Black American author Dwight Watkins thinks children in impoverished neighbourhoods starved for books by and about people like them. P4-5

**Showbiz**

*Game of Thrones: 7 hopes for Sunday’s season finale.*

Page 11

**Back Page**

How you can increase work productivity in Ramadan.

Page 16
Mr. Local

**DIRECTION:** M Rajesh

**CAST:** Sivakarthikeyan, Nayanthara, Radhika Sarathkumar

**SYNOPSIS:** Sivakarthikeyan as ‘local’ boy seems to be interested in sports. Nayanthara plays Keerthana, a snobbish CEO of a company, who is constantly at loggerheads with Sivakarthikeyan. On the other hand he wants to make Keerthana fall in love with him.

**THEATRES:** Royal Plaza, Landmark, The Mall

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Avengers: Endgame

**DIRECTION:** Anthony Russo, Joe Russo

**CAST:** Brie Larson, Winston Duke, Karen Gillan

**SYNOPSIS:** After the devastating events of *Avengers: Infinity War* (2018), the universe is in ruins. With the help of remaining allies, the Avengers assemble once more in order to undo Thanos’ actions and restore order to the universe.

**THEATRES:** Royal Plaza, Landmark, The Mall

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**USEFUL NUMBERS**

| Emergency | 999 |
| WorldWide Emergency Number | 112 |
| Kahramaa – Electricity and Water | 991 |
| Local Directory | 180 |
| International Calls Enquiries | 150 |
| Hamad International Airport | 40106666 |
| Labor Department | 44508111, 44506537 |
| Mowasalat Taxi | 44588888 |
| Qatar Airways | 44490000 |
| Hamad Medical Corporation | 44392222, 44393333 |
| Qatar General Electricity and Water Corporation | 44845555, 44845464 |
| Primary Health Care Corporation | 44933333, 4493363 |
| Qatar Assistive Technology Centre | 44504050 |
| Qatar News Agency | 44490205, 44490333 |
| Q-Post – General Postal Corporation | 44464444 |
| Humanitarian Services Office (Single window facility for the repatriation of bodies) | |
| Ministry of Interior | 40253371, 40253372, 40253369 |
| Ministry of Health | 40253370, 40253364 |
| Hamad Medical Corporation | 40253364, 40253365 |
| Qatar Airways | 40253374 |

**PRAYER TIME**

- Fajr 3.20am
- Shorooq (sunrise) 4.48am
- Zuhr (noon) 11.32am
- Asr (afternoon) 2.58pm
- Maghreb (sunset) 6.16pm
- Isha (night) 7.46pm

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…”Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning.”

— Albert Einstein

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**COMMUNITY**

*Quote Unquote*

**Community Editor**

Kamran Rehmat

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**Fax:** 44350474

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**THEATRES:**

- **The Mall Cinema (1):** De De Pyaar De (Hindi) 2:30pm; De De Pyaar De (Hindi) 9pm; Mr. Local (Tamil) 11:15pm
- **The Mall Cinema (2):** Mr. Local (Tamil) 2:15pm; Mr. Local (Tamil) 8:30pm; Student of the Year 2 (Hindi) 11:15pm
- **The Mall Cinema (3):** Monster (Tamil) 2:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 8:30pm; Uyare (Malayalam) 11:30pm
- **Landmark Cinema (1):** Mr. Local (Tamil) 2:15pm
- **Landmark Cinema (2):** De De Pyaar De (Hindi) 2:30pm; De De Pyaar De (Hindi) 8:30pm; Uyare (Malayalam) 11pm
- **Landmark Cinema (3):** A Dog’s Journey (2D) 3pm; A Dog’s Journey (2D) 8:30pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 10:30pm
- **Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (1):** Mr. Local (Tamil) 8:30pm; Monster (Tamil) 11:15pm
- **Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (2):** Uyare (Malayalam) 2:30pm; A Dog’s Journey (2D) 9pm; Uyare (Malayalam) 11pm
- **Royal Plaza Cinema Palace (3):** Ugly Dolls (2D) 3pm; The Convent (2D) 9pm; Avengers: Endgame (2D) 11pm
**EVENTS**

**MF Hussain: The Horses Of The Sun**
WHERE: Matat: Arab Museum of Modern Art
WHEN: Ongoing till July 31
TIME: 9am – 7pm
The exhibition presents Hussain’s pluralist approach to the divine and cosmic aspects of being, articulated through the myths, symbols and narratives of the world’s religions and philosophies. M. F. Hussain: Horses of the Sun bears witness to a recurrent motif in his art, a personal symbol of self-renewal and vitality.

**Katara Drive Thru Festival**
WHERE: Katara Cultural Village
WHEN: Ongoing till June 10
TIME: 6pm – 4am
Join us at Katara Village and enjoy the diverse cuisines at your car step! From first day of Ramadan until Eid holidays starting from 5pm till 2am.

**India to Qatar – Symbiosis of Cultures**
WHERE: FBQ Museum
WHEN: Ongoing till July 31
Under the context of cultural exchange, FBQ Museum brings together the treasures of the museum owned collection in order to promote mutual understanding, recognition and appreciation between Qatar and India. Composed of five main topics, including community, trade, arts, food and incense, the exhibition takes one on a journey to explore the rich and diverse Indian cultures, the long historic links between Qatar and India, and cultural similarities between Qatar and India.

**Sunset Desert Safari with Iftar**
WHERE: Sealine Beach
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 2pm – 10pm
Enjoy a day-out in the relaxing singing sand dunes of Mesoaeed along with a thrilling dune bashing experience. This 8-hour getaway takes you all the way to the breath-taking inland sea beach aka Khor Al Adaif to watch the Sunset. Break your fast with lavish Iftar at the resort. Only for QR280 per person.

**Ballet Lessons**
WHERE: Music and Arts Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 4pm – 8pm
For more info e-mail at registration@atelierqatar.com or call on 33003839.

**Career Guidance**
WHERE: Right Track Consultants, Al Sadd
WHEN: Sunday – Thursday
TIME: 6pm – 8pm
Career guidance for course, country, college and entrance for students of Grade IX-XII, of all curriculum. Career assessments administered for stream preference, career test, branch preference, personality, multiple intelligence and learning styles and productivity. For more information, 55448835.

**Artistic Gymnastic Classes**
WHERE: Qatar Academy Msheireb
WHEN: Ongoing
TIME: 3:15pm – 4:15pm
WHERE: Theatrical & Taekwondo. Ages between 5 and 10 years old after school hours.

**Hobby Classes**
WHERE: Mamangam Performing Art Centre
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Mamangam Performing Art Centre, is a holistic performing arts institution and a one stop solution for adults as well as children looking to explore their talents in various art forms. We offer classes in contemporary, Bollywood, hip hop, Indian classical dance, music (Hindustani and Carnatic), arts and craft, karate, yoga, percussion (Chenda, Thimil, Elathalam and Madhalam), violin, harmonium, public speaking.

**Dance and Instrument Classes**
WHERE: TCA Campus, Behind Gulf Times Building
WHEN: Wednesday – Monday
Learn the movements of dance styles in Bollywood, Hip Hop and also the musical instruments such as Piano, Guitar, Keyboard for adults as well kids and move in the world of music. For details, contact 66523871/ 31326749.

**Summer Camp for Special Needs**
WHERE: Step by Step Centre for Special Needs
WHEN: June 30 – August 1
TIME: 8:00am – 12:30pm
During this time, all therapists and teachers will be working together, running individual, peer and group sessions within classes. The children will continue learning age-appropriate concepts, work on social skills, life skills training, arts and crafts, music, and fun activities such as water play.

**After School Activities**
WHERE: Atelier
WHEN: Ongoing
Music and arts activities for students taking place after they finish their day in school includes Group Music lessons, Hip hop, Ballet, Drawing and Painting, Drama

**Compiled by Nausheen Shaikh. E-mail: gtlisting@gmail.com, Events and timings subject to change**
“Reading every day is the only way you can grow as a critical thinker. When you learn how to think critically, you learn how to make good decisions. When you learn how to make good decisions, you can do the right things with your life.”

— Dwight Watkins, author

How do you inspire kids living in impoverished neighbourhoods to rise above their circumstances? When you’re on the road with the author Dwight Watkins, the answer might include an HBO film crew, presentations by a neighbourhood nachos czar and an internet radio personality, a free lunch and boxes filled with 1,000 copies of the author’s newly released third book, We Speak for Ourselves: A Word from Forgotten Black America.

“Reading every day is the only way you can guarantee success for your life,” the 38-year-old author recently told a classroom full of teens in Kerry Graham’s English class at Patterson High School.

“It’s the only way you can grow as a critical thinker. When you learn how to think critically, you learn how to make good decisions. When you learn how to make good decisions, you can do the right things with your life.”

We Speak for Ourselves contains 15 essays about the social ills from underfunded schools to police corruption. It also is Watkins’ attempt to rectify what he says is a serious oversight by other authors who address those topics.

Too often, he writes, intellectuals take “a drone approach” when commenting about economically disadvantaged communities. In his view, these middle-class pundits — some black and some white — hover from above. Rarely do they visit the neighbourhoods whose problems they attempt to analyse or speak to anyone who actually lives in the falling-down rowhouses.

Watkins said he’s not attempting to be the voice of his community, but he feels qualified to be a voice. He grew up and still lives in East Baltimore. He has written about the murder of his older brother and of the period of his life when he ran a successful drug operation. He has described falling in love with books and using that passion to transform himself into the college professor and best-selling author.
he is today.

Essays with titles such as I’m Sick of Woke and Intellectually Curious or Racist? might seem targeted more toward an adult audience than toward middle and high school students.

But Watkins thinks kids are starved for books by and about people like them, books that address the conditions under which they struggle. It’s terribly important to him to show young people that there are other options than those leading to prison, a life of poverty or an early death.

So he organised his own “book tour” of a dozen city schools aimed at helping students start personal libraries. He brought lunch — supplied by his friend Eric Williams, owner of Nacho Bangers — and he brought along an entourage of East and West Baltimore residents to share their own success stories. Williams, for instance, is 22 years old and bought his business three years ago. Last year, he said, he made a profit of $500,000.

DTLR radio personality and model Tiana LaNiece talked about the importance of finding a career you love and sticking to it. She joined the internet radio station in 2000 at the age of 15 to earn money to purchase the Jordan sneakers she craved.

“Later, I developed my own radio show and after that I did the Nike campaign,” she said. (A photo on Instagram shows her wearing her usual hijab — adorned with the Nike swoosh.) “You can start small and end up big.”

And the HBO crew wielding a great, big boom microphone? They were trailing Watkins for the day in connection with an upcoming and mysteriously vague documentary being directed by Sonja Sohn. (She’s the actor/director best known for portraying Detective Kima Greggs on the Baltimore-based HBO drama, The Wire. Neither she nor anyone else at HBO would reveal the documentary’s topic.)

But chances are that even without the TV crew, the kids in Graham’s class would have been eager to hear what the author had to say.

“D previously gave us 25 copies of his memoir, The Cook Up, and within weeks, every single one had vanished from the classroom,” Graham said. “They disappeared. They were just gone.”

A boy in a hoodie admitted: “I think I might have taken two by accident.”

Graham raised an eyebrow in mock outrage. “By accident?” she said. Then she smiled.

“That’s OK,” she said. “If you’re going to steal something, steal books.”

This mission of getting the right books into the right hands is so important to Watkins that he goes to unusual lengths to accomplish it. On a recent Friday, he crisscrossed the city, squeezing in visits to four schools in four hours.

That was all the time he had to spare. The night before, Watkins had celebrated the official launch of his book at Union Baptist Church and then was at his desk at the University of Baltimore by 8am the following morning, where he put in two hours crafting a new essay.

Then he was hustling out the door and on his way to his first school. On Friday, he crisscrossed the city with his entourage, squeezing in visits to four schools in four hours. After winding up that day’s book tour at The National Academy Foundation, he bolted for Penn Station, where he was taking a 3:30pm train to Philadelphia where he had an evening book event. He wasn’t staying overnight because the following day he had a meeting in Washington.

With memoir The Cook Up, Watkins takes us deeper into his former life. It was difficult not to contrast Watkins’ immersive donating style with that of the author of another highly-publicised literary acquisition by Baltimore’s public schools.

Unlike Mayor Catherine Pugh, who reportedly made $800,000 from her Healthy Holly children’s book series, Watkins didn’t profit from his contribution. He said that his publication contract includes a provision that 1,000 copies of We Speak for Ourselves be given to local students for free.

In addition, Watkins made sure that the schools wanted the books before he showed up at classroom doors. In November, he launched a social media campaign inviting teachers and students to compete for copies by submitting poems, essays or posts explaining why their school should receive the books. After receiving a few hundred submissions, Watkins said, a dozen city schools were selected.

During a question and answer session at City Springs Elementary/Middle School, 7th grade student Durrus Walker raised his hand.

“What inspires you today?” he asked.

Watkins thought for a second. Then he began to speak very fast, as he does when he feels strongly about what he’s saying.

“You do,” he said. “You inspire me. I was once your age and trying to figure out the world like you. I needed big brothers and homies to look out for me. Sometimes I had that, and sometimes I didn’t.

“When I have rough days, I know there’s kids running around the city who are being inspired by the work I do so I have to keep going. When you see a young person and you look out for them and they start to succeed — when they are smart and get into great colleges and start their own companies — that is the biggest blessing.”

— The Baltimore Sun/TNS
Doha College becomes a COBIS Training School

The Council of British International Schools (COBIS) has recently announced Doha College as one of its first-ever cohort of COBIS Training Schools, launched as part of its ongoing strategic work to support schools with the current teacher supply challenge, both in the UK and overseas. The COBIS Training Schools initiative is a badging and quality assurance scheme to enable schools to demonstrate the breadth and quality of their commitment to professional development, with an emphasis on Initial Teacher Training (ITT), career progression routes and whole school workforce development.

Dr Sommer, Principal of Doha College, said, “I am exceptionally pleased that Doha College was chosen as one of the 11 training schools by COBIS. This will give us a chance to train our teachers and also teachers from other British schools here in Doha. We firmly believe that only if we are all strong, can the strongest get stronger, which means that we want to make an active contribution to excellence in education here in Qatar. Us being a training school is the first step, but a significant one, in that direction.”

Trevor Rowell, Chairman of COBIS, added, “High-quality international schools could play a greater role in training teachers in their locality. This can include TAs, support staff, alumni, parents, spouses - those already within the wider community of international schools – as well as suitable local and international staff to reduce demand on domestic supply.”

The first COBIS Training Schools in the world, include Alice Smith School, Malaysia; Braeburn School, Kenya; British School, The Netherlands; British School Muscat, Oman, British School of Brussels, Belgium, British School of Bucharest, Romania, Doha College, Qatar, Nord Anglia International School Hong Kong, Hong Kong, St Saviour’s School Ikoyi, Nigeria; The Edron Academy, Mexico, and Wellington College China Institute of Learning, China.

SIS pre-primary organises orientation for parents

The Pre-Primary Section of Shantiniketan Indian School (SIS) recently organised an orientation session for parents to highlight the policies and practices of kindergarten with a deep insight into the pre-primary curriculum. Mehjabeen Hasan, Senior Head Teacher at SIS, welcomed the gathering and presented a detailed overview on the learning guidelines and the unique features of SIS kindergarten.

Latha Shyammohan, faculty member at SIS, presented the kindergarten policies and practices. Kavitha Solomon briefed the parents on their meaningful participation in their child’s learning and development. Varalakshmi Ganesan elucidated the importance of children’s wellness and happiness in their education process.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Subhash B Nair, Principal of SIS, highlighted the significance of healthy eating habits, personal hygiene and regulated sleeping time. The real message conveyed was to love children unconditionally and instill the urge for learning without compulsion.

MES students visit Commercial Bank

As a part of the field trip, 25 students from the Commerce Stream of MES Indian School accompanied by teachers recently visited Commercial Bank, Grand Hamad Street branch. Commercial Bank is Qatar’s first private bank and has a solid franchise, with over 44 years of innovation and customer service. It has country wide network includes 29 full-service branches and 174 ATMs.

The team comprising 13 girls and 12 boys were keen to know about the various primary functions of the branch and other important commercial activities, products and services.

The students specifically got to know in detail about Commercial Bank’s online banking services/products, lending funds to customers in the form of loans and advances, cash credit, overdraft and discounting of bills etc. Reham Sabri Thawabi, Head of Retail Branches, delivered the introduction speech and introduced the programme ‘Young Bankers’ Summer Internship.’ The students were also enthusiastic about interacting with the bank officials throughout the session. The visit to Commercial Bank and the interactive session with the bank executives really inspired the visiting students.
INLS and NLL organise 92nd Edition of Literary Reading

International Nepali Literature Society-Qatar (INLS) and Nabodit Literature Library (NLL) recently organised its 92nd Edition of Literary Reading to mark the birth anniversary of Bishnu Kumar Waiba, Nepali writer. The event was chaired by Prem Prasad Bhatterai, President of INLS, along with Tej Katuwal, First Chairman of Non-Resident Nepali Association National Co-ordination Council Qatar. The event was co-ordinated by Binda lama, Tirtha Sangam Rai, Chief Adviser at INLS, Deep Milan, President of Nabodit Literature Library, and Ganesh Banjeda, Adviser at Nepali Federation, Journalist, Qatar. The event kicked off by honouring Bishnu Kumari and placing a garland on her portrait and lighting candles. Various local poets, including Anil Kumar Bista, Sagar Bhandari, Arjun Poudel, Ganesh Cheetri, Dhubra Aryal, Ram Acharya, Tirtha Sangam Rai, Mahendra Khadka, Lila Nath Ghimire, Suresh Panwar, Niren Nepal, Suresh Marumba, Sotantral Nepal, Shekor Basnet, Rup Rasani, Chinniyo Timilsina, Resham Basnet, Suraj Nepal, Narayan Bhandari, Chakra Karki, Bimod Adhikari, Dilip Parajuli, Lek Kori, Tika Khadka, Deep Milan and Prem Prasad Bhatterai recited their poems on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Prem Prasad Bhatterai thanked all the poets and audience for attending the event. Tej Katuwal thanked the organisations, poets and audience for their contribution to Nepali language.

Text and photo by Usha Wagle Gautam

Hyundai to unveil the all new Palisade and Sonata

Hyundai is all set confirm the details of two new products available to Middle East and Africa markets, with the region included in plans for a New-generation Sonata sedan and an All-new SUV model, the Palisade, stated a press release.

The Palisade is an all-new flagship SUV. It will be a mid-size SUV, but at the more spacious and powerful end of its segment – longer, wider and taller than the newest Santa Fe which went on sale last year. The Palisade will be available on the 17th of June at Skyline Automotive Showroom – the official distribution partner of the Hyundai Motor Company in the State of Qatar. The Sonata will be available in the Middle East and Africa versions will take place in South Korea, ahead of deliveries to the region.

They also offer a wide range of cutting-edge safety technology, with a selection of advanced driver assistance systems packaged as Hyundai SmartSense.

“The Sonata has a long and successful history in our region, and consistently ranks among the most popular models in its segment, so we have high expectations for this latest model,” said Mike Song, Hyundai's Head of Operations for the Middle East and Africa. “It offers premium design with sporty, coupelike styling, combined with exceptional quality and outstanding value in the market. The Palisade offers the same high standards, while extending our range into new market segments, offering a larger family SUV as a flagship product. This will reach out to new customers for our brand, and also serve the changing needs of loyal Hyundai owners.”

Hyundai previewed the Palisade for the first time at the Los Angeles Auto Show last November, while the Sonata was presented publicly in March. An official hands-on launch of the Middle East and Africa versions will take place in South Korea, ahead of deliveries to the region during the summer.

Alluring new Ramadan tent at The Westin Doha

This year, The Westin Doha Hotel and Spa has introduced a magnificent tent inspired by the traditional Ramadan themes from countries around the world with an Arabesque twist, in partnership with Qatar Airways and Mannia Corporation, stated a press release.

A wide array of appetisers, soups and main courses of international and authentic Qatari dishes on a variety of desserts are served during Iftar and Suhour throughout 12 different live stations.

“It is a great honour for us to offer our guests a unique Ramadan experience through a culinary journey for the fourth consecutive year. Variety of authentic and innovative international dishes have been carefully cooked by our award-winning chefs,” said Ammar Samad, Hotel Manager at The Westin Doha Hotel 5&Spa.

The Westin Ramadan Tent, having the capacity to accommodate up to 1000 guests, is located in the spacious 2100 square metre Grand Ballroom of the hotel consisting of private mals, at the ground floor. Iftar starts from sunset until 8:30pm and Suhour is served from 9:30pm until 1:30am. The price for Iftar and Suhour buffet at the tent is QR220 per person. Seasonal tastes will also open for Iftar and Suhour at QR169 per person and complimentary for kids under 6 years old and 50% savings for kids aged between 6 to 12 years old. Also, Saba Thai will be operational from sunset until midnight. Heavenly Spa by Westin is also offering a summer package with a special one-month membership inclusive of full access to the gym and pool facilities along with one service of the guest’s choice such as manicure or pedicure or 2 classes from the Westin Workout for QR1,000. The Spa will be open from 7am until midnight.
Monochromatic approach

Qatari artist Yasser al-Mulla exhibits his drawings that tell stories between lines, writes Mudassir Raja

Storytelling traditions vary all over the world, yet have many things in common. Storytelling has been an ancient and intimate tradition between the storyteller and their audience. The storyteller reveals, and thus shares, him/herself through their telling and the audience reveal and share themselves through their reception of the story. People have been using different means to tell their stories.

Yasser al-Mulla is a young Qatari artist who used lines in his drawings to tell stories, has been showcasing as many as 22 of his drawings at ART29, a gallery in W Doha Hotel & Residences. The hotel is known for hosting exhibitions for young and budding artists.

The moving art exhibition ‘Lines telling a story’ was inaugurated on Saturday night in the presence of artists, art lovers and media. The month-long exhibition will continue till June 18 from 10am to 10pm every day.

The drawings on the display attempt to ‘raise questions’ in his art and depict his thoughts using discursive, achromatic lines. The exhibition takes art lovers and enthusiasts through a moving journey through al-Mulla’s eyes.

Known for his black and white line technique, al-Mulla – who has a colour-mixed optic condition – believes the line technique is limitless and that he can attract people to the ideas inside his brain through endless lines. He attempts to present his own through ambiguous thin and thick black lines against a vacant white space. Each drawing illustrates a story and when put all together, the collection inevitably depicts his life journey that come together through meandering lines and geometric shapes.

An engineer by trade, al-Mulla studied at Qatar University and Law at Cairo University, but did not begin drawing until 2015. He found his true passion and motivation by telling his story through drawings. Al-Mulla does not have an exact plan in mind before he draws, but rather a preliminary abstraction of what to include.

Talking to Community, Yasser said, “As an artist, I want to express my feelings. I want to show people that the art can have different feelings. Art can have different subjects. The subjects in the exhibition are stories from daily life. Art can be simple and beautiful at the same time.”

“I have 22 art pieces here. Each piece is comprised of two papers. One paper carries the drawing and the other carries the story. The stories have some wisdom to share with the visitors. I am trying to tell the people to stand up and fight back in life. Life is very beautiful. We just need to appreciate it and the people around us. Life is combination of love, sorrow and sickness. Human is very complicated.”

Sharing how he started drawing, Yasser said, “I did not study art. Only three years ago, I started painting and drawing. I have taken part in many group exhibitions in Doha. Last year, I took part in an exhibition in Russia. “It is very weird that how I got attracted towards the art. I had a dream of tsunami one night, I woke up in panic. I just got a pen and started drawing lines. Since that night, I have been drawing. I did not know what kind of art it was actually. But, it makes me very relaxed when I do it.”

For Yasser a line is an unlimited thing. “If you will start drawing a line tonight and keep drawing it for 100 years, it will never end. In life there are lots of things to say. So, the line is an endless way of explaining yourself. For example, in one of my drawings, I am talking about someone who is suffering from anxiety. One day he thinks to go home and take away all his bad thoughts and anxiety. He drops the bad thinking and bad ideas.”

“The different levels of thickness of lines for me represent different colours. In only black using different fonts, I try to say different things. It is may be the first exhibition in black and white in Doha telling stories. Different circles in different paints represent various thoughts.”

He thinks that Doha has become very attractive for artists around the world. The artist is excited to see a number of exhibitions in different galleries.

Fahad al-Obaidly, a Qatar fashion designer, is proud of Yasser. “I am really fascinated by his approach. He has an ability of telling a story in an abstract way. It is very unique in Qatar. Realist artists tell their stories in their own way. To be honest, I think he is approaching a special niche for him.”

Wasim Daaje, General Manager of W Doha, said, “ART29 has become Doha’s premier spot to showcase the growing base of talented artists the country has to offer. Yasser’s art gallery is a special place that presents the works of upcoming local, regional and international artists. It provides them with a space to showcase their work and aspirations to the community.”
At the inauguration ceremony.
Qatar’s glorious hour

The atmosphere was electric as Qatar inaugurated its second FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 stadium in style and aptly so by playing host to the prestigious Amir Cup 2019. Tickets were already sold out days before the main event that was held last Thursday with not only locals and expats picking up tickets but Arab expats from across the Gulf and beyond, who flew in to watch the spectacle.

The stadium was designed by the award winning late British Iraqi architect Zaha Hadid, who was inspired by the history of Al Wakrah port the beautiful Qatari dhows that dock at its shore. The design resembles a dhow turned turtle, where you can see the beautiful contours that resemble the wooden partners of the boat. When you enter the stadium, the seats are painted in a way that portrays the waves of the sea — a beautiful tribute to the once bustling pearl diving town of Al Wakrah.

The air cooling technology of the stadiums is world class, as all seats have an air duct behind them sending out cool air and thereby keeping the stadium cool. A British fan said he wished he had brought his pullover as it got a bit chilly. (Part 2 will appear in tomorrow’s edition)

— Text and photos by Bosco Menezes
Game of Thrones: 7 hopes for Sunday’s season finale

By Chris Barton

Spoilers alert: This column contains details about the fifth episode of the final season of Game of Thrones.

In case you haven’t heard the faint screams emanating from your Twitter feed, the ending for Game of Thrones has not been going well. While nobody has suffered quite so much as those trapped in King’s Landing as a furious Dragon Queen raised death from above last week, the series has seen a noticeable dip in its approval ratings, dropping out of its long-held perch in the 90% range and into the low 70s. Some have viewed this as a surprise twist as all part of the game in watching a show that was never in our control; others have lamented seemingly sudden character shifts and storylines that either led to dead ends or were left unexplored entirely.

And with less than 60 minutes left in a series that at times seemed to occupy half the Internet’s bandwidth with speculation and confrontation about its many turns, the chances of landing on an ending that would please everybody are extraordinarily slim.

For all its rushed pacing and unearned character turns, this is the series the creators of Game of Thrones made, and is the only one we’re going to – at least until George R.R. Martin finishes those next novels, which are enjoying an unbeatable marketing campaign, both for their implied promise of “the ending you couldn’t see” and the bonus of a focus-grouped, first-draft ending. (The less said about that absurd, fan-driven signature campaign for HBO to remake the series with new writers the better.)

Still, with one episode left to go, we can dream. Below are seven last, perhaps futile hopes for the series finale.

Let’s see Dany the human at last Sunday was either Daenerys or Tyrion being on his way toward where ever Arya is headed might be a good start.

Did you know Arya can switch faces? Does she? This isn’t a plea for Arya to again save the world by killing a tyrannical ruler – twice in a few weeks would feel a little rich. But like her brother, Arya has acquired strange powers, which hasn’t really come up in the past few episodes despite all the desperate situations. Arya’s escape from the assassin’s life and her fascination with the God of Death feels like a well-earned development, but letting her talents again be tapped for the greater good would at least put that white horse at the end of last week’s episode to good use.

Send in the wolves: Come on. Let Jon have a proper goodbye to Ghost and maybe even let Arya’s Nymeria get a curtain call. Or just give them both a spinoff that follows their side of the past few seasons and beyond. Whatever else happens, we’ve earned that, haven’t we – Los Angeles Times/TNS
**Wordsearch**

Every letter of the alphabet is used at least once. Squares with the same number in have the same letter in. Work out which number represents which letter.

**Codeword**

**Wordsearch**

| O | R | T | E | R | S | F | Q | T | Y | H | N | O | M | D | U | S | C | G | P | R | K | Y | G | O | O | B | T | X | A |

**Sudoku**

Sudoku is a puzzle based on a 9x9 grid. The grid is also divided into nine 3x3 squares. You are given a selection of values and to complete the puzzle, you must fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 square contain all of the digits from 1 to 9.

**Garfield**

**Bound And Gagged**
**Super Cryptic Clues**

**Across**
1. Domestic animals pace backwards (4)
3. For example, good chess player that may be beaten by a whisker (3-5)
9. Shut up about our bravery (7)
10. In Minnesota citizenship is implied (5)
11. A game - that's what a striker needs (5)
12. Gentle touch scares eccentric (6)
16. Adapt recipe requiring skewer (6)
19. Small model accepts upper-class partner (6)
21. Floating platforms found by fliers on the way back (5)
24. Misbehave and take part in heightened drama? (3,2)
25. Mark is terribly verbose (7)
26. Purser is reeling in shock (8)
27. Enclosures for female swans (4)

**Down**
1. Tonic the setter found in a truck (4-2-2)
2. Financial arrangement tied up, so it's said (5)
4. A 1970s musical may be heard in this country (6)
5. Scott's left out drink (5)
6. Carbon is used for filling in gold tooth (7)
7. Grub for which Cockney uses microwave? (4)
8. Cricket trophy presented after 500 runs (6)
13. Judge again finding donkeys in half of resort (8)
15. A planet, by Jove! (7)
17. Influx of hydrogen after one runs out (6)
18. Evil spirits taking part in demonstration (6)
20. Superior meal with no starter (5)
22. Almost overlook blacksmith's place (5)
23. Black donkey - one with a low voice (4)

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**Yesterday’s Solution**

```
  A N D A L U S I A N
  C M A E I D
  N A I R
  B I S T O N
  N A P O L E O N
  T A L I T
  O R A N A E
  D E E R
  C A R A M E L
  M E U C O K
  T E N D E R L O I N
```

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**Wordsearch**

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

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**Codeword**

```
R E K A R D V A R K
S A R L T S
```

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**Answers**

Across
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Young kids who watch more TV are likely to get less sleep

Parents assumed that TV was helping their kids addressable. However, it did not fully compensate for the lost sleep at night.

Moreover, while daytime napping was found to increase among the kids who watched the most TV, it did not fully compensate for the lost sleep at night.

“The good news is, this is addressable. Parents assumed that TV was helping their kids wind down. But it didn’t work.

Those kids weren’t getting good sleep, and it wasn’t helping them fall asleep better. It’s good to have this data,” said Rebecca Spencer, Associate Professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in the US. A very diverse group of 470 pre-schoolers participated in the study, wearing actigraphs for up to 16 days.

The findings showed that pre-schoolers who watch TV sleep significantly less than those who do not.

On average, young children without TVs in their bedrooms slept 30 minutes more at night than those with a TV in their bedroom, the study said.

The findings of the researchers come on the heels of new guidelines from the World Health Organisation (WHO), which say children between age 2 and 4 years should have no more than one hour of “sedentary screen time” daily – and less or no screen time is even better. – IANS
Then eat of what Allah has provided for you [which is] lawful and good. And be grateful for the favour of Allah, if it is [indeed] Him that you worship.

Quran 16:114

**How to make the best use of all months**

“A great and blessed month...” This is how the Prophet, sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention), described the best of all months!

Little wonder, for Ramadan is a great season for making profits. Whoever wastes it has lost a great deal, whoever refrains from competing in it is feeble, and whoever is deprived of its blessings is miserable.

Its great blessings must be sought and received with all the necessary preparations and strong determination.

Our beloved Prophet, sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention), used to long for this month... “This is how the Prophet, sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention), described the month of Ramadan...” This is how the Prophet, sallallaahu `alayhi wa sallam (may Allah exalt his mention), described the month of Ramadan.

Therefore, we have to prepare a detailed plan to make use of this great opportunity. Here are some relevant tips that would help us achieve this purpose:

First: Define your objectives in this honourable month

Turn to your Lord with a sincere intention and strong determination. Open a new page with Him through repenting of all sins and acts of disobedience. Renew one’s intention to observe fasting during the month of Ramadan with faith while seeking its reward from Allah The Almighty.

Start by determining the objectives that you want to achieve during this great season. However, you should know that a strong resolve comes to people of determination, and noble deeds come in proportion to your share of determination and magnanimity. Nevertheless, always remember to make your ultimate aim to achieve piety as Allah The Almighty Says (what means): “[O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous.]” [Quran 2:183]

Then, you can divide your sub-objectives as follows:

1- Personal objectives
2- Family objectives
3- Objectives related to your colleagues
4- Objectives related to your neighbours
5- Objectives related to the Muslim nation
6- Objectives related to the Muslim nation

Second: Plan for the following:

A Qur’anic programme to make use of the massive rewards for good deeds. Be keen on reciting the whole Qur’an more than once during this blessed month. You should also be keen on memorizing part of the Quran every day and you can compete with your friends and relatives in this regard to encourage each other.

A programme for supplication: Write down your supplications and determine your requests. Then, repeat these supplications as much as you could during this great season. You should remember to ask your Lord the sublime and most precious things as He is The Benevolent and The Gracious.

A programme for acquiring knowledge

A programme for visits

A programme for charity

Third: Try to learn the juristic rulings of fasting as well as its manners. This requires you to sit with your family to study the rulings and manners of the fast at the beginning of the month of Ramadan or before if possible, because this will prepare you not to fast ignorantly. This will also ensure that you will avoid making mistakes besides enabling you to turn to scholars for Fatwas in special cases.

Be keen on making your fast of the highest rank, as we have three ranks of fast:

1- The fast of the general Muslim populace: It means restraining oneself from eating and drinking during the day and avoiding sexual relations with one’s spouse.
2- The fast of the few select Muslims: Beside avoiding eating and drinking, there is avoidance of sins of the hands, feet, sight, tongue, and other parts of the body.
3- The fast of the highest class: This is the fast of the prominent ones who avoid the world completely and immerse themselves in the love of Allah The Almighty Alone.

Fourth: Encourage your family to make use of this month.

Hold a family meeting and discuss the topic “Let us make use of the blessed month. Sit with them and consult them about the program of Ramadan. “Sit with them and discuss the topic “Let us make use of the blessed month...”

Consult them about the program of Ramadan. “Sit with them and discuss the topic “Let us make use of the blessed month...”
Here’s how you can increase work productivity in Ramadan

By Mudasir Raja

Ramadan is a month of both test and blessings. Muslims try to make the best of Ramadan as they indulge in prayers and charity more than they usually do the rest of the year.

With the blessings of the holy month, there are also some challenges for many Muslims. One such challenge is for men and women to increase their work productivity while fasting, which is when energy levels remain low for most of the day. Muslim employees often find it difficult to engage in multiple work-related duties because they feel tired and sleepy.

Research and tips from health and lifestyle experts shows that if certain practices are adapted during Ramadan, work productivity can surely be increased.

Experts suggest that a fasting individual needs to start his or her work as early as possible after Suhoor.

They should try and take advantage of high energy levels in the early morning. If possible, they should begin working soon after morning prayers. They say that early morning has gold in its mouth.

Individuals fasting need to start their daily work with the tasks that need most of the concentration.

They should prioritise accordingly. Since one is more energetic and can concentrate better during early morning hours of Ramadan, one must prioritise tasks that require more concentration and focus on them so as to complete them first.

Further, those fasting need to avoid interruptions during work. Since there are no interruptions like tea or coffee break during Ramadan, one should try and be able to avoid other interruptions and work for uninterrupted periods of time to finish the given tasks sooner.

One can try and develop new habits for work in the holy month. Since fasting lets you exercise your willpower, it is a good time to get rid of bad habits and acquire good ones. Experts suggest that one needs 21 days to form a habit.

Ramadan can be a very good start with a 30-day trial period of a new habit.

If the individuals fasting can control their meals, they will be more energetic. Fasting for long hours and then having too much food all of a sudden will not result in any spiritual or health benefits. One should try to take food in intervals after Iftar. This will make people feel more energetic to practice nightly rituals and enjoy a sound sleep. Additionally, people fasting should avoid watching TV during Ramadan so they can have a good sleep.

If one does not sleep well, it impacts the energy and concentration levels the next day as well. Sleeping boosts the ability to deliver results without stress.

Ramadan is the holiest month for the Muslims where they can recharge spiritually for the rest of the year.

They should also use it as a chance to recharge their productivity rates through a set of good habits that we follow from Ramadan onward.

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### Food Tips: What to eat?

**By Azmat Haroon**

When it comes to fast food, pizza is by far the most popular and sought after food world over. Our ancestors have been eating pizza, in one form or another, for centuries. As far back as antiquity, pieces of flatbread, topped with savouries, have been served as a simple meal for those who could not afford plates, or who were on the go. But it was in Naples, a city in southern Italy, where bakers prepared the first dish to be known as a “pizza” in the 11th century. According to popular tradition, in 1889, during a visit to Naples of Queen Margherita of Savoy, chef Raffaele Esposito of Da Pietro Pizzeria (now known as Pizzeria Brandi) and his wife created a pizza resembling the colours of the Italian flag, red (tomato), white (mozzarella) and green (basil). Queen Margherita approved of this pizza and it soon became known as pizza Margherita.

But it was the advent of pizza chains in the 19th century that made pizza world’s best fast food. Among the pioneers was the American restaurant chain and international franchise Pizza Hut that first opened doors in 1958, followed by Domino’s in 1960, and Papa John’s in 1985. They all had one goal in mind that was to sell pizzas to masses.

Pizza essentially consists of three things: dough, sauce, and toppings. Yet this simple dish has spawned hundreds of variations and resulted in a $5-billion worldwide industry. It is no surprise then we in Qatar love pizza too and here are some restaurants that serve our favourite kinds of pizza:

**Top places for pizza**

- Pizza Hut
- Vapiano
- 800 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzeria
- Cucina