



THE TRIPOLI POST

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The Leader of the Revolution (R) receives a gift from Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko during her official visit to Libya her official visit to Libya on May 25-26, 2009.

Libya, Ukraine Sign Nuclear Power, Military and Agriculture Cooperation Deals

Tripoli- Secretary of the General People's Committee Al-Baghda di Al-Mahmoudi announced on Tuesday that Libya had agreed to increase Libyan investments in Ukraine by establishing an oil refinery and gas stations in this Ukraine.

Speaking at a joint news conference with Ukraine Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, he also said agriculture projects are to be undertaken in the Ukraine Republic.

A Libyan investment center is to be set up in Ukraine to

oversee the expected rise of Libyan investments which will include oil, gas and agriculture projects. "The establishment of such center is an evidence that Libya intends to expand its investments in Ukraine,"

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Secretary Hillary Clinton

Israel Slams Washington on Illegal Settlements in West Bank

Israel defied a blunt US demand that it freeze all building in illegal West Bank Jewish settlements, saying Thursday it would press ahead with construction. It remains to see how Washington will do with

such Israeli ingratitude.

This is in spite the fact that US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told Israel Wednesday that President Barack Obama wanted Israel to

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Libya, Ukraine Sign Nuclear Power, Military and Agriculture Cooperation Deals

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Al-Mahmoudi said. The two countries also agreed to cooperate in healthcare higher education. Libya will also enable Ukrainian companies to take part in the huge infrastructure projects that are taking place in Libya.

Al-Mahmoudi said "Agreement was concluded on cooperation in military filed by signing of a number of accords on technical military cooperation, confidential information and in the peaceful use of nuclear energy."

The bilateral cooperation with Ukraine would witness a new phase that is based on mutual trust and a movement in the direction of increasing the size of cooperation and simplifying of visa requirement between both countries.

Accordingly, the parties agreed to upgrade the level of the Higher Joint Commission to become chaired by the Prime Ministers and it will hold its meeting in July.

Tymoshenko, addressing her cabinet on Wednesday after returning from Tripoli, said the draft farmland deal showed her government was fulfilling promises made by previous Ukrainian administrations but never carried out.

This, she said, was the start of a new relationship. "Promises were made and financing was even provided, specific steps taken to work jointly on 100,000 hectares of agricultural land in order to supply grain to the African continent," she said.

"Libya is a bridge to African countries. Africa can be a great consumer

of Ukrainian grain and food. We worked out a draft agreement which is to be signed," she added.

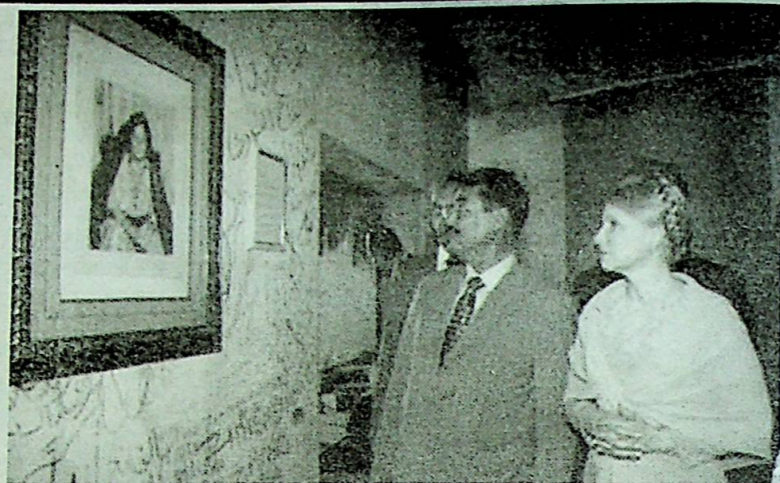
She said Libya to supply of 600,000 tonnes of oil to Ukraine's Kremenchug refinery, which has suffered a disruption in supply of crude from Russia due to an ownership dispute.

However, farm Minister Yuri Melnyk said any farming deal would be subject to finding attractive terms for landowners.

"The land would have to be provided for leasing by its owners. Any investor, Ukrainian or Libyan, would have to produce a proposal of interest to an owner," Melnyk told reporters.

He said investment of about \$700 per hectare was needed to make the project a success. Ukraine now exports its milling wheat at about \$200 per tonne FOB.

Libya last year was considering



Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko (R) and Libya's Health Secretary Mohamed Hijazi look at the portrait of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi's mother during a visit to Gaddafi's home, which was attacked by the Americans in April 1986.

leasing 300,000 hectares of Ukrainian farmland to grow 1.5 million tonnes of wheat. Ukraine planted wheat on 7

million hectares and last year farms harvested 25.9 million tonnes against 13.9 million in 2007.

Ukraine to Deliver Antonov Planes to Libya

Ukraine is to supply two ambulance versions of the Antonov An-74 aircraft to Libya within a year, CEO of the Antonov state aircraft-building corporation Dmytro Kiva told journalists in Tripoli on Tuesday.

The first An-74-TK-300 aircraft (VIP version) arrived to Libya on May 22, right before the visit made by Ukraine Prime Minister.

"This is the first aircraft supplied by the Kharkiv state aviation manufacturing company in two years," Kiva said.

Libya has fully paid for this airplane, he said. An-74 is worth around \$15 million, Kiva said.

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko accused during a government meeting in Kyiv on Wednesday former Ukraine governments as to the way they dealt with Libya and mentioned the case of the purchase of Antonov airplanes deal.

"In fact, the Libyan market was closed for us after Libya paid for the three airplanes and the previous government transferred this money to offshore zones, and in fact the airplanes

were not supplied, and Libya was neither returned the money nor given the airplanes," the premier said.

At the same time, she said that the Cabinet of Ministers would make every effort to rectify the situation.

She said that prior to her official visit to Libya on May 25-26, Ukraine supplied one aircraft to Libya.

Meanwhile, the premier promised to deliver another aircraft to Libya by the end of the year, whereas the third one will be delivered to Tripoli by the end of the first quarter of 2010.

Central Bank of Libya CBL Job Opportunity

Job Title : Senior Experience Manager
Reports to : Head of LCIC

The Libyan Credit Information Center (LCIC) is the first Libyan credit bureau, and its launch as part of the Central Bank of Libya is considered a fundamental milestone in the Libyan economic reform and modernization program. People play a vital role at LCIC. LCIC is constantly looking for talented individuals. We offer an exciting, challenging and fast-paced environment in which talented professionals can really thrive and create value.

Offered Position

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- 5+ years in Project Management of large banking initiatives
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Requirements:

- Highly Communication Level

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Central Bank of Libya CBL Job Opportunity

Job Title : Functional Analyst
Reports to : Head of Operations and Customer Service

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Offered Position

- Functional Analyst
- Contract Duration: 1 year

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- Degree in Computer Science or Software Engineering
- Fluent English & Arabic (writing/speaking)

Requirements:

- High leadership and managerial skills
- Highly Communication Level
- Team builder

Please send CV to: recruitment@cbl.gov.ly

1th CEN-SAD Summit Focuses on Ending Conflicts in Africa, View the Future Positively

Focusing on reviewing political issues of concern among the 28 members of the community, the 11th Cen-Sad's two-day summit (Community of Sahel-Saharan States) began yesterday as it viewed the future of the continent in a positive way.

The venue of the summit is the city of Sabratha, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, 70 kms west of Tripoli.

Meanwhile, the Executive Council of CEN-SAD Community concluded on Wednesday its 18th ordinary session held in Tripoli and chaired by Mussa Kussa the Secretary of GPC for Foreign Liaison and

International Cooperation.

The 18th ordinary session of the Executive Council of the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD) in Tripoli on Wednesday strongly condemned renewed fighting in Somalia after hearing the report presented by the Somali minister of foreign affairs, Ali Ahmed Jama, on the situation in his country.

CEN-SAD members commended the improvement of the political situations in Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.

But the council condemned the assassination last March of Guinea

Bissau's president, Joao Bernardo Vieira.

On the tension between Chad and Sudan, the council decided to submit the case to the summit of leaders, heads of state and governments of CEN-SAD which will be held late this week in Tripoli.

The Executive Council meeting also reviewed the usual technical issues and others related to a agriculture, the free movement of people within the CEN-SAD space and the eradication of poverty.

Also discussed a report on the productivity of the CEN-SAD investment and commercial bank and the report on economic, social and cultural affairs were discussed.

The second session was devoted to political issues, such as the situation between Chad and Sudan, Somalia, Guinea and the other African countries.

Peace between Chad and Sudan is regarded as essential to any lasting

settlement to the six-year-old conflict in Darfur.

Mr. Kussa praised the efforts made by the Council's members which he said contributed to the success of last week's session with its positive consequences. He praised the frankness and cooperation during discussions and hailed the constructive spirit and the wonderful morale that prevailed during the proceedings.

All leaders of the 28 Cen-Sad member countries arrived for the summit that would also discuss the state of the African Union.

The organization groups Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Somalia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Togo and Tunisia.

'No Smoking' Awareness Campaign to Start Tomorrow in Downtown Tripoli

Sponsored by the GPC for Social Affairs, a 'No Smoking' awareness campaign is to kick off tomorrow Sunday 31 May 2009 at the Green Garden across from the Grand (Al-Kabir) Hotel in downtown Tripoli.

The objective is to make people aware of the harm results from smoking on the health and the economic wellbeing of the individual. The campaign as in other parts of the world will demand individuals to quit smoking.

Brochures, stickers and special issues by local newspapers will be distributed on the people. There is also a program of lectures in schools and universities that will be made by specialized professors in

psychology, sociology, religion and medical sciences that will highlight the harm smoking could inflict on the individual, family and society.

The Libyan government banned on 14 May 2009 smoking in public places, and media advertising of all tobacco products. The new policy also prohibits selling cigarettes to any person less than 18 years old.

The Libyan government also banned producing any kind of sweets that are shaped like cigarettes and banned manufacturing, importing or marketing any products that carry titles and logos of tobacco products, such as clothes, shoes or toys.

Don't Smoke!



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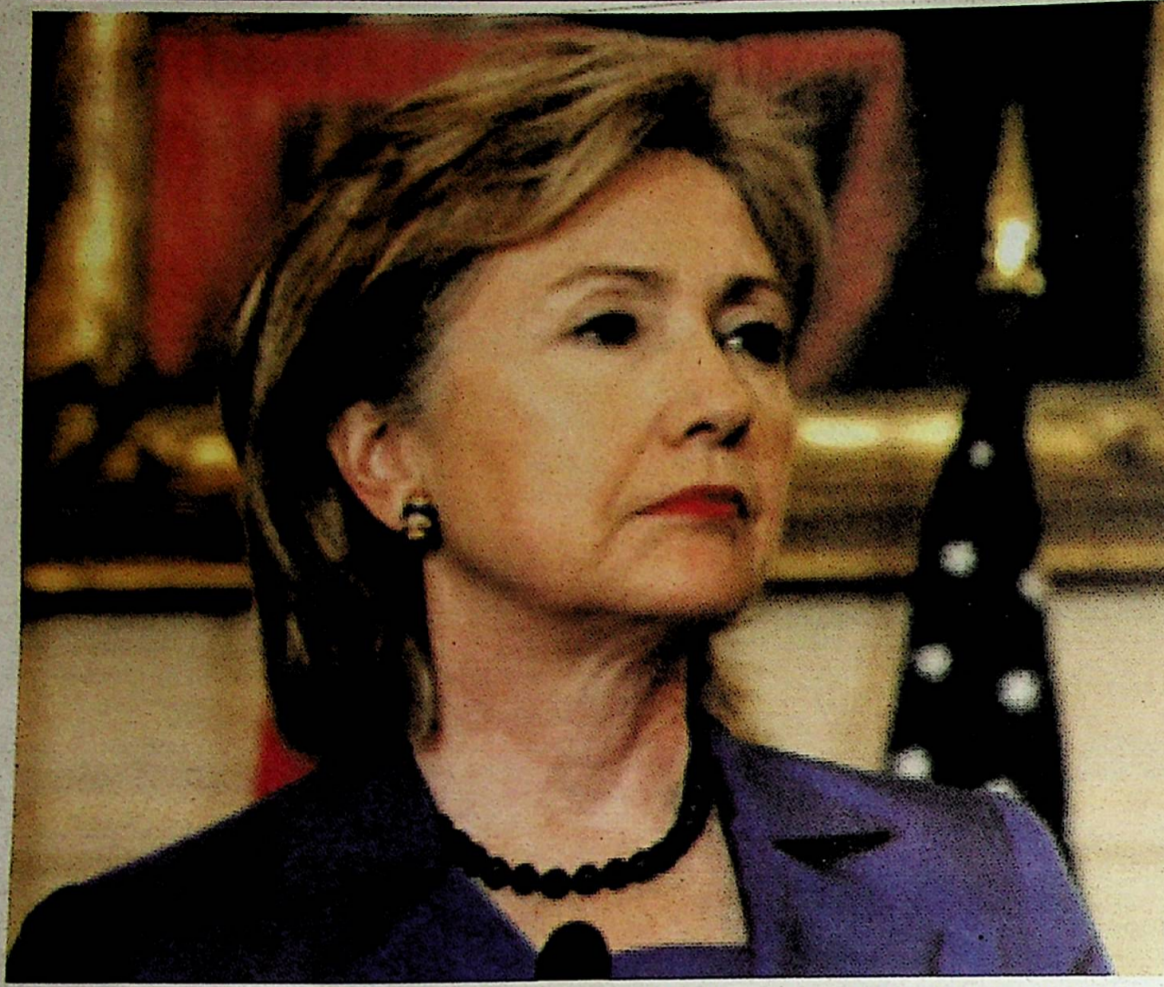
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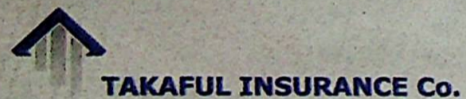
US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton bluntly told Israel to stop illegal settlements in occupied West Bank, Wednesday, May 27, 2009.

Israel Slams Washington on Illegal Settlements in West Bank

Continued from page 1
halt all settlement construction including "natural growth."
Secretary Clinton was reacting to statement made by Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu when he told his cabinet on Sunday, "it makes no sense to ask us not to answer to the needs of natural growth and to stop all construction."
The showdown between Netanyahu and the Obama administration may

reveal to the American people and the world in general the extent to which Israel not a state of peace and that it would easily even undermine American interests in the Middle East.
"With respect to settlements, the president was very clear when Prime Minister Netanyahu was here," Secretary Clinton said, referring to the May 18's summit between President Obama and Netanyahu.
"He [President Obama] wants to see

a stop to settlements, not some settlements, not outposts, not natural growth exceptions. We think it is in the best interests of the effort that we are engaged in that settlement expansion cease. That is our position. That is what we have communicated very clearly, not only to the Israelis but to the Palestinians and others. And we intend to press that point."
Obama's administration has been more explicit in its criticism of Israeli



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SKorea, US Troops on Alert after NKorean Nuclear Test

South Korea and the United States ordered their forces on higher alert in the Korean peninsula Thursday after North Korea said it was ending a truce in force for half a century and warned of a possible attack.
Seoul's defence ministry said air and ground forces were keeping a closer watch on the tense land and sea border with the communist North after Pyongyang announced it was abandoning the armistice signed to end the Korean War in 1953.
Tensions have risen sharply since the North Monday tested a nuclear bomb believed to be about four times more powerful than the one it detonated in 2006. It followed up by test-firing five short-range missiles.
The United States Wednesday stressed its resolve to defend Japan and South Korea amid what it called North Korean "sabre-rattling and bluster".
A Western diplomat at the United Nations said leading powers were committed to a new Security Council resolution ordering tougher sanctions against Pyongyang.
"I want to underscore the commitment the United States has, and intends always to honour, for the defence of South Korea and Japan," said US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Secretary of GPC Receives Credentials of New Ambassadors of Yemen, Sweden, Bahrain and Australia

The Secretary of the General People's Congress received the credentials of the ambassadors of Yemen, Sweden, Kingdom of Bahrain and Australia to Great Jamahiriya. The ceremony was attended by top Libyan officials.
Yemen's new ambassador presented his credentials as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary.
He expressed the appreciation of the Yemeni people for the leader's historic role in realizing unity of Yemen.
He asserted that Yemen and Libya were tied by relations that are based on

benefit and mutual interest and are tied by authentic Arab relations that go back in history.
"The people of Yemen highly appreciate accomplishments realized by Al-Fateh Revolution in the different domains and are proud of the leader's major role in promoting common Arab actions to confront challenges facing the Arab world, with the Palestinian cause at the forefront.
Then the ambassadors of Sweden, Bahrain and Australia presented their credentials.

Streets, Buildings in Tubruq Undergo Naming and Numbering

Tubruq-As part of the reorganization of Libyan cities and villages that has been taking place for sometime now, the commission that reviews name proposals in the city of Tubruq, over 1400 km east of Tripoli, held a meeting last Monday to follow up the ongoing work in this regard.
The commission finalized the naming of the streets of the Manara district in Tubruq along with all buildings in the same area.
Workers also posted the street signs, the Libyan news agency Jana reported.
The commission also reviewed the name proposals for the downtown, the old airport, Al-Andalus, Al-Hadaik, Al-Mukhtar and Al-Hurriya districts.
Other cities in the country including the capital Tripoli are undergoing similar naming and numbering of the so many new districts and suburbs along the numbering of the huge number of new and old buildings.

ECOWAS Countries's to Slowdown

Economic growth in ECOWAS member countries is projected to fall from an average growth of 5.1% in 2008 to 3.7% in 2009 due to the impact of the global economic crisis, according to the President of the ECOWAS Commission, Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas.
Dr. Chambas said on Thursday that the projection for 2009 is even a far cry from the average growth of 6% recorded in the years preceding the crisis.
The crisis had further accentuated the need for the 15 members of ECOWAS "to discover and hold each other to stand together to face the challenge".
He said the crisis should also reinvigorate efforts at regional integration, trade, free movement, adding: "No West African country standing alone can weather the storm. We need to stand together."

Dutch Liberal leader: Holocaust Denial should Not be Crime

Holocaust denial should not be a crime in the Netherlands, the leader of the Dutch liberal party said on Wednesday.
Mark Rutte, head of the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD), said Dutch law should instead only prosecute people who incite others to commit violence, not when they incite people to hatred.
Claiming the Holocaust did not occur "should be possible" in the Netherlands, Rutte added.
Reacting to Rutte's remarks, public prosecutor spokesman Evert Boerstra said: "Offensive remarks, such as Holocaust denial, are only punishable by Dutch law if it equals discrimination of a particular group, in this case the Jews."
"Then such remarks fall under the prohibition against discrimination," he added.
The liberal VVD party also revealed it will present a bill to parliament proposing to abolish all restrictions to the freedom of expression in the Netherlands.
"Indirect offences - for example if I make a remark about your jacket which you perceive as a personal offence - should not fall under the prohibition against incitement," Rutte said.

183 Foreign Companies have Until 4 June to Contact Authorities or Their Operating Rights in Libya will be Revoked

The General People's Committee for Industry, Economy and Trade (GPCIET) has announced that 183 foreign companies operating in Libya need to contact the authorities or their licenses to do business in Libya will be terminated.
The announcement which was published in local newspapers on Thursday listed the names of the companies and their countries of origin.
The announcement said the listed companies' registration has ended on 31 March 2009.
It said all these companies should contact the Department of Companies and Commercial Registration at GPCIET and set a deadline of 4 June 2009 as the last day for these companies to do so.
The GPCIET warned that these companies' rights to operate in Libya would be terminated if failed to contact the authorities.

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Our "flagship" Globex centre for the MEAA Region opens in Qatar this summer to support our other centre openings in the region. Libya is an important strategic market in the region and thus the selection and appointment of the exclusive Globex Master Licensee for Libya is a priority.

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Wahda Bank Signs Contract with Path Solutions to Gain Access to iMAL

Speaking on the occasion of signing the agreement with Path Solutions, Antoine Sreih, Chairman, Wahda Bank, said:

"We are happy to continue partnering with Path Solutions in this strategic initiative. Our decision to implement iMAL has been influenced by our old relationship with Path as we have previously implemented iMAL at EAB London and Path's reputation as a successful and committed software house in providing true Islamic software solutions. We view this partnership as a key component of our overall business strategy. We are confident that with iMAL, we will be able to launch new products to our customers with reduced time-to-market, become more efficient in our operations and decrease our costs".

iMAL is an Islamic competitive banking suite providing a broad range of

products to various functions within the organization including Core Banking, Investment, Treasury, Funds Management, Trade Finance, Fixed Assets, Profit Calculation, CIF and Risk Management.

iMAL is a centralized, multi-lingual, multi-currency solution that delivers unparalleled value to banks. It is also scalable and customer-centric and addresses Retail, Corporate and Investment banking requirements.

Naji Moukadam, President of Path Solutions stated:

"We are delighted to partner with Wahda Bank as their preferred IT partner. This win will enable us to further consolidate our leadership position as the core banking provider of choice for forward-looking banks in North Africa, a key market focus for our banking solutions".

Adding further, Moukadam said: "Due to ever increasing customer requirements, it is necessary for Wahda Bank to have an effective operating system in order to support the increasing number of transactions as well as the bank network expansion in the next few years. Path has offered solutions that best meet the current and future needs of Wahda Bank. We believe that, with this cooperation, we will help them achieve successfully their business targets".

Wahda Bank is a Libyan Shareholding company, established in 1970, with a paid capital of 108 million LYD. The Social Economic Development Fund owns 54.1% of the stocks, the private sector owns 26.90% and the Arab Bank (strategic partner) owns 19%.

Wahda Bank has 74 branches and agencies spread all over the country. (theasianbanker)

First Arab uranium exploration firm launched

A UAE based private business group has launched the first independent Arab uranium exploration company.

Arabian Uranium Ventures, a unit of Thani Holdings which has a diversified business in oil and gas, mining, real estate and trading, was launched on Tuesday and will be extracting the radioactive metal from the Middle East and Africa.

"With growing energy needs, ever-decreasing oil and gas reserves and environmental concerns, I believe the business case for Arabian Uranium Ventures is sound," Rishard Camball, chief executive officer of Thani Holding, told the news agency Reuters.

Airbus chief questioned over insider trading

Airbus chief executive, German Thomas Enders, has been questioned by French police as part of the corruption probe against the planemaker's parent company EADS, a spokesman told AFP Thursday.

Enders, who was co-president of the European defence giant EADS in June 2006, was neither charged nor placed in custody after his questioning in Paris on May 20, the spokesman added.

In total, 17 French and German current and former bosses or officials of

EADS and its main subsidiary, Airbus, are suspected of insider trading between 2005 and 2006 by the French financial market regulator, AMF.

These include nine of French origin, four Germans, two Americans, a Finn and a Briton.

According to AMF, Enders sold 50,000 stock options in the European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company in 2005 for a pre-tax profit of more than 700,000 euros (970,000 dollars).

Central Bank Allows Local Banks to Seek Foreign Partners

The Libyan Central Bank has said in a directive sent to the heads of nine local banks that it has set up regulations for its commercial banks to seek "strategic partnerships" with foreign banks.

It has capped the stakes foreign

investors can own at 49%.

"The participation of the foreign partner should increase the capital of the local bank by at least LD70m (\$55m)," the Central Bank said.



Libya's Reserves to Reach \$136 Billion in 2009

Libya expects foreign currency reserves to reach \$136 billion this year from around \$100 billion in the previous year.

"Foreign currency reserves are likely to reach \$136 billion this year," a Libya's Central Bank officials told reporters last week.

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Libyan Foreign Bank to Increase Its Stake in HSBC Unit to 70%

The Libyan Foreign Bank (LFB) aims to hike its stake in HSBC affiliate British Arab Commercial Bank to 70 from 25 percent and plans to raise its capital 10 times to \$10 billion, the Oea daily reported on Tuesday.

State-owned LFB has held a 0.56 percent stake in Italy's second-largest bank UniCredit since 1997 and bought another 3.67 percent together with the Libyan Investment Authority sovereign wealth fund last October.

"The planned capital increase to \$10 billion is part of a long-term strategy. The (LFB) General Assembly would meet in mid-June on that. Libya Central Bank has the last word as it owns the bank," Oea quoted LFB bank Chairman Mohamed

Bait-Elmal as saying.

"LFB eyes the increase of its stakes in 35 acquisitions across the world. The bank will hike its share in the British Arab Commercial Bank to 70 percent from 25 percent currently," he said.

Oea quoted Elmal as saying "LFB will increase its stakes in two banks in Paris" but gave no details.

Elmal was quoted by Oea as saying LFB is looking to expand its investments in North Africa, South and Eastern Africa

as well as in China.

"We are making efforts to invest in Brazil because it is a promising market," he said.

LFB, which has subsidiaries in France and Spain, will also inject more capital into Rome-based Banca UBAE, in which it holds a 49.9 percent stake, according to its website. The bank also plans to do business in the Libyan market to tap growth and an increased need for banking services.

"We intend to set up a unit inside the bank dedicated to the domestic market and to deal in Libyan dinar because we use U.S. dollars in our operations currently," El Mal said.

"We seek to reach an adequate capital level to create a bigger enterprise and then achieve a good return," he said.

As a result of the world economic downturn, LFB saw its net profit shrink to \$113 million last year from record-high level of \$305 million in 2007, Oea said.

ILO: 2009 Jobless Forecast Up to 239 Million

The ILO on Thursday raised its global unemployment forecast, saying that up to a record 239 million people could be jobless this year amid a deteriorating labour market.

"The labour market situation has continued to deteriorate since the start of the financial crisis," Juan Somavia, director-general of the International Labour Organisation, told reporters in Geneva. "In March, we estimated that global unemployment would increase in between 24 to 52 million in 2009 as compared to 2007. Our current projection suggest that the range will be between 39 to 59 million," he added.

This means that 220 to 239 million people would be jobless this year.

The more optimistic scenario translates into a global unemployment rate of 6.8 percent, while the higher figure translates into a rate of 7.4 percent.

The rate also surpasses the 6.5 percent global unemployment posted in 2003, the highest level reached since 1991 when the ILO first began keeping records.

In its previous forecast this year, the ILO said up to 230 million people could be unemployed by year-end.

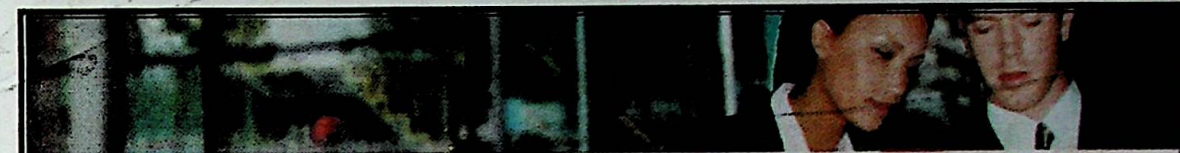
According to the latest ILO report, the bulk of the newly unemployed would come from developed economies and the European Union.

"The region is likely to account for 35 to 40 percent of the total global increase in unemployment, despite accounting for less than 16 percent of the global labour force," said the report. In central and southeastern European states that are not part of the EU, as well as in former Soviet republics, unemployment numbers could rise by up to 35 percent this year.

Somavia said there were "signs of initial impact" from stimulus packages launched by governments to lift the world economy out of the slump.

But he warned of a "serious job situation that could last for six to eight years if no actions are taken," urging countries to sign up to a "global jobs pact."

The pact is a commitment to put employment creation and preservation at the heart of policies to stimulate the economy. It is to be discussed at the ILO's annual conference in Geneva which is scheduled to take place from June 3 to 19.



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Rentokil Libya has been formed to support a substantial contract awarded to it by the General Corporation of Housing & Utilities. The contract is for the control of rodents and covers the whole of GSP/Al. We will be opening branch offices in Tripoli, Misratah and Benghazi as well as supporting two mobile teams who will cover other cities. Approximately 100 people will be required to support this contract.

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Key responsibilities of this role include:

- 1-To formulate and carry out a concise and successful treatment programme against rats in a specified area, making use of the full range of techniques available.
- 2-The ability to provide advice to the general Libyan population on matters affecting pest prevention, hygiene, waste disposal and all other issues which may affect the successful eradication of rodents.
- 3-Producing accurate and concise reports on current rodent activity within specified zones, along with detailed plans for eradication of these rodents

Essential criteria :

Excellent customer service skills

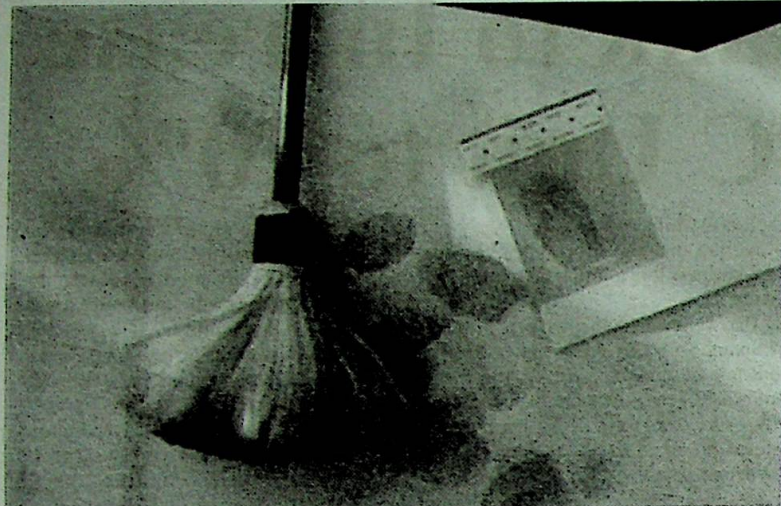
Conversational English skills (written would be advantageous)

Candidates should:

Possess a valid driving licence, be self motivated and able to work on own initiative, flexible about working environment and hours

This role is based in Benghazi, although some travel to support our other operations throughout Libya may be required.

Full technical training will be provided and will lead to an accredited, pest control qualification



A brush used for fingerprint examination is displayed next to a fingerprint sample.

Cancer Patient Held at Airport for Missing Fingerprint

A Singapore cancer patient was held for four hours by immigration officials in the United States when they could not detect his fingerprints -- which had apparently disappeared because of a drug he was taking.

The incident, highlighted in the Annals of Oncology, was reported by the patient's doctor, Tan Eng Huat, who advised cancer patients taking this drug to carry a doctor's letter when traveling to the United States.

The drug, capecitabine, is commonly used to treat cancers in the head and neck, breast, stomach and colorectum.

One side-effect is chronic inflammation of the palms or soles of the feet and the skin can peel, bleed and develop ulcers or blisters -- or what is known as hand-foot syndrome.

"This can give rise to eradication of fingerprints with time," explained Tan, senior consultant in the medical oncology department at Singapore's National Cancer Center.

The patient, a 62-year-old man, had head and neck cancer that had spread but

responded well to chemotherapy. To prevent the cancer from recurring, he was put on capecitabine.

"In December 2008, after more than three years of capecitabine, he went to the United States to visit his relatives," Tan wrote.

"He was detained at the airport customs for four hours because the immigration officers could not detect his fingerprints. He was allowed to enter after the custom officers were satisfied that he was not a security threat."

Tan said the loss of fingerprints is not described in the packaging of the drug, although chronic inflammation of the palms and soles of feet is included.

"The topmost layer ... is the layer that accounts for the fingerprint, that (losing that top layer) is all it takes (to lose a fingerprint)," Tan told Reuters.

"Theoretically, if you stop the drug, it will grow back but details are scanty. No one knows the frequency of this occurrence among patients taking this drug and nobody knows how long a person must be on this drug before the loss of fingerprints."

Focused Strategy' Assisting Calyon Regional Growth Amid Economic Turmoil

Dubai, UAE - Tuesday 26th of May 2009: Calyon, Crédit Agricole's Corporate and Investment Bank is growing stronger in the region despite the global economic crisis.

This is due to a focused strategic plan that has seen Calyon gain numerous regional awards as well as being named the Investment Bank of the Year for the MENA region by Acquisition Monthly Magazine in January 2009, for the year 2008.

Albert Momdjian, Calyon's Managing Director & Head of Middle East & Africa Investment Banking as well as DIFC Branch CEO, attributes the company's long-term success to a focused organizational and investment strategy and believes that the awards recognizing its achievements in the current environment are well deserved.

"Critically, at a time when companies are downsizing, Calyon is strengthening its regional team through selective new appointments. Thanks to our focused strategy we are seeing continued positive growth and are benefitting from our exceptional track record in this region," explains Momdjian.

The regional corporate strategy is focusing on four key areas, including acting as advisors to foreign companies looking to grow their footprint in the Middle East and engaging with privately owned groups.

Additionally, Calyon's focus has

ensured ongoing successful involvement in the Equity Capital Markets sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and also in the area of domestic and regional Mergers & Acquisitions.

This has led to a string of high profile transactions including the largest acquisition deal in the Middle East and North Africa.

Calyon was pivotal as an advisor to Lafarge, the world's leading building material specialist on the largest ever foreign direct investment in the Middle East and Africa region; the acquisition of Orascom Construction Industries' cement business for a total consideration of US\$15 billion.

Meanwhile, in the Kingdom Saudi Arabia, Calyon led Zain's IPO, which was the third largest offering in the region.

"In the Middle East & North Africa, Calyon's investment banking activities have been very successful due to playing a purely advisory role, and not handling structured products or derivatives, which has essentially ensured that our regional operations have been less affected by the current economic turmoil," says Momdjian.

Calyon, which concentrates on corporate and investment banking activities, is operating from a position of strength and our approach to client services will continue to breed success and we are confident in the future concludes Momdjian.

Genes of new flu virus show it's not so new

The most complete analysis yet of the new H1N1 swine flu virus shows it must have been circulating undetected for years, most likely in pigs, researchers said on Friday.

They said pigs are clearly a potential source of human pandemics.

"The results of the study show the global need for more systematic surveillance of influenza viruses in pigs," Dr. Nancy Cox, chief of the influenza division at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, told reporters in a telephone briefing.

The report by Cox and international team of researchers in the journal Science said the virus "might have been circulating undetected among swine herds somewhere in the world."

The researchers confirmed the odd mixture of human, pig and bird genes in the new virus, which has infected more than 11,000 people in 42 countries, and killed 86. The World Health Organization is poised to declare a full pandemic of the virus, which so far causes mostly mild disease in people.

The researchers said it is likely other odd mixtures are infecting pigs but simply have not yet been seen. They sequenced the genetic codes of 70 different samples of the new virus from the United States and Mexico.

"We can actually determine where each of the genes ... originated," Cox said.

The new virus is a mixture of mixtures -- it includes part of a so-called triple reassortant virus first seen in 1998 that contains elements of human, bird and swine strains.

It also includes bits from so-called Eurasian strains of flu, including a segment most closely related to a sample

from a patient in Hong Kong infected with a swine flu in 1999.

How this particular new mixture arose is still a mystery, the researcher said.

"Several scenarios exist, including reassortment in Asia or the Americas, for the events that have led to the genesis of the novel A(H1N1) virus," they wrote.

It is possible another animal acted as the so-called reservoir, which means an animal that can be infected by a pathogen but does not get sick from it. Cox noted that researchers only recently learned, for instance, that cats, from lions to house cats, can be infected with H5N1 avian flu.

"We do know that our veterinary colleagues at USDA (the U.S. Department of Agriculture) and elsewhere in the world are now looking to see if samples in freezers from pigs or other animals that might provide the missing link," Cox said.

"If we can determine the origin we can also take measures to ensure that the virus doesn't reemerge in a slightly different form," she said.

The researchers said they do not know how this particular virus acquired the ability to infect people. It does not have the usual mutations that allow animal viruses to jump into people and then to pass easily from one person to another.

Flu experts get worried when viruses go straight from animals to people. Usually they do not pass any further than one person -- for example the feared H5N1 avian influenza virus that has infected 429 people and killed 262 of them rarely passes from person to person.

But all three recent pandemics -- in 1918, 1957 and 1968 -- occurred when a new avian flu virus started infecting people.

Fries and a Workout?

A burger lunch and then a lettuce dinner. A cigarette after a long run. Pizza and beer to battle the blues. Sounds normal? It is, with a survey showing most people's attitude to healthy living is quite illogical.

More than half the 10,300 people polled in the global "Healthy Living" survey, conducted by market research firm Synovate, revealed they eat anything they want, when they want, with a third saying they loved fast food too much to give it up.

A third also said they tended to eat more unhealthy junk food when feeling down.

But one in four people surveyed in 12 countries also said they did something to compensate for unhealthy habits such as exercising, or cutting back on food, cigarettes or alcohol, with that number rising to one in seven of all Chinese polled.

"These attitudes may not make complete sense, but when it comes to food, health and weight management, people are inherently contradictory," said Steve Garton, executive director of media for Synovate.

While nearly half of all Americans and Britons say they can't give up fast food, the study reveals Bulgaria as the world's most junk-food addicted nation, where nearly 70 percent of respondents head to a fast food joint on a regular basis.

Least susceptible to the taste of fast food were the Swedes and the Malaysians, with only one in five people in both countries agreeing that they need to eat it.

As for those most likely to eat to lift their mood, the survey showed British and American women tend to emotionally eat their way through life, with nearly half of those surveyed saying they eat when they're feeling down.

To tackle weight gain, most people surveyed said they increased their physical activity, and reduced their food intake.

Countries most likely to cut back on what they eat include the United Arab Emirates, Brazil, the United States, Spain, Britain and Canada.

Spaniards and Brazilians were also the most prone to do everything and anything to lose weight, the survey showed, linking this obsession with looking good to the beach culture in both countries.

The survey was conducted online and via face-to-face interviews in February 2009 across 12 countries: Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, Britain and the United States.

More details can be found on www.synovate.com



Fashion Show for designers with Special Needs Launched in Dubai

Dubai Culture launched the first International Fashion Show for designers with special needs - the first of its kind in the world, a press release by Dubai Culture and Arts Authority said on Thursday.

Under the theme of "Dubai makes Dreams Come True" the fashion show recognises that people with disabilities have much to offer and are capable of contributing to their local communities.

It encourages people and communities to focus on a person's achievement and abilities rather than their disability. The aim of the fashion is to encourage positive attitudes towards

people with disabilities, make the Dubai community a better place for everyone, sensitise communities on disability issues and improve their access to facilities.

The event attracted a huge audience of ministers, ambassadors and Emirati designers. The Dubai Culture and Arts Authority was thrilled at the supportive response given by the audience.

It became evident that students with special needs have the urge and need for such exposure and socialization. Saeed Al Nabouda, Chief Projects Officer at the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture), said:

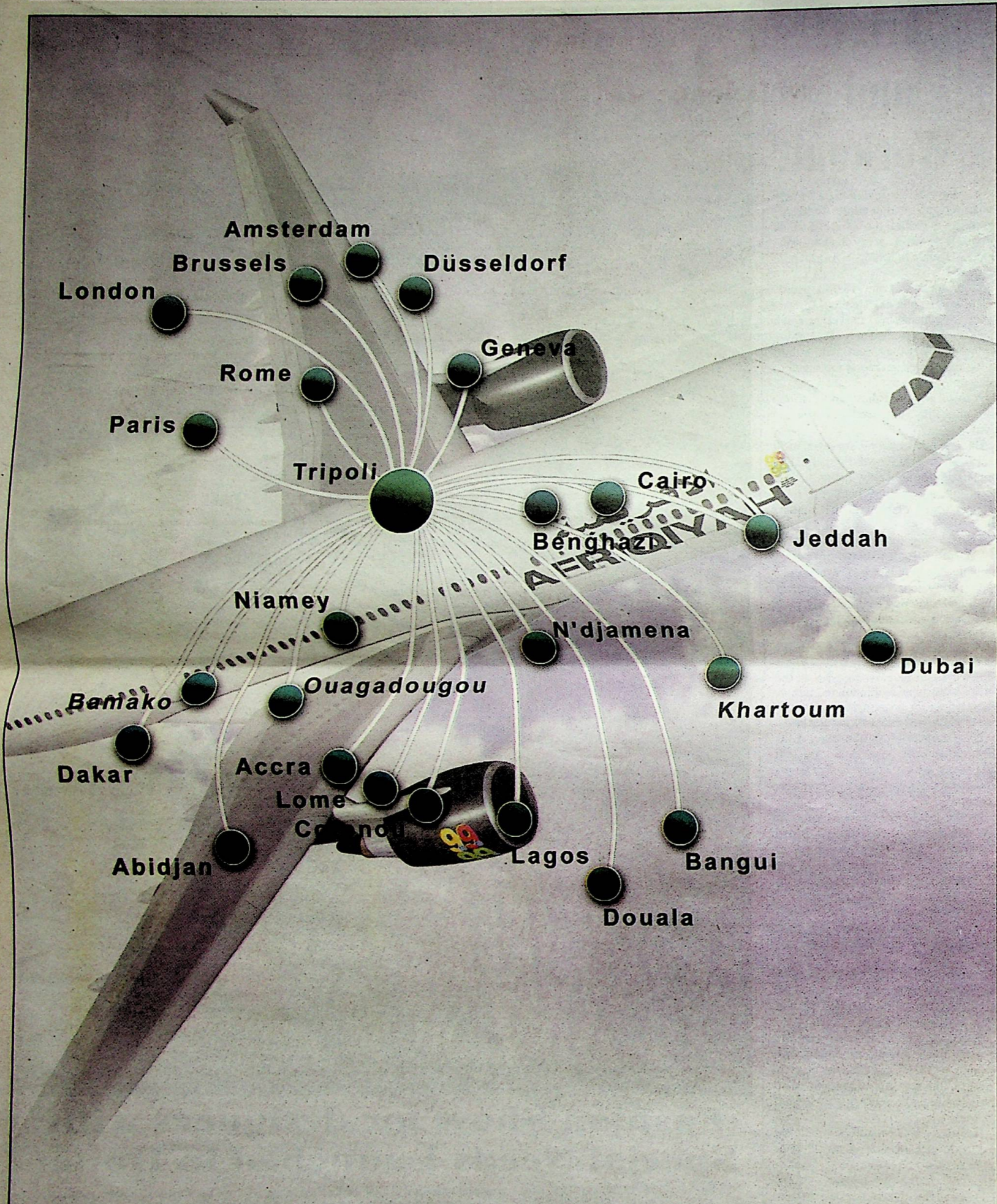
"The Fashion Show is tailored to integrate individuals with special needs into the creative community. It represents an essential element of the authority's efforts to support distinguished projects and concepts and shape them into actions in the cultural sector".

Last year, the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture) in collaboration with Rashid Pediatric Therapy Centre and The Events Agency launched the Development Program for Talented Special Needs Fashion Designers, which saw the participation of many individuals with special needs from the UAE and other Arab countries.

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Code Breaker Game

20	2	25	12	1	5	6		18	5	14	5	25	12	
23		21	5		8		5		23		14		14	
21	25	23	1	7		19	23	7		3	4	23	3	22
5		17		11			11		5		7		12	
25	26	4	5	8	15	2		8	23	18	18	22	25	4
		5		25		15			11				6	
2	23	12	4		20	2	16	22	23	1		13	23	8
13		12		24		7				2			23	
25	3	22		5	9	5	7	21	12		26	4	2	14
5				26				1		23		5		
8	5	25	2	1	16	5		19	23	25	4	7	23	3
16		10		22		20			26		22		22	
5	10	11	22	21		5	17	17		5	9	23	1	12
6		23		25		26		19		24		24		12
	2	13	20	5	26	12		7	2	6	5	25	12	19

ACROSS

- 1 Roosevelt
- 4 Prosecutors, informal
- 7 A lyric poem
- 10 Accumulation
- 11 Cold
- 12 Short for Calvin or calorie
- 13 Short pointed weapons
- 15 Defensive nuclear weapon
- 16 Newspaper employee
- 18 Flair
- 21 Scoff at
- 24 Bogs
- 26 Digger
- 27 An angel or demon
- 29 Group of hoodlums
- 30 Highly spiced and salted sausage
- 32 Baseball stat.
- 34 Incongruities
- 38 Eternity
- 39 TV display
- 40 Sales person
- 41 Tooth on the rim of a wheel
- 42 Anagram and synonym of 'YEA'
- 43 In the style of (2 wds.)

DOWN

- 1 Briefly popular fashion
- 2 A double helix
- 3 Slang for a newspaper
- 4 Expired
- 5 Harsh smelling or tasting
- 6 Method

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9
10				11				12		
13				14				15		
				16				17		
18	19	20			21			22	23	
24				25		26				
27				28		29				
				30				31		
32	33			33				35	36	37
38				39				40		
41				42				43		

36 Fish

37 Watering place

SUDOKU No. 132

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

SOLUTION TO NO. 131

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

ABCDEF GHIJKL MNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			H				R					
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
			F				I		A		S	

Solution to last week's Codebreaker

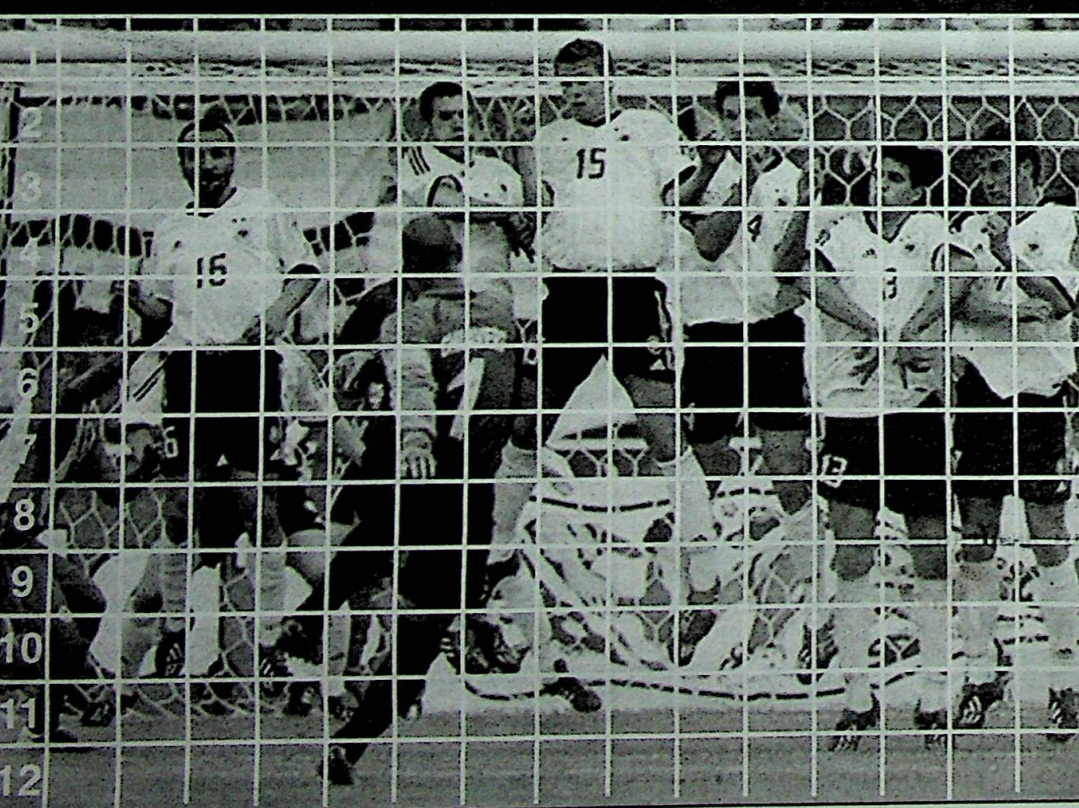
W	A	J	E	S	T	O	U	I	Z	E	B		
F	A	E	R	A	N	O	N	O					
G	U	E	R	A	N	O	N	O					
P	T	E	R	A	N	O	N	O					
C	R	I	B	F	O	N	B	G	U	S	T	O	
A	H	J	W	F	A	V							
L	O	G	J	W	F	A	V						
S	K	Y	L	G	H	T							
W	R	O	H	G	R	O	M						
D	U	N	T										
T	U	N	T										
S	J	W											
L	R	A	V	E	Z	E	S	T	R	I	D	E	S

Solution to Tripoli Post Crossword No. 253

C	R	T	F	C	R	A	P		
B	O	O	A	L	A	O	A	R	
S	E	N	A	T	O	R	S	H	Y
			N	E	G	A	T	E	
A	L	M	A	S	T	R	A	T	A
S	E	A	L	S	S	A	T	I	N
H	E	R	O	E	S	C	E	N	T
			I	G	N	O	R	E	
P	A	N	A	L	A	R	M	E	D
I	C	E	T	A	T	B	A	Y	
P	E	R	E	R	E	A	T	E	

Spot The Ball

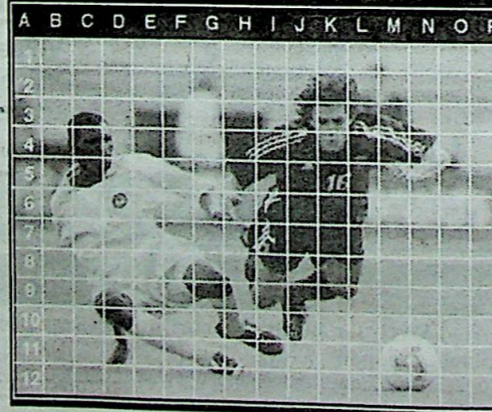
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P



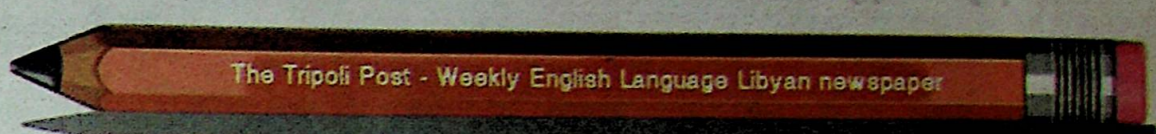
IN the grid above, fill in the missing numbers so that every row, column and quadrant contains the numbers 1 through 9. No number can be repeated within any column, row or block.

SPOT THE BALL RESULT

The centre of the ball in last week's competition was in square 11 M (below)



The Descendant of Ancient Writing Instruments



TODAY we so take things for granted that few bother to stop and think and learn about the simple little things that have helped to make our life so easy to live. One such is the pencil, the descendant of ancient writing instruments. It has a history too, that goes back to ancient Rome, when scribes wrote on papyrus (an early form of paper) with a thin metal rod called a stylus, which left a light but readable mark. Other early styluses were made of lead. Today we still call the core of a pencil the "lead" even though it is made from non-toxic graphite. Graphite came into widespread use following the discovery of a large graphite deposit in Borrowdale, England in 1564. It left a darker mark than lead, but was so soft and brittle that it required a holder. At first, sticks of graphite were wrapped in string. Later, the graphite was inserted into wooden sticks that had been hollowed-out by hand! The wood-cased pencil was born. The first mass-produced pencils were made in Nuremberg, Germany in 1662. There an active pencil industry developed with famous companies like Faber-Castell established in 1761, Lyra, Steadler and others growing throughout the 19th century industrial revolution. Until the war with England cut off imports, pencils used in America came from overseas. William Monroe, a cabinetmaker in Concord, Massachusetts, made the first American wood pencils in 1812 as did another Concord area maker, famous author Henry David Thoreau. Other early US manufacturers that helped industrialise pencil making in their country were Joseph Dixon Crucible Company (now Dixon Ticonderoga) and a number of factories established in New York and New Jersey towards the end of the 19th century by immigrants from the German industry including Faber Castell, Eberhard Faber, Eagle Pencil Company (Later Berol) and General Pencil Company. The first mass-produced pencils were unpainted, to show off their high-quality wood casings. However, by the 1890s, many manufacturers were painting their pencils and giving them brand names. March 30 last year marked the 150th Anniversary of The Hymen Lipman patent on eraser tipped pencils. Early American pencils were made from Eastern Red Cedar, a strong, splinter-resistant wood that grew in Tennessee and other parts of the southeastern United States. Many Northern manufacturers set up wood mills in Tennessee and other Southern states where Eastern Red Cedar grows. Eventually much of the US pencil manufacturing industry established pencil factories in Tennessee where the remaining US producers are primarily concentrated today. By the early 1900s, pencil manufacturers needed additional sources of wood, and turned to California's Sierra Nevada Mountains. There they found Incense

cedar, a species that grew in abundance and made superior pencils and became the wood of choice for domestic and international pencil makers around the world. To ensure the continued availability of Incense cedar, forest workers have carefully managed the stands of trees in which Incense cedar grows, and timber companies have been careful to harvest the trees on a sustained-yield basis. "Sustained-yield" means that the annual growth of the forest is greater than the amount harvested from the forest. Forests managed on a sustained-yield basis are abundant and healthy, and will continue to provide wood for people and habitat for animals for generations to come. The history of the pencil industry includes a great number of important companies and brands from around the world. Many of the major brands now have factories throughout the world. The reduction of trade barriers, the introduction of containerised shipments of goods overseas, the comparative differences in raw material costs between countries and the lower cost of transporting people and information around the world have led the pencil industry like many others to experience the challenging impact of globalization. As such, there has been a great shift in the past 20 years of where pencils are produced with increasing concentration of manufacturing in Asia.

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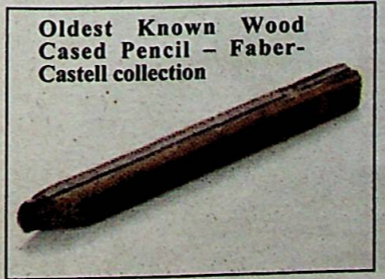
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Al-Ittihad Widen Gap in the Absence of Al-Ahli

FOUR matches from the end, and with the direct clash that could prove the deciding match still to come on Day 27, defending champions Al-Ittihad have increased their lead at the top of the league standings over Al-Ahli Tripoli in the Libyan football league to four points, though with a game more played.

Having won their midweek game against Al-Jazeera by 2-0, Al-Ittihad now stand on 61 points, with the other title contenders Al-Ahli Tripoli, whose 26th game against Al-Shat was postponed due to their commitment in the Al-Fateh Cup, which they won 2-0 against Al-Mukhtar, staying on 57 points after they were involved in yet another slip, the scoreless draw against Al-Madina on Day 25 last Sunday.

This latest loss of points by Al-Ahli allowed Al-Ittihad the chance to stand alone on top a point ahead and with an equal number of games played. Then they increased the advantage to four at the end of their victory over Al-Jazeera on Wednesday.

So after leading the league standings for most of the season, Al-Ahli Tripoli are once again giving the impression that they don't possess the staying power compared to their cross-town rivals Ittihad who seem to be going great guns, as they always do in the run-in to the championship.

A few weeks ago Al-Ahli Tripoli had the chance to go six points ahead, but then completely lost out with two drawn games and now trail their opponents.

While Al-Ittihad have won their last six matches, Al-Ahli Tripoli have only won four and were held to draws in two of their last four games.

Therefore it looks as if Day 27 when the two meet will be the clincher. It could decide the fate for either, and therefore the next venue of the championship.

Against Al-Jazeera, Al-Ittihad left no room for surprises and their victory was decided with two first half goals by

A h m e d Alzawi who scored first in the 38th minute and then again two minutes into added time before the interval.

In the rest of the programme, two matches finished with honours even with Al-Olombay registering their 13th drawn result from 26 games to stay below in the bottom half of the league standings. This time they drew 2-2 in Sirte against Khaleej.

The other drawn game, a scoreless one, was between Al-Hilal and Wefaq Sabratha Alakhdar were surprise 1-0 losers at Al-Anem Alaam who won with a goal with a second-half penalty goal scored by Mohamed Amraga. The three points helped the hosts to increase their points tally in their bid to stave off relegation, while Alakhdar missed the chance to leapfrog over Al-Nasser, who have a game in hand, into fourth place.

Al-Swaihili defeated Al-Tirsana 2-1 to join the visitors in mid-table on 36 points.

LATEST RESULTS - Day 26

Al-Ittihad v Al-Jazeera	2-0
Al-Hilal v Wefaq Sabratha	0-0
Al-Swaihili v Al-Tirsana	2-1
Khalaj Sirte v Al-Olombay	2-2
Al-Anem Alaam v Alakhdar	1-0
Day 25	
Al-Ahli Tripoli v Al-Madina	0-0



PHOTO: YOUSSEF ALAJERLI

Tripoli Side Faces Uphill Battle

LIBYA'S sole remaining participants in African club competitions, Al-Ahli of Tripoli, face an uphill battle to qualify to the quarter finals of the CAF Confederation Cup Sunday when they play the return tie of the round of 16 away in Egypt against Haras El Hedoud after drawing the first game in Tripoli 0-0.

A fortnight ago at the June 11 Stadium Al-Ahli had enough chances to score, but they either frittered them away or found a formidable goalkeeper in the opposing goal who kept them at bay.

Al-Ahli are in the same situation they faced last month in the CAF Champions League when they had to go to Tunisia after a scoreless first game against ES. They lost then and were eliminated. Now they are in the 'consolation' competition reserved for the losers from the earlier rounds of the Champions League

and a few hat started the competition. It is worth reminding that a 1-1 draw would favour the Libyan side thanks to the away goals counting double rule. But they need to score to win through, and also keep their intact.

They are currently not in the best frame of mind to take on such opposition after losing the lead in the Libyan championship, but they must regroup their resources once again to stand a chance against El Hedoud.

Weekend Fixtures

El Hedoud (Ept) v Al-Ahli Tripoli (Libya)
Enppi (Ept) v Asec (Ivory Coast)
CS Sfaxien (Tunisia) v 1º Agosto (Angola)
Djoliba (Mali) v ES Setif (Algeria)
M. Bamako (Mali) v Khemisset (Morocco)
Bayelsa (Nigeria) v Kampala CC (Uganda)
Santos (Angola) v El Ahli (Egypt)
AS Vita (DRC) v Coton Sport (Cameroon)

Volleyball: Al-Ahli Tripoli Make it a Really Formidable Season

CHAMPIONS Al-Ahli Tripoli crowned a formidable season in volleyball by clinching the last honour on the taking this season, the Al-Fateh Cup, thus making it a League and Cup double on top of the prestigious bronze medal they won at the 2009 Men's African Club Championships in Cairo.

After winning their fifth league title, Al-Ahli

recently also made it a hat-trick of Cup victories, winning the competition three years running, by beating Al-Swaihili in three straight sets, 3-0 (25-19, 25-13, 25-15) in the final.

As the final result so clearly indicates, Al-Ahli were a streets ahead of their opponents in the final and were only really troubled once, in the first set.



Al-Ahli Tripoli on the way to winning a point, while (left) players and coach are pictured with their trophies at the end of the Al-Fateh Cup final against Al-Swaihili. (Photos: Youssef Alajerli)



The First Treble of the 21st Century

UNTIL Wednesday only four teams could boast of having achieved the treble of league, Cup and Champions League-European Cup: Celtic (1967), Ajax (1972), PSV Eindhoven (1988) and Manchester United (1999).

Now FC Barcelona have entered that select group, the first team to do so in the ferociously competitive 21st century. The 27th May will now be a day for all Barça fans to celebrate.

And what makes victory taste even sweeter is that Barça have risen to the top of European football playing the kind of football that has delighted fans everywhere. The whole of Europe recognises the Barça style, the natural successor to Johan Cruyff's Dream Team.

Right: Barcelona players and staff celebrate in Rome



Barça Reign Supreme in Rome Final

SPANISH La Liga champions Barcelona stunned holders Manchester United to win their third UEFA Champions League crown with a 2-0 victory in Rome on Wednesday. In doing so they also created history by becoming the first club in Spain to win three major titles in one season, having also won the Copa del Rey trophy.

Barcelona accomplished the feat in a superb display of the type of football that has typified what has been a magnificent season for them.

Goals from shining stars Samuel Eto'o and Lionel Messi gave the Catalans a deserved victory, ended Manchester United's run of 25 games unbeaten in the European competition and denied the English club from becoming the first team to retain the title since the European Cup became the Champions League in 1993.

Barcelona also repeated a feat United achieved in 1999, which Red Devils boss Sir Alex Ferguson had then claimed would never be matched, and crowned a marvelous debut season for Barcelona boss Pep Guardiola, who at 38 becomes the youngest coach to take European club football's greatest prize.

For Cameroon international striker Eto'o it was the second time that he has scored in a Champions League final appearance. He repeated the feat when Barcelona defeated another English club, Arsenal, in 2006.

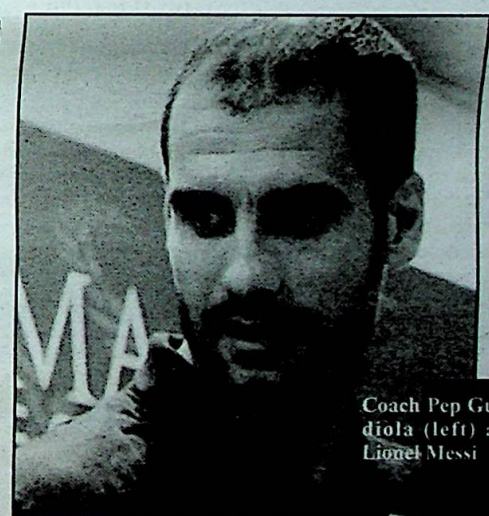
For Barca's French striker Thierry Henry it ended years of frustration especially

when his then team Arsenal lost to Barcelona in the 2006 final. "Finally I have won it! I have been waiting for so long for this moment," Henry said.

He added: "The last five minutes were the longest of my life. Even if we were 2-0 up we were playing the best team in the world (referring to the FIFA Club World Cup title United won earlier this year)."

Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson accepted defeat with good grace. "We started the game brightly but the goal was a killer," said the 67-year-old Scot. "However, they are a better team than us. We conceded two bad goals. Our defence has been good all season but those were two shoddy goals to lose."

Barça overcame early jitters to dominate large parts of the game as the English club never managed to get their usual high tempo style into gear. In a clash billed as



Coach Pep Guardiola (left) and Lionel Messi

the match of the century pitting the best two teams in the world - with each one boasting one of the best two players on the planet - only one played to their full potential. Both sides made a nervy

had to dive in to deflect Park's follow-up away for a corner. But out of the blue Samuel Eto'o scored in their first attacking move through Samuel Eto'o.

That goal settled Barça into their usual stride and they started to weave the pretty patterns that have been mesmerising opponents all season, carrying them to the remarkable feat of scoring more than 150 goals.

United gradually lost their shape and rhythm and the Spanish side dictated play, to make certain with the second goal scored on 70 minutes by the shortest player on the field, Lionel Messi. Push as United might in the final minutes, though, they lacked their usual sparkle and Valdes's goal was rarely threatened.

Barça forward Thierry Henry celebrated his side's triumph by insisting that victory, rather than the considerable style in which it was achieved, was most important.

"You always remember winners, that's the difference. You can play good football, pass the ball well but unless you win silverware sometimes it doesn't count," he said.

Button 7th Driver to Win First Five of Six

BRAWN GP team's Jenson Button of Britain, currently leading the Formula One championship managed to master Monaco's treacherous streets to chalk up his fifth victory in six races and lead another one-two finish for his team in this year's campaign. Button's sixth career victory in an untroubled drive from pole

position stretched his lead over team-mate Rubens Barrichello of Brazil to 16 points (51 to 35) with 11 more races to the end.

Finland's Kimi Raikkonen, who started on the front row alongside Button took third place for Ferrari's first podium finish in 2009.

In the team's most astonishing debut season in 60 years of com-

petition, Brawn GP have now finished one-two three times.

Button, 29, who entered the Formula One a decade ago became only the seventh driver to win five of the first six races of a season, the last being Germany's seven-times champion Michael Schumacher in 2004.

The Englishman dominated the

proceedings, scampering away to lead by as many as 15 seconds and cruising through 78 laps to finish nearly eight seconds ahead of teammate Rubens Barrichello.

"To win here is fantastic. This circuit is very different to anything else, and I struggled at the start of the week, so, for me, that makes it even better to have

come away with a victory. We've got victory in Monaco and that means a lot," Button said afterwards.

Other to finish with points were, 4. Felipe Massa 5. Mark Webber 6. Nico Rosberg 7. Fernando Alonso 7. Sebastien Bourdais

The next race is in Turkey on Sunday June 7.

Russian Heir Fights Yale over van Gogh Painting

A painting Vincent van Gogh dismissed as one of his "ugliest" is today the subject of a high-stakes ownership battle between Yale University and a heir to a Russian art collector.

The French Impressionist artist painted "Night Cafe" to pay his landlord, calling it "one of the ugliest I have done" in a letter to his brother Theo in 1888.

Today, van Gogh works fetch fortunes at auction and "Night Cafe," which depicts a cafe bathed in yellow-green light, is not only world famous, but the subject of an international legal tussle.

Parisian Pierre Konowaloff, great-grandson of Russian industrialist and art collector Ivan Morozov, is challenging in a US federal court widely accepted norms that recognize the results of Soviet-era nationalization, at least when it comes to cultural items.

Morozov's real estate, textile factory and art collection were seized by Lenin in 1918. Although the Bolsheviks are long gone, their confiscation of priceless art -- part of far wider repression against private property owners -- still stands.

In contrast, successful challenges have been made to ownership of treasures looted by the Nazis during World War II and passed on to other owners since.

Allan Gerson, an attorney known for pushing the boundaries of international law, wants to change that, saying that "Night Cafe" was acquired illegally and describing Lenin's "looting" as no different than that of the Nazis'.

"They (Yale) have to tell the difference. What is the difference? I contend there is no difference," Gerson told AFP.

In court papers filed last week, he said the "confiscation of cultural property was prohibited under prevailing customary and conventional international law."

Yale acquired the painting in 1961 as a posthumous gift from the American art collector and Yale graduate Stephen Clark.

Clark bought the painting around 1933 with the help of the Knoedler Gallery in New York City and the Matthiesen Gallery in Berlin from a sale by Stalin of Soviet-owned art.

Yale filed court papers in March asking a judge to declare it the owner of the painting in response to Konowaloff's challenge.

"The university believes it is the rightful owner and that the outcome of its filing will confirm that," Yale spokesman Tom Conroy said.

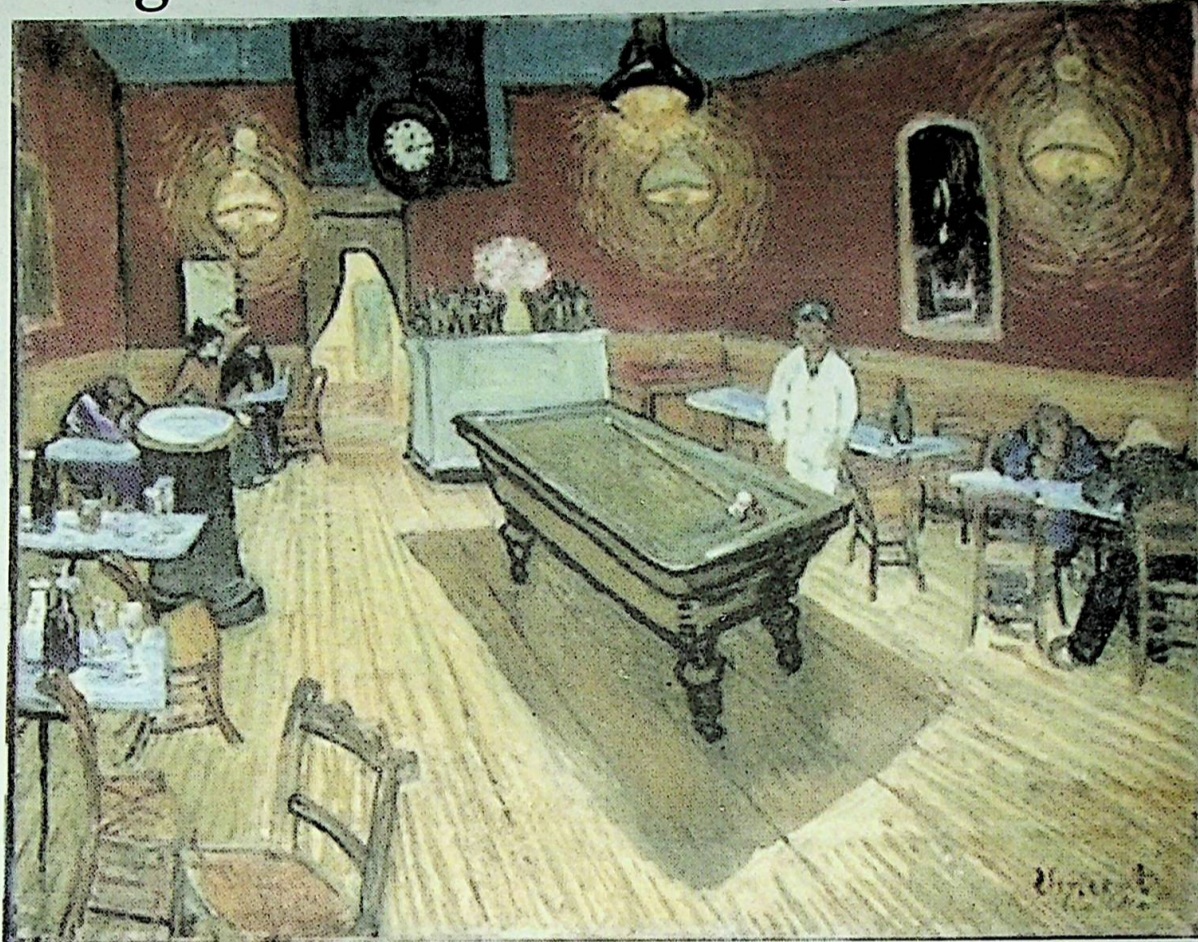
The Soviet nationalization of property, though "sharply at odds" with American values, was legal, Yale attorney Jonathan Freiman wrote in his petition to the court.

"Paintings that were nationalized by the Soviet government figure prominently in the collections of premier institutions throughout the world, including leading museums in Russia and the United States," Freiman wrote.

"It was accepted at the time, as it is now, that the sales by the Soviet government were valid, as were later acquisitions of the paintings. Yale had no reason to question the legitimacy" of the bequest, the court documents said.

In an interview with AFP, Freiman said the challenge was "not a viable legal claim" and that its success would set a dangerous precedent.

"There are many people who bought art from Russia in the 1930s, both individuals and museums," he said. A successful suit would "completely



unsettle museums and private collections."

Patty Gerstenblith, a law professor and director of DePaul College of Law's program in Cultural Heritage Law, said the challenge faces an uphill battle.

"Property nationalized during the Soviet Bolshevik revolution generally has been viewed as belonging to the Soviet Union," she said.

"Cases that seem to fit the fact pattern here have not succeeded in the past."

But both Konowaloff and Gerson are likely to prove determined fighters.

A former senior lawyer with the State Department and Justice Department, Gerson has advocated private lawsuits against governments regardless of the impact on foreign policy.

He was involved in suing Libya for the bombing of Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland that killed 270 people in 1988 and was settled by Libya for 2.7 billion dollars in 2003 in a deal linked to lifting trade sanctions against the country.

He currently represents relatives of

9/11 victims in federal court in New York who are suing Saudi Arabia for allegedly funding terrorism.

Konowaloff did not respond to email and telephone requests for an interview.

He is well known for an attempt two years ago to recover other artworks that belonged to his great-grandfather as they were being sent to a major exhibition in London.

The show was delayed at the request of Moscow until Britain passed legislation protecting Russia's ownership of the works.AFP

Acacus' Cave Paintings Vandalized

Some time around the middle of April, in an area of the Libyan Sahara on the Algerian frontier known as Tadrart Acacus, seven cave paintings from the Neolithic era, dating back to a period between 3,000 and 10,000 years ago, were vandalized with tins of spray paint.

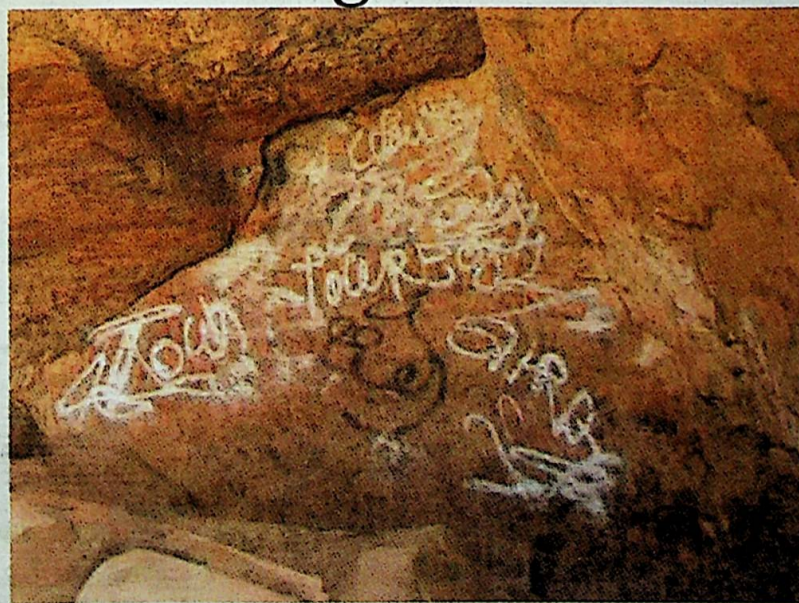
The caves were declared UNESCO world heritage sites.

The crime was committed by a former tourist guide, a Tunisian citizen whose identity has not been revealed since he was arrested by local police on April 24.

The only news to have leaked out that the man was fired by an Italian tourist agency that has been doing business in area for many years.

"The red, black and white graffiti written in spray paint consists of insults addressed to the Libyan government and against Italians", says Juma Anag, the head of the Libya Department of Archaeology.

A mission from the Libyan department archaeology, together with colleagues from the Italo-Libyan Archaeological Mission from Rome's La Sapienza University, led by Professor Savino di Lernia, have visited the sites and assessed the damage....



According to di Lernia "the paintings - and the graffiti - are easily accessible to anyone who provides themselves with a simple desert pass".

Security for all these sites has up to now been entrusted to a few patrols of tourist and border police who share an

immense territory between them.

The area of Tadrart Acacus alone covers 6,000 square kilometres.

This is too much for the scattered police patrols who have a growing number of tourists to control.(ANSAmad)