



This satellite image taken May 28, 2020, shows the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam on the Blue Nile river in the Benishangul-Gumuz region of Ethiopia. In an interview with the Associated Press on June 19, Ethiopia's Foreign Minister Gedu Andargachew declared that his country will go ahead and start filling the \$4.6 billion grand Ethiopian Renaissance dam next month, even without an agreement with Egypt and Sudan. (AP)

Threat to international peace

News in Brief

PESHAWAR, Pakistan: Suspected militants ambushed a Pakistani army vehicle in a former Taleban and al-Qaeda stronghold near the Afghanistan border, triggering a shootout that killed two soldiers, the army said Sunday.

It said two soldiers were also wounded in Saturday night's attack near the border village of Gharom in North Waziristan and that troops retaliated and killed one of the attackers in an ensuing exchange of fire. (AP)

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Egypt wants UN to avert unilateral dam fill

CAIRO, June 22, (AP) — Egypt wants the United Nations Security Council to “undertake its responsibilities” and prevent Ethiopia from starting to fill its massive, newly built hydroelectric dam on the Blue Nile next month without an agreement, Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shukry told The Associated Press on Sunday, accusing Ethiopian officials of stoking antagonism between the countries.

Ethiopia announced Friday that it would begin filling the dam's reservoir in July even after the latest round of talks with Egypt and Sudan failed last week to reach an accord governing how the dam will be filled and operated.

Egypt formally asked the Security Council to intervene in a letter the same day.

“The responsibility of the Security Council is to address a pertinent threat to international peace and security, and certainly the unilateral actions by Ethiopia in this regard would constitute such a threat,” Shukry said in an interview with the AP.

Filling the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam would potentially bring the years-long dispute between Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia over the \$4.6 billion mega-project to a critical juncture. Ethiopia said the electricity that will be generated by the dam is a crucial lifeline to bring millions out of poverty. With the start of the rainy season in July bringing more water to the Blue Nile, the Nile's main tributary, Ethiopia wants to start filling the reservoir.

Egypt, which relies on the Nile for more than 90 percent of its water supplies, fears a devastating impact if the dam is

operated without taking its needs into account. Sudan, which also largely depends on the Nile for water, has been caught between the competing interests.

The United States earlier this year tried to broker a deal, but Ethiopia did not attend the signing meeting in February and accused the Trump administration of siding with Egypt. Last week, the US National Security Council tweeted that “257 million people in east Africa are relying on Ethiopia to show strong leadership, which means striking a fair deal.”

Shukry warned that filling the reservoir without an accord would violate the 2015 declaration of principles governing their talks — and rule out a return to negotiations.

“We are not seeking any coercive action by the Security Council,” he said. In a three-page letter to the council, Egypt asked it to call Ethiopia back into talks for a “fair and balanced solution” and to urge it to refrain from unilateral acts, warning that filling the dam without a deal “constitutes a clear and present danger to Egypt” with repercussions that “threaten international peace and security.”

Hanging over the dispute has been the fear it could escalate into military conflict, especially as Egypt — facing what it calls an existential threat — repeatedly hits dead ends in its attempt to strike a deal. Commentators in Egypt's pro-government media have often called for action to stop Ethiopia. One commentator, Moustafa al-Saeed said in a Facebook post that starting to fill the reservoir would be a “declaration of war” and urged the government to block Ethiopian traffic through the Suez Canal.

Germany arrest torture suspect

BERLIN, June 22, (AP) — A Syrian man accused of torturing an inmate while working as a doctor at a prison run by military intelligence in his homeland has been arrested in Germany, prosecutors said Monday.

The suspect, identified only as Alaa M. in line with German privacy rules, was arrested in the central state of Hesse on Friday, federal prosecutors said. He is suspected of bodily harm and committing a crime against humanity.

The case relates to M.'s alleged actions at a prison in the Syrian city of Homs in late 2011, when a doctor was called as a man arrested for taking part in a demonstration suffered an epileptic fit after being tortured, according to a statement from prosecutors.

The suspect beat the man with a plastic pipe and then kicked him after he fell to the ground, they said. After the victim's condition worsened the following day,

the suspect is accused of joining another prison doctor in beating the man again until he lost consciousness.

The victim was put in a blanket and carried away by prison guards. He later died, although the cause is unclear, prosecutors said.

The suspect left Syria in 2015 and came to Germany, where he has practised as a doctor.

Alaa M.'s arrest comes as two former members of Syria's secret police are being tried at a court in the German city of Koblenz, accused of crimes against humanity for their role in a government-run detention center where thousands of opposition protesters were tortured.

Those proceedings, the first war crimes trial outside Syria linked to the country's years-long conflict, have been described as a pivotal moment in the effort to bring Syrian officials accused of crimes to justice.

Company provided Cisco Webex solutions for secure online seminars

Zain Strategic Partner of first online Arab Media Forum

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من 20 إلى 20.06.2020

النشاط	الوقت	الجلسة
الإعلام في ظل المتغيرات	09:00 - 07:00	السبت 20.06.2020



د. حسين أمين
استاذ الإعلام بالجامعة الأمريكية،
مدير مركز كمال أدهم للصحافة
التليفزيونية والرقمية - مصر



د. فيس العزاوي
الأمين العام المساعد، لقطاع
الإعلام والاتصال بجامعة
الدول العربية



علي الرميحي
وزير الاعلام - البحرين



ماضي الخسيس
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Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, announced its strategic sponsorship of the first online Arab Media Forum. The virtual event, which came in collaboration with the Ministry of Information, was held from 20 – 22 June via live virtual seminars through Cisco Webex solutions provided by Zain on its superfast network.

Zain has been the strategic partner of the Arab Media Forum during the past nine consecutive years, as the company strongly believes in supporting media organizations that contribute to enriching cultural aspects within the community. Zain is proud to be a main partner in the success of this forum, which is considered the most prominent event of its kind in the Arab world. This year, the forum was launched as an online event due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the company was keen on continuing its support as it believes in the crucial role of the media in raising public awareness, especially during crises.

Zain provided Cisco Webex video conferencing solutions to enable the forum's seminars to take place virtually and securely over its superfast network. The company, a Premier Certified Partner of Cisco, is committed to offering the most advanced world-class tech solutions to Kuwait's

business community.

The online Arab Media Forum witnessed the participation of over 1600 participants from all over the Arab world, who joined the live video seminars broadcasted over many online platforms and social media channels. This made the forum the biggest virtual event in the region, hosting many media personalities, ministers of information, academics, students, media channel owners, and more.

Zain's strategic partnership of this forum highlights its social commitment, as the company believes in the important role played by the media in the development of communities. Zain will continue supporting this sector, which enriches communications between community members and raises public awareness during crises.

The Arab Media Forum has proven itself to be one of the region's most prominent events that attend to Arab media. Since 2003, the event brought together many ministers, editors-in-chief of local and regional newspapers, media executives, journalists, academics, authors, actors, businessmen, and social figures from all around the Arab world.

(for draws postponed from 15 March - 2 April 2020)

Gulf Bank announces three weeks' worth of winners of the Al Danah Weekly Draws



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Gulf Bank held three of its postponed Al Danah weekly draws on 18th June 2020, and announced the names of the winners for the period of 15 March - 2 April 2020. The Al Danah weekly draw consists of five winners who receive KD 1,000 each.

The winners for the first week (15 - 19 March 2020) are:

- HIND SAAD MOHAMMAD
- YASEEN HUSAIN
- SALEM MIRZA MOHAMMAD
- AHMAD NWAIRAN KHALAF ALENEZI
- AESHAH ABBAS ALI MOHAMMED

The winners for the second week (22 - 26 March 2020) are:

- ZINAB NASSER
- HAMD QASSEM AHMAD
- RIMAS FAHAD AL AZMI
- LAILA ALI MOUSA ALSAYEGH
- DANAH YAQOUB ALKHALDI

The winners for the third week (29 March - 2 April 2020) are:

- JAFAR QULUM AHMAD MOHAMMAD
- KHALED AYED ALDHAHER ALENEZI
- KHALID HNETEM SHBEREM ALAZMEE
- SAKEENAH ALI HASHEM ALI HUSAIN
- FATEMAH MOHAMMAD SAFARASHKANANI

Al Danah is now offering its biggest prize yet, with an annual draw prize of KD 1,500,000. The annual draw will be held on 14 January 2021, and the last chance to deposit into an Al Danah account to participate is 30 September 2020.

Gulf Bank encourages customers to increase their chances of winning with Al Danah by depositing more into their Gulf Bank accounts using the new

ePay (Self-Pay) service, which is available on Gulf Bank's online and mobile banking services.

Al Danah offers a number of unique services to customers, including the Al Danah Deposit Only ATM card, which allows account holders to deposit money into their accounts at their convenience. Account holders can also calculate their chances of winning the draws through the 'Al Danah Chances' calculator available on the Gulf Bank website and app. Furthermore, loyal Al Danah customers are rewarded with loyalty chances. Loyalty chances are the total chances accumulated from the previous year, which are added to the customer's chances the following year. Therefore, the total chances earned by Al Danah customers in 2019, have been added to their 2020 chances, and the same process will take place in 2021, and so on. Terms and conditions apply.

Gulf Bank's Al Danah account is open to Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti residents of Kuwait. Customers require a minimum of KD200 to open an account and the same amount should be maintained for customers to be eligible for the upcoming Al Danah draws. If the customer's account balance falls below KD200 at any given time, a KD2 fee will be charged to their account monthly until the minimum balance is met. Customers who open an account and/or deposit more will enter the weekly draw within two days. To take part in the Al Danah 2020 quarterly and yearly draws, customers must meet the required hold period for each draw.

Customers can visit one of Gulf Bank's 59 branches, transfer online, place queries through the official Gulf Bank WhatsApp service on 65805805 or call the customer contact center on 1805805 for assistance and guidance. Customers can visit the website to find out more about Al Danah and its winners.