



FESTIVAL OF WINNING



WALK-IN & WIN*



100
SMART PHONES



10 WINNERS

BUY ANY MG AND
STAND A CHANCE TO
**WIN YOUR
CAR BACK**



SERVICE
140,000 KMS / 7 YEARS

INSURANCE &
REGISTRATION

WINDOW TINT



Offer valid from 25/02/2025 - 25/04/2025 only for customers buying MG vehicles from MG Dealership. Insurance 1st Year (Oman & UAE). Registration 1st Year. Service 140,000km / 7 Years (whichever comes earlier) & Window Tint. Win Your Car Back is a raffle where 10 winners will each win their purchased MG vehicle back. The raffle applies only to the vehicle purchased by the customer and as per the terms mentioned on the coupon. The draw will be held at the end of the campaign. Offer not applicable on govt, taxi, rent a car, or commercial deals. Walk-In & Win is applicable for all customers enquiring about MG at showrooms across Oman. Images used for illustrative purposes only.



6 YEAR 200,000 KM

REGION'S BEST MANUFACTURER'S WARRANTY

800 80111

71557334

mgmotoroman

mg-om.com

Azaiba | Manuma | Wattayah | Bidaya | Bureimi

Barka | Sohar | Nizwa | Salalah | Sur

Terms and conditions apply



We made it easy to get a Credit Card



Minimum salary from OMR 250



No need for salary assignment letter



First year annual fee waived

Apply now



TIPS FOR FITNESS AND FAITH

Adjust workout timing in advance

Muscat - Balancing faith and fitness during Ramadan requires careful planning, as years of muscle building and high-intensity endurance training can be impacted by fasting. With limited eating and hydration windows, workouts must be adjusted to prevent muscle loss and maintain strength. Jaison M, gym instructor and fitness expert, shares essential guidelines to help you stay in shape while observing the holy month.

WEEK 1

One should prepare well to maintain fitness during the holy month. Start by adjusting your workout timing in advance, so your body gets accustomed to exercising with a modified schedule. If you plan to work out before Iftar, opt for bodyweight exercises that do not exhaust you completely.

Since visiting the gym after Iftar may not be possible for everyone, home workouts like push-ups, squats, lunges and planks can help maintain strength.

Additionally, plan your meals in advance to avoid unhealthy, last-minute food choices.



(Supplied photo)

Weight gain is common during Ramadan due to overeating, so limit high-calorie foods and stick to nutrient-dense meals.

If you have any medical concerns, visit your doctor beforehand to ensure your body can handle fasting and workouts. Lastly, a structured exercise plan will help you maintain discipline and avoid losing progress during Ramadan.

Zakat Committee Sur to give out 800 iftar meals daily

Our Correspondent
Sur

The Zakat Committee in Sur, South Sharqiyah is actively working to enhance social solidarity during Ramadan by distributing 800 iftar meals daily.

These meals will be prepared by the committee and handed out to local communities as part of its efforts to assist the needy during this blessed month.

Speaking to *Muscat Daily*, Adel al Ghailani, a member of the committee, informed that it operates under Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs and aims to also support 1,000 underprivileged families this Ramadan. “Each family will receive a food basket containing essential items like rice, flour, coffee, sugar, tomato paste, dates and powdered milk.”

The committee will distribute the 800 iftar meals daily in mosques across Sur, as well as to students from low-income families.

According to Ghailani, the committee has 80 volunteers who will be responsible for distributing meals to college students and ex-



(Supplied photos)



The Zakat Committee in Sur operates under Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs and aims to also support 1,000 underprivileged families this Ramadan

ADEL AL GHAILANI

patriate workers in areas such as Tiwi and Ras al Hadd.

The committee’s wide-ranging programmes include zakat, sadakh, Eid clothing, orphan sponsorship, student sponsorship and family empowerment. Its initiatives not only focus on providing support during Ra-

madan but also aim to spread the spirit of solidarity and integration within the community throughout the year.

To ensure the support reaches those in genuine need, the committee has a strict process for selecting beneficiaries.

Individuals seeking zakat or

donations must provide documentation such as bank statement, salary certificate from themselves or a family member, rental details, utility expenses and loan installments. “This thorough verification process ensures that aid is directed to those who need it the most,” Ghailani said.



JABAL FURUS FUND

The Chairman's Report
For the Period ending December 31, 2024

On behalf of the Fund Management Body, I am pleased to present the financial results of Jabal Furus Fund for the period ending December 31, 2024.

Below is a summary of the financial results:

	For the period ending December 31, 2024
	OMR
Total Income	(74,173)
Total Expenses	(100,211)
Profit (Loss) for the Period	(174,384)
Profit (Loss) per Unit	(0.048)
Total Net Assets	3,535,093
NAV per Unit	0.969

Market Performance

MSX witnessed a recovery in 2024 post a weak 2023, making a modest gain of 1.4% for 2024. The MSX30 index hit a high of 4,845 in May 2024 which was 7.3% higher than the close of the previous year. The key highlight of the year was the listing of two government entities - OQEP and OQBI, which drained liquidity from the broader market resulting in underperformance of other equities, especially other OQ names. In terms of macro-economic environment, Oman continued to reveal resilience and recouped its credit rating to investment grade status in 2024. On the other hand, the valuations for MSX continue to remain attractive with a PE-2025E ratio of 9x lower than the historical average and the regional peers, along with a higher dividend yield of >6.5% and PB of 0.9x.

Fund Performance

As of 31st Dec 2024, the Total AUM of the fund stood at RO 3.5 million. Since inception (23rd May 2024), the fund has returned -3.5% outperforming the market by 0.3%. Key outperforming stocks in the portfolio were NBO (contributed 1.5% to return) and Renaissance (contributed 0.4% to return). In terms of underperforming stocks in the portfolio Galfar Engineering contributed -2.9% to return and OQEP contributed -1.1% to return.

Economy and Market outlook

Oman GDP growth is projected to grow at 3.1% in 2025, supported by non-oil sector expansion and a stable hydrocarbon base. Oil production is expected to stabilize, contributing to fiscal revenues, while diversification efforts enhance non-oil GDP, projected to grow at 4%. Inflation is expected to average 2.3% in 2025, driven by controlled food prices and subsidies. A strong currency peg to the USD helps mitigate imported inflation risks. Monetary easing in line with US Fed policy through an expected 50 bps rate cuts will reduce borrowing costs, improve corporate profitability and support household consumption. The government maintains an expansionary fiscal policy to support Vision 2040 initiatives, with a focus on infrastructure, healthcare, and renewable energy.

MSX growth to continue through listing of government companies, with more IPOs of state-owned companies planned in 2025 boosting liquidity and companies with strong fundamentals. The tailwinds from the expected inclusion of MSX in the MSCI EM index, increasing capital flows and improving overall capital allocation and liquidity of the market. The earnings expected to grow by 6-8%, driven by solid fundamentals and government spending. Dividend yield is estimated above 6% levels in 2025. Oman's fixed income market is expanding, with projections of market size growing from USD 46 billion in 2024 to USD 70 billion by 2030. The Investment grade status achieved with upgrades by S&P, with Moody's expected to follow by early 2025, enhancing market credibility.

On the corporate earnings, the preliminary results reveal growth of 13.7% YoY for 2024 (excluding Omantel results & OQEP which included extraordinary income). The industrial

sector showed the highest growth with 50% earnings growth YoY albeit from a low base, while financial sector companies' earnings remained solid growing by 7%. The outlook for Omani equities in 2025 remains positive amidst steady economic growth, government reforms, launch of IPOs, and expected improvement in corporate earnings. The fund is well positioned towards reaping the benefits of the economic recovery, earnings growth, along with attractive valuations and dividend yield against the regional and global markets.

Acknowledgements

On behalf of the members of the Fund Management Body, I would like to extend our thanks to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq bin Taimur for the leadership and vision and the Omani government for the efforts towards driving growth and economic stability.

I would like also to thank the Financial Services Authority and the Muscat Stock Exchange for their relentless efforts in developing the capital market, and also for the fund manager and the service providers for their efforts in managing the fund, and our valued unitholders for their confidence and support given.

On behalf of the Fund Management Body
Chairman
23 February 2025

Statement of comprehensive income
For the period ended 31 December 2024

	23-04-2024 to 31-12-2024 RO
Income	
Dividend income	30,687
Interest income	25,410
Net realized loss on sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(37,012)
Net unrealized loss on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	(93,258)
Net investment loss	(74,173)
Expenses	
Management fees	(43,899)
Custodian fees	(3,841)
Transaction cost	(404)
General and administrative expenses	(52,067)
Total expenses	(100,211)
Loss and total comprehensive loss and decrease in net assets attributable to the unit holders for the period.	(174,384)
Loss per unit	(0.051)

Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 December 2024

	31-12-2024 RO
ASSETS	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3,417,095
Cash and cash equivalents	117,998
Total assets	3,535,093
LIABILITIES	
Accruals and other payables	22,748
Total liabilities	22,748
Net assets attributable to the unitholders	3,512,345
Total liabilities and net assets attributable to the unitholders	3,535,093
Net assets value per unit attributable to the unitholders	0.969



صندوق غراس الوقفي الاستثماري

Gheras Endowment Investment Fund



Capital

Uthmaniyah Capital

P.O. Box 1137, PC 111 - CPO, Sultanate of Oman, CR No. 1279406, Tel: +968 24949043/014, Fax: +968 24949099, Email: gheras@u-capital.net, Web: www.u-capital.net

INVITATION FOR ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The Gheras Endowment Investment Fund takes the pleasure in inviting all the unitholders to attend the Ordinary General Meeting which will be held on Tuesday March 18, 2025, at 5 pm via the electronic platform to hold general meeting which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository (www.mcd.om). If the quorum to convene the annual General Meeting is not complete the second general meeting will be held on Wednesday March 19, 2025, at 7 pm via the electronic platform to hold general meeting which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository (www.mcd.om).to decide on the following:

Agenda of Ordinary General Meeting (OGM):

- To consider and approve the proposal to distribute cash dividend equivalent to 0.06034 Baisa per unit for the financial year ending on 31 December 2024 to the unitholders on the date of the Ordinary General Meeting.
- To elect two members for the Fund Management Body in accordance with Clause 22.3 of the Fund's Articles of Association.

According to the Fund Article of Association, and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology issued by Financial Services Authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- A legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the general meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCD.
- Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than 3 days before the date of the general meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meetings. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be cancelled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the general meeting.

For any inquiries, please contact on telephone No 24949043 / 24949014

OCCI to host Ramadan evenings on key issues

Muscat - Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI) will organise four Ramadan evenings during the holy month focused on economic challenges and opportunities for the business community in the sultanate. The discussions will bring together officials, experts and decision-makers to address key issues affecting the private sector.

The first session on March 10 will explore the significance of Expo Japan 2025 for Oman's private sector. It will highlight the objectives of the sultanate's pavilion, planned economic events and programmes, and the role of private sector participation in international expos.

On March 12, the second session will address labour market regulations and employment, including the private sector's role in job creation and banking challenges faced by both employers and workers.

The third session, scheduled for March 17, will examine the impact of taxation on economic development.

The final session, on March 19, will focus on the economic importance of local content. The discussion will introduce the national strategy for developing local content and its role in supporting SMEs and contributing to the national economy.

City Walk project to enhance quality of life in Rustaq

Our Correspondent
Rustaq

South Batinah has announced plans for the City Walk project in Rustaq. The development, covering 28,000sqm, will be located near Rustaq Hospital and aims to create a modern, integrated urban space catering to residents and visitors

Masoud bin Saeed al Hashemi, Governor of South Batinah, informed that the project is designed to enhance the qual-

ity of life, stimulate economic growth and embrace sustainability

He emphasised the importance of human-centric urban development, where modern design principles focus on comfort, accessibility and an engaging social atmosphere. "The project seeks to bring life to the area, particularly in the evenings, by providing a vibrant mix of recreational and entertainment activities that will attract both locals and tourists."

City Walk is expected to con-



tribute to the local economy by generating job opportunities and enhancing Rustaq's appeal as a key tourist destination. According to Hashemi, integration of entertainment, health and investment services within the development will further strengthen the wilayat's eco-

nom ic landscape.

He underscored the project's commitment to sustainability by incorporating green corridors, open spaces and pedestrian-friendly pathways to encourage a more eco-conscious urban environment. To reduce noise and visual pollution, the use of green spaces and trees will serve as natural barriers, ensuring a serene atmosphere for visitors.

Designed to become a major commercial and leisure hub, Rustaq's City Walk will include 13 restaurants offering a range of culinary experiences, a dedicated fun zone for families and children, and a private medical clinic to serve the community. Additionally, the project will feature ten retail shops, separate gyms for men and women, a 35-room hotel, and a cinema to enhance the entertainment experience.

Strategically located at the heart of Rustaq, the project is expected to play a vital role in revitalising the local economy and enhancing commercial activity.

S Sharqiyah launches training in building traditional ships



Our Correspondent
Sur

South Sharqiyah has launched an initiative called Al Wastada aimed at reviving the traditional shipbuilding industry and preserving Oman's maritime heritage.

Backed by Oman India Fertiliser Company (OMIFCO) with support from multiple government bodies, including Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism, and Industrial Innovation Academy, the programme will train young Omanis in the craft of traditional shipbuilding.

The core objective of Al Wastada is to provide hands-on training in both theoretical and practical aspects of constructing authentic Omani boats. Participants will learn how to produce certified high-quality boats, which will serve not only as her-

itage artefacts but also as means of integrating economic innovation into the preservation of Omani culture.

In addition to safeguarding Oman's traditional craftsmanship, the programme is designed to create new employment opportunities for young Omanis. By equipping participants with valuable skills, Al Wastada aims to enable them to turn their craftsmanship into sustainable livelihoods and career paths.

The nine-month training programme will combine classroom learning with practical experience, providing trainees with the expertise to construct traditional Omani ships in accordance with established technical standards. The programme will document the generational knowledge of shipbuilding, ensuring that these skills are passed on to future generations.

The first cohort of 20 trainees will begin their training in April.

Winners of AI-enhanced drone competition announced

Our Correspondent
Muscat

The second edition of Oman AI-Enhanced Drone Competition concluded on Thursday at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), held under the patronage of H H Sayyid Dr Fahd bin al Julanda al Said, Vice-Chancellor of the university.

Organised by SQU's College of Engineering in collaboration with Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology, the competition is part of the Makeen Initiative for digital competency development. It aims to raise awareness on drone applications, enhance technological skills among Omani youth, and support economic growth by fostering expertise in AI-integrated drone technology. It also prepares participants for regional and international competitions.

Winners were announced in two categories. In the Remote Control Category, Sanad al Salmi from SQU secured first place, followed by Luqman al Saqri from Military Technical College. In the AI-Powered Autonomous Control Category, Osama al Rawahi and Yusuf al Shuaili from SQU won first place, while Ayah al Balushi, Sumaiya al Shamli and Zainab al Mahrouqi, also from SQU, took second place.

The competition attracted

120 participants, including students and jobseekers from diverse disciplines. It was conducted in two phases. The first, held from July to September 2024, focused on manual drone operations. Participants completed a 15-hour intensive programme covering drone types, applications, regulations, safety protocols, and practical training in drone assembly and piloting through virtual simulators, controlled indoor environments and open-air flights.

The second phase, in January 2025, was dedicated to AI-powered autonomous control. The top 40 participants from the first phase advanced to workshops on AI integration, computer vision and algorithm development. The training combined theoretical learning with hands-on experience in virtual simulations and real-world lab testing.

The final competition rounds began mid-February 2025. In the Remote Control Category, 30 participants competed in the first elimination round, with 20 advancing to the second round and ten finalists competing for the top prize. In the AI-Powered Autonomous Control Category, 20 participants started in the first round, 16 progressed to the second, and 14 moved to the third, with the final ten competing in the concluding round at the end of February.



Directors' Report

Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to extend my heartfelt congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik Al Said on the fifth anniversary of his leadership—a milestone that reflects the remarkable achievements of the past five years and the wisdom of His Majesty's leadership in shaping a bright future for Oman.

Under Oman Vision 2040 – the ambitious strategic plan launched by His Majesty the Sultan – and during the past five years of the Renewed Renaissance, the Sultanate has achieved significant milestones, including improved economic performance, reduced public debt, enhanced credit rating, and strengthened financial sustainability. Additionally, the country has developed its investment environment and implemented strategic projects that contribute to sustainable development. These achievements have positively impacted various sectors and helped create a business-friendly environment that supports the growth of companies and institutions in the Sultanate, including Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company.

It is my honor to present to you the Company's 21st annual report, which includes the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 and highlights the key events of the year.

In 2024, the Omani economy continued its expansion, with inflation rates remaining at low levels. The year saw a steadfast commitment to implementing reforms under Oman Vision 2040, which contributed to strengthening social security protection, increasing labor market flexibility, and improving the business environment. Prudent financial management further improved the country's fiscal and external positions, leading to the sovereign credit rating being upgraded to investment grade. Sustaining the momentum of fiscal reforms and bolstered efforts to diversify the economy, the Company strengthened financial sustainability and bolstered efforts to diversify the economy. Amid these positive economic developments, the Company benefited from the overall improvement in the business environment, which positively impacted its operational performance in 2024. The Company successfully capitalized on new business opportunities that emerged during the year, achieving tangible growth, as evidenced by an increase in sales of RO 20.6 million and a rise in Other Income, primarily from the non-fuel revenue (NFR) segment. These results affirm the Company's ability to achieve its strategic objectives and capitalize on available opportunities to sustain its success and contribute to the Sultanate's economic development.

	2024 (RO '000)	2023 (RO '000)	Increase / (Decrease) (RO '000)	Increase / (Decrease) %
Sales	514,400	493,810	20,590	4.2%
Cost of Sales	(486,037)	(465,909)	20,128	4.3%
Gross profit	28,363	27,901	462	1.7%
Other income	6,784	6,578	206	3.1%
Total expenses	(29,106)	(28,166)	940	3.3%
Net profit after tax	6,041	6,313	(272)	(4.3%)

Earnings per share (RO)	0.088	0.091	(0.003)	(4.3%)
-------------------------	-------	-------	---------	--------

- Total revenue increased to RO 514.4 million in 2024, a growth of 4.2% from RO 493.8 million in 2023, mainly due to an increase in sales volume by 6%. This positive indicator reflects rising market demand and the sales strategies implemented by the Company, demonstrating the successful expansion of its core operations.
- Other income increased by 3.1% from RO 6.6 million in 2023 to RO 6.8 million in 2024, mainly attributed to the growth in non-fuel revenues.
- Net profit decreased by 4.3% from RO 6.3 million in 2023 to RO 6 million in 2024. This decrease was primarily driven by a lower profit margin in the aviation segment due to the decline in global oil prices.

Performance by Market Segments:

Throughout 2024, the Company continued executing its strategy aimed at enhancing operational efficiency, delivering added value to customers, and effectively adapting to evolving market challenges. The Company sought to capitalize on emerging opportunities by developing its technology, innovating in products and services, and enhancing customer experience. Additionally, it remained committed to responding to customer preferences and shifting industry trends, which strengthened its brand position in the market and directly contributed to the growth in sales volume.

Strategic investments in fuel station development and modern technology played a pivotal role in enhancing customer experience and delivering more efficient services. These investments also fostered innovation and expanded the range of products and services offered, enabling the Company to meet the growing market demand.

- As a result of these efforts, the Company achieved a 6% increase in total sales volume during 2024 compared to 2023, reflecting growing customer confidence in its products and services. The performance across the segments is detailed as follows:
- **Retail Segment:** Sales volume increased by 6%, driven by network expansion and improved customer experience.
 - **Commercial Segment:** Achieved a remarkable 10% growth in sales volume, supported by new contracts and increased demand from key clients.
 - **Lubricants Segment:** Recorded a 7% increase in sales, driven by higher demand for the Company's products, supported by the expansion of marketing channels.
 - **Aviation Segment:** Maintained the same performance levels as 2023, continuing to deliver high-quality services to its clients.
- This performance highlights the Company's success in addressing challenges, balancing growth and innovation, and focusing on customer needs while enhancing operational efficiency.

- 1) Retail Segment**
- The retail segment remains the cornerstone of the Company's operations and a key contributor to its revenues, representing the core of its expansion strategy and customer satisfaction initiatives. In 2024, the segment achieved remarkable milestones that reinforced the Company's market position and enhanced its ability to meet customer needs effectively. These achievements are the result of ongoing efforts to improve services and adopt innovative solutions tailored to customer expectations and preferences.
- The accomplishments of the retail segment in 2024 can be summarized as follows:
- a) **Fuel Stations:**
 - The Company has entered into significant investment agreements to develop integrated fuel stations and modern commercial centers in key locations. These agreements include two within Sultan Haitham City, one with the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth in South Al-Ghubrah, and the "Al-Ghubrah Front" agreement with Saud Bahwan Group. These initiatives reflect the Company's commitment to driving growth and strengthening its position as a leading brand in both the local and regional markets.
 - Five new fuel stations were opened, bringing the total number of stations to 252 across the Sultanate, expanding the Company's geographical coverage and improving customer accessibility.
 - Eight fuel stations were renovated to provide modern services and improve customer experience.
 - The Company is finalizing several new fuel stations and service centers that will soon be inaugurated, offering integrated services.
 - b) **Smart Fuel Cards:**
 - Successful campaigns for smart fuel cards significantly boosted customer adoption, increasing retail sales and stronger customer loyalty.
 - c) **National Subsidy System Cards:**
 - The registered and active National Subsidy Cards achieved significant growth, with sales increasing by 35% and the number of customers rising by 27%. This achievement is attributed to the Company's adoption of smart and innovative solutions through Al Maha cards, and the "Al Maha Plus" App enhancing service efficiency and customer appeal.
 - d) **"Fuelly" Fuel Delivery Service:**
 - The "Fuelly" fuel delivery service achieved solid growth, driven by growing demand from commercial customers. The Company is working on further enhancing this service to provide even more flexible and efficient solutions to meet B2B needs.
 - The Company remains committed to investing in expanding its fuel station network and enhancing its technological infrastructure, with a strong focus on digital innovation to improve operational efficiency and elevate customer experience. It also aims to launch new services that cater to the market's evolving needs, supporting its long-term growth and sustainability objectives.
 - The outstanding performance of the retail segment highlights the Company's ability to adapt to challenges, drive growth through innovation, and respond swiftly to customer needs, further solidifying its position as a leading player in the market.

- 2) Commercial Segment**
- The commercial segment is one of the most competitive segments, facing ongoing challenges, most notably the decline in demand for diesel fuel as several key customers transition to gas as an alternative energy source for power generation. However, current indicators suggest promising growth opportunities in this segment, supported by the anticipated increase in government spending and foreign investments in infrastructure projects, which are expected to enhance commercial activity and drive economic growth.
- Performance of the Commercial Segment in 2024:**
- The commercial segment achieved significant growth of 10% during 2024, reflecting the Company's ability to adapt to market challenges and capitalize effectively on available opportunities. This growth was driven by signing new contracts with key customers in vital sectors such as construction and energy, which contributed to expanding the customer base and increasing demand for the Company's products and services.
- Additionally, the Company's efforts to strengthen relationships with key customers and provide tailored solutions to meet their needs played a pivotal role in building trust and driving sales momentum. The Company also focused on expanding its range of commercial services by offering value-added solutions, such as improving delivery services and providing flexible payment options, which helped attract new customers and enhance loyalty among existing ones.

- 3) Aviation Segment**
- The aviation fuel segment is a vital component of the Company's operations, playing a key role in supporting its revenues and strengthening its market position. However, the sector faces challenges related to global fuel price fluctuations and reduced demand from some major customers, which requires high levels of adaptability and flexibility the Company has demonstrated with distinction.
- Performance of the Aviation Segment in 2024:**
- Despite a decline in demand from customers in the Sultanate of Oman, the Company successfully maintained the same performance level as recorded in 2023. This was supported by effective strategies to offset the downturn through increased sales to other international commercial airlines.
- **Diversifying the Customer Base:** The Company's efforts to diversify its customer base by targeting other commercial airlines helped boost sales, reduce reliance on major customers, and enhance the stability of the segment.
 - **Enhancing Operational Efficiency:** The Company continued to invest in improving its operational processes to ensure the delivery of reliable, high-quality services, strengthening customer trust and positioning the Company as a strategic partner in the aviation sector.

4) Lubricant Segment

The lubricants segment experienced exceptional growth in 2024, achieving record-breaking sales, the highest in the Company's history. This remarkable achievement was driven by the increasing demand for Al Maha products, particularly the success of the "AMPRO" brand, which was launched last year as a professional range and enhanced the appeal and market position of the Company's offerings.

This performance reflects the Company's commitment to delivering high-quality products and exceptional customer service while maintaining competitive pricing that meets diverse market needs. These efforts have strengthened customer trust and loyalty, enabling the Company to expand its customer base and attract new clients.

Building on this positive momentum, the Company aims to drive further growth in the lubricant segment through innovation and the development of new products, alongside expanding into new markets and increasing its geographic footprint. The focus remains on improving customer experience and enhancing operational efficiency to ensure the sustainability of success in this vital segment.

5) Non-Fuel Revenue (NFR) and Other Income Segment

The Non-Fuel Revenue and Other Income segment represents one of the key pillars in the Company's strategy to diversify its revenue streams and enhance financial sustainability. With the increasing focus on expanding activities and services offered to customers, this segment has emerged as a new driver of future growth.

- Performance of the Non-Fuel Retail and Other Income Segment in 2024:**
- **Revenue Growth:** Other income grew by 3.1% in 2024, driven by the Company's concerted efforts to diversify its offerings and focus on non-fuel products.
 - **Expansion in Non-Fuel Activities:** The Company opened several commercial outlets and vehicle service centers, further expanding the segment's reach and contributing to additional revenue generation.
 - **Integration with the Fuel Retail Sector:** The integration between fuel and non-fuel products enhanced the appeal of this segment, attracting more customers and supporting the Company's overall success.
- The Company remains committed to expanding this segment by establishing modern commercial centers and offering innovative services that meet customer needs to ensure sustainable growth, strengthen the Company's competitive position, and support the diversification of its revenue streams over the long term.

Dividend

In line with our consistent dividend policy of maintaining a sustainable dividend payment, the Board of Directors has recommended a cash dividend of Bz 85 per share, amounting to RO 5.865 million representing 85% of share capital, subject to the approval of the shareholders' Annual General Meeting to be held on 23 March 2025.

Corporate Governance

The Company upholds Corporate Governance as a key pillar for ensuring effectiveness and responsibility at every organizational level, from the board of directors to executive management. More than just defining roles and responsibilities, our commitment to these standards is about ensuring fairness for all stakeholders through transparent policies and complete disclosure. These governance principles also significantly empower and actively engage our employees in decision-making. A dedicated section in the Annual Report provides a detailed Corporate Governance Report. This section highlights the critical role of these practices. Furthermore, the Company will publish its first annual report on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG).

شركة المها لتسويق المنتجات النفطية ش م ع ع

Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Co. SAOG

P.O.Box: 57 , P.C: 116 , Mina Al Fahal , Sultanate of Oman
Tel: 24610200, Fax: 24610201, Website: www.almaha.com.om

Quality, Health, Safety and Environment (QHSE)

In 2024, the Company demonstrated its unwavering commitment to Quality, Health, Safety, and Environmental (QHSE) principles. It prioritized sustainable development, fostered safe and healthy work environments, and worked to enhance the quality of life for employees, customers, and the communities it serves.

Aligned with its growth strategy, the Company expanded into maritime bunkering services during the year, providing dependable refueling solutions for the shipping industry. This expansion reflects the Company's focus on operational excellence and environmental responsibility.

QHSE compliance continues to be rigorously monitored across all organizational levels, with regular reviews ensuring alignment with strategic goals and adherence to industry standards. The Company's progress is evident in the achievement and maintenance of ISO certifications for Quality (ISO 9001), Health & Safety (ISO 45001), and Environment (ISO 14001), underscoring the integration of QHSE values into every aspect of operations.

To further its commitment, the Company conducted comprehensive audits and implemented specialized training programs throughout 2024. These initiatives, including those focused on maritime bunkering services, were designed to enhance employee skills and raise awareness of quality, safety, health, and environmental practices. By fostering a proactive culture, the Company achieved measurable improvements that supported sustainable growth and reinforced its reputation for excellence.

Corporate Social Responsibility

The Company firmly believes in the importance of its role in fostering community development and improving the quality of life for individuals. This commitment is reflected in its focus on supporting key sectors such as education, healthcare, and the environment. As part of its vision for social responsibility, the Company aims to create a sustainable positive impact that aligns with the evolving needs of the communities it serves.

In 2024, the Company concentrated its efforts on initiatives supporting charitable organizations, non-profit institutions, and service facilities that deliver direct benefits to the community. These efforts extended beyond financial contributions to include strategic projects designed to enhance individual well-being and provide innovative solutions that contribute to the growth of local communities.

Through these initiatives, the Company reaffirms its commitment to acting as a proactive partner in sustainable development. Looking ahead, it is dedicated to launching more inclusive and impactful programs that embody the values of generosity and responsibility toward current and future generations.

Future Outlook

The Omani economy is expected to witness promising growth opportunities in 2025, supported by Oman Vision 2040, which emphasizes economic diversification and strengthening the role of the private sector. The Sultanate's 2025 budget assumes an average oil price of \$60 per barrel, reflecting a prudent fiscal policy aimed at maintaining financial stability amidst global market fluctuations. This approach aligns with the government's commitment to enhancing the economy through non-oil sources by investing in key sectors such as infrastructure, digital transformation, and sustainable energy, which serve as critical pillars for driving economic growth and creating new business opportunities.

In line with these national priorities, major government projects, including the development of roads, ports, and logistics services, present significant opportunities for the Company to expand its operations and enhance its geographical reach. Additionally, the increasing focus on clean energy initiatives, such as green hydrogen and renewable energy, provides the Company with opportunities to explore new markets that support its sustainability goals and enhance its competitiveness.

Furthermore, the emphasis on digital transformation and public-private partnerships opens avenues for collaboration in various areas, contributing to the improvement of the Company's operational efficiency. Continued government support for housing, healthcare, and education sectors also fosters economic stability and sustains consumer spending, supporting demand for the Company's products and services.

As part of its regional expansion strategy, the Company launched its first fuel station in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in January 2025, marking a strategic step toward regional growth. The Company is also working with its partners in the Kingdom to establish 17 additional stations, further strengthening its presence in one of the region's largest markets and unlocking new opportunities in the retail fuel segment.

Based on these economic and strategic developments, and building on the strong performance achieved in 2024, Al Maha Petroleum Products Marketing Company S.A.O.G continues to implement its expansion plans by strengthening its presence both locally and regionally, while capitalizing on opportunities across various economic sectors. The Company remains focused on enhancing its operational efficiency, expanding its service offerings, and strengthening strategic partnerships to maintain its competitiveness in a rapidly evolving market. Through these initiatives, the Company reinforces its position as a leading provider of integrated services, contributing to economic development and ensuring sustainable growth that enhances its market presence.

Acknowledgment

On behalf of the Board of Directors and executive management, I take this opportunity to express our most sincere gratitude and loyalty to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and his efforts toward a prosperous Oman.

We thank the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, OQ Refineries, our shareholders, customers, and officials of the Financial Services Authority, the Muscat Stock Exchange, and Muscat Clearing & Depository Company for their valuable support and co-operation. We also appreciate the dedicated and committed service of our staff members.

Dr. Saif Salim Saif Al-Harhi
Chairman
23 February 2025

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AT 31 DECEMBER 2024			
	2024 RO'000	2023 RO'000	
Assets			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	29,719	29,428	
Investment properties	400	447	
Right-of-use assets	6,409	6,296	
Contract assets	2,820	2,643	
Deferred tax assets	2,312	2,776	
	41,660	41,590	
Current assets			
Inventories	4,260	4,013	
Trade and other receivables	76,789	76,560	
Contract assets	1,349	1,952	
Short term deposits	10,000	-	
Cash and bank balances	21,970	42,389	
	114,368	124,914	
	156,028	166,504	
TOTAL ASSETS			
Equities and liabilities			
Equity			
Share capital	6,900	6,900	
Legal reserve	2,300	2,300	
Special reserve	2,104	2,104	
Retained earnings	36,503	36,672	
Total equity	47,807	47,976	
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	6,459	6,152	
Employees' end of service benefits	276	251	
	6,735	6,403	
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	52,325	49,192	
Contract liabilities	1,444	1,444	
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	46,444	59,559	
Lease liability	681	659	
Income tax payable	592	1,271	
	101,486	112,125	
Total liabilities	108,221	118,528	
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	156,028	166,504	
Net assets per share (RO)	0.693	0.695	

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024			
	2024 RO'000	2023 RO'000	
Revenue	514,400	493,810	
Cost of sales	(486,037)	(465,909)	
Gross profit	28,363	27,901	
Other operating income	6,784	6,578	
Operating expenses	(24,715)	(24,007)	
Administrative and general expenses	(1,736)	(1,923)	
Operating profit	8,696	8,549	
Finance costs	(2,730)	(2,838)	
Finance income	1,094	1,792	
Profit before tax	7,060	7,503	
Income tax expense	(1,019)	(1,190)	
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	6,041	6,313	
Basic and diluted earnings per share (RO)	0.088	0.091	
Note:			
The complete report is available in Muscat Stock Exchange website and Company's website.			
The complete report will be sent to any shareholder who requests them either in Arabic or English as required within 7 days of receipt of the request.			
The request should be sent to the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) at the above mentioned address.			

INTERVIEW

MERCEDES-BENZ OMAN
WINNER: AUTOMOTIVE (LUXURY) CATEGORY

Our Correspondent
Muscat

For the eighth consecutive year, Mercedes-Benz Oman has secured the title of Oman's Most Trusted Brand in the Automotive (Luxury) Category. This recognition reaffirms Mercedes-Benz's strong presence and deep-rooted legacy in the Omani market. In this interview with *Muscat Daily*, Shaun Michael, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Oman, shares insights into the key factors behind this achievement, the brand's approach to customer satisfaction, and how evolving consumer preferences are shaping the luxury automotive market in Oman. He also discusses Mercedes-Benz's latest technological advancements, the growing demand for electric vehicles, and the brand's alignment with global and local sustainability goals.

Mercedes-Benz has again won Oman's Most Trusted Brand Award in the luxury automotive category for the eighth year in a row. In your view, what are the key factors that have contributed to Mercedes-Benz's ability to retain its most trusted brand status in Oman for eight years?

The combination of brand strength and cutting-edge technology made us successful from the start. For more than 130 years, we have built products for the world's most demanding customers. Mercedes-Benz has become one of the most trusted luxury automotive brands by consistently delivering on its promises of quality, safety, luxury, and innovation. This trust is further solidified by our long-standing heritage in Oman, dating back to the 1970s, and our unwavering commitment to providing an exceptional customer experience.

From meticulously designed vehicles to unmatched aftersales service, every touchpoint reflects the brand's dedication to excellence. Our relationships with our customers span generations, making Mercedes-Benz a family tradition for many in Oman.

How does Mercedes-Benz measure customer satisfaction, and how does it act on this data to improve the ownership experience? What role does customer feedback play in shaping the services offered by Mercedes-Benz in Oman? We believe that every customer is an individual and that we will only be successful with our customers on top of our minds. We listen carefully to them and offer an outstanding, exclusive and appealing experience across all touchpoints. Customer satisfaction is measured through surveys, direct feedback, and digital engagement platforms such as StarView, which provides transparent health check videos to customers. This data allows us to identify areas of improvement and implement targeted strategies to enhance the ownership experience.

We value every minute of our customers' time and design our services with their evolving expectations in mind. Our seamless online-to-offline service journey offers customers tools



for vehicle selection, improves workshop turnaround times and delivers overall ease in interacting with the brand. Customer feedback is not just a consideration; it is the cornerstone of our service innovation.

How would you evaluate the performance of Mercedes-Benz Oman in 2024, particularly in

MERCEDES-BENZ OMAN

Leading Oman's luxury market with trust and innovation



Mercedes-Benz Oman experienced steady growth in 2024, influenced by the successful launches of models such as the E-Class and the GLC Coupé. Innovations in design, performance, and electrification have been instrumental in maintaining our strong position in Oman

SHAUN MICHAEL
CEO OF MERCEDES-BENZ OMAN

terms of models, sales, and brand recognition?

Mercedes-Benz Oman experienced steady growth in 2024, influenced by the successful launches of models such as the E-Class and the GLC Coupé. Our sales performance reflected customer confidence, and we continued to lead the luxury segment, further

strengthening brand recognition. Innovations in design, performance, and electrification have been instrumental in maintaining our strong position in Oman. This also aligns with the brand's global strategy and ambition to ensure profitable and resilient growth, focusing on the segments that promise high and stable returns across Top-End and Core Luxury.

Do you see any notable changes in consumer preferences in Oman, particularly when it comes to luxury vehicles, and how has Mercedes-Benz adapted to these shifts?

Luxury car buyers in Oman are increasingly prioritising sustainability, advanced technology, and personalisation in addition to traditional attributes like quality and performance. Matching our discerning customers' expectations in Oman, Mercedes-Benz offers sustainable mobility solutions across its luxury segments, including top-end luxury, core luxury, and entry luxury. This includes the introduction of electrified EQ models, which represent the pinnacle of luxury and sustainability that resonate with local customers.

Going beyond electrification, Mercedes-Benz continues integrating cutting-edge tech, such as MBUX digital features, and enhancing customisation options to meet the individual preferences of our customers in Oman.

Mercedes-Benz is known for cutting-edge technology and innovation. Could you share some of the key technological advancements or features that have been particularly well-received by customers in Oman in recent years? The MBUX infotainment system, augmented reality navigation, and advanced driver assistance systems have been well-received in Oman. MBUX redefines the relationship between driver and vehicle, offering a wealth of intuitive features and intelligent functionalities.

Additionally, features such as Energizing Comfort, which tailors cabin ambience to enhance driving pleasure, resonate strongly with our customer base. Recognising that every driver is unique, MB.OS and MBUX offer a personalised experience that adapts to individual preferences and driving habits. Mercedes-Benz ensures that every journey is tailored to the driver's comfort and enjoyment by merging luxury and technology seamlessly.

Mercedes-Benz has been making significant strides in the electric vehicle (EV) market, with a clear ambition to go fully electric by 2030. How is the brand approaching the electric mobility transition, and what role will EVs play in Mercedes-Benz Oman's future portfolio?

The transition to electric mobility is central to Mercedes-Benz's global vision. The focus isn't just on sustainable products; the brand takes a holistic approach to sustainability. The goal is to become net carbon-neutral across the entire value chain by 2039. Net carbon neutrality means that carbon emissions that are not avoided or reduced at Mercedes-Benz are compensated for by certified offsetting projects.

In Oman, our strategy includes offering the entire portfolio of electric models from the EQA to the G 580, supported by customer education about the benefits of EVs and collaborations to expand charging infrastructure. This approach ensures a smooth transition while supporting the Oman Vision 2040 goals and its commitment to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Karwa Motors signs \$43mn strategic funding deal with Qatar National Bank

Our Correspondent
Muscat

Qatar National Bank (Oman Branch) has signed a strategic funding agreement worth \$43mn with Karwa Motors, a joint investment initiative between Qatar and Oman.

The agreement aims to finance the implementation of a five-year project between Karwa Motors and the Ministry of Education in Oman, with a total value of \$287mn. The project is designed to enhance the efficiency of the school transport sector in line with the latest global standards.

The agreement was signed by Khalid al Barwani, CEO of Qatar National Bank in Oman, and Dr Ibrahim al Balushi, CEO of Karwa Motors, in the presence of senior officials from both parties.

In addition to supporting the school transport sector in Oman, the new partnership



agreement reflects Qatar National Bank's commitment to expanding its customer base and strengthening its position as a trusted financial partner for corporate clients in Oman by providing them with comprehensive banking services and solutions.

The agreement also marks another step forward in enhancing the bank's status as a leading financial institution, following its success in securing several significant deals across various economic sectors. This

aligns with its strategy to support national industries in line with Oman Vision 2040.

Commenting on the new agreement, Barwani said, "As one of the leading financial institutions in Oman, we are always keen to support projects that encourage innovative solutions across all economic sectors, including transportation. This initiative will contribute to accelerating the implementation of plans related to the National Programme for Economic Diversification."

Balushi said, "Under this agreement, Karwa Motors will receive financial facilities from Qatar National Bank, reflecting the mutual trust between the two parties in strengthening the company's financial capabilities and expanding its business scope. These banking facilities will enable Karwa Motors to achieve its expansion goals and strengthen its presence in the regional automotive sector. The financial support will enhance our operational processes and services, allowing us to provide the best options to our customers."

"Qatar National Bank is one of the largest banks in the region, renowned for its exceptional financial solutions, making it an ideal partner for us at this crucial stage of our journey. We are confident that this agreement will contribute to achieving Karwa Motors' future ambitions and support the company's sustainable growth in the coming years."

Iraqi delegation explores investment opportunities in Duqm economic zone

Duqm - An Iraqi trade delegation, led by Dr Mohammed Naji al-Najjar, Executive Director of the Iraq Development Fund, visited the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD) to review various investment projects in the area.

Eng Ahmed bin Ali Akaak, CEO of SEZAD, briefed the Iraqi delegation about key investments in the zone, incentives and facilities offered to investors, and available investment opportunities across various economic sectors.

He emphasised that the Special Economic Zone at Duqm has successfully attracted over RO6bn in investments across various economic sectors in recent years. He highlighted major investment projects in the zone, including Duqm Refinery, Duqm Port, the Dry Dock and the Ras Markaz Crude Oil Storage Terminal.

Akaak reaffirmed that SEZAD welcomes Iraqi investors, pointing to numerous investment opportunities in the industrial,

commercial, and tourism sectors. He stated that over the years, Duqm has established itself as a key investment hub in the Arab region, particularly with the growing interest of global companies in renewable energy, green industries, and green steel.

Iraqi delegation toured several key projects in Duqm and reviewed SEZAD's masterplan

Najjar highlighted the numerous opportunities for cooperation between the business communities of Oman and Iraq, emphasising the importance of strengthening economic relations and fostering trade partnerships between the two countries.

He noted that the projects observed during the visit underscored the significance of enhancing partnerships between

Omani and Iraqi companies. He emphasised that Duqm offers a wide range of investment opportunities and invited Omani companies to explore the numerous investment prospects available in Iraq.

During the meeting, both sides discussed leveraging Oman's experience in developing economic zones, exchanging expertise, and engaging in joint investments in both countries. They also explored available investment opportunities in petrochemical industries and oil storage. The Iraq Development Fund expressed its interest in investing in the zone.

As part of the visit, the Iraqi business delegation toured several key projects in Duqm and reviewed the zone's master plan. The delegation visited the SEZAD headquarters, Karwa Motors, the Ras Markaz terminal, Marafiq Company, and the petroleum derivatives export terminal (liquid and bulk material jetty) at Duqm Port.



2024
OMAN'S MOST TRUSTED BRAND AWARDS

Oil sees weekly fall on Iraqi oil resumption, Ukraine peace hopes

London, UK – Oil prices fell for the week ending February 28, following reports that the Iraqi Oil Marketing Company (SOMO) will resume exports through Türkiye's Ceyhan port within hours, along with hopes for a peace treaty between Russia and Ukraine.

The International benchmark Brent crude traded at \$72.73 per barrel at 1133 GMT on Friday, down by around 1.6% relative to the closing price of \$73.90 a

barrel last week. West Texas Intermediate (WTI), the American benchmark, traded at \$69.27 a barrel at the same time on Friday, a fall of about 1.3% from last Friday's \$70.20 per barrel close.

Prices eased Friday after Iraqi Oil Minister Hayyan Abdul Ghani said oil exports, starting at 185,000 barrels per day, would gradually increase to the level set in the federal budget.

On Sunday, Iraqi Deputy Oil

Minister Basim Mohammed Khudhair said the planned export volume would gradually be increased to 400,000 barrels.

The Iraqi Parliament had also approved changes to the budget law, setting the cost of extracting and transporting each barrel of oil from the Kurdish Regional Government at \$16.

Resumed Iraqi oil exports via the Ceyhan Port could ease supply concerns and put downward pressure on oil prices, according



to experts. Meanwhile, Russian and US delegations met for six and a

half hours at the US Consulate General's residence in Istanbul to discuss the operation of their respective embassies as part of the two countries' normalization of relations.

The delegations met for the first time on February 18 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to discuss bilateral relations and efforts to end the war in Ukraine, now over three years old.

Preparations are underway for a meeting between US Pres-

ident Donald Trump and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin. Furthermore, Trump's comments on tariffs and other countries' retaliatory actions also weighed on prices.

Trump's announcement marked a reversal of previous concessions granted to Venezuela under the Biden administration, which had eased sanctions on Venezuelan oil exports.

In 2022, the former adminis-

tration had eased some oil sanctions on Venezuela, marking the first significant crack in a years-long US embargo.

Meanwhile, oil prices were supported this week by data suggesting a demand increase in the US, the world's biggest oil consumer. The US Energy Information Administration (EIA) reported a decline in crude inventories, suggesting stronger domestic demand.

Anadolu Agency



Indian market sees massive sell off in February

New Delhi, India – India's stock market has experienced a massive sell-off since the beginning of 2025, resulting in a loss of over 50tn rupee in market capitalisation within just two months.

According to data from the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE), the total market capitalisation of listed companies was approximately 445tn rupee on January 1, 2025. However, persistent selling pressure has led to a decline to around 393tn rupee by the end of February.

This sharp drop reflects increased investor concerns, driven by global economic uncertainties, rising interest rates, and geopolitical tensions. The continuous outflow of funds from both domestic and foreign investors has contributed to the significant erosion of market value.

Ajay Bagga, a banking and market expert, told ANI: "With the Nifty 50 down 16% and mid-cap and small-cap indices down more than 20% each since the September all-time highs, investor wealth in Indian markets has been reduced by around \$850bn since last September. In January and February, approxi-

mately \$550bn in wealth was eroded due to the fall in market capitalisation."

The markets remain largely in a selling mode due to concerns over the implementation of a 25% tariff on US imports from Canada and Mexico, which is set to take effect in the coming week.

Experts believe that factors such as earnings reports will play a crucial role in determining market trends in the coming months.

Foreign investors have been persistently selling in Indian markets since September last year. In February, foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) continued to pull funds out of the Indian stock market. The trend of selling remained strong throughout the week from 24th to 28th February.

However, on Friday, foreign investors turned net buyers, investing 11.19bn rupee.

Despite this, Indian stock markets experienced a sharp decline on Friday, with both the Nifty and Sensex falling by over 1.8%.

ANI

Nvidia posts 80% jump in fourth quarter profits

San Francisco, US – The US tech giant Nvidia's net income soared 80% year-on-year in the last quarter of fiscal 2025, according to the company's financial results.

The net income of the company reached \$22.1bn, marking a \$9.8bn growth compared to the same period of the previous year, Nvidia said.

Nvidia's revenues also rose 78%, reaching a record high of \$39.33bn in the same period. The market expectation was that Nvidia's revenue in this period would be \$38.05bn.

In the whole fiscal 2025, Nvidia's revenues increased 114% compared to the previous year, to an all-time high of \$130.5bn.

The diluted earnings per share also soared 82% on a yearly basis to \$0.89 in the last quarter of fiscal 2025. Compared to the previous quarter, the tech giant's revenues increased 12% and net income rose 14% in the same period.

"Demand for Blackwell is amazing as reasoning AI adds



another scaling law – increasing compute for training makes models smarter and increasing compute for long thinking makes the answer smarter," said Jensen Huang, the founder and CEO of Nvidia.

"We've successfully ramped up the massive-scale production of Blackwell AI supercomputers, achieving billions of dollars in sales in its first quarter. AI is advancing at light speed as agentic AI and physical AI set the stage for the next wave of AI to revolutionize the largest industries," he added.

Nvidia has been joining ventures that invest to expand and enhance the AI infrastructure in the US.

Anadolu Agency



المدينة تكافل
Al Madina Takaful Everything in harmony

Chairman's Report

Dear Shareholders,
Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh!
(May the Peace, Mercy and Blessing of Allah be with you!)

On behalf of the Board of Directors, and Management team of Al Madina Insurance Co ("Al Madina" or "the Company"), I am pleased to present to you the results achieved by your Company for the financial year ended on 31 December 2024.

2024 was a year of multiple challenges, opportunity, and restraint. The economic environment continues to be challenging with recessionary conditions, upended by high interest rates, volatile oil markets and global geopolitical headwinds. We saw extreme hardening of the reinsurance market accompanied by capacity withdrawals from the region, increased claims trend along with competitive pricing and consolidation of insurance companies in Oman and the GCC.

Al Madina's adopted strategies have yielded operational efficiencies which have contributed positively to your Company's financial performance being one of the few companies operating in Oman to generate surplus from insurance operations. Your Company demonstrated a top-notch financial performance to maintain its market position in Oman being among the Top 5 companies (combined both Takaful and conventional insurance companies) and continue to remain the Top takaful insurance provider in Oman.

Your Company delivered robust results and achieved another successful year of underwriting performance during FY2024, despite the market competition and continued challenges faced by the insurance industry. Your Company achieved a historic milestone of crossing RO 50 million by registering Gross written contributions (GWC) of RO 51.5 million, a remarkable 20% growth as compared to the previous year RO 42.7 million.

Al Madina continues to maintain a healthy and well-balanced portfolio across all lines of business. The FY2024 financial results delivered by your Company reflect its intent to deliver a consistent surplus from Insurance operations so that the participants' interest is safeguarded while we continue to reward our shareholders. The overall Profit after tax of your company grew by an impressive 22%, to RO 1.74 million for FY2024, as compared to RO 1.43 million for FY 2023. While this achievement is a testament to our dedication and resilience, it comes amidst a background of several significant challenges. The heavy rains Al Mater, in the month of April 2024, the reinsurance market hardening at an unprecedented rate and higher claims. Yet your Company not only navigated these turbulent waters but also emerging stronger and more robust.

During the year 2024, the shareholders fund provided Hibah, amounting to RO 2.15 million to support the participants' fund and eliminate the deficit in the participant's fund account. Your Company has steadily reduced the accumulated deficit in the participants' funding from RO 6.24 million in the year 2019 to an accumulated surplus of RO 0.28 million as of 31 December 2024, being one of a significant accomplishment.

Operating Environment
Your Company delivered another year of strong underwriting performance, positioning itself among the few Companies in Oman who reported an operating profit from its insurance operations which was a noteworthy accomplishment despite of increased claims along with competitive pricing and higher acquisition cost leading to an operational deficit to most insurance companies in Oman.

The Global reinsurance market experienced unprecedented volatility which also had an impact on the local insurance market. The reinsurance market hardened due to global NAT-CAT events resulting in higher reinsurance premiums and lower commission income.

In this tough economic environment, your Company was able to deliver an exceptional performance and recorded a 27% growth in Net earned contributions of RO 19.78 million in FY2024 as compared to RO 15.62 million in FY2023. This was achieved through the application of strict underwriting discipline and a focused sales strategy for the successful conversion of new business opportunities.

Results from Operations
Your Company continues to deliver stable growth while strengthening the adequacy & sufficiency of its reserves. The underwriting surplus from Takaful operations before investment income, Mudarib share and Wakala fees was RO 1.43 million for FY 2023. This was increased by 4% generating a surplus of RO 5.12 million in FY 2024 as compared to surplus of RO 4.93 million for FY 2023. This was accomplished by prudent underwriting, effective risk selection, claims management supported by top-tier global reinsurance arrangements.

Your Company remains committed to refining its core competencies and adopting the best international practices in insurance operations, with a particular emphasis on minimizing claims costs and improving the loss ratios. Your Company exhibited its strong claims management abilities during the Al Mater related losses where it expeditiously efficiently processed, concluded and settled large number of claims in rapid time frame. Despite the increase in the reported claims, the insurance operations maintained their profitability.

Your Company will continue its drive on digitalization and automation of its claim processes to enhance cost efficiency, quicker salvage disposal, and expedite service delivery to elevate the overall customer experience to foster long-term sustainability.

Investment Income
The global financial markets in 2024 experienced significant headwinds, due to ongoing geopolitical tensions, elevated volatility, and inflationary pressures. Despite these challenges, I am pleased to report that your Company successfully navigated this complex environment, demonstrating the resilience of our investment strategy.

Your Company delivered resilient investment performance in 2024 and achieved an impressive 17% growth in investment income of RO 1.68 million (comprising both shareholders and participants' fund), as compared to RO 1.43 million during FY 2023 due to our prudent asset allocation strategy.

Our investment portfolio remains well-diversified across Wakala deposits, sukuk, real estate, and equities. In 2024, we increased our exposure to high-quality sukuk both locally and internationally, focused on bottom-up stock selection of Shariah-compliant equities. Real estate income remained steady through cost control and improved occupancy.

The strategic investment composition reinforces our ability to generate consistent returns for both shareholders and participants' funds. We will continue look to refine our asset allocation strategy and pursue value-accretive opportunities, ensuring that our investments deliver sustainable growth which align with our long-term objectives while remain compliant with shariah guidelines and Financial Services Authority (FSA) investment regulations.

Shareholders' profit
Al Madina showcased another year of robust financial performance from the perspective of shareholders' profit. Your Company reported a 15% increase in profit attributable to the shareholders amounting to RO 1.47 million, in FY2024 as compared to the previous year's profit of RO 1.27 million. It is noteworthy that your Company strikes a balance between Participant and Shareholder funds and do not generate profits at the expense of Participant fund.

AAOIFI FAS 42 & 43 update (equivalent IFRS-17 standard)
The AAOIFI board has issued Financial Accounting Standard (FAS) 42 "Presentation and Disclosures in the Financial Statements of Takaful

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024												
Shareholders' fund			Participants' fund						Grand total			
			Family takaful		Total participants' fund							
2024	2023		2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
RO	RO		RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO
ASSETS												
Cash and bank balances	552,905	3,438,492	6,788,789	6,442,689	1,083,696	1,423,506	7,872,485	7,866,195	8,425,390	11,304,687		
Takaful balance receivable	-	-	19,759,706	16,675,146	620,366	1,254,827	20,380,072	17,929,973	20,380,072	17,929,973		
Retafakul / reinsurance balance receivable	-	-	3,944,172	4,339,418	169,022	351,244	4,113,194	4,690,662	4,113,194	4,690,662		
Receivable from participants' fund – family takaful	-	-	195,651	937,133	-	-	195,651	937,133	195,651	937,133		
Receivable from participants' fund	1,976,220	3,386,009	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,976,220	3,386,009		
Due from retakaful / reinsurance companies in connection with takaful liabilities	-	-	49,999,776	51,315,760	1,693,585	2,013,685	51,693,361	53,329,445	51,693,361	53,329,445		
Deferred policy acquisition cost	1,201,539	1,029,138	-	3	-	-	-	3	1,201,539	1,029,141		
Other receivables	1,920,988	897,716	2,054,747	1,678,323	1,032,663	785,944	3,087,410	2,464,267	5,008,398	3,361,983		
Investments at fair value through income statement	1,641,819	1,016,796	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,641,819	1,016,796		
Investments at fair value through other comprehensive income	2,526,794	1,755,180	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,526,794	1,755,180		
Management at amortised cost	5,206,102	2,569,366	2,921,497	848,981	100,000	100,000	3,021,497	948,981	8,227,599	3,518,347		
Bank deposits	4,300,000	4,300,000	10,175,000	9,175,000	1,475,000	1,475,000	11,650,000	10,650,000	14,950,000	14,950,000		
Deferred tax asset	279,548	287,146	-	-	-	-	-	-	279,548	287,146		
Investment in real estate	4,920,000	5,170,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,920,000	5,170,000		
Property and equipment	485,935	572,233	-	-	-	-	-	-	485,935	572,233		
Total assets	25,011,850	24,422,076	95,839,338	91,412,453	6,174,332	7,404,206	102,013,670	98,816,659	127,025,520	123,238,735		

LIABILITIES, PARTICIPANTS' FUND AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY												
LIABILITIES												
Takaful liabilities	-	-	66,121,686	65,830,587	2,318,028	2,507,122	68,439,714	68,337,709	68,439,714	68,337,709		
Retafakul/reinsurance commission	-	-	97,240	-	-	-	110,104	-	97,240	110,104		
Retafakul/reinsurance payables	-	-	13,760,335	14,561,206	947,080	683,190	14,707,415	15,244,396	14,707,415	15,244,396		
Accounts and other payables	2,188,713	1,968,835	14,773,246	9,489,892	1,547,540	1,303,236	16,320,786	10,793,128	18,509,499	12,761,963		
Charity fund payable	3,065	6,711	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,065	6,711		
Payable to shareholders	-	-	687,057	1,182,358	1,289,163	2,203,651	1,976,220	3,386,009	1,976,220	3,386,009		
Payable to participants' fund - general takaful	-	-	-	-	-	195,651	937,133	937,133	195,651	937,133		
Employees' end of service benefits	595,352	555,768	-	-	-	-	-	-	595,352	555,768		
Total liabilities	2,787,130	2,531,314	95,439,564	91,174,147	6,297,462	7,634,332	101,737,026	98,808,479	104,524,156	101,339,793		
PARTICIPANTS' FUND												
Surplus / (Deficit) in participants' fund net	-	-	399,774	238,306	(123,130)	(230,126)	276,644	8,180	276,644	8,180		
Total participants' fund	-	-	399,774	238,306	(123,130)	(230,126)	276,644	8,180	276,644	8,180		
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY												
Capital and reserves												
Share capital	17,500,000	17,500,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,500,000	17,500,000		
Share premium	1,380,151	1,380,151	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,380,151	1,380,151		
Legal reserve	1,548,785	1,401,361	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,548,785	1,401,361		
Investment fair value reserve	309,716	225,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	309,716	225,000		
Retained earnings	1,486,068	1,384,250	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,486,068	1,384,250		
Total shareholders' equity	22,224,720	21,890,762	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,224,720	21,890,762		
Total liabilities, participants' fund and shareholders' equity	25,011,850	24,422,076	95,839,338	91,412,453	6,174,332	7,404,206	102,013,670	98,816,659	127,025,520	123,238,735		
Net assets per share attributable to shareholders	0.127	0.125	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

STATEMENT OF PARTICIPANTS' REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024						
	General takaful		Family takaful		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO	RO
Takaful revenue						
Gross contributions	47,400,338	39,991,932	4,059,837	2,754,881	51,460,175	42,746,813
Retafakul/reinsurance share	(27,686,210)	(23,340,797)	(2,680,257)	(1,993,188)	(30,366,467)	(25,423,935)
Retained contributions	19,714,128	16,651,135	1,379,580	761,693	21,093,708	17,322,878
Net movement in unearned contributions reserve	(1,123,761)	(1,686,055)	(191,504)	(19,508)	(1,315,269)	(1,705,561)
Net earned contributions	18,590,367	14,875,130	1,188,076	742,187	19,778,443	15,617,317
Income earned from retakaful contracts	127,625	465,530	-	-	127,625	465,530
	18,717,992	15,340,660	1,188,076	742,187	19,906,068	16,082,847
Takaful expenses						
Gross claims settled	(29,007,500)	(24,006,840)	(2,780,508)	(1,881,934)	(31,788,008)	(25,888,774)
Claims recovered from retakaful/reinsurance	16,325,108	2,295,454	(1,589,952)	(20,883,974)	17,915,060	
Net claims settled	(10,418,980)	(7,681,322)	(485,054)	(291,982)	(10,904,034)	(7,973,714)
Net movement in outstanding claims	(483,323)	(434,759)	60,499	(124,640)	(422,824)	(559,399)
Net claims incurred	(10,902,303)	(8,116,091)	(424,555)	(416,622)	(11,326,858)	(8,533,113)
Commission expense	(3)	(161)	-	-	(3)	(161)
	(10,902,306)	(8,116,652)	(424,555)	(416,622)	(11,326,861)	(8,533,274)
Surplus from Takaful operations	7,815,687	7,224,008	763,521	325,565	8,579,208	7,549,573
Other takaful (expenses) / income	(530,272)	(484,283)	(70,636)	204	(600,908)	
Provision for impairment of receivables	(105,000)	(105,000)	(15,000)	(15,000)	(120,000)	(120,000)
Surplus from Takaful operations before investment income, Mudarib share and Wakala fees	7,180,415	6,675,726	667,885	310,769	7,858,300	6,964,495
Investment income – net	691,381	624,334	84,637	84,171	776,018	708,505
Mudarib share	(380,260)	(343,384)	(46,550)	(46,294)	(426,810)	(389,678)
Hibah from Shareholders to Policyholders	2,150,000	1,100,000	-	160,000	2,150,000	1,260,000
Wakala fees	(9,480,618)	(7,998,386)	(608,976)	(413,232)	(10,089,044)	(8,411,618)
Surplus for the year	161,468	58,290	106,996	95,214	268,464	153,704



AVOD's products at Gulfood get great response

Areej Vegetable Oils and Derivatives (AVOD), esteemed as Oman's foremost brand, has been met with ardent acclaim from attendees and trade partners at Gulfood 2025, a prominent annual gathering of the food, food service, hospitality, and retail industry held in Dubai.

The 30th Gulfood Show 2025, the world's largest F&B, and hospitality event, spread over five days of business from February 17 to 21, hosted at the iconic Dubai World Trade Centre, a pivotal location for global trade.

AVOD, counted among one of the leading manufacturing companies in Oman has garnered substantial market share both domestically and internationally, with exports constituting over 75% of its total business.

AVOD – as part of its transformative growth strategy – has been a part of Gulfood for over a decade and has continued to extend its portfolio and introduce new and innovative product offerings with each passing year.

Salem bin Nasser al Bortmany, CEO, AVOD, stated, "We are exhilarated and honoured by the positive response from visitors and partners alike. Gulfood provided AVOD with an ideal platform to showcase our premium range of products, engage with industry professionals and stakeholders from across the globe.

"By leveraging state-of-the-art technology and adhering to stringent quality standards, inspiring healthier and happier lives, we continue to raise the bar for excellence in the industry."

Changan's state-of-the-art showroom opens in Qurm

Changan Oman has reinforced its commitment to the Oman market with the launch of a new state-of-the-art showroom in Qurm, bringing customers an enhanced and refined automotive experience. This newly opened showroom reflects Changan Oman's dedication to providing world class facilities, ensuring a premium and welcoming environment for customers to explore its impressive range of vehicles.

As the brand continues to grow, it has also opened new showrooms in Barka, Sur, and Nizwa, ensuring even greater accessibility for customers across the country. With a total of eight showrooms and fourteen service centres, Changan Oman has established one of the most extensive automotive networks in the sultanate. This expansion reaffirms the brand's focus on providing buying convenience and exceptional after sales support to our Oman customers.

A spokesperson for Arabian Gulf Automobiles and Equipment LLC (AGAE), official distributors of Changan Oman said, "By combining an extensive network of eight showrooms and 14 service centres with an excep-



tional lineup of vehicles, the brand ensures that customers across Oman enjoy a seamless and superior automotive experience.

"For those looking to experience the latest in automotive innovation, visiting one of Changan's showrooms is the perfect opportunity to discover a vehicle that perfectly suits their lifestyle," he added.

The Qurm showroom serves as a flagship facility, designed to offer a supreme customer experience, showcasing the latest Changan models in an immersive and sophisticated setting. The addition of a showroom in

Barka enhances accessibility for customers in the western region, particularly those in Al Batinah and surrounding areas. Similarly, the showroom in Sur will cater to the needs of customers in the eastern part of Oman, ensuring that the latest Changan vehicles and services are readily available.

In the interior region, the showroom in Nizwa will provide a convenient point of access for customers, making Changan Oman diverse network lineup more accessible to a wider audience.

Beyond these new locations, Changan's existing showrooms in Mawaleh, Sohar, Ibri, and

Salalah continue to serve customers across the country. Whether in the capital, the northern or southern regions, or the interior, Changan Oman growing presence guarantees that every customer has access to the brand's cutting-edge vehicles, expert consultations, and test drive opportunities without having to travel far.

To complement its expanding showroom network, Changan Oman has also built a comprehensive after-sales service infrastructure, with fourteen strategically located service centres ensuring that customers receive top-tier

maintenance and repair support.

In Muscat, service centres in Wadi Kabir, Mawaleh, Azaiba, Mabella, Rumais, Rusayl, and Amerat provide convenient servicing options for residents of the capital which is one of the largest networks in capital and beyond Muscat, Changan has established service centres in Nizwa, Sohar, Barka, Salalah, Sur, Ibri, and Duqm, ensuring that customers across Oman have easy access to expert vehicle servicing, diagnostics, and repairs. Each centre is equipped with advanced tools and staffed by highly trained technicians, guaranteeing efficient and professional support for all Changan models.

Changan Oman's success is driven by its diverse and technologically advanced vehicle lineup, catering to a wide range of customer preferences. The UNI-K 4WD, a refined mid-size SUV and CS95 7-seater SUV offers a powerful 2.0-litre turbocharged engine with 8-Speed Automatic Transmission, while the UNI-T crossover provides a sleek, futuristic design with a 1.5-litre turbocharged engine for a smooth driving experience.

Microsoft global tour showcases cutting-edge AI innovations in Oman

As part of Microsoft's 60 country global AI Tour, it made a stop in Muscat at St Regis Hotel on Thursday, bringing together industry leaders, developers, and government officials to explore the transformative power of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in shaping Oman's digital economy.

The exclusive event underscored Microsoft's commitment to driving innovation and supporting the sultanate's ambitious Vision 2040 strategy through cutting-edge AI solutions.

The high-profile gathering

featured keynotes from top Microsoft executives, including Samer Abu-Ltaif, President of Microsoft Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA); Charles Nahas, Regional General Manager for Commercial Solutions, Microsoft Middle East; and Harry Kambanis, Business Group Leader, Business Applications, Microsoft Central and Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa.

Speaking at the event, Ltaif said, "It is a privilege to be here in Oman, a nation that has long embraced technological



progress as a catalyst for economic growth and national advancement. Our presence in the

sultanate for over two decades reflects our unwavering commitment to its prosperity.

"As Oman moves forward with Vision 2040, Microsoft remains dedicated to providing

world-class cloud and AI solutions that enable organisations to innovate, ensuring a future of sustainable growth."

Sheikh Saif Hilal al Hosni, Country Manager for Microsoft Oman and Bahrain, highlighted how AI is increasingly being recognised by Omani businesses as a key driver of efficiency and competitiveness. "At Microsoft, we are leading the way in empowering organisations across all sectors to leverage the latest advancements in AI. Our collaborations with Omani enterprises

reinforce our commitment to equipping them with world-class AI and cloud solutions that will shape the future of Oman's digital economy," he said.

The event also showcased real-world applications of AI through Microsoft's collaborations with Omani organisations. The Ministry of Education, for instance, has deployed an advanced AI-powered chatbot for instant access to information and is integrating Microsoft Copilot to enhance teaching and learning methodologies.



شركة التغليف المحدودة (ش.م.ع.م.)

Packaging Co. Ltd. (SAOC)

INVITATION TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL/
EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of Packaging Co Ltd (SAOC) is pleased to invite the shareholders to attend the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting, scheduled on Thursday 13 March 2025, at 5:00 pm via the electronic platform which can be accessed through www.mcd.om the official website of Muscat Clearing and Depository Company. If the quorum requirement for holding AGM & EGM is not fulfilled, a second Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting will be held on Sunday 16 March 2025 at 5:00 pm through the online platform mentioned above, to discuss following agenda:

• **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:**

1. To consider and approve reduction in board members from Seven to Three.

2. To consider and approve company's amended Articles of Association (as per attached annexure).

• **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

1. To consider and approve the Chairman's Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

2. To consider and approve the Auditor's report, Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss account for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.

3. To Inform the association of the related party transaction during the financial year 2024. (as per attached annexure).

4. To Inform the association of the related party transaction forecast during the financial year 2025 (as per attached annexure).

5. To elect a new Board of Directors for the Company from amongst Shareholders or non-shareholders. Any person who wishes to be nominated to the Board of members Directors of the Company is required to fill in a Director's Nomination Form. Such a form can be obtained from the Company. The completed form should be delivered to the Company at least five (5) days prior to the date of the Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the Company (no later than the end of the business hours on Thursday 06 March 2025). The candidate must satisfy the company's board membership requirements.

6. To appoint the auditors for the financial year 2025 and to approve their remuneration.

According to the Company's Articles of Association and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

1. Legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCD.

2. Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the General Meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meeting. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be canceled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the General Meeting.

For further information please contact on telephone **No 99434183** or email: **jasim@packoman.com**.

Chairman

Legal adviser

External Auditor



Al Anwar Ceramic Tiles SAOG

P O Box : 143 PC : 118 Muscat, Sultanate of Oman
Tel : 24649091 - 24649093 Fax: 24649097
email : ceramics@omantel.net.om web site : alshams.org

Notice and Invitation to
Attend the Annual General Meeting.

The Board of Directors of **Al Anwar Ceramic Tiles Company** ("the Company") has the pleasure to invite the Shareholders to attend the Annual General Meeting of the company, which will be held on **Monday at 3:00 PM on 24 March 2025** via the electronic platform which can be assessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository Company (www.mcd.om). if the quorum requirement for holding the Annual General Meeting is not fulfilled, a second Annual General Meeting shall be held on **Wednesday at 3:00 PM on 26 March 2025**, via the mentined electronic platform to discuss the following agenda:

1. To consider and approve the Board of Directors' report on activities of the company and its financial status for the financial year ended 31st December 2024.

2. To consider and approve the corporate governance report of the company for the financial year ended 31st December 2024.

3. To consider and approve the auditor's report on the company's audited financial statements for the financial year ending 31 December 2024.

4. To consider and approve the proposed cash dividend to the shareholders, as on the date of the meeting, amounting to 4 Bizas, for each share for the financial year ended 31/12/ 2024.

5. To approve the sitting fees of the Board and Committees meetings paid to the Board Members for the previous financial year and to determine the sitting fees for the upcoming financial year.

6. To consider the amounts allocated and spent for the company's social responsibilities for the year ended 31st December 2024.

7. To discuss and approve the proposed allocation of Omani Rials 20,000/- to fulfill the company's social responsibilities for the year ending on 31st December 2025.

8. To appoint statutory auditors of the company for the financial year ending 31st December 2025 and to fix their fee.

According to the Company's Articles of Association and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology issued by the capital market authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

A. A legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCD.

B. Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the General Meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meeting. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be canceled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the General Meeting.

For further information please contact Mr Khalfan Al Sabahii, **contact phone number 25449966**

Deputy Chairman

Legal Advisor

External Auditor

Ford brings
adventure,
fun during
Ramadan

Own any Ford vehicle from the latest range and get exclusive benefits such as, five years or 100,000km of free service, five years or 100,000km manufacturer's warranty, five years or 100,000km of roadside assistance, free insurance, and one-year free registration. Customers can also get a chance to win one out of 8 iPhone 16 Pro Max in the raffle draw. The offer will end on April 17.

Commenting on the campaign, a Ford Oman representative said, "Our range of vehicles offers exceptional value, with key advantages such as spaciousness, comfort, power and safety, making them perfect for large families. With this campaign, we are making Ford ownership even more attractive, offering hassle-free, peace-of-mind experiences for our customers."

Ford Oman's impressive product line-up includes the Territory, Taurus, Expedition and Everest 4x4, each delivering distinct advantages for different lifestyles.

MHD unveils Hongqi's latest state-of-the-art SUVs

MHD ACERE, the official distributor of Hongqi in Oman, successfully hosted an exclusive evening of luxury, innovation, and automotive excellence at Crowne Plaza Muscat, unveiling the all-new Hongqi H6 & H57, alongside the reimagined H9 & H55.

The grand event, held on February 26, brought together distinguished guests, automotive enthusiasts, media and industry leaders who experienced first-hand Hongqi's latest masterpieces - each representing a fusion of performance, technology, and timeless elegance.

The evening commenced with an exhilarating reveal of the new Hongqi lineup, showcasing state-of-the-art features, sophisticated designs, and advanced safety technologies. Guests were captivated by the stunning power and refined luxury of each model, reinforcing Hongqi's reputation as a pioneer in the premium SUV segment.

Hongqi's latest SUVs
Hongqi H6: A 2.0T luxury SUV with dynamic aesthetics, smart driving features, ambient interior lighting, and advanced safety,



setting new standards in comfort and technology.

Hongqi H57: Offered in three spacious variants (6-seater & 7-seater 4WD models), boasting wireless fast charging, a premium Dynaudio sound system, an intelligent 4WD system, and smart technology for seamless convenience.

Hongqi H9: The reimagined flagship SUV featuring a waterfall-inspired front grille, AI-integrated intelligent chassis, Dream Wings lighting, and a high-strength steel structure for a lux-

urious and secure drive.

Hongqi H55: A refined SUV that blends bold design, superior aerodynamics, 20-inch aluminum wheels, and integrated LED lighting, offering an elevated driving experience.

Speaking at the event, Mohsin Hani al Bahrani, CEO of MHD ACERE, expressed his enthusiasm, saying: "We are thrilled to witness the overwhelming response to the latest Hongqi lineup in Oman. These models reflect the brand's commitment to excellence, blending

luxury, performance, and innovation seamlessly. The new Hongqi H6, H57, and the reimagined H9 and H55 set new benchmarks in the premium SUV category," he informed, adding that the team is "excited to bring these exceptional vehicles to our valued customers".

Attendees had the exclusive opportunity to explore each model up close, experience cutting-edge features, and engage in insightful discussions with Hongqi's automotive experts.



New era of driving with prestige of Geely Starray

Geely Auto International Corporation through Towell Auto Centre in Oman launched the all-new Geely Starray in Muscat on February 25.

Introducing the Geely Starray, a revolutionary 4WD SUV that sets new benchmarks in design, technology, and performance, has been designed to suit the demands of today's drivers.

The Starray combines innovation, safety, and road command in perfect harmony while offering outstanding value as an affordable family SUV, the company stated. The much-awaited launch ceremony was graced by industry leaders, automotive enthusiasts, and dignitaries.

Michael Song, vice president of Geely Auto and General Manager of GAIC said, "Geely Starray is the future of intelligent mobility, combining aesthetic excellence with safety and digital innovation. It represents the evolution of design philosophy and engineering prowess, crafted for discerning drivers."

The Geely Starray 4WD is designed for those who seek both versatility and adventure. With an advanced 4WD system and the performance of an 8-speed automatic transmission (8AT), it offers exceptional control, power, and smoothness - whether driving on city roads or conquering off-road adventures.

With advanced technology, lavish comfort, and uncompromising safety, the Starray raises the bar in performance and versatility, redefining the driving experience on all terrains.

Advanced traction and control technology to handle varied terrain with confidence, from city streets to sand, mud, and gravel.

Its 8-Speed Automatic Transmission (8AT) provides seamless gear shifting, improved fuel economy, and enhanced driving dynamics for performance and comfort, while smart safety features include innovative ADAS technologies, such as adaptive cruise control and lane-keeping assist, for security.

Jotun's 2025 colour collection highlights soft hues and tones

Often, the smallest things in our lives have the greatest impact. It could be the sunlight on the side of a building, a kind word from a stranger, the feel of a pebble on the beach - or the colour of the room we wake up in every day.

These are the simple details in everyday life - those little things that seem to shape our days.

The colours around us affect our emotions - even our energy levels - but they don't have to be bold or dramatic to make a difference. In the recently launched 2025 Global Colour Collection called Nuances, Jotun celebrates the subtle details and gradations of colour that do so much to set the atmosphere and create a sense of home.

"Bold colours might have a more obvious visual impact, but even a slight shift in hue can change the mood," says Rana Khadra, Colour and Creative Manager at Jotun Middle East, India, and Africa. "We respond to the gradations and tones we en-



counter each day on both conscious and subconscious levels. In our homes and on our walls, it's often those subtle differences that make all the difference."

Launched in October 2024, Jotun's Nuances collection features 30 colors across six families - blue, gray, peach, yellow, beige, and green - each with four variations of different intensities, all sharing a single base hue. The collection is designed as both a guide and an inspiration, helping people find the perfect subtle dif-

ferences to create the mood they want.

Based on proven color theory principles, the Global Color Collection offers both practical and inspirational guidance on how to use layering, monochromatic schemes, and varying intensities to achieve depth and impact.

The collection is showcased through beautiful interior photography that brings all 30 colors to life in a home setting. It also features large-scale artwork created specifically for this launch by French-born artist Agathe Bergeot, incorporating many of the shades from Jotun's 2025 Color Collection.

The Nuances Colour Collection was launched in October 2024 with a series of exhibitions held across Jotun's global markets: Europe, Africa, Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and China.

Each exhibition will feature an inspiring, eye-catching installation, showcasing large-scale three-dimensional forms.

Spirit of Ramadan with Mitsubishi

General Automotive Company (GAC), the official distributor of Mitsubishi Motors in Oman, is celebrating the holy month of Ramadan with exceptional offers, making car ownership easier and more rewarding.

This Ramadan, owning a Mitsubishi is accessible and rewarding than ever, with flexible financing options designed for ultimate ease. Customers can choose between 0% interest on vehicle finance for up to 24 months, making ownership more affordable, or opt for the "Drive Now, Pay Later" plan with a 3-month EMI holiday, providing financial flexibility during the festive season.

Alongside these financing options, customers can enjoy free service for up to five years or 100,000km, free insurance and registration, Llumar window tint, and a special Ramadan gift. Every purchase is further backed by Mitsubishi's renowned six-year unlimited kilometre warranty, offering long-term peace of mind.



"With Ramadan being a time of new beginnings, it is the perfect opportunity for customers to bring home a Mitsubishi with greater ease and incredible value," said Manoj Ranade, General Manager of GAC. "Our exclusive offers ensure that owning a Mitsubishi is not only accessible but also rewarding, with flexible financing, premium benefits, and long-term support."

This limited-time offer applies across Mitsubishi's entire range,

giving customers the perfect opportunity to drive home a vehicle that suits their needs and aspirations. The Outlander offers refined craftsmanship and advanced technology, making every journey effortless, while the Montero Sport blends power and sophistication for both city-drives and off-road adventures. The all-new XForce brings a bold and dynamic presence to the compact SUV segment, offering style, innovation, and agility.



INVITATION TO THE ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF PHOENIX POWER COMPANY SAOG

The Board of Directors of Phoenix Power Company SAOG (the "Company") have the pleasure to invite the respected shareholders to attend the Ordinary Annual General Meeting of the Company to be held at 3:00 pm on Tuesday, 18th March 2025 through the electronic platform of the General Meeting, which can be accessed through the Muscat Clearing and Depository website (WWW.mcd.gov.om). However in case of the quorum being incomplete, a second meeting shall be held on 3:00 pm on Thursday, 20th March 2025 through the electronic platform of the General Meeting, to discuss the following agenda:

1. To consider and approve the Board of Directors' report for the financial year ended 31 December 2024
2. To consider and approve the Corporate Governance Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
3. To consider and approve the Auditors' Report and approval of the financial statements (balance sheet and income statement) for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
4. To approve the proposal authorizing the Board of Directors' to determine and distribute cash dividends to the Company's Shareholders (who are registered with the MCDG as of the dates to be decided by the Board of Directors) in July 2025 and January 2026 out of the retained earnings as per the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2024, provided that the aggregate amount shall not exceed 5.50 Baizes per share after obtaining no objection from Lenders.
5. To notify the General Meeting of the related party transactions during the financial year ended 31 December 2024 (as per annexure 1).
6. To notify the general meeting of the activities of the Company in relation to the Corporate Social Responsibility for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 (as per annexure 2).
7. To allocate an amount of RO. 50,000 as a budget of the Company in relation to the Corporate Social

Responsibility for the financial year ending 31 December 2025.

8. To consider and approve the appraisal for performance of the Board of Directors for the financial year ending 31 December 2024.
9. To notify the AGM of replacement of Grant Thorton as statutory auditors for the year ended 31st December 2024 with Ernts & Young LLC in reference to resolution No. (8/2024) issued by the Financial Services Authority.
10. To elect one director to fill in a vacant seat in the Board of Directors of the Company from the shareholders or non-shareholders.
Any person who wishes to nominate himself/herself to the Board of Directors should complete the nomination form. The completed forms should be sent to the Company at least five days prior to the AGM date. Nomination forms received after 5:00 pm on Thursday, 13th of March 2025 shall not be accepted. The candidate must consider fulfilling the conditions prescribed for membership of the board of directors.
11. To appoint Statutory Auditors for the financial year ending 31 December 2025 and determine their remuneration.

According to the Articles of Association of the Company and the rules for convening general meeting using the modern technology issued by the Authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- (A) Only juristic persons shall have the right to appoint a proxy to attend the general meeting and vote on their behalf via electronic means provided that such proxy must have an investor number in Muscat Clearing and Depository Company.
- (B) Voting on the items of the agenda begins from three (3) days prior to the date of the AGM until end of voting process in the meeting day. Where the number of shares of any shareholders is increased or reduced, any voting or candidacy process performed before convening the general meeting will be cancelled and he/she vote again if willing to do so.

Respected shareholders are requested to attend at the AGM venue half an hour before the meeting.
For further information, please contact Mr. Ahmed Al Abri on telephone no. (+968) 2270 0737.

Chairperson

Auditor

Legal Advisor

P.O. Box: 96, PC: 102, Qurum, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, Tel: +968 2270 0737, Fax: +968 2200 9975



Hunger may hit Rohingya, says UN refugee chief

Dhaka, Bangladesh - UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Filippo Grandi said that he fears a possible foreign funding cut would put thousands of persecuted Rohingya, currently sheltering in south-eastern Bangladesh, in hunger and insecurity.

Bangladesh has been hosting more than 1.2mn Rohingya in the southeastern Cox's Bazar district since they fled a military crackdown in Myanmar in 2017. The Rohingya mostly depend on foreign aid as they do not have access to employment in the world's largest and congested refugee camps.

The UNHCR chief visited Bangladesh on Friday amid a US policy shift in foreign aid support which is feared to affect the Rohingya. "If donor support decreases dramatically - which may happen - the huge work done by the Bangladesh government, aid agencies and refugees will be impacted, putting thousands at risk of hunger, disease and insecurity," Grandi wrote late Friday on X after visiting the

camps in Cox's Bazar. UNHCR Bangladesh said with more than 1 million Rohingya refugees, his visit focused on boosting support for the

The Rohingya mostly depend on foreign aid as they do not have access to employment in the world's largest and congested refugee camps

Bangladeshi government, enhancing protection, aid and seeking solutions to the plight of the Myanmar nationals. Grandi met Bangladesh transitional government head Muhammad Yunus on Thursday where Yunus urged greater funding for the million-plus Rohingya refugees who live in camps amid growing uncertainty about the US shift away from foreign aid.

Anadolu Agency

Trump-Zelensky clash stirs global debate, shakes ties

Washington, D.C., US - A high-stakes meeting between US President Donald Trump and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky at the White House on Friday ended in a tense confrontation, sparking swift and sharp global reactions and deepening divisions among Western allies.

"Thank you America, thank you for your support, thank you for this visit. Thank you @POTUS, Congress, and the American people. Ukraine needs just and lasting peace, and we are working exactly for that," Zelensky addressed the fallout on X, reaffirming Ukraine's commitment to peace amid its ongoing war with Moscow.

Support for Ukraine

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau underscored his nation's unwavering support for Ukraine.

"Russia illegally and unjustifiably invaded Ukraine. For three years now, Ukrainians have fought with courage and resilience. Their fight for democracy, freedom, and sovereignty is a fight that matters to us all. Canada will continue to stand with Ukraine and Ukrainians in achieving a just and lasting peace," he said on X. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz echoed the sentiment, saying: "No one wants peace more than the citizens of Ukraine! That is why we are jointly seeking the path to a lasting and just peace. Ukraine can rely on Germany - and on Europe."

French President Emmanuel



Meeting between Trump and Zelensky at the White House on Friday ended in a tense confrontation

Macron, speaking to reporters in Portugal, reinforced the West's collective stance: "Russia is the aggressor, and Ukraine is the aggressed people. ... We must thank all those who have helped and respect those who have been fighting since the beginning. Because they are fighting for their dignity, their independence, their children, and the se-

White House deputy chief of staff for policy, Stephen Miller, lauded Trump's handling of the meeting, calling it 'one of the great moments in the history of American diplomacy'

curity of Europe."

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen assured Zelenskyy, saying: "Your dignity honours the bravery of the Ukrainian people. Be strong, be brave, be fearless. You are

never alone, dear President."

"We will continue working with you for a just and lasting peace," she said on X.

Moldova's President Maia Sandu shared her assessment on X: "The truth is simple. Russia invaded Ukraine. Russia is the aggressor. Ukraine defends its freedom - and ours. We stand with Ukraine."

Norwegian Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store criticised Trump's rhetoric, telling the country's TV2: "What we saw from the White House today is serious and disheartening. Ukraine still needs the US's sup-

port, and Ukraine's security and future are also important to the US and to Europe. That Trump accuses Zelensky of gambling with World War III is deeply unreasonable and a statement I distance myself from. Norway stands with Ukraine in their struggle for freedom."

Dutch Prime Minister Dick Schoof reaffirmed continued backing for Ukraine: "The Netherlands continues to support Ukraine. Especially now. We want lasting peace and an end to the war of aggression that Russia has started. For Ukraine, for all its inhabitants, and for Europe."

Estonian Foreign Minister Margus Tsahkna reiterated Ukraine's right to defend itself.

"The only obstacle to peace is (Russian President Vladimir) Putin's decision to continue his war of aggression. If Russia stops fighting, there will be no war. If Ukraine stops fighting, there will

be no Ukraine. Estonia's support to Ukraine remains unwavering. Time for Europe to step up," he said on X. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk simply assured Ukraine on X: "Dear @ZelenskyyUa, dear Ukrainian friends, you are not alone."

New Zealand's Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, assuring Kyiv of Wellington's support, said his country "remains steadfast in its support for Ukraine as it defends itself in a war that Russia started."

"It's mounting the defence of a proud, democratic and sovereign nation, but also the defence of international law," Luxon said on X.

The confrontation also drew praise for Trump's position.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban expressed a different view on X, aligning with Trump's position: "Strong men make peace, weak men make war. Today President @realDonaldTrump stood bravely for peace. Even if it was difficult for many to digest. Thank you, Mr. President!"

White House deputy chief of staff for policy, Stephen Miller, lauded Trump's handling of the meeting, calling it 'one of the great moments in the history of American diplomacy'. Speaking on Fox News that night, Miller said: "I don't think anybody had any idea Zelensky would be so impertinent, so disrespectful, so insulting to the United States of America. But this is one of the great moments in the history of American diplomacy."

Anadolu Agency



NOTICE AND INVITATION TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Board of Directors of SEMBCORP SALALAH POWER & WATER COMPANY SAOG (the "Company") has the pleasure to invite the shareholders to attend the Annual General Meeting, which will be held on Wednesday at 03:00 PM on 19/03/2025, via the electronic platform which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository Company (www.mcd.om). If the quorum requirement for holding the Annual General Meeting is not fulfilled, a second Annual General Meeting General Meeting shall be held on Thursday at 03:00 PM on 20/03/2025, via the electronic platform which can be accessed through the website of Muscat Clearing & Depository Company (www.mcd.om) to discuss the following agenda:

Annual Ordinary General Meeting Agendas:

- To consider and approve the Board of Director's Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
- To consider and approve the Corporate Governance Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
- To consider the Auditor's Report and to approve the Financial Statements (Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account) of the Company for the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
- To approve the proposal authorizing the Board of Directors to determine and distribute interim cash dividends to the Company's Shareholders who are registered with the MCD on the 2 November 2025 out of the retained earnings as per the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2024, provided that the amount shall not be more than 8 Baizas per share.
- To ratify the payment of sitting fees to the Board of Directors and Sub-Committees for the financial year ended 31 December 2024 and to determine the sitting fees for the financial year ending 31 December 2025.
- To consider and approve directors' remuneration amounting to RO 104,455 for the financial year ended on 31 December 2024.
- To disclose the transactions that the Company entered into with related parties during the financial year ended 31 December 2024.
- To consider the amounts allocated and spent for the company's social responsibilities for the year ended on 31/12/2024.

- To consider and approve a proposal to spend the total sum of RO 60,000 to support community services during the financial year ending 31 December 2025.

- To elect new Board members amongst shareholders or non-shareholders. Any person who wishes to nominate himself/herself to the Board of Directors should complete the nomination form. The completed forms should be sent to the Company at least five days minimum prior to the AGM date. Nomination forms received after 5pm on Thursday, 13th of March 2025, shall not be accepted. The candidate must consider fulfilling the conditions prescribed for membership of the board of directors.

- To appoint the auditors for the financial year ending 31 December 2025 and approve their fees.

According to the Company's Articles of Association and the controls for holding General Meetings using modern technology issued by the capital market authority, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

- Legal person, exclusively, has the right to delegate a natural person to attend the General Meeting and vote on its behalf through technical means, provided that this natural person has an investor number in MCDC.
- Voting on any of the agenda items begins no more than three days before the date of the General Meeting until the voting process ends on the day of the General Meeting. If the shareholder's shares are increased or decreased, the voting process will be canceled, and the shareholder will have to vote again on the day of the General Meeting.

For further information please contact on telephone No 93215022 or email: tariqbashir80@gmail.com

Chairman
Tan Cheng Guan

Legal Advisor
Al Busaidy, Mansoor Jamal Barristers
and Legal Consultant

External Auditor
KPMG LLC

Sembcorp Salalah Power & Water Company SAOG
P.O. Box 1466, Salalah, Postal Code 211, Sultanate of Oman, Tel: +968 2323 8510; Fax: +968 2323 8512, www.sembcorpsalalah.com.om

ONLY C/No. 107317

RIO CARNIVAL 2025



Revellers attending the parades at the official opening of the Rio Carnival 2025 on the Marques De Sapucaí Avenue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Friday (Xinhua)

CAUTIONARY NOTICE IN OMAN

Notice is hereby given that Hermes Sellier (société par actions simplifiée) and located at 24, Rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, F-75008 Paris, France is the sole owner and proprietor of the design entitled:

Design A Pair of Sandals



The present design relates to a pair of sandals, of which the following is a specification, reference being made to the accompanying drawing, showing the front perspective view of the new design.

The ornamental design for the above PAIR OF SANDALS as shown and described is claimed.

The above owner claims all rights in respect of the above design and will take all legal steps against any person, firm or corporation, counterfeiting, imitating, violating or otherwise infringing upon the above design in Oman.

PKK-Turkey ceasefire

Istanbul, Turkey - The Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) has declared a ceasefire with Turkey, following the call of its jailed leader Abdullah Ocalan for disarmament and dissolution, local media reported on Saturday.

The PKK Executive Committee announced in a statement that none of its forces would carry out armed actions unless attacked, according to the NTV broadcaster.

"We, as the PKK, fully agree with the content of the mentioned call (of Ocalan) and state that we will comply with and implement its requirements from our side," said the PKK statement.

India: Death toll in Chamoli avalanche rises to 4, one still missing

Chamoli, India - The death toll in the avalanche that struck Mana village near Badrinath in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district has risen to four, an official said on Saturday.

According to Defence Public Relations Officer (PRO), Dehradun, four people have lost their lives in the avalanche incident.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant General Anindya Sengupta, General Officer Commanding in Central Command (GOC-in-C), shared the development on the Mana avalanche incident and said that

all assistance, including UAVs and radars, will be pressed into service once the weather and road conditions are conducive.

"Currently, air effort is being put in to take out the casualties. We hope that with coordination with all agencies, we will complete the operation by this evening," said the official.

Chamoli district magistrate Sandeep Tiwari also spoke to ANI and said: "The rescue operation began yesterday and until yesterday 33 workers were rescued. 17 more have been rescued today. In total, 50 people



Security personnel carry out rescue operations following an avalanche that struck near Mana, in Chamoli, Uttarakhand (ANI)

have been rescued, and a search operation for other missing people is underway to trace them." The Indian Army said 55 Bor-

der Roads Organisation workers were trapped under snow after an avalanche on Friday morning. The avalanche hit the BRO camp, burying the workers inside eight containers and a shed. Rescue operations were halted on Friday evening due to hostile weather conditions, including rain and snowfall, and resumed this morning after the weather improved.

Choppers were deployed to join the rescue operation, and the Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said excess snowfall was hampering rescue efforts.

Dhami also conducted an aerial survey of the avalanche-affected area this morning.

"More than five blocks in the region have no electricity or internet because of continuous snow. We will restore connectivity in the area as soon as possible. More than 200 personnel are deployed for rescue operations," he said.

The Chief Minister said that 50 out of 55 people have been rescued and rescue operations are underway to evacuate the remaining people. He said that

those who have been rescued are being brought to Jyotirmath and are undergoing treatment. If needed, they will also be referred to a higher centre.

The Chief Minister met the workers undergoing treatment at the Army Hospital and inquired about their well-being.

He directed the District Magistrate that there should be no shortage of necessary resources in the search and rescue operation and said the Central Government is also providing all the necessary assistance.

ANI

Hamas calls on Palestinians to travel to Al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan

Gaza City, Palestine - Hamas called on Palestinians on Saturday to travel to Al-Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem and engage in worship, steadfastness, and seclusion during the holy month of Ramadan.

In a statement, the movement urged Palestinians across the West Bank, Jerusalem, and within Israel to 'mobilise all efforts this month by traveling to Al-Aqsa Mosque, remaining steadfast, and engaging in seclusion there'.

"Let the blessed days and nights of Ramadan be dedicated to worship, steadfastness, and resistance against the enemy and settler mobs, as well as to the defence of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa until they are liberated from occupation," Hamas said.

Hamas also called on Palestinians worldwide to launch 'the broadest initiatives and solidarity events in support of their brethren in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem'.

On Friday evening, Sheikh Ekrima Sabri, the preacher of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, stated that Israeli authorities had imposed a strict security lockdown on Jerusalem under the pretext of security concerns, though he asserted the true objective was to restrict Palestinian access to the mosque. Each year during Ramadan, Israel enforces measures that limit Palestinians' ability to reach Al-Aqsa Mosque in the occupied East Jerusalem.



Muslims gather to perform the first Taraweeh prayer at Haram al-Sharif courtyard in Al-Aqsa mosque compound in Jerusalem on Friday

Palestinians view these restrictions as part of a broader Israeli policy to Judaise East Jerusalem, including Al-Aqsa Mosque, and erase its Arab and Islamic identity.

Al-Aqsa Mosque is the world's third-holiest site for Muslims. Jews call the area the Temple Mount, claiming it was the site of two Jewish temples in an-

cient times. Israel occupied East Jerusalem, where Al Aqsa is located, during the 1967 Arab-Israeli War. It annexed the entire city in 1980 in a move never recognised by the international community.

The International Court of Justice declared in July last year that Israel's long-standing occupation of Palestinian territories is illegal,

demanding the evacuation of all settlements in the West Bank and East.

Meanwhile, the Palestinian Presidency on Friday warned of Israeli attempts to impose a 'new reality' at Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Most Arab countries, including Palestine, declared Saturday the first day of the fasting month of Ramadan after sighting the

crescent moon.

The Higher Presidential Committee for Church Affairs in Palestine stated that 'the occupation's announcement of doubling its repressive measures during Ramadan, including limiting the number of worshippers and issuing expulsion orders, aims to empty Al-Aqsa Mosque, isolate it from its Palestinian surroundings'.

It added that the repressive measures by Israel come as part of 'its Judaisation project for Jerusalem and its holy sites'.

The committee urged 'the Arab and Islamic nations, international institutions, and churches worldwide to take responsibility for stopping the aggression, ending the occupation ... and protecting the future of our

people, their land, and their holy sites'.

As almost every year during Ramadan, Israeli authorities impose restrictions on Palestinians, limiting their access to the Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Israeli public broadcaster, KAN, said on Sunday that police will not allow Palestinians released from jails in recent weeks to enter the flashpoint site during the Muslim holy month.

KAN said police would deploy 3,000 personnel every day at checkpoints leading to East

Hamas also called on Palestinians worldwide to launch broadest initiatives and solidarity events in support of their brethren in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem

Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque during the month.

It said police recommended granting only 10,000 permits to Palestinians from the occupied West Bank to enter Al-Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan. Permits will be given to men older than 55 and women older than 50, said KAN.

Anadolu Agency

US approves \$3bn foreign military sales to Israel

Washington, D.C., US - The US on Friday approved potential foreign military sales to Israel worth US\$3bn, according to the State Department.

The Department notified Congress of the sales, which include munitions, guidance kits, and Caterpillar D9 bulldozers, the Defence Security Cooperation Agency said in a statement.

The largest portion of the deal - valued at US\$2.04bn - includes 35,529 MK 84 or BLU-117 general-purpose bomb bodies and 4,000 I-2000 penetrator warheads.



Israeli soldiers move through agricultural lands during an Israeli raid in the rural areas of Tulkarm Refugee Camp in Tulkarm, West Bank last month

Another US\$675.7mn package includes MK 83 and BLU-110 bomb bodies and JDAM kits guidance kits, with deliveries estimated to begin in 2028.

Israel will also receive D9R and D9T Caterpillar bulldozers for US\$295mn, with deliveries in 2027.

The Trump administration justified the sales as critical to Israel's defence and as a deterrent to regional threat, stating they

align with the US national interest to assist Israel.

The latest sales come as the first phase of the Gaza ceasefire agreement is set to expire on Saturday evening, with negotiations for the next phase underway in Cairo.

A ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement has been in place since last month, pausing Israel's genocidal war on Gaza that has killed more than 48,300

people, mostly women and children, and left the enclave in ruins.

Last November, the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant for war crimes and crimes against humanity in Gaza.

Israel also faces a genocide case at the International Court of Justice for its war on the enclave.

Anadolu Agency

Displaced Gazans struggle in flooded tents

Gaza City, Palestine - Displaced Palestinians in Gaza endured freezing temperatures and heavy rainfall which flooded their tents and the remains of their bombed-out homes on the first night of Ramadan.

The worsening humanitarian crisis is compounded by Israeli delays in allowing the entry of temporary housing and essential reconstruction equipment, as stipulated in the ceasefire agreement.

A ceasefire and prisoner exchange agreement has been in place since last month, pausing Israel's genocidal war on Gaza that has killed more than 48,360 people, mostly women and children, and left the enclave in ruins.



As families prepared for suhoor (pre-dawn meal), rainwater seeped into makeshift tents, drenching personal belongings and forcing many, especially women and children, to flee with no alternative shelter.

Meanwhile, those who had returned to the ruins of their homes found themselves struggling against water leaking through cracked walls and shattered ceilings.

Lack of resources deepens hardship

Flooded streets further exacerbated the situation, as Gaza's emergency and municipal teams worked with extremely limited resources due to the ongoing Israeli blockade.

Gaza Municipality spokesperson Hosni Mahna told Anadolu: 'Israel's failure to implement its commitments under the ceasefire agreement has left our teams unable to adequately respond to the crisis'.

According to Gaza's Government Media Office, over 88% of the enclave's infrastructure, including homes, hospitals, and es-

sential services, has been destroyed in more than 15 months of Israeli genocidal war.

Mahna emphasised that without access to mobile housing and heavy machinery, displaced Palestinians are left to 'face their fate alone'.

"Despite repeated calls for humanitarian aid, Israel continues to obstruct the entry of relief supplies, leaving tens of thousands of people exposed to rain and cold," he added.

"What should have been a night of peace and worship turned into hours of suffering and freezing temperatures," he said.

Despite their best efforts, municipal teams face over-

whelming challenges due to the extensive destruction and lack of resources.

"Israel denies us even the most basic means of survival, while we do our best to ease the suffering with the little we have," Mahna said, calling for immediate international intervention to pressure Israel to allow in humanitarian supplies.

The worsening weather comes amid an already dire humanitarian situation in Gaza, where Israel's blockade has led to severe shortages of food, medical supplies, and relief aid.

Health conditions among displaced Palestinians continue to deteriorate, with humanitarian organisations warning of a deepening crisis.

The ceasefire deal between Israel and Hamas was supposed to provide relief. The agreement outlined a phased truce, with each stage lasting 42 days, but Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has blocked negotiations for the second phase, fearing political backlash from his far-right coalition partners.

Anadolu Agency

Friedrich Merz invites Netanyahu to Germany despite ICC arrest warrant

Berlin, Germany - After a successful election campaign, conservative Christian Democrat (CDU) leader Friedrich Merz stood in front of journalists at his party's headquarters in Berlin in high spirits. Merz is likely to become the new chancellor, probably with the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) as his coalition partner.

The 69-year-old said that he had received numerous congratulations on Sunday evening and during the night. One of the well-wishers was Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Merz relayed that the two had had a lengthy telephone conversation and added that Netanyahu had called him. And then Merz dropped a sentence that has since caused quite a stir in German politics.

"I have also promised him that we will find ways and means for him to visit Germany and also to be able to leave again without being arrested in Germany," Merz said. "I think it is a completely absurd idea that an Israeli prime minister cannot visit the Federal Republic of Germany."

Representatives of the other political parties in the Bundestag were outraged. In November last year, the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands, issued an arrest warrant for Netanyahu and former Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant.

The ICC concluded that there are sufficient grounds to believe that they were complicit in crimes against humanity and war crimes in the Gaza Strip. An ar-



Friedrich Merz and Benjamin Netanyahu met in Israel last year

Germany is one of the biggest supporters of the ICC, which began its work in July 2002 and has 125 member states. However, global powers such as the US or Russia are not among them. And neither is Israel

rest warrant was also issued for Mohammed Deif, one of the leaders of the Palestinian militant organisation Hamas, which has been classified by the US, EU and Germany as a terrorist organisation. Deif was later killed in an Is-

raeli air strike during its military assault on Gaza.

The SPD is currently preparing to enter coalition talks with the CDU and its sister party, the Christian Socialist Union (CSU), under the leadership of Merz.

"We respect its procedures and the decisions of its organs. This applies without exception," SPD foreign policy expert Nils Schmid said of the International Criminal Court.

However, Schmid told Reuters news agency that clever diplomacy requires the government to 'find suitable ways and means of maintaining close relations with the Israeli government in the future'. This appears to suggest that meetings with Netanyahu would have to take place elsewhere, not in

Germany.

Germany is one of the biggest supporters of the ICC, which began its work in July 2002 and has 125 member states. However, global powers such as the US or Russia are not among them. And neither is Israel.

An important point about the current case against Netanyahu is that the court has no possibility of executing the arrest warrants itself. However, its member states, including Germany, are formally obliged to arrest wanted persons if they are on their terri-

tory. So if Netanyahu were to come to Germany, he would have to be arrested. Merz left open what 'ways and means' there could be to avoid such an arrest. In any case, Netanyahu used the call with Merz once again to clarify his view of the situation. The Israeli government announced that Merz had been invited 'in open defiance of the scandalous decision by the International Criminal Court to classify the Prime Minister as a war criminal'.

In recent months, the outgo-

ing German government, which is still in office, had tried to sidestep the sensitive issue. After the warrants were issued in November, a German government spokesperson stated: "On the one hand, there is the importance of the International Criminal Court, which we very much support. And on the other hand, there is the historical responsibility. I could be tempted to say that I find it difficult to imagine us making arrests in Germany on this basis."

Throughout the duration of the war in Gaza, the German government has consistently expressed staunch support for Israel in word and in deed, including weapons exports. Due to its history, Germany has in recent years increasingly expressed that unfailing support for Israel is part of its 'reason of state', although that political principle is not buttressed by law.

Does this also apply to the respective Israeli head of government? In any case, the government led by the SPD's Olaf Scholz was visibly pleased that a visit by Netanyahu to Germany was not on the cards. In fact, the last time Israel's prime minister was in Berlin for political talks was in March 2023, a good six months before Hamas attacked Israel on October 7.

As with around ten other countries, Germany holds government consultations with Israel, namely meetings between the entire cabinets of both sides.

DW

South Korea stresses rising 'geopolitical risks' globally

Seoul, South Korea - South Korea's acting President Choi Sang-mok on Saturday highlighted the increasing 'geopolitical risks' globally and expressed hope for a new chapter in relations with Japan.

"Geopolitical risks are intensifying worldwide, economic and trade uncertainties are growing, and international relations are rapidly shifting," Choi told an event to mark the 106th anniversary of the March 1 Independence Movement against the Japanese colonial rule, the Seoul-based Yonhap News reported.

South Korea's acting president, speaking on behalf of impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol, said that to 'effectively respond' to the 'grave international situation', Tokyo-Seoul cooper-



ation is 'essential'.

The acting president said 'shadows of conflict and division are growing darker' in the East Asian nation, reportedly referring to the weeks of protests and the growing divide between Yoon's supporters and

opponents.

The National Assembly had voted overwhelmingly to remove Yoon from office on December 14, 2024 over his short-lived martial law decree on December 3.

Choi as an answer to the nation's crisis such as divisions, including ideological, generational, regional, and class-based, emphasised the importance of 'national unity' to overcome them.

Japan colonised the Korean Peninsula for decades until World War II before vacating the region, which left the peninsula divided with the US siding with the South, where it has over 28,500 soldiers deployed since the 1953 Korean War, which ended in a truce.

Anadolu Agency

Pope Francis spends 'peaceful night' after breathing crisis

Vatican City - Pope Francis, who has been battling double pneumonia for over two weeks, spent Friday night without additional complications and is resting, the Vatican said on Saturday in its latest update about Francis' condition.

"The night passed peacefully, the pope is resting," the Vatican said, without giving further details. The next medical bulletin is expected at around 7pm (1800 GMT).

Earlier on Friday, the 88-year-old pontiff had suffered an 'isolated breathing crisis' and received 'non-invasive, mechanical ventilation'. The pope also had 'an episode of vomiting with aspiration and a sudden worsening of the respiratory condition'.



Pope Francis has been receiving treatment at Rome's Gemelli Hospital

Pope remains in critical condition

Francis has been receiving treatment at Rome's Gemelli Hospital since February 14.

He was admitted to the hospital with a severe respiratory infection that degenerated into

double pneumonia, a serious infection of both lungs that can inflame and scar them, making it difficult to breathe.

Health experts believe Francis' age and health condition mean a sustained recovery will take time.

Francis, who has served as pope since 2013, is head of the world's nearly 1.4bn Catholics.

Despite his medical condition, he has continued to lead the Vatican from the hospital.

Prone to respiratory illness

Over the past few years, the head of the Catholic Church has faced repeated health issues, with several bouts of bronchitis.

Francis is prone to lung infections because he developed pleurisy as a young adult and had part of one lung removed.

The 88-year-old pontiff has also long suffered from sciatica, a chronic nerve inflammation that causes back, hip and leg pain.

DW

Turkey becomes beacon of hope for Sudanese students displaced by civil war

Nigde/Istanbul - Turkey has become an educational haven for students and academics whose studies were interrupted by the civil war in Sudan, offering them an opportunity to resume their academic journeys.

Amid the war, under the coordination of the Turkish Council of Higher Education, the governing body that oversees universities in the country, students and academics from Sudan's Al-Butana University have been placed at Nigde Omer Halisdemir University to continue their academic pursuits.

Since April 15, 2023, Sudan has been embroiled in violent clashes between the army and the formerly allied Rapid Support Forces due to disagreements

about military reform and integration. According to the UN, Sudan is facing the world's largest displacement and hunger crisis. The war has claimed more than 20,000 lives, while over 3.5mn have fled the country. Nearly nine million have been displaced within Sudan and more than 25mn are in urgent need of humanitarian aid.

As part of the conflict, Al-Butana University's facilities were damaged, disrupting educational activities. In an effort to mitigate the effect of the war on students and minimise its damage to the country's education sector, the Sudanese Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research reached out to Turkey's Council of Higher Education.



In a swift response, the council of higher education launched the 'Guest University Initiative' and partnered Al-Butana University

with Nigde Omer Halisdemir University. The initiative facilitated the relocation of 18 individuals, including the university's

rector, three administrative staff, two research faculty members, four PhD students, two master's students and six undergraduates.

The 'university within a university' model ensures Sudanese students and academics can continue their education and research under better conditions and in a safe environment. The initiative aims to help the students return to Sudan after completing their education, where they can contribute to that country's future development.

Following a meeting at the council with the Sudanese rector of Al-Butana University and his committee, Turkey's Higher Education Council President Erol Ozvar discussed the initiative with Anadolu.

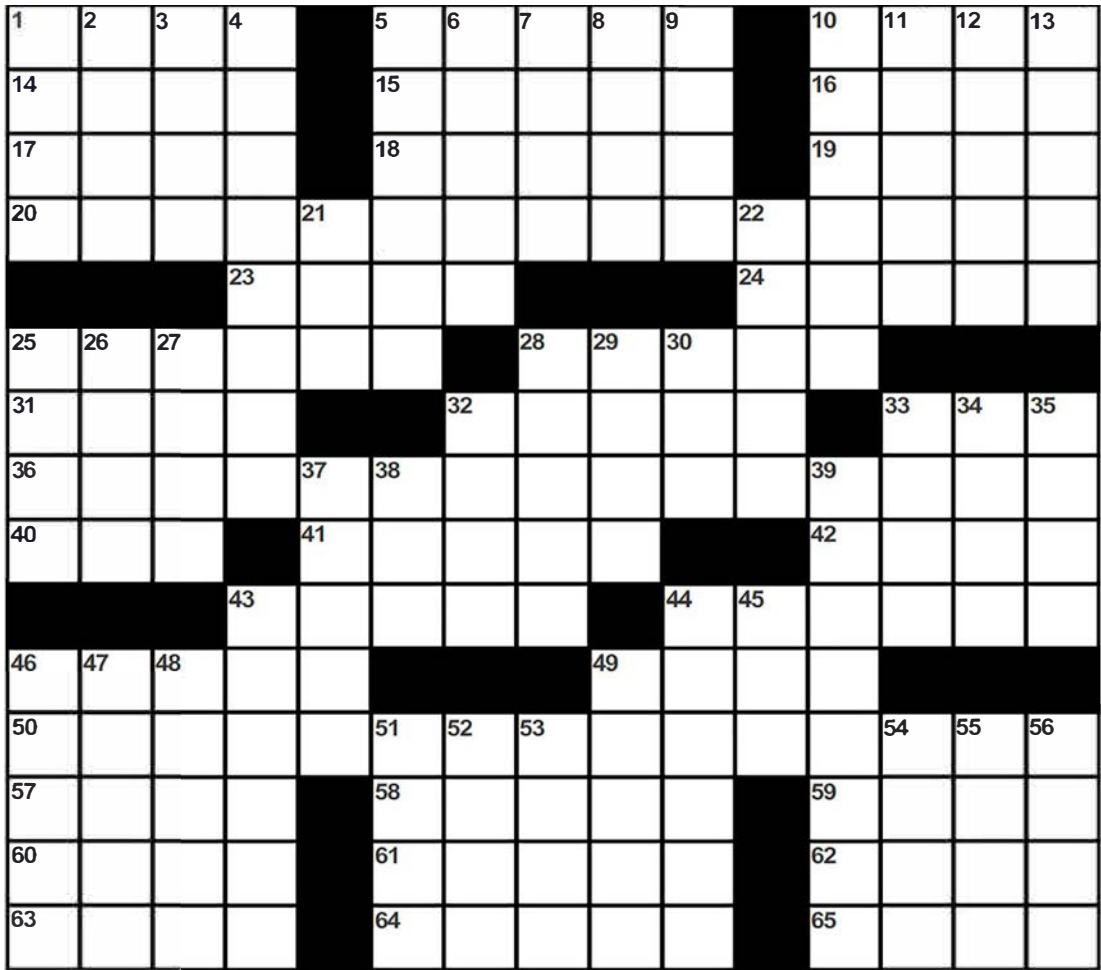
Ozvar said Sudan's Ministry of Higher Education had reached out to Turkey's higher education governing body last year, explain-

ing that universities in Sudan were severely struggling due to internal conflicts and many institutions had been forced to close.

Explaining that discussions were held with relevant institutions in Turkey to find a solution, Ozvar said: "We considered how we could support universities in Sudan and decided on a model where three of Sudan's leading universities would be hosted at three universities in Turkey. Since we do not want universities to shut down, we presented this proposal to our Sudanese counterparts. Our aim was to ensure that Sudanese students and academics could continue their education at designated universities in Turkey."

Anadolu Agency

DAILY CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1) Not merely impressed
40) Eligible for some
5) Mosey deductions
10) Butts 41) Flock
14) Shankar of sitar fame
42) Not even once, poeti-
cally
15) Emergency supply
43) Steering apparatuses
16) Class distribution
44) Area needing urban
renewal
17) Bad day for Caesar
46) Stiff-upper-lip type
18) Half of Hispaniola
49) Gum-producing plant
19) Centers of activity
50) What a prince is
20) Place with many gates
57) Auscultative sound
23) Like the out-of-town
team
58) Sleep on it
24) Any Time
59) Surefooted goat
25) What a crook tries to
beat
60) Computer devotee
28) Do a doggie trick
61) Car dealer's offering

- 31) Common powder
62) Close victory margin
32) Contents of some car-
tridges
63) Resting places
33) Place to be pampered
64) Propelled a boat
36) Part of a beloved
Christmas
65) Acquires

DOWN

- 1) Opera specialty
2) Often dry stream bed
3) Anon's partner
4) Military message
5) Hindu community
6) Substantial
7) Gent from London
8) Guitar's ancestor
9) Independent chieftain
10) Gusto
11) Neural transmitters
12) Former Portuguese
territory in China
13) Photographer's re-
quest
21) "L you one"
22) Prefix with "surgery"
or "transmitter"
25) Simmer slowly
26) Agile, lively
27) Coaster
28) Pays, as the bill
29) Jealousy
30) Casual attire
32) Tend to a hedge
33) "Let it stand" editori-
ally
34) Rhyme master
35) Big hairstyle
37) Campaign word
38) TX metropolis
39) Dead accurate
43) Personnel depart-
ments, often
44) Obviously ready to be
remodeled
45) "A likely story!"
46) Hydrangea, e.g.
47) Annoy persistently
48) Lubricated
49) Birds that make a gag-
gle
51) It's in Norway
52) "-Team" (Mr. T's old
squad)
53) Try, as a case
54) Instrument in a wind
quintet
55) It makes a bluebird
happy?
56) Divorcees

NOTE PAD



YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE



ARIES MARCH 21-APRIL 19

You want some time alone. No, it's fairer to say that you need some time alone, and you'll do whatever it takes to get it. So if a loved one asks you for something you really can't provide, your answer will be matter-of-fact, firm, and clear. Tell them it just isn't possible now. And don't you dare feel bad about it. After all, when was the last time you said no to anyone under any circumstances? It's time to think of yourself.



LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Your friends have your back, and not just when you ask for it. They're willing to take your side even before you ask. That's a good feeling, and you'll have a chance to enjoy it now, especially once the bunch of you start rehashing the whole experience from start to finish. Don't let them think for one second you take them for granted. Show them your appreciation.



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

This won't be your usual day, no doubt about it. Passion and lots of mingling will be on the agenda. There may also be one particular person in the vicinity you're really happy to see without a desk, computer, or authority figure coming between you. Enjoy the company no matter who you're with. Oh, and watch out for some excitement tonight.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

1. Who was the last to hold the presidential insignia for Poland before democratic election handed it to Lech Wałęsa?
A. Ryszard Kaczorowski
B. Ignacy Mościcki
C. Józef Piłsudski
D. Aleksander Kwaśniewski

2. Public attendance was particularly sparse, virtually non-existent, at the 2020 Tokyo Summer Olympics and Paralympics. What was the reason?
A. The weather was too cold and wet
B. Extremely high ticket prices
C. Lack of interest
D. The COVID-19 pandemic at the time

3. The "Ballad of Chevy Chase" is an old English folk song about what event?
A. The beheading of Anne Boleyn
B. The Battle of Otterburn
C. The invention of golf
D. The defeat of the Spanish Armada

Answers: 1.A 2.D 3.B



TAURUS APRIL 20-MAY 20

A whole new way of earning your daily bread may be well within your reach now, so if someone comes along with a good offer, don't automatically turn it down. That goes double if the offer arrives after a certain person notices just how talented you are at something other than your actual vocation, your hobby, for example. Wouldn't it be nice to do what you love for work? It's not out of the question, you know.



VIRGO AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

You're just not ready to quit, are you? You realize this means you'll need to stay up late and call in late tomorrow, or that you should consider taking the entire day off. That's not your usual style, but now that it's inevitable and you know it, you might want to give in. Isn't there someone you want to go out and play with anyway, someone who'd make it worth your while?



CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 19

You're irresistible, and that is lots of fun, but it's not always easy. You might have to juggle a few people who are helpless in the face of your magnetic charms. It doesn't help that your personal energy is turning up the volume way, way up on your already high levels of charisma. All this attention is kind of fabulous, and you're loving it more and more with every moment.



GEMINI MAY 21-JUNE 21

That cave you were in is all but forgotten now. You've left it behind, that and anything that even remotely reminds you of the dark. Yes, you're done hibernating and ready to celebrate by being as excessive as possible in every category possible. And it won't be tough to find someone who'll be more than happy to go along with you for the ride either.



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

An opportunity you've been dreaming of will arrive soon, so prepare yourself. If you're not sure about any part of what's offered, however, don't be shy about asking for some time to think it over, then get in touch with someone you know and love who's qualified to help you make your decision. Something terrific is en route. All you have to do is recognize it even if it arrives in disguise..



AQUARIUS JANUARY 20-FEBRUARY 18

Your social and work calendars are filling up fast, but let's face it: you love all the activity and wouldn't have it any other way. Occasionally, though, something or someone might have to take a hit as one event or another takes precedence. As long as you warn people in advance, you shouldn't cause any serious problems. Just revel in your exciting schedule and make sure not to overextend yourself while you're at it.



CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

Your skills at negotiation and mediation are unparalleled and quite well known. You're usually the first person anyone thinks of when they need a third party to help them either smooth over a bad situation or prevent one from occurring. But if someone comes to you with that request now, you'd better come clean and let them know you might not be quite on your game at the moment. You might startle them, but it's better they know what they're dealing with.



SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

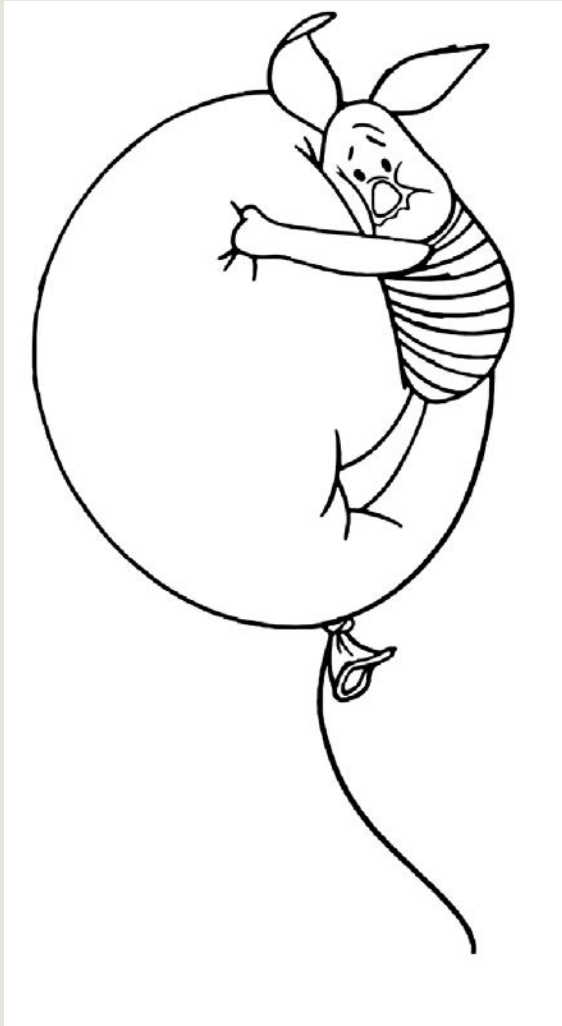
Willpower is at the very top of your list of assets, and it's a good thing too. Right about now, it will take everything you have to stay on track, even if you know there's nothing you'd rather do. That means temptation will be around each and every corner. Expect it. Not only will you not be surprised to see it coming, you'll be prepared to turn it down with confidence..



PISCES FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 20

Selflessly helping someone today will go a long way tomorrow. You'd be wise to put some good deeds in your karma account now, because you'll need a bit of help soon. People like to help people who have helped them, and someone you help today will remember you when the time comes. This isn't something to be worried about. Just keep generosity and reciprocity in the front of your mind today, and do for others what you hope they would do for you.

KIDS COLOURING



BOGGLER

S	C	X	A
L	I	D	E
D	E	M	E
E	P	A	H

Each game will present you with a matrix filled with letters. The objective is to form words by linking adjacent letters - to the left, right, on top, bottom, or diagonal to each other. The Boggles Classic game uses a 4 x 4 matrix. Words are valued at one point for each letter in excess of two letters. A three letter word is worth one point, a four letter word is worth two points, and so on. Valid words must be at least three letters long.

SOLUTION
20-25 words: Excellent,
15-20 words: Very good,
10-15 words: Good,
5-10 words: Average

DO YOU SUDOKU?

LEVEL EASY: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9 and only one instance of each number

		4					2	
8			3		2	7		
	9				8			4
	2	3		9			8	
			5	3	1			
	4			8		9	5	
1			4				6	
		9	1		3			2
	3					1		

WORD BUILDER



You have three minutes to find all the words contained in this word.

Rules: Words should be at least four letters long, proper nouns and duplicates don't count

SUDOKU EASY ANSWER

5	6	1	7	9	8	2	3	4
2	7	4	3	5	1	6	8	9
8	9	3	6	2	7	5	1	4
3	5	6	9	8	2	1	7	4
7	4	2	1	3	5	8	9	6
1	8	9	4	6	7	1	3	2
3	8	1	5	4	9	7	2	6
4	4	3	5	8	1	9	7	6
6	1	7	1	3	4	2	9	5
9	2	8	5	7	4	6	1	3

BAYERN IN CRUISE MODE

Bavarians rally from a goal down to ease past Stuttgart

Stuttgart, Germany - Bayern Munich fought back from a goal down to maintain their place at the top of the Bundesliga with a 3-1 victory at VfB Stuttgart on Friday.

The win keeps Bayern comfortably atop the Bundesliga with 61 points, 11 ahead of Bayer Leverkusen, though they have played one match more.

Stuttgart took the lead in the 34th minute through Angelo Stiller, who struck a left-footed shot into the top corner from the edge of the box.

In first half stoppage time, Bayern equalised as Michael Olise made a perfectly timed run and finished with ease.

Bayern turned the match around in the 64th minute when a quick-thinking Leon Goretzka intercepted the ball from a defender inside the box and calmly slotted it home to give the leaders a 2-1 lead.

Stuttgart made another mistake just before the end when Joshua Vagnoman attempted to play the ball back to keeper Alexander Nubel, only for Kingsley Coman to intercept it and slot it in from distance to give Bayern



Bayern Munich's Michael Olise scores against VfB Stuttgart on Friday

It's never easy away at Stuttgart... As a group, we needed 30 minutes to find our rhythm in the match. After that, all the players improved, they were very important in the crucial moments, and they won many duels

VINCENT KOMPANY

their third and final goal.

Coach Vincent Kompany praised Bayern's resilience, saying it was "a real German top match". The coach hailed his side's performance after regaining control following a tricky first half that saw Stuttgart take the lead through Angelo Stiller, only

for Michael Orlisz to equalise before the break.

"It's never easy away at Stuttgart. I have never won here as a player, but I enjoyed this victory because Stuttgart were the better team at the start," Kompany told a press conference.

"As a group, we needed 30

minutes to find our rhythm in the match. After that, all the players improved, they were very important in the crucial moments, and they won many duels," he added.

Kompany added that Bayern's recent schedule has been demanding, with three games in six days, but said there are no ex-

cuses for his team, especially at this level.

"You just have to stay calm and prepare for the next game and that's what the team has done and will continue to do. That's what I've done throughout my career and that will never change, no matter what."

Asensio on target as Villa reach FA Cup quarters with win against Cardiff

Birmingham, England - Aston Villa newcomer Marco Asensio struck twice in the second half to lead the Premier League team to a 2-0 victory over second-tier Cardiff City on Friday and into the FA Cup quarter-finals for the first time in 10 years.

Villa thoroughly dominated the Welsh side whose defence and goalkeeper Ethan Horvath held strong until Asensio finally broke the deadlock in the 68th minute. Marcus Rashford latched onto Youri Tielemans' ball over the top before cutting

campaign en route to the final where they lost 4-0 to Arsenal.

The home side peppered Horvath with 10 shots on target to the visitors' one, including several spurned chances from Rashford, who joined Villa from Manchester United earlier this month.

Rashford's best opportunity was a blistering shot from 25 yards out in the second half that was well saved by a diving Horvath.

Leon Bailey had a terrific first-half chance but Horvath leapt to tip his

powerful volley over the cross-bar.

Cardiff finally put Villa's goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez to work midway through the second half when Perry Ng whipped in a cross from the right that Yousef Saleh poked towards the goal.

Cardiff, who are 29 places below Villa on England's football pyramid, were not able to

field a full-strength squad on Friday, manager Omer Riza said, because of important upcoming league games in their Championship relegation battle. They are just three places and six points above the Championship's bottom three, with 12 league games remaining.

We are really happy. It was not an easy game. We knew it was a difficult game. Very happy for the goals, for the win. We're in the next round

MARCO ASENSIO

it back for Asensio, who swept into the bottom corner.

Asensio, who joined Villa earlier this month from Paris St Germain, completed his double in the 80th minute when he guided the ball into the bottom corner from Leon Bailey's cross.

The Spaniard, who has scored four goals in two starts for the West Midlands team, received a standing ovation when he was substituted off soon after.

"We are really happy," Asensio told ITV. "It was not an easy game. We knew it was a difficult game. Very happy for the goals, for the win. We're in the next round, that's the most important."

Villa last reached the quarter-finals in the 2014-15

Aston Villa's Marco Asensio celebrates after scoring against Cardiff City



West Ham pile on the agony on Van Nistelrooy's Leicester

London, England - West Ham eased past Premier League strugglers Leicester City 2-0 at the London Stadium on Thursday thanks to an early strike from Tomas Soucek on his 30th birthday and an own goal just before halftime.

The visitors' defensive frailties were exploited by the home side as both goals resulted from failed clearances, Soucek prodding in from close range in the 21st minute and a shot from captain Jarrod Bowen deflected in by Jan-nik Vestergaard.

It was a second victory in a row for West Ham under manager Graham Potter after a surprise 1-0 win at Arsenal, an upturn in form after losing three and drawing one of their previous four games.

"They were two very different games," Potter said. "We had to understand our role in the game tonight, which was to have more of the ball."

West Ham's Tomas Soucek celebrates his goal against Leicester City on Thursday

West Ham leapfrogged Everton into 15th place in the table and Leicester remained firmly in the relegation zone in 19th, five points from safety.

Leicester have now lost 11 of their last 12 league matches, mustering just two wins in Ruud van Nistelrooy's 14 league games in charge. They face a tough finish to the



season with Chelsea, Manchester City, Liverpool, Newcastle United and Nottingham Forest still to play. West Ham played with intensity and intent in the first half, particularly down the right wing where Aaron Wan-Bissaka frequently tested Leicester left back Victor Kristiansen.

A Bowen-driven attack from the right forced a poor Leicester clearance, which was picked up by Aaron Cresswell and whipped in to Mohammed Kudus whose

saved shot was pounced on by Soucek to score.

Leicester captain Jamie Vardy then failed to clear a corner at the near post in the 43rd minute, allowing Bowen to pick up the ball and find space to shoot through a gaggle of defenders from a tight angle. It went down as a Vestergaard own goal despite Bowen's celebrations.



Rodri

Man City's Rodri returns to training after injury

Manchester, England - Ballon d'Or winner Rodri has returned to individual training after suffering a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament in September, a video released by his club Manchester City showed on Friday.

Spain international Rodri underwent surgery after sustaining the injury during a 2-2 draw at Arsenal, with manager Pep Guardiola saying the midfielder would be out for the season.

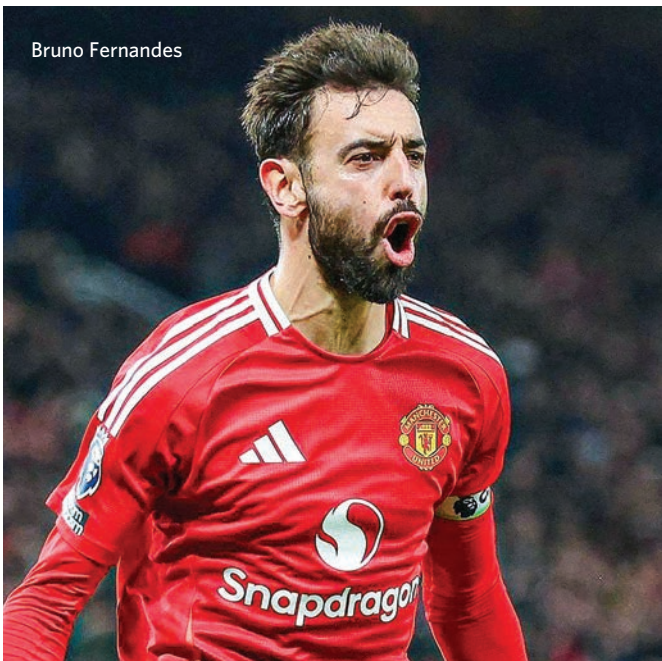
But Rodri set himself an early return target, saying in November that he was aiming to be back in action this season.

Bruno is really important for us: Amorim

Manchester, England - Bruno Fernandes is a key player for Manchester United, manager Ruben Amorim stressed on Friday as he defended the Portugal international following criticism from the Premier League club's former captain Roy Keane.

Fernandes, who was named man of the match for his performance in a 3-2 victory over Ipswich Town on Wednesday, has often been criticised for his on-field demeanour and has admitted in the past that his gesticulating and complaining can rile up both teammates and opponents.

In an appearance on the Stick to Football podcast alongside former Arsenal player Ian Wright,



Keane criticised Fernandes' work rate, adding: "Talent is not enough! You keep going back to talent - Bruno's a talented player, but it's not enough."

Amorim said he did not agree with Keane's remarks on Fernandes.

"I heard about that. I have a different opinion. Bruno is really important for us and the club. He is playing well in a difficult context," the Portuguese manager told reporters ahead of an FA Cup meeting with Fulham on Sunday. "He wants always the responsibility. I know sometimes as a captain he does things with his arms but most of all it is a lot of frustration for this year and the last year."



Lionel Messi says he 'wasn't happy on a day-to-day basis' at PSG

'I spent two years that I didn't enjoy' at PSG, says Messi

Florida, US - Lionel Messi said his decision to join Major League Soccer club Inter Miami as a free agent was fuelled by his struggles at Paris St Germain, describing it as a period he "didn't enjoy".

The 37-year-old, who won the Ligue 1 title twice and French Super Cup in 2022 during his two-year spell at the capital club, parted ways with the Ligue 1 outfit in 2023.

"Signing for Inter (Miami) was an opportunity because of the way things went in my last years in Paris," the eight-times Ballon d'Or winner said in an Apple Music interview on Friday.

"It was a decision I had to make because I had to leave Barcelona and I spent two years that I didn't enjoy."

"I wasn't happy on a day-to-day basis, with the training sessions, the games, I found it hard to adapt to all that," the Argentina captain added.

Messi, who won 10 LaLiga titles, four Champions

Leagues and three Club World Cups with his boyhood club Barcelona, had to leave in 2021 when they could not make it financially viable to keep him and the forward signed a two-year deal with PSG.

However, after leading Argentina to World Cup glory in Qatar in 2022, Messi was caught in a storm when PSG fans turned against him after their poor Champions League campaign that season and he was suspended for an unauthorised trip to Saudi Arabia, missing a training session as a result.

The Argentine, who joined Inter Miami after reportedly turning down a lucrative contract in Saudi Arabia, said he was determined to succeed and help the American league thrive. "MLS has matured and continues to grow. I hope it doesn't stop and other clubs can see the example of Inter Miami and can boost the competition," he added.

ALL IN A DAY'S PLAY

Duplantis releases his first song, then breaks world pole vault record for 11th time

Clermont-Ferrand, France - Sweden's Armand Duplantis soared 6.27 metres to shatter the world pole vault record for a staggering 11th time at the All Star Perche meet in Clermont-Ferrand, France on Friday.

The two-time Olympic and world champion cleared the record height on his first attempt to break his previous global mark of 6.26 set in Silesia in August, sparking track-side fireworks that lit up the arena.

"I just felt really good," Duplantis told reporters. "What can I say, I came here to do it. I put everything in place to do it. The run-up worked really well. I just did it."

I just felt really good. What can I say, I came here to do it. I put everything in place to do it

ARMAND DUPLANTIS

Emmanouil Karalis was second with a Greek record clearance of 6.02m as six men cleared 5.91m or higher for the first time in a single competition.

The 25-year-old Duplantis - who earlier in the day released his first song "Bop" under his nickname "Mondo" - had entered the contest at 5.65m and he cleared that height, 5.91m and 6.02m on his first attempts.

He won the competition by clearing 6.07m and then had the bar raised to 6.27m.

His song played over the arena's sound system during his record jump.

"When I made this song a couple of months ago, I thought this would be a perfect song to jump to here. That's why I rushed it out," Duplantis said.

His successful clearance of that height means he has twice set a world record in Clermont-Ferrand. He soared 6.22m in the French city in 2023 for the sixth of his now 11 world records.

Sweden's Armand Duplantis sets a new world pole vault record at the All Star Perche meet in Clermont-Ferrand, France, on Friday

MONDO'S RECORD LEAPS

2020 - 6.17M	2023 - 6.22M
2020 - 6.18M	2023 - 6.23M
2022 - 6.19M	2024 - 6.24M
2022 - 6.20M	2024 - 6.25M
2022 - 6.21M	2024 - 6.26M
2025 - 6.27M	

His first was 6.17m, which he achieved in Torun in 2020. The 25-year-old has also set world records during the Olympic Games, World Championships and World Indoor Championships and he will head to Nanjing on the hunt for a third consecutive world indoor title

when the global event takes place on 21-23 March.

There he will be joined by Karalis, who added a centimetre to his own Greek record when clearing 6.02m in Clermont-Ferrand. Like Duplantis, Olympic bronze medalist Karalis achieved his clearances at 5.65m, 5.85m,

5.91m and 6.02m on his first attempts. He then had one unsuccessful try at 6.07m. Four other athletes cleared 5.91m: Australia's Kurtis Marschall and the French trio of Thibaut Collet, Baptiste Thiery and former world record-holder Renaud Lavillenie.

Duplantis has bettered the

world record by a centimetre in each of his 11 times, dating back to 2020. He has broken his global mark four times in the last 11 months alone.

Renaud Lavillenie of France held the world record of 6.16, set in 2014, before the Swedish star kicked off his onslaught.



Marc Marquez

Marquez wins Thailand sprint on Ducati debut

Buriram, Thailand - Six-times MotoGP champion Marc Marquez made a dream start to life at factory Ducati when he led from lap one to the chequered flag to win the sprint at the season-opening Thailand Grand Prix on Saturday, as his younger brother Alex Marquez came in second.

Twice MotoGP champion Francesco Bagnaia, Marquez's new team mate, finished third to complete an all-Ducati podium.

"It was a perfect Saturday," Marquez said. "The feeling is great with the bike. I got out and I was consistent and then I saw that the gap was already there and then I tried to manage."

"Happy to start my new jour-

ney with Ducati Lenovo. In this way, tomorrow will be the most important but already we achieved the first point of a sprint race victory. So let's see if tomorrow, minimum, we need to be on the podium. But if we can, we will try to fight for the victory."

The Buriram International Circuit pole-sitter rocketed off the line as Alex struggled to match his pace, and never looked in danger of losing the top spot in the 13-lap sprint.

It was just the second time in his career that Marquez had won a sprint, with the first coming at the Aragon MotoGP in August.

The 32-year-old Spaniard now leads the championship for the

first time since 2019 after collecting 12 points, three more than Alex and five ahead of Bagnaia in third, and will have the opportunity to stretch the gap further in Sunday's race.

"I'm super happy today, this was our maximum target," Alex said. "Everything depends on the start, and especially Marc — he pushed quite hard today. He did a really good start... So I said, okay, I need to wait here, I need to finish the race."

"Super happy, like I said, it was our target so now we need to study a little bit Marc's lines and all that. Tomorrow will be a little bit more ready, but (it) will be difficult to really reach Marc."

'If I'm no longer needed, I'll pack my bags and leave'

Milan, Italy - AC Milan manager Sergio Conceicao admitted the pressure on him was growing after their Serie A loss at Bologna on Thursday but vowed to keep working with the same passion unless the club decide otherwise.

Milan's season is on the brink of unravelling after their Champions League exit and two consecutive Serie A losses which have left them eighth in the standings, eight points behind Juventus in the final top-four

Sergio Conceicao

spot with 12 rounds left.

Against Bologna, Milan let slip a one-goal and lost 2-1.

"It's all in our hands. If and when the club feels I'm no longer the right person for Milan, I will step aside, but until that moment, I will continue working with the same passion as always," Conceicao told reporters.

"I feel very frustrated because the results are not coming. But I think it's normal for a coach who works with passion."

"It seems like there is a cloud over Milan that we need to get out of with results, because those are what make

the difference."

Conceicao believes recent media criticism of him is unjustified.

"If I'm no longer needed, I'll pack my bags and leave without asking for a single euro," he said. "I have nearly 100 Champions League matches, I've won 13 trophies. Still people talk about it and say mean things, I have family and neighbours who see what is happening, it's not fair."

Milan host Lazio in Serie A on Sunday.

Russian grandmaster Spassky, 88, dies



Boris Spassky

Paris, France - Russian chess grandmaster Boris Spassky has died at the age of 88, International chess federation (FIDE) general director Emil Sutovsky said on Thursday.

Spassky, who took French nationality in 1978, was the 10th World Chess Champion, holding the title from 1969-1972, when he lost it to American Bobby Fischer in Reykjavik in a contest later dubbed as the "Match of the Century".

During that match in the midst of the Cold War, which he lost 12.5-8.5 despite winning the first two games, Spassky

showed great sportsmanship, applauding Fischer after losing the sixth game.

Former world champion Anatoly Karpov, who beat Spassky in the semi-finals of the Candidates tournament in 1974, paid a warm tribute.

"My idols in chess were Jose Capablanca and Boris Spassky. And when I managed to beat Spassky, it was the greatest of victories and, in a sense, defeating something inside me by beating my teacher," Karpov told state news agency RIA.

"For me, Boris Spassky was an entire era for chess."

South Africa enter Champions Trophy semis

Karachi, Pakistan - Heinrich Klaasen and Rassie van der Dussen scored half-centuries as South Africa eased to a comfortable seven-wicket win over ailing England in Karachi on Saturday to book a semi-final place at the Champions Trophy.

South Africa bowled England out for 179 in 38.2 overs after the latter had chosen to bat, before reaching their target with a huge 125 balls to spare following a 127-run third-wicket stand between Klaasen (64) and Van der Dussen (72 not out).

They top Group B and join Australia, India and New Zealand in the semi-finals, with the fixture line-up to be confirmed when the latter two meet in Dubai on Sunday. The match was the last in charge for England captain Jos Buttler, who is stepping down from his role after the side lost all three pool fixtures in the tournament.

On Friday, Australia sailed into the semi-finals after their final Group B match against Afghanistan was abandoned at the Gaddafi Stadium.



Oman's Ahmad al Harthy in action in Round one of the FIA World Endurance Championship at Lusail on Friday

PROMISING START, STUTTERING FINISH

Potential podium slips from grasp for Al Harthy, Rossi and Van Der Linde in FIA WEC season-opener

Muscat - The first round of the FIA World Endurance Championship season started impressively but ended in disappointment for Ahmad al Harthy, Valentino Rossi and Kelvin van der Linde at Lusail in Qatar on Friday, when a realistic podium challenge ultimately became an 11th place finish.

After a strong qualifying performance from Team WRT's No.46 BMW M4 LMGT3, where Oman's Al Harthy was sixth fastest to progress to the all-important Hyperpole session in which Rossi achieved eighth on the LMGT3 grid for the Qatar 1812km, hopes were justly high for the 10-hour encounter.

Everything began incredibly well on race day with Al Harthy moving up from the fourth row of the grid into the podium placings, during a sensational triple stint throughout the first third of the race at the Middle Eastern track.

Team-mates Rossi and van der Linde shared the remainder of the contest but their challenge was stunted due to an as-yet unidentified issue with the car, and some track limits penalties later on.

"I was really, really happy with the way I drove during the first three hours of the race," said Al Harthy. "We decided to keep me in the car as we were climbing up

the order, we were surprised by the pace and where we were so that was a very positive part of the race.

"Unfortunately, we picked up a problem, which we are going to analyse, where we lost the pace of the car after my stint and when Valentino and Kelvin were in the car - it was clear we were suffering with an issue so WRT and BMW are going to investigate. We finished the race, which was important for us to do, and we know we have the package for Imola and we're looking forward to that."

Al Harthy lined-up eighth on the LMGT3 grid for the start of the race, the highest placed of the BMWs, and quickly moved up to seventh after a clean start. Running strongly, he broke into the top six after just 10 minutes of action and with half an hour gone he was into fifth position.

Fifth swiftly became fourth as he moved towards podium contention and with 50 minutes elapsed the No.46 BMW M4 was only six seconds shy of third. Following the first pit stops Al Harthy stayed in the car for a double stint, continuing to lap impressively and consistently.

With 50 laps complete, one hour and 45 minutes gone, the OQ Group, Sohar International, Omantel, BMW Oman, Oman

Ministry of Culture, Sports and Youth and Experience Oman supported driver had closed to within two seconds of the podium.

At the end of hour two, as the next batch of pit-stops played out, Al Harthy moved into second and then briefly the lead of LMGT3 early in hour three. The No.78 Lexus RC F reclaimed first place after emerging from its stop, with the Omani comfortably holding second for the bulk of the next hour prior to the next pit visit - concluding an outstanding triple stint for the Bronze graded racer.

Rossi took his first miles of the race next, moving up from seventh when he joined the action into the top six. When the Safety Car was deployed at the midpoint of the contest, Rossi handed over the No.46 car to van der Linde and he rose as high as second position in hour seven.

With the South African and Italian team-mate Rossi sharing the concluding hours, pushing hard for the best possible finish under the night skies of Qatar, it became obvious there was an issue which had begun to impact the pace of the BMW. Coupled with two drive-through penalties for track limits infringements, this had a significant bearing on the end result.

As the final hour neared, van der Linde had moved back up into ninth place before making a pit-stop with just over three quarters of an hour to go. After re-emerging in 11th he moved up into 10th, but a 30 second stop/go penalty followed with only 15 minutes to go meaning he ended in 11th spot.

EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF RAMADAN WITH MITSUBISHI

0% INTEREST

DRIVE NOW. PAY LATER.

EMI HOLIDAY*

3-MONTHS EMI HOLIDAY*

FREE SERVICE 2 YEARS/30K to 5 YEARS/100K*

FREE INSURANCE & REGISTRATION*

FREE LLumar WINDOW TINT*

FREE RAMADAN GIFT

6 YEARS UNLIMITED KMS WARRANTY

For more information Call/WhatsApp 24 500 500

www.mitsubishi-motors.com.om

*Terms & Conditions Apply | Vehicle Images are used for illustrative purposes only, kindly contact your nearest dealer for more information | Offer valid from 23rd February 2025 to 24th April 2025.

الشركة العامة للسيارات

General Automotive Company

(A part of The Zubair Corporation)

CR. No.: 1001477/2

CLASSIFIEDS

SITUATION WANTED

Indian male having 20 years of experience in Oman & GCC in Project and Dealer Market Sales, and Business Development in construction industry. Having valid D/L. Looking for a suitable job. Ready to join immediately. Contact : 78099493

FOR RENT

Room for rent in Darsait with bathroom and kitchen, electricity and water is free. The room comes with a sea view. Rent RO95 Contact- 99315986

BIRTHDAY WISHES



RIDA FATIMA RIZVI

FEBRUARY 28

Dear Rida, Wishing you a very Happy Birthday. May God bless you always!! With lots of love and blessings- Grandparents, Papa, Mamma & Ayaan



SYED AYAAN RIZVI

March 1

Dear Ayaan, Wishing you a very Happy Birthday!! May God bless you always. With lots of love and blessings- Grandparents, Papa, Mamma & Rida

MARRIAGE NOTICE

I SHARAN NORONHA holder of Indian Passport No Z5425974) /S/o CYPRIAN JOSEPH NORONHA having permanent residence H/302, SUMER NAGAR, BORIVILI (WEST) MUMBAI - 400092, MAHARAS-TRA (complete permanent address in India) and presently residing at QURUM, OMAN Post BOX. No 866 , Postal Code 133, Sultanate Of Oman, intend to marry / Ms. RUBY FLAVIA RODRIGUES (holder of Indian C4390447/ /D/o FRANCIS FREDRIC RODRIGUES having permanent residence in 202 2ND FLOOR, FERRAO CASTLE, 1 CLINE ROAD, COOKE TOWN, FRAZER TOWN, BENGALURU 560005, KARNATAKA (complete permanent address) at Embassy of India, Muscat. I swear that I am marrying her at my own free will and not under any duress and intimidation. Any objection towards this marriage may please be communicated to Embassy Of India, Muscat, Diplomatic Quarters, Al Khuwair, PO Box No : 1727, Postal Code 112, Ruwi, Sultanate of Oman within 30 days of publication of this news paper advertisement.

Birthday/ Anniversary wishes to wish@apexmedia.co.om with your resident card copy (It's free of cost)

WJ Towell Group Company



Quality car rentals at competitive prices.

Muscat 9014 6672, 9679 0684
Sohar 9731 6218 | Salalah 9429 9325
www.orbit-oman.com

أوربت ORBIT

Car Rental & Lease

- Fleet of 2,000 vehicles
- Choose from a wide range of brands & models
- PDO, OXY and BP spec vehicles available
- Attractive rates for short-term & long-term lease

عيادة فصول السنة للطب الهندي التقليدي ALL SEASON AYURVEDA CLINIC

The most efficient and authentic Ayurvedic Treatment & Medicine, Yoga, Kalari, Panchakarma, Massage, Dhara etc... Rehabilitation, Beauty therpay & post Delivery Care

Zaher Building ,1st Floor, Flat 8A, Al Khuwair Service Road ,near Al Zawawi Mosque & Burger-king Tel:24475280, GSM: 95371664 , 92504980 , Website:www.siddhayur.com



Anthropologist Viraf Mehta and zoology professor Tashi Dawa of India shed light on the significance of rock art carvings and the urgent need to protect them

A large, rounded rock covered in intricate petroglyphs, situated on a rocky shore with the ocean in the background.

A photograph of a white and red stupa with a red spire, situated in a snowy mountain landscape. The stupa is surrounded by a low stone wall. In the background, there are snow-covered mountains and a small village.



 شركة الأسماك العمانية ش.م.ع.ع Oman Fisheries CO.S.A.OG			P.O. Box 2900, PC 112 - Sultanate of Oman, CR No. 1288920, Tel: 24509500 Fax: 24597804, Email: info@omanfisheries.net, Web: www.omanfisheries.com																																																																																																																																																																																							
Board of Directors' Report For the year 2024			9. Risk Management and Internal Control Systems: The company's internal control system is aligned with the size of its operations and business activities and complies with the requirements of the Capital Market Authority and the State Financial Control Apparatus. The goal of the company's internal control framework is to ensure that operations are efficient and well-aligned with strategic objectives. The internal control framework aims to ensure the preparation of accurate, reliable, complete, and timely financial reports and management information. It also supports the company's ethical values, good governance, and best practices in risk management. The activities related to internal control and risk management are an integral part of the practices at Oman Fisheries Company and are fully integrated with business operations and planning. Internal controls and risk management within the group are subject to ongoing monitoring and improvement, with priority given to reducing risks in various areas. The company has a comprehensive internal audit management department that reports directly to the Board of Directors through the Internal Audit Committee. The Internal Audit Committee, formed by the Board of Directors, reviews the effectiveness of internal controls and regularly engages with internal auditors to review their reports. The company is committed to adhering to the laws and regulations set forth in the company's Articles of Association and the Capital Market Authority.																																																																																																																																																																																							
Dear Esteemed Shareholders, On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present the Board of directors report for the year ended 31st December 2024:			10. Acknowledgments: In conclusion, it is my esteemed honor, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to extend the highest expressions of gratitude and appreciation to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq – may Allah protect and preserve him – and to his wise government for their profound efforts in supporting the stability of the national economy and for the significant encouragement they extend to the private sector. Furthermore, I would like to take this occasion to convey the sincere thanks and appreciation to our esteemed shareholders for their unwavering commitment to supporting the company and their dedication to its growth and prosperity. For, Oman Fisheries Co. S.AOG Dr. Shaheed Al Balushi Chairman – Board of Directors																																																																																																																																																																																							
1. Key Financial Results: <table> <tr> <th>Financial Statements Items 2024 (RO)</th><th>2024</th><th>2023</th><th>Change %</th></tr> <tr> <td>Revenue</td><td>4,863</td><td>8,895</td><td>-45%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cost of Sales</td><td>(4,813)</td><td>(8,645)</td><td>-44%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Gross Profit</td><td>0,049</td><td>0,249</td><td>-80%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other Income</td><td>0,082</td><td>0,267</td><td>-69%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Operating Expenses</td><td>(3,081)</td><td>(3,576)</td><td>-14%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Operating Loss</td><td>(2,950)</td><td>(3,059)</td><td>-4%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Impairment Loss</td><td>0,022</td><td>0,002</td><td>1295%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Net Finance Cost</td><td>(0,261)</td><td>(0,170)</td><td>53%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Loss before Tax</td><td>(3,189)</td><td>(3,228)</td><td>-1%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Net Loss after Tax</td><td>(3,189)</td><td>(3,513)</td><td>-9%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other Comprehensive Income</td><td>3,518</td><td>-</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Comprehensive income for the year</td><td>0,329</td><td>(3,513)</td><td>-109%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Assets</td><td>10,790</td><td>11,141</td><td>-3%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total Liabilities</td><td>7,318</td><td>7,999</td><td>-9%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Net Equity</td><td>3,471</td><td>3,142</td><td>10%</td></tr> </table>			Financial Statements Items 2024 (RO)	2024	2023	Change %	Revenue	4,863	8,895	-45%	Cost of Sales	(4,813)	(8,645)	-44%	Gross Profit	0,049	0,249	-80%	Other Income	0,082	0,267	-69%	Operating Expenses	(3,081)	(3,576)	-14%	Operating Loss	(2,950)	(3,059)	-4%	Impairment Loss	0,022	0,002	1295%	Net Finance Cost	(0,261)	(0,170)	53%	Loss before Tax	(3,189)	(3,228)	-1%	Net Loss after Tax	(3,189)	(3,513)	-9%	Other Comprehensive Income	3,518	-	-	Total Comprehensive income for the year	0,329	(3,513)	-109%	Total Assets	10,790	11,141	-3%	Total Liabilities	7,318	7,999	-9%	Net Equity	3,471	3,142	10%	Statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024 (Expressed in Omani Rials) <table> <tr> <th></th><th>31 December 2024</th><th>31 December 2023</th></tr> <tr> <td>ASSETS</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Non-current assets</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Property, plant and equipment</td><td>5,740,554</td><td>1,986,452</td></tr> <tr> <td>Right-of-use assets</td><td>868,183</td><td>1,095,680</td></tr> <tr> <td>Deferred tax asset</td><td>-</td><td>433,894</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total non-current assets</td><td>6,608,737</td><td>3,516,026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Current assets</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</td><td>-</td><td>104,026</td></tr> <tr> <td>Inventories</td><td>787,203</td><td>2,059,731</td></tr> <tr> <td>Trade and other receivables</td><td>1,673,618</td><td>3,286,512</td></tr> <tr> <td>Other financial assets at amortised cost</td><td>1,600,000</td><td>2,100,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cash and bank balances</td><td>120,115</td><td>74,654</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total current assets</td><td>4,180,936</td><td>7,624,923</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total assets</td><td>10,789,683</td><td>11,140,949</td></tr> <tr> <td>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Capital and reserves</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Share capital</td><td>16,307,700</td><td>16,307,700</td></tr> <tr> <td>Legal reserve</td><td>3,314,319</td><td>3,314,319</td></tr> <tr> <td>Capital reserve</td><td>29,269</td><td>29,269</td></tr> <tr> <td>Revaluation reserve</td><td>3,518,232</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>Accumulated losses</td><td>(19,698,283)</td><td>(16,509,142)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total capital and reserves</td><td>3,471,237</td><td>3,142,146</td></tr> <tr> <td>Non-current liabilities</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Employees' benefit liabilities</td><td>29,793</td><td>47,289</td></tr> <tr> <td>Term loan</td><td>411,580</td><td>532,693</td></tr> <tr> <td>Lease liabilities</td><td>419,077</td><td>679,704</td></tr> <tr> <td>Deferred tax liability</td><td>186,970</td><td>-</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total non-current liabilities</td><td>1,047,420</td><td>1,259,686</td></tr> <tr> <td>Current liabilities</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Trade and other payables</td><td>2,212,956</td><td>2,792,151</td></tr> <tr> <td>Term loan</td><td>151,185</td><td>108,396</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bank borrowings</td><td>3,611,685</td><td>3,475,521</td></tr> <tr> <td>Due to a related party</td><td>-</td><td>51,680</td></tr> <tr> <td>Lease liabilities</td><td>295,200</td><td>311,369</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total current liabilities</td><td>6,271,026</td><td>6,739,117</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total liabilities</td><td>7,318,446</td><td>7,998,803</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total equity and liabilities</td><td>10,789,683</td><td>11,140,949</td></tr> <tr> <td>Net assets per share</td><td>0.019</td><td>0.017</td></tr> </table>				31 December 2024	31 December 2023	ASSETS			Non-current assets			Property, plant and equipment	5,740,554	1,986,452	Right-of-use assets	868,183	1,095,680	Deferred tax asset	-	433,894	Total non-current assets	6,608,737	3,516,026	Current assets			Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	104,026	Inventories	787,203	2,059,731	Trade and other receivables	1,673,618	3,286,512	Other financial assets at amortised cost	1,600,000	2,100,000	Cash and bank balances	120,115	74,654	Total current assets	4,180,936	7,624,923	Total assets	10,789,683	11,140,949	EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			Capital and reserves			Share capital	16,307,700	16,307,700	Legal reserve	3,314,319	3,314,319	Capital reserve	29,269	29,269	Revaluation reserve	3,518,232	-	Accumulated losses	(19,698,283)	(16,509,142)	Total capital and reserves	3,471,237	3,142,146	Non-current liabilities			Employees' benefit liabilities	29,793	47,289	Term loan	411,580	532,693	Lease liabilities	419,077	679,704	Deferred tax liability	186,970	-	Total non-current liabilities	1,047,420	1,259,686	Current liabilities			Trade and other payables	2,212,956	2,792,151	Term loan	151,185	108,396	Bank borrowings	3,611,685	3,475,521	Due to a related party	-	51,680	Lease liabilities	295,200	311,369	Total current liabilities	6,271,026	6,739,117	Total liabilities	7,318,446	7,998,803	Total equity and liabilities	10,789,683	11,140,949	Net assets per share	0.019	0.017
Financial Statements Items 2024 (RO)	2024	2023	Change %																																																																																																																																																																																							
Revenue	4,863	8,895	-45%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Cost of Sales	(4,813)	(8,645)	-44%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Gross Profit	0,049	0,249	-80%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Other Income	0,082	0,267	-69%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Operating Expenses	(3,081)	(3,576)	-14%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Operating Loss	(2,950)	(3,059)	-4%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Impairment Loss	0,022	0,002	1295%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Net Finance Cost	(0,261)	(0,170)	53%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Loss before Tax	(3,189)	(3,228)	-1%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Net Loss after Tax	(3,189)	(3,513)	-9%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Other Comprehensive Income	3,518	-	-																																																																																																																																																																																							
Total Comprehensive income for the year	0,329	(3,513)	-109%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Total Assets	10,790	11,141	-3%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Total Liabilities	7,318	7,999	-9%																																																																																																																																																																																							
Net Equity	3,471	3,142	10%																																																																																																																																																																																							
	31 December 2024	31 December 2023																																																																																																																																																																																								
ASSETS																																																																																																																																																																																										
Non-current assets																																																																																																																																																																																										
Property, plant and equipment	5,740,554	1,986,452																																																																																																																																																																																								
Right-of-use assets	868,183	1,095,680																																																																																																																																																																																								
Deferred tax asset	-	433,894																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total non-current assets	6,608,737	3,516,026																																																																																																																																																																																								
Current assets																																																																																																																																																																																										
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	104,026																																																																																																																																																																																								
Inventories	787,203	2,059,731																																																																																																																																																																																								
Trade and other receivables	1,673,618	3,286,512																																																																																																																																																																																								
Other financial assets at amortised cost	1,600,000	2,100,000																																																																																																																																																																																								
Cash and bank balances	120,115	74,654																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total current assets	4,180,936	7,624,923																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total assets	10,789,683	11,140,949																																																																																																																																																																																								
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES																																																																																																																																																																																										
Capital and reserves																																																																																																																																																																																										
Share capital	16,307,700	16,307,700																																																																																																																																																																																								
Legal reserve	3,314,319	3,314,319																																																																																																																																																																																								
Capital reserve	29,269	29,269																																																																																																																																																																																								
Revaluation reserve	3,518,232	-																																																																																																																																																																																								
Accumulated losses	(19,698,283)	(16,509,142)																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total capital and reserves	3,471,237	3,142,146																																																																																																																																																																																								
Non-current liabilities																																																																																																																																																																																										
Employees' benefit liabilities	29,793	47,289																																																																																																																																																																																								
Term loan	411,580	532,693																																																																																																																																																																																								
Lease liabilities	419,077	679,704																																																																																																																																																																																								
Deferred tax liability	186,970	-																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total non-current liabilities	1,047,420	1,259,686																																																																																																																																																																																								
Current liabilities																																																																																																																																																																																										
Trade and other payables	2,212,956	2,792,151																																																																																																																																																																																								
Term loan	151,185	108,396																																																																																																																																																																																								
Bank borrowings	3,611,685	3,475,521																																																																																																																																																																																								
Due to a related party	-	51,680																																																																																																																																																																																								
Lease liabilities	295,200	311,369																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total current liabilities	6,271,026	6,739,117																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total liabilities	7,318,446	7,998,803																																																																																																																																																																																								
Total equity and liabilities	10,789,683	11,140,949																																																																																																																																																																																								
Net assets per share	0.019	0.017																																																																																																																																																																																								
2. Operational and Financial Highlights: The company has continued its drive to optimization of operations, controlling costs, increasing efficiency, improving quality and driving the business towards sustainable growth. The key operational and financial highlights are appended below; Reduction in Inventory Levels: The Company successfully decreased its inventory levels from 3,184 MT on 31st December 2023 to 772 MT on 31st December 2024, marking 76% reduction in inventory levels. Reduction in Storage Cost: Due to effective management of inventory and drastic reduction in inventory levels during the year, the storage cost of inventory in 3rd party warehouses was reduced by RO 101k which yielded in 55% savings compared to previous year. Reduction in General & Admin Expenses: The focused approach on controlling costs yielded in reducing the General & Admin expenses by RO 393k, marking a saving of 20% compared to previous year. Recovery of Receivables: The gross trade receivables decreased from RO 3,344m in 2023 to RO 1,789m in 2024, showing a reduction of 46%. This is partly due to company's increased focus on collection of its overdue receivables and another major reason, being, making sales to selective customers with healthy payment terms. The company managed to entered into a settlement contract with two of its Egyptian customers who had long overdues and received RO 120k in December 2024. The company expects to receive its balance payment from those two customers as per settlement agreement within 1st quarter of 2025. Revaluation of Property, Plant & Equipment: The management decided to opt for fair value recognition of its property, plant & equipment in its financials which resulted in a net fair value surplus of RO 3,518m. This fair value surplus yielded in total comprehensive income of RO 0.329m in 2024 compared to total comprehensive loss of RO 3,513m in 2023. This further resulted in creation of revaluation surplus of the same amount, hence increasing the net equity from RO 3,142m in 2023 to RO 3,471m in 2024. Improvement in Interest Income: The interest rates for food deposits held with banks were effectively negotiated which yielded in increase in interest income by RO 11.8k, an improvement of 12% compared to previous year. Improvement in Credit Ratios: The effective management of company's credit facilities held with Banks yielded in substantial improvement in its credit rating reports in Malaa. The credit score of the company in December 2024 reached 647 which is a significant improvement from the credit score of 576 in 2023. Furthermore, the company moved out of the red category of E-1 to orange category of D-1.			Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2024 (Expressed in Omani Rials) <table> <tr> <th></th><th>Year ended 31 December 2024</th><th>Year ended 31 December 2023</th></tr> <tr> <td>Revenue</td><td>4,862,659</td><td>8,894,671</td></tr> </table>		Year ended 31 December 2024	Year ended 31 December 2023	Revenue	4,862,659	8,894,671																																																																																																																																																																																	
	Year ended 31 December 2024	Year ended 31 December 2023																																																																																																																																																																																								
Revenue	4,862,659	8,894,671																																																																																																																																																																																								



The monumental tomb of George Zarifi, Sisli Greek Orthodox Cemetery, Istanbul. (Zeynep Ozturk - AA)

How Istanbul's burial grounds weave together Türkiye's largest city

other at the feet of the deceased. If floral decorations appear on the headstone, it marks a woman's grave; if it is a fez or turban, it signifies that of a man; and if the gravestone is smaller, a child.

He also notes that the cemetery is primarily the resting place for prominent figures of the time, including government officials and nobles.

"According to Ottoman gravestone typology, even without knowing Ottoman Turkish, you can often guess who the grave belongs to based on the decorations."

Another striking feature of Muslim cemeteries is the "water basins" carved into the graves. These collect rainwater, offering a lifeline to birds, cats, and other passing animals in need of a drink. As a gesture of compassion toward animals, these water basins are made in line with the Islamic belief that good deeds continue to bring rewards to the deceased even after their passing.

City's largest Greek Orthodox cemetery

In Christian cemeteries, graves often include a space for a vase or container for flowers as a symbol of respect, remembrance, and honoring the deceased.

While the practice varies across Christian denominations, it is generally rooted in the desire to keep the memory of the departed alive and show ongoing care.

In the Greek Orthodox Cemetery located in Sisli, which is one of Istanbul's central districts, one finds many of these floral decorations and monumental tombs that make the site feel almost like an open-air museum.

Located right across from a well-known shopping mall and nestled between the Armenian Catholic and Italian Jewish cemeteries, this site is the largest cemetery for Istanbul's Greek community.

Like many other minority cemeteries of its time, it was relocated from Taksim to its current site around 1865 due to urban expansion and the overcrowded, unsanitary conditions caused by a plague outbreak in the city.

In an interview with Anadolu, Gedeon Varytimos, the clergyman in charge of Istanbul's Holy Trinity Church of Pera, shares the story behind the cemetery's most striking monument, crowned by a grand and majestic statue.

"As a work of art, this monumental tomb belongs to George Zarifi, an Ottoman Greek who was a banker in the 19th century. Known for his wealth and philanthropy, he was a member of the Zarifi family, one of Istanbul's prominent families during that time."

Varytimos adds that throughout his life, Zarifi maintained strong ties with the Ottoman Dynasty and even advised Sultan Abdulhamid II on matters related to his personal wealth.

One of the cemetery's most remarkable features is the rows of "cabin-shaped graves" that resemble telephone booths.

Varytimos explains that this design symbolizes "small churches" and were commissioned by wealthy families of the era. However, he notes that such elaborate, expensive graves are no longer built due to the loss of skilled artisans.

Tombstones in Ladino language

In Istanbul's Ulus Ashkenazi Jewish Cemetery, tombstones inscribed in multiple languages stand alongside those in Hebrew.

Cemetery Director Natan Siliki tells Anadolu that these diverse inscriptions reflect centuries of migration, as Jews who settled in Istanbul brought their languages with them.

From French and Russian to German and Ladino - a Judeo-Spanish language spoken by arrivals from Spain during the Ottoman era - each inscription serves as a lasting tribute to the deceased's heritage.

he tombstone of Avram Leyon, a Turkish Jewish journalist and founder of Salom newspaper, is a prime example, says Siliki.

"Since Avram Leyon wrote extensively in Ladino for Salom newspaper, which he founded, his gravestone bears the inscription: 'Aki esta reposando el grande jornalista,' meaning, 'Here lies the great journalist,'" he explains.

Established in 1920, the cemetery initially served Istanbul's Ashkenazi Jewish community. However, due to increasing demand, an agreement was later made to allow burials for Sephardic Jews as well.

Siliki also highlights a burial practice specific to Istanbul, where it is performed with coffins, unlike other cities where the deceased are laid to rest with shrouds, similar to Muslim customs.

"In our religion, burials in water are strictly forbidden. In the past, at the Haskoy Cemetery, one of Istanbul's first Jewish cemeteries, because water was seeping up from the ground, the chief rabbi at the time and the board of trustees made a decision to require burials with coffins."

The cemetery also contains a memorial tomb to honor the victims of the 1986 and 2003 attacks on the Neve Shalom and Bet Israel Synagogues in Istanbul.

(Anadolu Agency)

TOMBS & traditions



Ottoman-era gravestones in the cemetery located in the courtyard of Suleymaniye Mosque, Istanbul (Zeynep Ozturk - Anadolu Agency)

While abroad, renowned Turkish poet Yahya Kemal was once asked a seemingly simple question: "What is Türkiye's population?"

His response was a figure so high that those around him were taken aback.

"Why the surprise? We live with our dead," he explained.

Kemal, whose grave can be found in the Asiyen Cemetery, renowned for its sweeping views of the Istanbul Strait and as the final resting place of many poets and musicians, offers a glimpse into the customs surrounding the city's cemeteries.

In Istanbul, the notion of "living alongside the dead" is not just a metaphor, something that becomes strikingly apparent as you navigate the city's streets.

You might walk through a Muslim cemetery on the way to the metro or bus, or leave a shopping mall to face the towering gravestones of a Greek Orthodox cemetery, with massive crosses at their center.

Istanbul is an ancient city with a population of over 15 million. Today, it is home to a wide array of cemeteries serving Muslims as well as Christian, Jewish, and other communities. Many date back centuries, including those established during Ottoman rule beginning in the mid-15th century.

As the city has expanded and urbanized over the centuries, cemeteries that were once on the outskirts now sit at its very heart.

Life and death intertwined

A cultural element also plays a key role in this, explains Fatih Cavus, an author specializing in Ottoman gravestones.

"Life and death were closely intertwined in the Ottoman era. But cemeteries today are found on the outskirts of the city.

"Back then, burials took place in the courtyards of mosques and tombs, even in schoolyards. People witnessed death," he tells Anadolu.

Walking through the cemetery in the courtyard of Suleymaniye Mosque — one of the historical peninsula's landmarks — takes you past the tombs of famed Ottoman Sultan Suleyman the Magnificent and his wife, Hurrem Sultan, also known as Roxelana.

In this small cemetery, where burials require special permission, one of the first things you will notice are gravestones carved into shapes resembling turban-like headgear, which Ottoman men wore to signify social status.

Cavus explains that cemeteries of the time were usually marked by two gravestones: one at the head and an-



Walking through a Muslim cemetery on your way to public transit or passing Greek Orthodox tombstones after leaving a shopping mall - life and death are 'closely intertwined' in Istanbul

FATIH CAVUS



**CHANGAN**

ALL NEW
UNI-S

This Ramadan Experience
the Art of Automotive Luxury



EMI
OMR 125⁺
for 6 years



1.5L Turbo Engine, 185 hp,
7-Speed DCT

Terms and Conditions Apply

FREE SERVICE 5 Years / 105,000 Kms*	FREE INSURANCE*	FREE REGISTRATION*	FREE WINDOW TINTING AND PAINT PROTECTION**	VAT (5%) INCLUSIVE IN VEHICLE PRICE	SUPER WARRANTY 6 YEARS / UNLIMITED MILEAGE**
---	--------------------	-----------------------	--	---	--

Offer valid from 20th February to 20th April 2025 on all models purchased through the CHANGAN AUTO Showroom Retail Offer. *Whichever is earlier. Periodic Maintenance Service only. Offer includes only 10,000 kms service intervals. **For 1st year, Oman & UAE only. ***For 1st year only. **Window Tinting and Ceramic Coating warranty will be 3 years against manufacturing defects and will be fitted at our own Service Centres.***Whichever is earlier. *Easy Monthly Installment is calculated based on 20% down payment for 6 years loan tenure. Subject to credit approvals from Banks only. Applicable on vehicles purchased for personal use. Images shown are for illustrative purpose only. Specification may vary as per the model variant. To know more, please visit the CHANGAN Showroom.

Arabian Gulf Automobiles
and Equipment LLC

Showrooms:
Qurum 94641010, Mawaleh 97888180, Nizwa 96628940
Sohar 95351200, Salalah 96629050, Ibri 96628930,
Barka 96629010, Sur 96628920

 800 50800
 9662 8909
 www.changanoman.com

THIS RAMADAN, DRIVE IN STYLE WITH

THE GEELY
GX3PRO

STARTING FROM

*RO **4399**



FREE INSURANCE**
1st Year

MANUFACTURER WARRANTY\$
7 Yrs/250,000Km
(Whichever comes earlier, except GX3 PRO)

FREE SERVICE\$\$
50,000kms / 30 months
(Whichever comes earlier on Emgrand only)

FREE REGISTRATION**
1st Year



EMGRAND



COOLRAY



OKAVANGO



TUGELLA



PREFACE



GEELY

Valid From
Feb 9th - April 9th 2025



مركز تاول للسيارات ش.م.م
Towell Auto Centre LLC

geelyoman.com
9444 0666
/geelyoman

Barka •Sohar •Nizwa •Sur •Salalah

Offer valid from (09/02/2025) till (09/04/2025). *The prices mentioned are for the entry level models only. **Free insurance (Oman only) and registration for 1st year are applicable for Coolray, Emgrand, Preface, Tugella and Okavango. \$Manufacturer warranty of 7 Yrs/250,000 km (whichever comes earlier) is applicable for Coolray, Emgrand, Preface Tugella and Okavango. \$Manufacturer warranty of 5 Yrs/150,000 km (whichever comes earlier) is applicable for GX3PRO. \$\$Free service 50,000kms / 30 months (whichever comes earlier on Emgrand only). #Follow us on Facebook or Instagram and tag 2 friends for a chance to win an iPhone 16 Pro 128 GB! Winners will be chosen through an online raffle. This offer is exclusive to private vehicle purchases and does not apply to Fleet, Ministry, Taxi, Rental, company or any commercial purchases. Vehicles shown are for illustrative purposes. Accessories shown are not a part of the standard equipment. Specifications are subject to change without notice.