challenges he faced after assuming the reins of power in Oman on 20 November 1744. This day (Al Busaidi Dynasty Foundation Day) thus became a National Day for the Sultanate of Oman, celebrated every year, marking a landmark in the march of the Omani state and recalling one of the bright pages in its ancient history.

He indicated that on 20 November 1744, the memory of the Al Busaidi Dynasty Foundation Day and the founding of the Al Busaidi State is revived, whose effects extend to a glorious present that Oman enjoys today and a flourishing civil-



zation, under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, drawing from the accumulation of history a strength that helps shape the features of the present and craft a promising future.

For her part, Dr. Bahiya bint Said Al Athobi, a researcher in Omani history, told Oman News Agency that the Al Busaidi Dynasty continued the project of building the modern state through integrated and evolving historical stages. It began with consolidating the foundations of governance and stability during the era of Imam Sayyid Ahmed bin Said, who established the pillars of the Al Busaidi State upon assuming power in 1744. It then evolved and expanded to include the economic, military, and administrative fields, which in turn contributed to making Oman an influential force in the Indian Ocean and East Africa.

She added that this trajectory continued to evolve under the subsequent Sultans, specifically during the era of Sayyid Said bin Sultan, under whom Oman achieved great expansion in all fields domestically and regionally. It then reached its peak in the modern era under the late Sultan Qaboos bin Said beginning in 1970, when the country witnessed a comprehensive renaissance extending to all sectors—from education, health, and infrastructure to economic and social development.

His reign, she said, was also distinguished by the adoption of a policy of positive neutrality and quiet diplomacy, which enabled Oman to assume the role of a trusted mediator in resolving many regional and international conflicts, earning it global respect and appreciation.

She emphasised that during the prosperous era of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, Oman has entered a new stage of Renewed Renaissance since 2020, focusing on deep administrative and economic reforms, modernizing the machinery of government, and implementing Oman Vision 2040, which aims to diversify income sources away from reliance on oil and to develop vital sectors such as tourism, logistics, and manufacturing, in addition to empowering youth and investing in human capital.

Regarding the nature of the relationship between the Omani people and the Al Busaidi leadership, and how this relationship helped overcome national challenges, Dr. Bahiya said that it has been characterised by a unique mutual loyalty and cohesion. It is, she added, reinforced by the leadership’s commitment to direct and open communication with citizens through public councils and periodic meetings to listen to their concerns and aspirations.

Meanwhile, Dr. Yunis bin Jameel Al Nu’mani, a researcher and writer in history, pointed out to Oman News Agency that geography has posed a challenge for Oman: the sea before them, and mountains and desert behind them. Consequently, the response was to take to the sea and explore its depths, so Omani ships reached China, the Malay Archipelago, and Indonesia. Throughout history, they formed naval fleets that combined travel, trade, and the spread



of Islam, as well as naval forces.

He added that the Founding Imam, Sayyid Ahmed bin Said, benefited from this historical legacy and the depth of the Omanis’ knowledge of the sea. When he assumed power, he was keen to revive the Omani fleet to defend the homeland, whether from external threats or even internal conflict. By controlling Muscat, Imam Ahmed bin Said was able to extend Omani influence over coastal Oman.

Dr. Hanan bint Mahmoud Ahmed, a researcher in Omani cultural identity, emphasized to Oman News Agency that national days and occasions play a vital role in rooting national identity and entrenching a sense of belonging and national unity among peoples. The importance of celebrating national memory on a specific national day lies in reviving and recalling various historical scenes, and in inspiring Omani symbols and figures to renew allegiance and to preserve the fabric of the relationship between the citizen and the nation.

She added that reviving historical scenes and the most prominent milestones in the Sultanate of Oman’s history to root and entrench the Omani national identity in the collective memory serves the goal of continuity and reminds generations of these achievements and the great contributions that extended over eras.

Sultan Sayyid Said bin Sultan (1804–1856) worked to expand Oman’s borders until they extended to Africa, making Zanzibar a second capital of his empire. He supported trade and clove cultivation, established friendly and commercial relations with various countries of the world, and signed many agreements and treaties.

She mentioned that during his reign, he built the ship “Sultana,” which carried on board the first Omani envoy to the United States of America in 1840, laden with the most precious and exquisite gifts for the American President. It marked the beginning of the true launch of economic and commercial activity and relations with other countries; his journey remains one of the immortal journeys in memory to this day, she added.

She confirmed that sea voyages continue to this day, and they are among the most prominent prac-

tices that Omanis have preserved throughout the ages, as the vessel “Shabab Oman II” sails the world carrying with it Oman’s message of peace and harmony, bearing on board a historical message embodying Oman’s status and what the Omani people have achieved while touring the world as ambassadors of goodwill and peace.

She pointed out that, following the same path of the Al Busaidi Imams and Sultans, Sultan Sayyid Barghash bin Said (1870–1888) continued the work of building the country, constructing the House of Wonders Palace in Zanzibar, which is an architectural masterpiece that amazed the world given the capabilities available to the Sultan at that time, which were difficult to obtain. The House of Wonders Palace remains a focal point for many tourists worldwide. During the era of Sultan Sayyid Faisal bin Turki (1888–1913), he continued his diligent pursuit of what the Imams and Sultans before him had started in the renaissance of Oman and in consolidating its trade, political, and economic relations with various countries of the world.

She noted that formal education took shape during the reign of Sultan Sayyid Taimour bin Faisal (1913–1932), and the Sultan School was established in 1930. During the reign of Sultan Sayyid Said bin Taimour (1932–1970), the oil era began in Oman, along with the search for minerals as a source of revenue for the country. The late Sultan Qaboos bin Said bin Taimour (1970–2020) worked relentlessly to establish a modern state that endures in the Omani memory.

She added that His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik continues the march of building along the same path as his predecessors, the Imams and Sultans of Oman.

He has emphasised the importance of cooperation among members of society for the elevation of the country. His main concern has been the citizen, and the sound upbringing of the sons of his nation.

His paramount preoccupation has been adherence to customs, traditions, and the authentic Omani character, as well as to the heritage of the Sultanate of Oman, its glorious past, and striving to build the Omani individual and train

him to play his role as a partner in formulating and implementing Oman Vision 2040, and in achieving a better life in all fields, thereby enabling the citizen to participate constructively and continuously in raising the banner of the nation and achieving more progress and prosperity.

As for the role of the Founding Imam, Sayyid Ahmed bin Said, in establishing the foundations of the modern Omani state and unifying it politically, economically, and socially, Dr. Rana bint Hamdan Al Dhoyani, a researcher and writer in history, pointed out to Oman News Agency that the Founding Imam is considered a leadership symbol who, through his journey, was able to achieve Omani unity.

She added that the Founding Imam implemented a prudent economic policy; he abolished taxes, which contributed to attracting merchants to his administration. This confirms his personal commercial expertise and illustrates his deep understanding of commercial movement and its course, as he started as a merchant, and this had an impact on shaping his personality.

She reported that social factors played a prominent role in shaping the personality of Imam Ahmed bin Said. During his governorship of Sohar, he gained the trust of those around him, as he demonstrated justice and wisdom and earned respect, and his fame spread for sound judgment and exceptional leadership.

Dr. Rana pointed out that the impact of the military and administrative experience of Imam Ahmed bin Said in building a stable model of governance formed the foundation of the Al Busaidi State and its construction, focusing on achieving national unity; entrenching citizenship based on loyalty and national belonging; achieving a balance between strength and justice; and maintaining internal political stability by establishing military forces.

Regarding the role of the women of the Al Busaidi Dynasty in the political sphere, Dr. Ahlam bint Hamoud Al Jahwari, a researcher and writer in history, pointed out that their role was not incidental or marginal, but rather an integral part of the journey of this ancient family, whose legacy and extended history we celebrate today since 1744. She added that the National Day for Oman and its people is a day to honour this Dynasty whose rule began on 20 November 1744, and that on 20 November 2025, we recall 281 years of achievements and look forward to more under the wise leadership of His Majesty the Sultan.

She said that as we celebrate this solemn occasion, we revive the biographies of women from the Al Busaidi Dynasty who played important roles in the course of governance and the transfer of power, and of others who had an impact and influence on the civilizational scene in general.

She said that historical sources and references record an important and influential presence of Omani women in several fields through successive historical eras.

The period of the Al Busaidi State is considered an important

and rich period for observing the presence and various roles of women. The historical events that Oman underwent highlight the influential and active participation of some women of the Al Busaidi Dynasty in the alternation of power and governance within the temporal and spatial framework in which the Al Busaidi family ruled in both Oman and East Africa.

At the forefront is Al Sayyida Moza bint Imam Ahmed bin Said—daughter of the founder of the Al Busaidi State. She possessed political ability, diplomatic wisdom, and military competence in her administration of Oman during her regency over the rule of her nephew, Sayyid Said bin Sultan, and during the period of his full assumption of power and his travels to Zanzibar.

Dr. Ahlam indicated that the direct support of the men and leaders of the Al Busaidi Dynasty for the roles and positions of some women of the family created a supportive and enabling environment. This support, she said, is epitomized in the person of Al Sayyida Moza bint Imam Ahmed, and through her, great influence was transmitted to the women of the ruling Al Busaidi Dynasty, who considered her a model and example to emulate.

She mentioned other examples of women from the family who possessed qualities of leadership, wisdom, and shrewdness in dealing with events; this was evident in the personalities of her brother Mohammed’s daughter (Al Sayyida Jokha), her brother Sultan’s daughter (Al Sayyida Aisha), and the two daughters of her brother Said (Al Sayyida Salma and Al Sayyida Khawla), among others.

She pointed out that Al Sayyida Moza bint Imam Ahmed Al Busaidi was a primary reason, among others, for drawing the attention of her nephew, Sultan Sayyid Said bin Sultan, toward Zanzibar, thus enabling Sayyid Said’s influence to expand and establish a vast empire. Credit is also due to Al Sayyida Jokha and Al Sayyida Aisha for the status and power enjoyed by Sayyid Hilal bin Mohammed Al Busaidi. Al Sayyida Salma chronicled the history of the Al Busaidi Dynasty in Zanzibar in her memoirs, and she was the first Arab woman to publish in German.

She said that Al Sayyida Azza bint Saif Al Busaidi, the wife of Sultan Said bin Sultan, in addition to managing the Sultan’s main palace, was also one of five executors chosen by Sultan Said to carry out his will after his death.

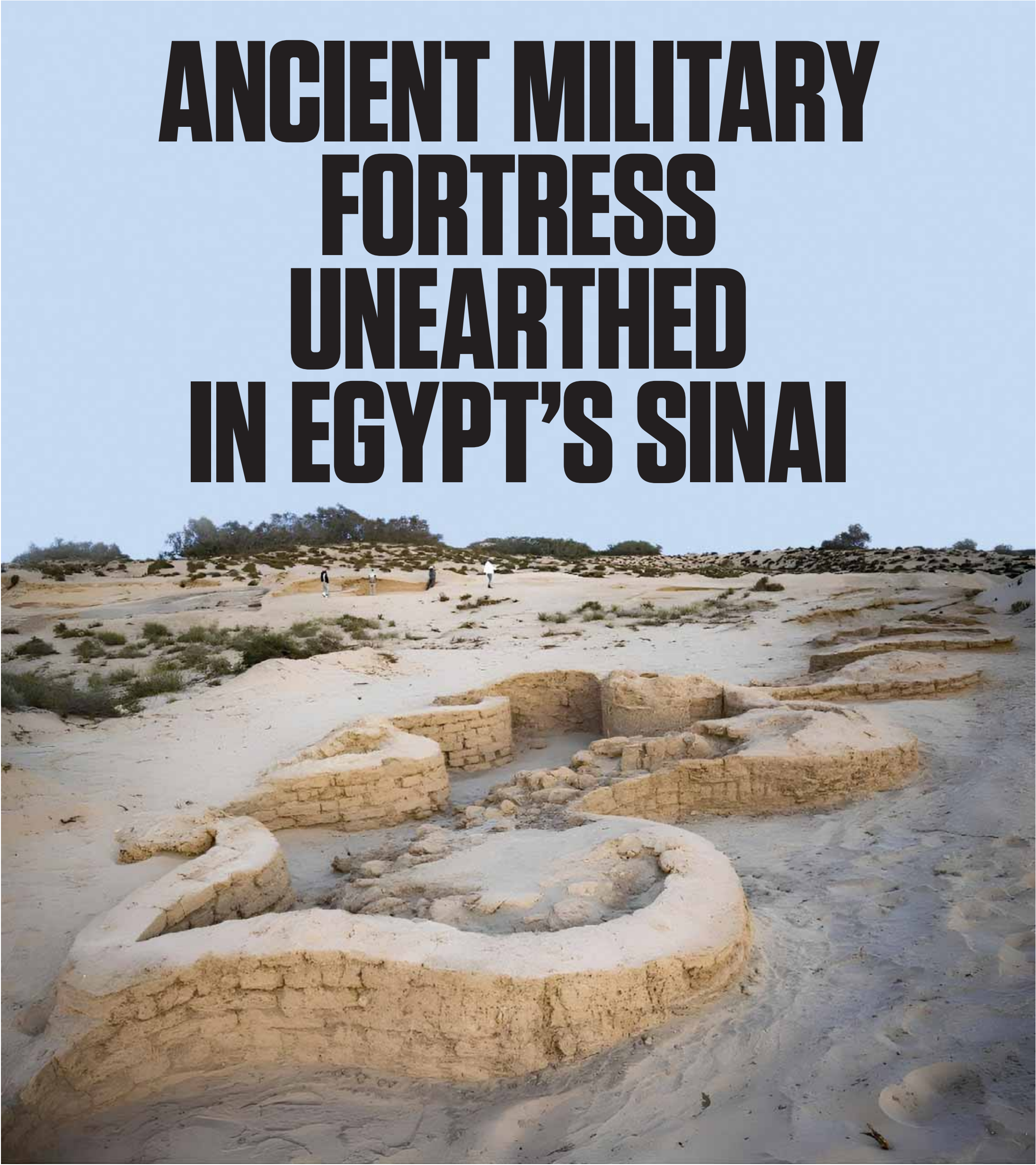
Dr. Ahlam pointed out that Al Sayyida Fatima bint Ali Al Busaidi, the daughter of Sayyid Ali bin Salim bin Thuwaini bin Said bin Sultan bin Ahmad bin Said Al Busaidi, and the first wife of Sultan Taimour bin Faisal, gave birth to Sultan Said bin Taimour. Al Sayyida Fatima played a major role and had a profound impact on his upbringing and preparation to assume power. She is considered one of the most influential figures during the reign of her husband, Sultan Taimour (1913–1932), and her son, Sultan Said (1932–1970), from 1913 until her death in 1967.

From the depths of history to the vastness of the present, the roots of the Al Busaidi State extend, bearing witness that glory is not merely inherited, but built every day with determination and wisdom. The Al Busaidi State remains a fundamental pillar of nation-building in Oman, and an immortal legacy for the Sultanate of Oman to continue, under the wise leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, the march of building and renaissance. **-ONA**



LIFESTYLE

ANCIENT MILITARY FORTRESS UNEARTHED IN EGYPT’S SINAI



The excavation had revealed a section of the fortress’s southern wall, stretching about 105 metres long and 2.5 metres wide, with a secondary entrance measuring 2.2 metres across

Egypt’s Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities announced the discovery of a military fortress from the New Kingdom era near the Mediterranean coast in northern Sinai, in north-eastern Egypt.

In a statement, the ministry said the discovery was made by an Egyptian archaeological mission working at the Tell El Kharouba site. It described the fortress as one of the largest and most significant ever uncovered along the ancient Horus military route, covering about 8,000 square metres - roughly three times the size of a fortress excavated at the same site in the 1980s, which lies some 700 metres to the southwest.

The statement noted that the excavation had revealed a section of the fortress’s southern wall, stretching about 105 metres long and 2.5 metres wide, with a secondary entrance measuring 2.2 metres across. So far, 11 defensive towers have been unearthed, along with the north-western tower and portions of the northern and western walls.

A zigzag wall, 75 metres long, was also found on the western side, dividing the fortress from north to south and enclosing a residential area designated for soldiers - a distinctive architectural feature of the New Kingdom that highlights the ancient Egyptians’ ability to adapt to harsh desert conditions.

The statement added that the dig had yielded assorted pottery sherds and vessels, including foundation deposits beneath one of the towers dating to the first half of the 18th Dynasty. Among the artifacts was a vessel hand stamped with the name of King Thutmose I. Quantities of volcanic stones, likely transported by sea from volcanoes on Greek islands, were also recovered, as was a large bread oven flanked by lumps of fossilised dough - evidence that the fortress served as a self-sufficient hub for soldiers’ daily life. - **OWA**

SPORTS

Thailand crowned champion as Singapore sailors shine

Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information, presided over the awards ceremony of the 2025 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship

Times News Service

MUSSANAH: After a week of thrilling competition under near-perfect sailing conditions, Thailand's Sorawit Naksuk was crowned overall champion of the 2025 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship, while Singapore's young sailors dominated the podium and team events in a spectacular display of skill and consistency. Hosted by Oman Sail in collaboration with the Oman Maritime Sports Committee and the International Optimist Dinghy Association (IODA), the championship brought together more than 180 sailors from 25 countries across Asia and Oceania. Races were held from 25-31 October at the Mussanah Sailing School at Barceló Mussanah Resort, reaffirming Oman's position as a premier venue for international sailing events.

The closing ceremony, held under the patronage of Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser Al Harrasi, Minister of Information, was attended by ambassadors, dignitaries, IODA representatives, and team delegations. The celebration marked the successful conclusion of a top-class competition that showcased the sport's future stars and the Sultanate's organisational excellence. "We celebrate the conclusion of an exceptional week of sailing that brought together more than 180 sailors from 25 nations in a true display of sportsmanship, friendship, and cultural exchange," said Dr. Khamis bin Salem Al Jabri, CEO of Oman Sail. "With the support of our partners, we have successfully delivered another world-class event that underscores Oman's position as a global destination for sailing."

Naksuk leads Thailand to glory
In the Individual Gold Fleet, Thailand's Sorawit Naksuk dominated from the outset, displaying remarkable tactical awareness and consistency to secure the 2025 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship title and the IODA Perpetual Trophy. Singapore's Ethan Chia finished a strong second, while Storm Husky Kim from the United States



of America claimed third place after a week of competitive fleet racing. Across the continental standings, Naksuk topped the Asian Division, followed by Ethan Chia and Anya Zahedi of Singapore in second and third. In the Oceanian Division, Wil-

liam Harris and Balthazar Roche, both from Australia, finished first and second respectively, with Jeffrey Du from New Zealand taking third. In the Girls' Division, Anya Zahedi confirmed her status as one of Asia's brightest young sailors,



claiming the title of Best Girl Sailor in Asia and Oceania 2025 and lifting the IODA Perpetual Trophy. She finished ahead of Li Yuxuan from China and Shreya Lakshminarayanan from India, extending Singapore's impressive legacy in women's sailing.

Singapore dominate team events
Singapore's depth of talent was further evident in the Team Racing Championship, where Singapore Team 1 delivered an outstanding tactical performance to secure the 2025 Optimist Asian &

Oceanian Team Racing title ahead of Thailand, with Singapore Team 2 taking third place. At the continental level, Singapore Team A was recognised as the Top Asian Team, while Team New Zealand earned the title of Top Oceanian Team, highlighting the region's competitive spirit and youth development. In the Nations Cup, Team USA took a commanding victory, followed by Argentina 2 in second place and Argentina 1 in third, after a series of intense fleet races that featured strong performances across all continents.

Oman's young sailors make their mark
The host nation delivered a commendable performance, with Mohammed Al Qasbi finishing 42nd in the Gold Fleet, Khalid Al Sarihi 43rd, and Khamis Al Mashaikhi 48th among the world's best young sailors.

In the Bronze Fleet, Japan's Soki Higuchi took first place, followed by compatriot Kaito Nakamura in second. Oman's Tarteel Al Hasani produced a standout performance to claim third, reflecting the growing strength of Omani female sailors. The Silver Fleet title went to Kornelia Pajak from the United Arab Emirates, with Simon Katz from Argentina in second and Roberta de Oliveira Horn from Brazil in third. "Events like this strengthen Oman's position on the global sporting map and directly contribute to the goals of Oman Vision 2040, by diversifying the economy through sports and tourism," added Dr Al Jabri. International competitions give our young sailors invaluable experience and inspire the next generation to represent Oman with pride."

The closing ceremony concluded with the official handover of the IODA flag to Team Sri Lanka, host of the 2026 Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship, in the presence of Ajay Narang, IODA Vice President for Asia, Oceania, and Africa. "The 2025 championship in Oman has been a benchmark event in IODA's history — superbly organised, professionally executed, and wonderfully welcoming," said Narang.

The 2025 championship once again showcased Oman's capability to host international sailing events at the highest level. The Mussanah Sailing School, certified as a Category A High-Performance Centre by the Asian Sailing Federation (ASAF), provided a world-class venue for a championship that perfectly blended competition, culture, and youth development.

"At Oman Sail, we believe that investing in youth potential is key to shaping a brighter future for our nation," said Dr Al Jabri. "The Optimist Asian & Oceanian Championship embodies that vision — uniting nations, inspiring young talent, and reinforcing Oman's role as a hub for global sailing."

INDIA BATTER

Iyer discharged from Sydney hospital

SYDNEY: Shreyas Iyer has been discharged from the Sydney hospital he had been admitted to for the spleen laceration, with internal bleeding, he suffered during India's third ODI against Australia on October 25, and "is now stable and recovering well", the BCCI said in a statement on Saturday morning. "The injury was promptly identified, and the bleeding was immediately arrested following a minor procedure. He has undergone appropriate medical management for the same," the statement, quoting secretary Devajit Saikia, said. "He is now stable and recovering well. The BCCI medical team, along with specialists in Sydney and India, are pleased with his recovery, and he has been discharged from the hospital today." Iyer was treated by Dr Koroush Haghighi and his team in Sydney with help from Dr Dinshaw Pardiwala in India. The BCCI



added, "Shreyas will continue to stay in Sydney for his follow-up consultations and will return to India once he is deemed fit to fly." The injury took place when Iyer took a catch running backwards from point to dismiss Alex Carey in the Sydney ODI. He immediately clutched his rib cage and signalled for medical attention. He was taken off the field and did not return for the remainder of Australia's innings. India won the third ODI by nine wickets, but lost the three-match series 2-1. They are currently 1-0 down after two matches in the T20I series that has followed the ODIs. - Agencies

SECOND T20I

Mirza, Faheem and Ayub shine as rampant Pakistan make it 1-1

LAHORE: Pakistan rallied to level the three-match T20I series against South Africa with a nine-wicket win in Lahore on Friday. The match was all but over in the first 10 overs, when South Africa slipped to 66 for 6 after stunning spells from left-arm quick Salman Mirza, playing in his sixth T20I, Naseem Shah and Faheem Ashraf. Only one batter, Dewald Brevis, got past 20, and only one partnership did the same. On the other hand, Pakistan played the situation to perfection. Their bowlers read the surface well before the batters knocked off their target of 111 with 41 balls to spare. An opening stand of 54 between Sahibzada Farhan and Saim Ayub set them up before Ayub and Babar Azam finished things off with an unbroken 58 for the second wicket. In the process, Babar became the leading run-scorer in T20Is.



Mirza set Reeza Hendricks up with an opening delivery that moved away from him and then brought the second one back in and found leg stump to dismiss him for a duck. In the next over, Mirza angled a couple into Tony de Zorzi's pads, then went for the surprise short ball and de Zorzi missed his pull. That was a warning. Two balls later, Mirza went for a slower-ball bouncer and de Zorzi pulled to Abrar Ahmed at short fine leg. In between those dismissals,

Quinton de Kock was caught at mid-off a slower ball from Naseem Shah. Mirza got his third when Matthew Breetzke He delivered another cutter, was bowled to leave South Africa 23 for 4 in the fifth over. Brevis threatened to take control with a quickfire 25 off 16 balls including three sixes, all hit cleanly, but mishit a slower short ball from Faheem to cover point. South Africa were in all sorts at 49 for 5 in the eighth over, and stand-in captain Donovan Ferreria could barely rebuild. He chopped a Faheem short ball onto his stumps at the end of the 10th over. Two overs later, George Linde went almost exactly the same way, playing the pull rather than cut, but also edging onto his stumps. South Africa were 73 for 7 but dragged things into the 20th over before getting bowled out for 110. South Africa had made run-scoring look difficult but Ayub

showed that was a fiction as he anchored the chase with his first fifty in a home T20I in a 360-degree display of hitting. After a duck on T20I comeback in Rawalpindi, expectation was high on Babar, especially on his home ground, and he was in the mood to deliver. He creamed the first ball he faced through the covers for four to send Lahore into a frenzy. Then he was stuck on 6 off 7 for two overs, with Ayub taking all the strike and carving big chunks off the target. Babar needed three more to overtake Rohit Sharma as the leading run-scorer in T20Is. He got there at the start of the 12th over with a single of Ferreira - his 4232nd run in the format - and the home fans knew exactly what he had achieved. **Brief scores:** Pakistan 112/1 in 13.1 overs (Ayub 71*, Farhan 28*) beat South Africa 110 in 19.2 overs (Brevis 25, Ashraf 4-23, Mirza 3-14) by nine wickets. - Agencies

UN calls for end to US strikes on boats in Caribbean and the Pacific

More than 4,500 Marines and sailors, backed by naval and air assets, have been stationed in the Caribbean to strengthen anti-narcotics efforts against Venezuela

GENEVA: The United Nations has urged the United States to immediately stop airstrikes on boats in the Caribbean and the Pacific, and prevent the “extrajudicial killing of people.”

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said on Friday that “over 60 people have reportedly been killed in a continuing series of attacks carried out by US armed forces against boats in the Caribbean and the Pacific since early September, in circumstances that find no justification in international law.”



“These attacks, and their mounting human cost, are unacceptable. The US must halt such attacks and take all measures necessary to prevent the extrajudicial killing of people aboard these boats, whatever the criminal conduct alleged against them,” Turk added.

In recent weeks, the US military has intensified operations against drug-smuggling boats in international waters.

More than 4,500 Marines and sailors, backed by naval and air assets, have been stationed in the Caribbean to strengthen anti-narcotics efforts against Venezuela.

According to Turk, airstrikes on boats “allegedly linked to drug

trafficking” are not justified under international law. “Airstrikes on boats in the Caribbean and the Pacific, allegedly linked to drug trafficking, violate international human rights law and are unacceptable,” he said.

He called on the US to use proper law enforcement measures instead of lethal military force. “The authorities must maintain use of well-established law enforcement methods to respond to alleged illicit trafficking, including through lawfully intercepting boats and detaining suspects under the applicable rules of criminal law,” the UN rights chief added.

The United States has defended

the operations, saying they are part of anti-drug and counterterrorism efforts. President Donald Trump has called the targeted boats “narco-trafficking vessels” and said the attacks are needed to stop the flow of drugs into the country, as per CBS News.

US War Secretary Pete Hegseth announced on Wednesday that the latest airstrike in the eastern Pacific targeted a boat carrying drugs, killing four people. It was the 14th strike since early September and the 15th boat destroyed. The total death toll from these operations has risen to at least 61.

Last week Trump administration also hinted towards plans to

target drug-trafficking routes and cocaine facilities inside Venezuela, though a final decision has not yet been made, according to CNN.

Signs of a possible military buildup emerged, with War Secretary Pete Hegseth ordering the US Navy’s most advanced aircraft carrier strike group, the USS Gerald R Ford, to move from Europe to the Caribbean. The deployment comes as Washington increases its presence in the region to target drug cartels and related criminal networks.

Turk rejected the argument that the strikes fall under the laws of war. “Countering the serious issue of illicit trafficking of drugs

across international borders is as has long been agreed among States, a law-enforcement matter, governed by the careful limits on lethal force set out in international human rights law,” he said.

While acknowledging the challenges of tackling cross-border drug trafficking, the UN human rights chief urged Washington to follow international law and honour its commitments under anti-narcotics treaties.

“The US must act within the bounds of international human rights law,” Turk said, stressing that the killings cannot be justified even in the name of combating crime. — ANI

TIANGONG SPACE STATION



China launches youngest astronaut and small mammals

JIUQUAN: China’s Shenzhou-21 spaceship launched on Friday, carrying its youngest astronaut and small mammals to the country’s orbiting space station.

The Tiangong space station, crewed by rotating teams of three astronauts, is the centerpiece of China’s multi-billion-dollar space programme.

Beijing aims to send astronauts to the moon by the decade’s end and eventually build a lunar base, in a bid to rival the US and Russian space programmes.

Mice and men, to space

The latest crew to Tiangong consists of first-time astronauts Zhang Hongzhang and Wu Fei, who, at 32, is China’s youngest astronaut to be sent to space. They are led by Commander Zhang Lu, who spent time in space two years ago.

Also onboard the spacecraft are four mice, the first time China is sending the small mammals to the space station.

They will be monitored to study how weightlessness and

confinement affect their behavioural patterns.

The “space mice” were selected from 300 candidates after more than 60 days of intensive training, according to China’s official Xinhua News Agency.

The astronauts plan to conduct 27 experiments in fields such as biotechnology, space medicine and materials science.

The launch comes as China is planning a crewed mission to the moon by the end of the decade.

“Our fixed goal of China landing a person on the moon by 2030 is firm,” said Zhang Jingbo, a spokesperson for the China Manned Space Agency.

Built entirely by China after its exclusion from the International Space Station, the Tiangong space station has positioned Beijing as a major space power.

This week, SpaceX said it pitched NASA a “simplified” plan to return US astronauts to the moon before China can complete its manned lunar mission.

— ANI

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Trump administration must continue to fund the nation’s biggest food aid

WASHINGTON: Two federal judges in separate decisions ruled on Friday that the administration of President Donald Trump must continue to fund the nation’s biggest food aid programme, known as SNAP.

The Department of Agriculture, which administers the programme, had planned to suspend payments on November 1.

It said it could no longer keep funding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programme (SNAP), which costs around \$8.6 billion (€7.45 billion) a month, due to the federal government shutdown.

The Trump administration had argued it was legally unable to use emergency funds to cover these benefits.

“The well has run dry,” the department posted on its website last week, prompting the filing of separate lawsuits.

What did the judges rule about SNAP funding?

A federal judge in Rhode Island ruled on Friday that the administration’s decision not to tap into \$5.25 billion (€4.55 billion) in emergency funds to pay November benefits was arbitrary.

He said the agriculture department must distribute the emergency money “as soon as possible.” If the money was insufficient, he said, the agency should determine if money from a separate fund with around \$23 billion could be used.

Meanwhile, a judge based in Boston, Massachusetts, also ruled that the administration was wrong in saying it was legally



barred from using the contingency funds to pay for SNAP benefits during the shutdown.

Both judges ordered the government to report back to them on Monday on how it will comply with their decisions.

What is the SNAP food aid programme?

The SNAP initiative provides financial assistance to low-income households for purchasing food. The monthly benefits are loaded onto debit cards for use in grocery stores.

It’s a major piece of the social safety net in the United States. It helps around 1 in 8 Americans, or 42 million people, buy groceries.

It pays an average of about \$187 per person per month. Many of those receiving SNAP have jobs but don’t make enough to cover all basic costs. The agriculture department says nearly 16 million children received benefits in 2023. It remains unclear when

November payments will be issued and at what level.

The process of loading the debit cards often takes one to two weeks.

Trump seeks clarification

Washington DC [US], November 1 (ANI): US President Donald Trump has instructed his administration’s lawyers to seek clarification on how the government can “legally fund” the food stamp benefits during the shutdown after two US federal judges ruled to tap into the emergency funds to cover benefits for November.

Trump argued that the government do not have the “legal authority” to pay for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). He urged Democrats to “cut the charade” and “reopen the government.”

“Our Government lawyers do not think we have the legal authority to pay SNAP with certain monies we have available, and now

two Courts have issued conflicting opinions on what we can and cannot do. I do NOT want Americans to go hungry just because the Radical Democrats refuse to do the right thing and REOPEN THE GOVERNMENT,” Trump said in a post on Truth Social.

He further said, even if he receives immediate guidance from the court, there is still not enough time to provide aid for November.

“Therefore, I have instructed our lawyers to ask the Court to clarify how we can legally fund SNAP as soon as possible. It is already delayed enough due to the Democrats keeping the Government closed through the monthly payment date and, even if we get immediate guidance, it will unfortunately be delayed while States get the money out. If we are given the appropriate legal direction by the Court, it will BE MY HONOR to provide the funding, just like I did with Military and Law Enforcement Pay,” he said. — Agencies

NEPAL

Flight makes emergency landing in Bhairahawa, passengers safe

KATHMANDU: A passenger aircraft with 82 people on board made an emergency landing at Gautam Buddha International Airport in Bhairahawa after facing technical problems, officials confirmed.

The aircraft operated by Shree Airlines en route to Kathmandu from Dhangadhi made an emergency landing at the airport in Bhairahawa after the pilot reported “a problem with hydraulics.”

“The flight had taken off from Dhangadhi at around 10 AM (Local Time), and the pilot reported problems with the hydraulics. It was asked to make an emergency landing at the airport here,” Binod Singh Raut, the Information officer at the Gautam Buddha International Airport, told ANI.

The aircraft with flight number



222 made its way to the taxiway forty minutes after landing. Till then, the airport was closed.

“With the aircraft still on the runway of the airport, we had to close the airport for about forty minutes. The aircraft moved to

the taxi-way after resolution of the issue with the hydraulics at around 12:30 in the afternoon,” Raut added.

As per the official, there were a total of 82 people on board, including the crew members.

Upon landing at the airport, all personnel on board the flight were evacuated.

“Engineers and technicians from the airline company will carry out further inspections before making any decisions regarding

the aircraft,” Shyam Kishor Sah, director and spokesperson at the airport, told ANI.

Later, another aircraft departed for Bhairahawa to bring the passengers and the crew back to Kathmandu. The airport was

later reopened after the runway was cleared with the aircraft taxiing itself.

The flight operator, Shree Airlines, did not comment on the issue until 4:30 PM.

Earlier, on April 16, an aircraft of Sita Airlines, a private airline company operating in remote areas of Nepal, carrying 12 Indian passengers, made an emergency landing at Tribhuvan International Airport in the afternoon.

According to the airline’s officials, the passengers and crew on the aircraft have remained unharmed. “The incident occurred at around 2 PM. The crew with call sign 9n-AIE has reported it to be a hydraulic failure,” the Sita Air official confirmed, ANI seeking anonymity. — ANI

ROUND-UP

Global Furniture SPC - Arina Home and Sunon Global launch largest concept office furniture showroom

The newly unveiled showroom is an immersive experience centre dedicated to demonstrating how intelligent, ergonomic, and sustainable design can transform corporate environments

MUSCAT: Global furniture SPC – Arina Home has successfully launched the Sultanate's first concept office furniture showroom following a high-profile open-



ing last night. This significant achievement was realised through a strategic partnership with the global office solutions leader, Sunon. This monumental launch immediately establishes Arina Home as the new benchmark for innovative workspace design in Oman. The event, held on Wednesday, October 29 drew a prestigious crowd of industry experts, leading architects, interior designers, real

estate company owners, and key professionals. The atmosphere was charged with excitement as guests explored the showroom, which is set to become the definitive destination for forward-thinking workspace solutions in the region. Shaping future of Omani workspaces The newly unveiled showroom is more than a retail space; it is an

immersive experience centre dedicated to demonstrating how intelligent, ergonomic, and sustainable design can transform corporate environments. This initiative is a direct response to the market's demand for high-performance, employee-centric offices. "This launch represents a significant milestone for Oman's commercial design sector," stated the CEO of Arina Home, Al Mun-



tasir Al Hooqani. "In partnership with Sunon Global, a valued leader in the industry, we have officially introduced tailored solutions that are going to shape the future of workspaces in Oman. Our goal is to empower Omani businesses to adopt cutting-edge, human-centric designs that drive productivity and well-being." A fusion of global expertise and local vision The collaboration brings together Arina Home's deep understanding of the local market and Sunon's three decades of global experience in delivering innovative, quality,

and sustainable office furniture. Senior officials from Sunon Global were present to celebrate the opening, emphasising the strategic importance of the Omani market for the brand's expansion in the Middle East. The collaboration is poised to support large-scale commercial projects, offering a range of solutions from advanced executive desks to modular workstations and ergonomic seating. The new Concept Office Furniture Showroom is now officially open and ready to welcome commercial clients and design professionals seeking to redefine their workspace.

CSR INITIATIVE



Grand Millennium Muscat hosts awareness session in support of breast cancer awareness month

MUSCAT: Grand Millennium Muscat reaffirmed its ongoing commitment to Breast Cancer Awareness Month by hosting a comprehensive awareness session in collaboration with the Oman Cancer Association (OCA). This annual initiative is a part of the hotel's CSR initiatives under Millennium's Green Path commitment, globally. The initiative reflects the hotel's dedication to supporting community health and wellbeing programs. The awareness session, was held in the Ruby Meeting Room at Grand Millennium Muscat led by Dr. Rajyashree from the OCA. A total of 32 attendees, including hotel staff, guests, and community members participated in the session that aimed to educate participants on early detection methods, the importance of regular screenings and most importantly breast self-examination. In line with the event's theme, the hotel arranged pink-themed, light snacks and beverages for all attendees, creating an engaging and welcoming environment. Following the session, the OCA distributed educational pamphlets detailing breast self-examination steps, while the hotel provided special gift vouchers with discounts redeemable at Taybat and Bahriyat Restaurants to all attendees. Additionally, Women

over the age of 40 were scheduled for mammogram screenings on the OCA's Mobile Mammogram Unit, emphasizing the hotel's proactive approach to community health. All of this is in addition to the voluntary cash donations box we have at the Reception desk all year round. Simultaneously, Grand Millennium Muscat hosted a dedicated OCA table in the hotel lobby to promote their 21st Annual OCA Walkathon, set to take place on 6 November from 3pm to 9pm. Visitors were invited to learn more about the event, which features fun activities, a raffle draw, and a meaningful opportunity to support breast cancer awareness. Glenn Nobbs, General Manager of the hotel stated, "At Grand Millennium Muscat, we believe in the power of awareness, compassion, and giving back to the community. Supporting Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a cause close to our hearts, and we are proud to stand alongside the Oman Cancer Association in their continuous efforts to promote early detection and education. Each year, our team comes together to contribute in meaningful ways through awareness sessions, community engagement, and by providing a platform for open dialogue about women's health."

FROM IDEAS TO IMPACT

Oman Shell champions youth innovation with NXplorers Pro at SQU

MUSCAT: Oman Shell has launched a new edition of its flagship NXplorers Pro program, hosted at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), marking a renewed commitment to equipping young Omanis with the critical thinking skills, innovation mindsets, and problem-solving tools needed to lead the Sultanate into a more sustainable and resilient future. At a time when the world faces escalating challenges in food, water, and energy security, the NXplorers Pro program empowers students to move from awareness to action, teaching them how to decode complexity, challenge assumptions, and design transformative, real-world solutions. The program's philosophy is grounded in a clear ambition: tomorrow's breakthroughs will come from young minds who can think systematically, imagine boldly, and act purposefully. "Empowering youth is not merely an investment in skills,



it is an investment in Oman's future," said Al Ahnaf Al Zubaidi, Social Investment and Community Relations Manager at Oman Shell. "NXplorers Pro equips students with the mindset and tools to tackle the toughest challenges of our time, along with the confidence to explore new possibilities. Their drive and imagination are proof that our future is in capable hands."

With the program now underway at SQU, students expressed enthusiasm and readiness to embark on this learning journey. Al Yazan Yahya Al Busaidi, a participant from Sultan Qaboos University, shared: "I'm excited to discover how systems thinking can help us see problems differently and come up with smarter solutions for the future." Another student, Nuha Soud Al

Tubi, reflected on their anticipation for the weeks ahead: "I can't wait to learn how to turn big ideas into real impact. NXplorers Pro feels like the beginning of something meaningful." The program aligns closely with Oman Vision 2040, reinforcing Oman Shell's commitment to nurturing young talent and advancing the Sultanate's sustainability ambitions. NXplorers Pro also complements Oman Shell's broader portfolio of youth development initiatives, including Shell NXplorers, Shell Nawafidh, and other STEM-focused community programs that inspire innovation, collaboration, and impact. "We are incredibly proud of the students at Sultan Qaboos University," Al Ahnaf added. "Their willingness to think differently and their passion to be part of Oman's sustainable future remind us that the future is not something we wait for, it is something we build, together."

ISLAMIC BANKING

Meethaq recognised for its leading digital services

MUSCAT: Celebrating its pioneering role in delivering world-class Sharia-compliant digital banking solutions, Meethaq Islamic Banking from Bank Muscat, has been recognised for its leading digital services in Oman at the prestigious Finance Derivatives Awards Programme 2025. This international accolade highlights Meethaq's unmatched products and services that combine innovation, security, and convenience for customers across Oman. The Finance Derivatives Awards celebrate excellence in banking and finance worldwide, with winners selected based on innovation, performance, and customer-centric strategies. This recognition reaffirms Meethaq's position as Oman's



undisputed leader in Islamic and digital banking, setting benchmarks in technology adoption, service quality, and operational efficiency.

Ali Ahmed Al Lawati, Assistant General Manager of Meethaq Corporate Banking, expressed his pride in this achievement, stating:

"Meethaq has consistently led the way in transforming Islamic banking experiences by integrating advanced digital platforms that provide customers with seamless, 24/7 access to Sharia-compliant products and services. Our goal is to empower customers with smarter, faster, and more intuitive banking solutions. We remain committed to delivering services that exceed the expectations of our valued customers." The award also underscores Meethaq's steadfast dedication to customer satisfaction. It ensures that its digital services are secure, reliable, and tailored to meet the evolving needs of individuals and businesses.



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