

Politics

Libyan PM's plane takes off using car lights after deliberate Tobruk runway shutdown



Libyan Prime Minister's plane took off from Tobruk airport using car lights after a sudden power outage on the runway as footage also showed on social media how Abdul-Hamid Dbeibah's plane took off with the help of lights from nearby cars and vehicles with news confirming the power shutdown was intentional to hinder the plane's takeoff.

Dbeibah's motorcade heading to the airport came under many stops on the road by Haftar's loyalists who shouted unpleasant words and asked the Prime Minister to get out of the car, but Deputy Interior Minister, Faraj Egayem, intervened and promised to meet the protesters' demands except "Dbeibah's greetings to Haftar".

Meanwhile, the spokesman for the Government of National Unity, Mohammed Hamouda, said early on Tuesday that Dbeibah left Tobruk after the failure of the House of Representatives to pass the budget bill on Monday, saying the government's ministerial commission tackling the budget issues will see the needed amendment and hold meetings with House of Representatives' financial committee Tuesday.

Dbeibah attended Monday a session for the House of Representatives with the aim of obtaining an endorsement of the 2021 budget, which didn't happen.



Politics

Turkey strongly condemns affront to its flag by Haftar's supporters in east Libya

Turkey strongly condemned on Tuesday an attempt by supporters of Khalifa Haftar to desecrate the Turkish flag in Tobruk, Libya, describing the incident as a "heinous act."

Turkish Foreign Ministry spokesperson, Tanju Bilgiç, said in a statement that Ankara strongly condemned the ugly action against their flag in front of the temporary building of the House of Representatives during the budget negotiations held on Monday in Tobruk, eastern Libya.

"Immediately after learning of the heinous act, our Tripoli Embassy made the necessary written and verbal initiatives before the Libyan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and demanded that necessary measures be taken to prevent such provocations and to prevent similar incidents from recurring," Bilgiç indicated, noting that the act clearly intended to target the Turkish-Libyan friendship.

Haftar's supporters placed a Turkish flag on the street for cars to drive on it en route to the headquarters of the House of Representatives in Tobruk, in a sign of their rejection to Turkey's support for the Volcano of Rage Operation that repelled Haftar's offensive on Tripoli between April 2019 and June 2020.

Politics

Minutes after verifying news, Al-Mismari denies fire incident at Haftar's HQ



The spokesman for Khalifa Haftar's forces, Ahmed Al-Mismari, denied Tuesday that fire broke out at the so-called General Command in Rajma, just minutes after announcing that firefighters had put out the fire.

Al-Mismari said on Facebook that firefighters had confirmed that there had been no fire at the headquarters in Rajma and that only a simple electric fault happened causing no damage whatsoever.

Al-Mismari's Facebook post, which verified the news about fire, was deleted. The post said in the first place that firefighters unit has contained the fire that broke out at the headquarters in Rajma due to electric fault, saying there were no material or human losses.



Politics

Al-Lafi, Kubis talk over Berlin 2 outcomes

Member of the Presidential Council Abdullah Al-Lafi met on Monday with the UN envoy to Libya Jan Kubis to discuss progress in the Libyan arena.

The two sides talked over the Berlin 2 conference outcomes, including the consensus of the participants to hold the elections on



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on time and the failure of the "75" Committee in Geneva to reach a constitutional basis for holding elections next December.

The meeting also reviewed the progress of the 5 + 5 Committee's work, represented in the opening of the coastal road, and the situation in the south, according to a statement by the PC.

PC member Al-Lafi stressed the need to stick to the elections timetable, noting with satisfaction the launching of the voter registration system and the media center of the (HNEC).

He also referred to the government's efforts to ensure the holding of elections without hindrances, including the opening of the coastal road, which has reached final stages, the exchange of detainees, its work to get all mercenaries and foreign forces out of Libya, and the unification of the military institution, in addition to the national reconciliation project.

Politics

Arab League regrets failure of LPDF to achieve consensus



The Arab League conveyed its regret that the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF) was incapable of reaching an agreement on the constitutional basis.

In a statement, an official in the General Secretariat of the Arab League stressed the necessity for all parties to show common spirit to achieve a consensus, in order to overcome the obstacles to reach the actual holding of elections as scheduled on December 24, 2021.

The statement added that the Libyan citizens themselves, along with the international community desire the holding of elections on time without further delay, demanding more effort be exerted to achieve the necessary consensus, so as not to miss this important opportunity, which the Libyan people aspire to attain, in order to reach the final stage of stability in the country.

Politics

Operation IRINI Chief: Europe ready to train Libyan coastguards



European Union's Operation IRINI commander, Fabio Agostini, said Europe is ready to train the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy personnel despite political hindrances from countries outside the European Union.

Agostini told Italian news agency, NOVA, that thanks to training received by Libyan coastguards from 2016 to 2019 as part of Operation Sophia, the Libyan Navy became more capable and performed better search and rescue operations and treated immigrants much better.

He also said Operation IRINI was tasked to integrate specific training units to respect human rights, gender, and vulnerable people in all training programs made by Operation Sophia with the European Union's support.

Agostini said Operation Sophia trained, until its mandate end in March 2020, over 477 Libyan coastguards over three years of work.

Economy

Turkish company seeks investment projects in Misrata



A delegation from Turkey's Albayrak Holding paid a visit to the 'Free Zone' in Misrata to discuss investment proposals to establish a logistics center within the zone.

The Turkish delegation was officially briefed on the investment opportunities, advantages, and exemptions possible, in addition to discussing the plan to open a branch for Albayrak within the Misrata 'Free Zone', to set up the logistics center, along with a storage operations facility and a group of affiliated buildings, which would be essential to the operation of the center.

The tour included a visit to the port of the 'Free Zone' in Misrata and the site of the proposed project, which was designated for Albayrak to launch its direct investment activities.



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Economy

Investment authority reviews opportunities in the south



Chairman of the Board of Directors of the General Authority for Investment Promotion and Privatization Affairs, Dr. Jamal Al-Nuwaisari, held an extensive meeting to discuss investment projects in the regions of Sabha and Ubari.

The meeting consisted of senior officials from several sectors, including, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Al-Bunna Company for Communication and Technology, the Director-General of the Zakat Fund, the Deputy Director-General of the Export Development Center, the Executive Director of the Libyan Industry Federation, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture in Sabha, and President of the Libyan Businesswomen Council.

Participants explored possible investment opportunities in the southern region and emphasized the need to create a climate attractive to local and foreign private investment.

The officials got an insight into the investments authority's work and the investment law. The meeting also featured a visual presentation identifying investment opportunities in all regions.

At the meeting's conclusion, the participants agreed on setting up a joint working mechanism to support the investment map and the targeted projects in the southern region.



Economy

Ministry of Economy seeks plan to develop A country's date production

The Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture in Benghazi held a meeting on Thursday to discuss supporting palm-growing projects in the southern region.

The meeting grouped municipal council members from the concerned oasis areas, including Al-Wahat, Jallo, and Awjila, besides investors in the agriculture field.

Participants discussed the difficulties facing traders and farmers in developing palm cultivation and the means to boost productivity and improve the quality of Libyan dates.

They also considered plans to implement small and medium-sized enterprises specialized in manufacturing and complementary industries for dates, in the framework of a national plan to localize industries and achieve spatial development in these places, according to the Economy Ministry.

Economy

Misrata Free Zone announces first transshipment operation



Misrata Free Zone announced the official activation of its free zone transit service after receiving the first foreign shipment coming from the Ras Ijdirdir crossing border with Tunisia.

Ala Al-Din Baba, Director of the Marketing and Cooperation Department at the Misrata Free Zone, said in statements to The Libya Observer that the new service will allow companies to expand their trading activities globally with zero customs duty.

"Nationally, the free zone transit will generate positive effects on the economy since it allows further foreign currency inflows. Another benefit is employment within the sector itself, including companies' staff, venues staff, etc," the official said.

He also indicated that this would promote sustainable spatial development at national and regional levels.

"The Free zone Transit has other indirect economic benefits such as revenues for local shops, hotels, and restaurants."

"We expect to launch new trading routes deep in the African continent, initially with Chad and Niger, and this would create a range of businesses throughout this route, including automobile repair shops and other service industries," Ala Al-Din Baba explains.



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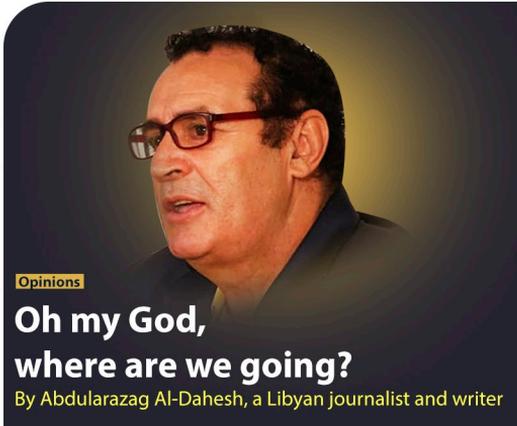
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Opinions

Oh my God, where are we going?

By Abdularazag Al-Dahesh, a Libyan journalist and writer

Libyan often has to go to Djerba, even because of a fit of coughing, noting that the number of workers in the government health sector in Libya exceeds 140,000, while in Britain less than 120,000. While the number of tourists who visited Libya during the last ten years, may not reach ten, the number of workers in tourism reaches more than 10,000, which is more than double the workers in the tourism sector in Spain, which receives more than 80 million tourists.

The number of workers in the education sector reaches about 660,000, while the number in Tunisia does not exceed 66,000, and we may have to bring in teachers from Tunisia to cover the deficit in scientific subjects.

The number of workers in the culture sector is more than 25,000, which is more than double the number in France, where the income of culture exceeds Libya's oil needs, while the number of visitors to cultural centers does not reach even a quarter of the number of workers in them.

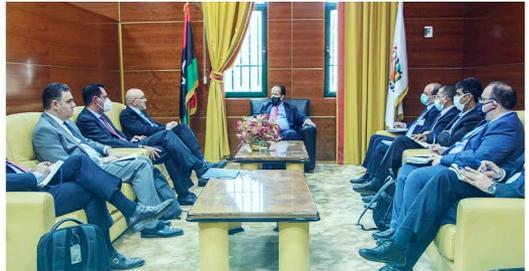
The number of workers in the security sector exceeds a quarter of a million, meaning a security man for every 30 citizens, which is an average that is not found in any country in the world, knowing that in a country like Norway, the number does not even reach 70,000, as no one of the Norwegians has to use a rickety Hyundai and an old phone for fear of theft.

The number of workers in the cavalry sector exceeds 5,000, and the last Libyan film is The Music of Rain, which is more than 30 years ago.

The number of workers in the administrative apparatus in Libya approaches two million, in a country whose population does not reach eight million, while the number of workers in the German government does not reach 800,000 employees, and its population exceeds eighty million.

We have embassies in countries with which we do not meet, even in the circumambulation of the Kaaba (Tawaf/around the Kaaba).

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Libya Observer



Health

Libya, Greece review ways to enhance health cooperation

Minister of Health, Ali Al-Zanati has discussed with the Greek Undersecretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in charge of economic cooperation, Costas Francoyannis, ways of cooperation between the two countries in the health sector.

During the meeting, which was held at the Ministry's office, several files were discussed, the most important of which is the cooperation between the two sides in developing the health sector and exchanging medical expertise, especially in the delicate fields.



Health

WHO: Records for June show the lowest death rate from the Coronavirus in Libya

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported that the number of monthly deaths due to the Coronavirus in Libya has decreased by 71 deaths since last June, which is the lowest rate recorded since the beginning of this year, 2021.

In its monthly updated report on the epidemiological situation in the country, WHO added that despite conducting almost 94,000 laboratory tests per month during the past four months, the number of infections has been declining since March 2021, due to the increase in the number of healthy individuals.

WHO indicated that 100,000 doses of the Russian Sputnik vaccine and 54,990 doses of the American Pfizer vaccine arrived on June 15 and 24, adding that more than 899,000 individuals were registered on the vaccine system, including more than 3,000 foreigners, noting that the immunization program for immigrants and refugees has yet to begin.

Health

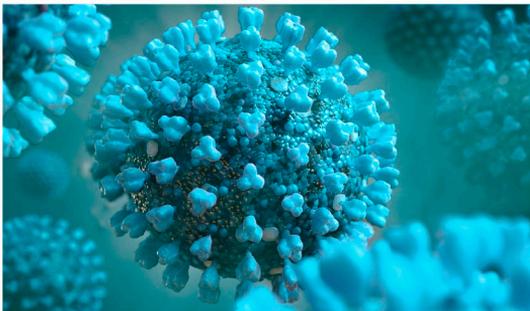
Al-Zanati discusses health situation in Sabha



The Minister of Health for the Government of National Unity (GNU), Ali Al-Zanati, held a meeting with the directors of various health facilities in the municipality of Sabha to discuss the current health situation in the city.

During the meeting, all the difficulties and needs which hinder the provision of medical services in Sabha were presented, along with suggestions that could contribute to solving the obstacles, with the hope to positively affect progress.

The Ministry of Health explained that this meeting comes within the framework of the Ministry of Health's interest in primary health care as a fundamental pillar of the health system throughout the country.



Health

NCDC warns of threat of new Indian strain of Coronavirus

The Director of the Vaccination Department at the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC), Abdul Basit Samio, warned of a new danger of the entry and spread of an Indian strain of the Coronavirus in Libya.

Samio called on all citizens to take extra precautionary measures, advising them not to travel to high-risk countries, saying that the epidemiological situation in the country is considered good in comparison to recent months.

He also explained that this improvement is fraught with caution and anticipation, particularly with the spread of this new Indian strain of the virus in neighbouring countries such as Egypt and Tunisia, calling on the government to seek even more vaccines, pointing to the arrival of approximately 55,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine on June 24.



Children's singer Jaber Othman dies of COVID-19

Musician Jaber Othman, one of the few voices who sang for children in Libya, died on Saturday of coronavirus, the media centre of Al-Bayda city confirmed.

Othman, 61, died at the Al-Hawari General Hospital in Benghazi east of Libya after suffering from complications of Covid-19.

Throughout his career that expanded for over three decades, he used his talent to make children happy, presenting TV shows and songs, most favorite "Bism Allah," "My Blue Pencil," "Let's Draw," and others.

Artist Jaber Othman won several awards, including best singer and composer for children's songs in the Arab world. He also won best program presenter at the Children's Festival in Cairo and the Creativity Award at the Cairo Television Festival.

The deceased was born in 1960 in Benghazi. He joined the Ali Al-Shaaliyah School of Music and obtained a diploma in music and acting before he worked as a teacher at the same institute.

He began his artistic career as an actor, where he played a role in the series "Return to Reality," but perhaps he was best known for presenting children programs, most famous his radio show "A Story Each Day."

Migration

Zuware: Foreigners have ten days to settle their status



The Municipality of Zuware Monday issued a notification to all undocumented foreigners residing in Zuware to settle their legal status within ten days from the announcement or voluntarily leave the city.

The statement indicated the growing numbers of illegal migrants and the high crime rate in their places of residence in particular.

It warned that after the deadline, the security services would launch an overall security plan to track the violators.

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It warned that after the deadline, the security services would launch an overall security plan to track the violators.

The Mayor of Zuwara has held an emergency meeting lately to discuss the security situation, stressing that "the city's security is, above all."

The Municipal council's media office explained to The Libya Observer in previous statements that the meeting came in response to the growing crime rate in the city. "Unfortunately, most of these violations are committed by illegal migrants and foreigners."

The coastal city of Zuwara is one of the main transit points for migrants attempting to cross to European shores.

Since the beginning of 2021, around 11,891 illegal immigrants were rescued and returned to Libya, 381 migrants died, and 597 went missing on the Mediterranean route during the same period, according to the IOM.

Education

Minister of Technical Education visits Higher Institute of Science and Technology in Tobruk



The Minister of Technical Education, Khalaf Al-Sifaw, has toured the institutions of technical education in the eastern region to see the problems and difficulties facing the work of the institutions affiliated with the Ministry.

The inspection tour included the Higher Institute of Science and Technology, Tobruk, where he was briefed on the institute's facilities, classrooms, and technical laboratories.

Local

Local Government Ministry pledges to solve problems facing Qatroun municipality



The Undersecretary of the Ministry of Local Government for Municipal Affairs, Mustafa Ahmed Salem, has met with the mayor of the Qatroun Municipality, Omar Ali Amora, and the member of the Municipal Council, Ali Hassan.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed a number of outstanding issues related to the municipality, including stalled projects, road maintenance, water scarcity, and provision of operating materials.

Salem pledged to solve all the problems facing the municipality as soon as possible, according to the available possibilities.

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| Sat 10 | 34°/24° |  | Sunny | 8% | NNW 16 km/h | |
| Sun 11 | 32°/23° |  | Sunny | 7% | N 21 km/h | /h |
| Mon 12 | 33°/24° |  | Sunny | 4% | NNW 18 km/h | |
| Tue 13 | 35°/26° |  | Sunny | 2% | ENE 19 km/h | |
| Wed 14 | 34°/25° |  | Sunny | 1% | NE 21 km/h | |
| Thu 15 | 33°/25° |  | Sunny | 3% | N 21 km/h | |

Cartoon Going to Tripoli



Photo of the Week



Features

The Town of Riqdalin



It is located in the south of the Mediterranean on the western coast of Libya, 10 km from the seashore and 120 km to the west of the capital, Tripoli. Its population is more than 30,000 people.

Its borders from the southeast is Al-Jmail, with a distance of less than 10 km, from the northeast Zuwara, with a distance of less than 10 km, from the north is the Mediterranean Sea, with a distance of less than 10 km, from the northwest Zaltan, with a distance of less than 15 km, and from the west all the farms of Zuwara of olives, almonds, grapes and figs, and then the Western Desert until it reaches the cities of Al-Siaan, Tiji and Badr.

Origin of the Name

It is said that this name, Riqdalin, is from the Amazigh language, and its origin is "Teredaline", which means hyenas, because the area in the past was empty and predators lived in it.

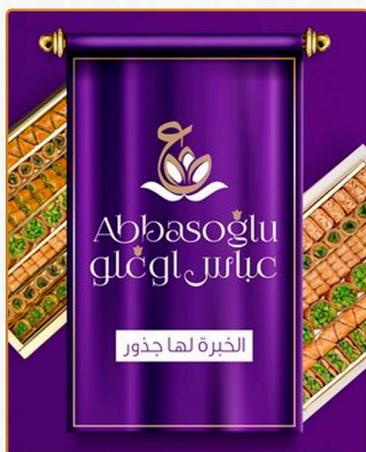
Economic Activities:

Farming

The city is characterized by the agricultural character that depends on the rain-fed cultivation of trees such as olives and almonds, and some vineyards such as grapes and figs in the areas surrounding the city, especially in the southern and western sides.

Trading

The commercial sector currently constitutes the main pillar of economic activity in the city, where there is an active industrial zone that depends on the trade of auto spare parts and mechanical maintenance, in addition to the trade in building materials and a weekly market open for vegetables and livestock held twice a week (on Tuesdays and Fridays).



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