Qatar starts free vaccination tomorrow

Sheikh Jassim conveys condolences of Amir on death of Sheikh Nasser Sabah

Deputy Amir meets Italian FM

Quarantine for arrivals extended up to Feb 15

Qatar’s strategy will enable everyone to be vaccinated against Covid-19 in 2021, but for now with a limited quantity of vaccines, we must prioritise people most at risk from severe complications and death from the virus, Dr al-Khal explained. (QNA)
Shura Council lauds Qatar’s pioneering role in sports arena

The Shura Council held its monthly meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of HE the Speaker, Abdulrahman bin Jassim al-Abadi. At the beginning of the meeting, the Council hailed the arrival of the first shipment of the Covid-19 vaccine under the chairmanship of the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs and the General Authority for Public Services. (QNA)

Qatar takes part in webinar on combating corruption

The Qatar Leadership Centre (QLC) and the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs have signed an agreement to implement a number of projects and development activities in the field of combating corruption, with a focus on the role of women in combating corruption in the public and private sectors. (QNA)

Deputy PM meets chairman of Pakistani Joint Chiefs of Staff

HE the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Defence Affairs Dr Khalid bin Mansour Al-Matroushi met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of Pakistan General Qamar Javed Bajwa. During the meeting, they discussed issues of common interest between the two sides and the latest developments in the region. (QNA)

Chief of Staff of Armed Forces meets chairman of US Joint Chiefs of Staff

HE the Chief of Staff of Qatar Armed Forces Lieutenant General Abdulrahman bin Saud al-Muraihi received yesterday a call from the Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest. (QNA)

Al-Ghanem meets Pakistan chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee

HE the Chief of Staff of Qatar Armed Forces Lieutenant General Abdulrahman bin Saud al-Muraihi met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee’s Sheikh Abd al-Rahman bin Hamad Al-Thani. During the meeting, they discussed matters of mutual interest and means to advance them. A follow-up meeting of the Qatar Armed Forces senior officers attended the meeting. (QNA)

PM meets CEO of Credit Suisse Group

Qatar reviews bilateral co-operation relations between the two countries and means of developing and enhancing them in various fields, in addition to issues of mutual concern. The meeting was attended by a number of senior officers of the Qatar Armed Forces. (QNA)

Sheikha Moza meets Italian minister

Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, met with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy Luigi Di Maio. During the meeting, they discussed issues of common interest between the two sides and ways of enhancing joint projects with Education Above All. (QNA)

PM meets Italian minister

At the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Sheikh Ahmad bin Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Thani’s request, the Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and his delegation paid a visit to Qatar yesterday with the support of the Italian ambassador to Qatar. During the meeting, they reviewed bilateral co-operation relations between the two countries and means of developing and enhancing them in various fields, in addition to issues of mutual concern. (QNA)
MoTC honours winners of ‘Digital Excellence Awards’

The Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) honours winners of the ‘Digital Excellence Awards’ at a ceremony attended by HE the Minister of Transport and Communications Jassim Seif Ahmed al-Sulaiti and several senior government officials.

The event, according to a statement released by the ministry, highlighted the graduation of batches of personnel from Qatar Digital Government Programme (QDGTP), stemming from the Qatar Digital Government Training (QDGTP) Programmes and the third batch of graduates from the IT Talent Programme.

The award is one of the QDGTP initiatives to value and recognize the efforts of departmental and governmental entities in developing and using innovative digital solutions for the benefit of the community.

There are seven categories for the Awards: Best Digital Service, Best Open Government Service, Best Invention, Best Government Entity (QDGTP Programmes), Best Government Portal or Website, Best Mobile Application and Best Mobile Website. These awards are provided under each category, first place gold, second place silver, and third place bronze.

The Best Digital Service award is given to the public-facing digital service that has been deployed on a digital platform and Mobile App to deliver digital service delivered in the most effective way with the highest level of quality. In this category, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) won the other award for the Misratah service, whereas the Ministry of Education and Higher Education won the gold for the registration and transferral of students of Government College.

The Ministry of Municipalities and Environment (MME) was the other award for Qatar Airways for its ‘Qatar Airways’ mobile app, whereas MoI received the silver award for the App for the Ministry of Interior (MoI) for the digital service award for the Best Mobile Application category. The MME has been awarded the best digital government application for smart services in terms of ease, “said Qatar Airways Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing Bruce Fahd.

The Ministry of Municipalities and Environment (MME) has been awarded the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

In the category of Best Government Portal or Website, the Best Open Government Service category, awarded to the best performance, accessibility, and user experience, there were, among others, the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) received the certificate.

The General Customers Authority received the other award for its Customisation for Arabic Language and Financial System platforms. While Qatar Airways’ website won the Best Digital Service award in the Best Digital Service category, awarded to the best performance, accessibility, and user experience.

The Ministry of the Interior (MoI) won the other award for the Ministry of Interior (MoI) for the digital service award for the Best Mobile Application category. The Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) received the certificate.

In the category of Best Government Portal or Website, the Best Open Government Service category, awarded to the best performance, accessibility, and user experience, there were, among others, the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) received the certificate.

The Ministry of Transport and Communications (MoTC) has been awarded the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

The Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) has been awarded the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

The Ministry of Health won the gold for the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

The Ministry of Education and Higher Education has been awarded the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

The Ministry of Tourism and Culture (MoTC) has been awarded the Best Digital Service award for its efficiency and user experience.

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Qatar's active Covid-19 cases drop below 2,000

The authorities designated yesterday five people in the country as being in the ‘Covid Low Risk Category’ which means that they have been infected with Covid-19 but they have the same level of viral load that people who have never been infected with Covid-19 have.

The Health Ministry indicated that people in this category will be able to take part in the national sport activities and events approved by the government, including those set to take place this month.

The category is aimed at helping those who have recovered from the virus to return to normalcy as soon as possible.

The ministry also said that those in the category will not be subjected to any quarantine measures or restrictions.

The ministry added that those in the category will be able to travel and attend national sport events and activities without any restrictions.

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Qatar Charity, HMC sign memorandum of understanding

Qatar Charity (QC) and Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to cooperate in supporting patients’ activities and projects.

The agreement was signed by Mr. Jassim Muhammad Al-Emadi, Director of Programs and Community Development Department at Qatar Charity, and Mr. Ali Al Janahi, HMC’s Acting Assistant Managing Director.

The pact was in the presence of Mr. Ali Abdullah Al Khater, Chief Communications Officer at HMC, and Mr. Nasser Al Naimi, Deputy Chief of Quality, Center for Patient Experience and Staff Engagement and Director of Hamad Healthcare Quality Institute.

Mr. Al-Khater said, this is a good initiative for the benefit of patients, and Qatar Charity always does something that benefits people, expressing his confidence that this agreement will be valuable to patients.

Mr. Nasser Al Naimi was delighted with the agreement signed with Qatar Charity. He said that this is the first agreement to enhance HMC’s patient experiences and support their participation with HMC, adding that “We seek to have a community partnership between the community and HMC through Qatar Charity’s donations.”

He also indicated that one of the main points under the agreement is establishing a fund to support activities promoted by Centre of patient experience and Staff engagement at HMC, noting that the center will be responsible for developing patient experiences and improving patient services provided by HMC.

For his part, Mr. Jassim Muhammad Al-Emadi, Director of Programs and Community Development Department at Qatar Charity, thanked HMC for its great trust in Qatar Charity. He emphasized that Qatar Charity is keen to continue cooperation and partnership with HMC to extend health assistance to patients, especially those with limited income.

He also said that this agreement comes within the framework of Qatar Charity’s community responsibility, as it constantly seeks to improve the quality of its services provided for the benefit of humanity.

The MoU includes allocating clear projects for the patients and facilities and highlighting them through Qatar Charity’s channels, as well as supporting families of needy patients to face difficulties arising from the diseases or any other social reasons including death.

According to the MoU, both parties agreed to establish a fund to support activities promoted by Centre of Patient Experience and Staff engagement at HMC and support patients with limited income during receiving healthcare services at HMC.

Under the agreement, 7 million Qatari riyals will be allocated to support the patients and medical conditions where zakat funds apply, and purchase a mobile physiotherapy vehicle.

The MoU also includes implementing joint activities that serve the mutual goals of both parties, in addition to supporting some activities and events of social nature made by the Center of Patient Experience and Staff Engagement at HMC.

Qatar Charity provides school uniforms for ‘Future’s Leaders’

Qatar Charity (QC), in cooperation with the Q Uniform Factory, provided school uniforms for the female members of the “Future’s Leaders” and the students from families with limited income in the country, benefiting 200 students.

The distribution of the uniforms, which comes as part of Qatar Charity’s ‘Teach Me’ campaign, took place through coupons given to the families registered with Qatar Charity.

Through this project, Qatar Charity aims to reduce the burdens on the families of the “Future’s Leaders” and the parents from low-income families, and encourage students to continue their outstanding academic performance.

“Qatar Charity aims to reduce the burdens on the families of the “Future’s Leaders” and the parents from low-income families, and encourage students to continue their outstanding academic performance.”

Qatar Charity is keen to partner with the numerous bodies in the country to implement various humanitarian projects within the framework of social responsibility, aiming to contribute to achieving the Qatar National Vision 2030, especially in the field of education and culture.

Mr. Ali Al-Abadi General Manager of the Q Uniform Factory said, “This support comes within the framework of an initiative launched by the factory in cooperation with Qatar Charity to provide school uniforms free of charge to government school students belonging to families with limited income, as the factory management believes in social responsibility.”

He was delighted with the cooperation that makes it easier for the factory management to carry out community service. He also applauded Qatar Charity for its tremendous support for students, noting the continuation of cooperation in the future.

The mothers of the students expressed their pleasure with school uniforms provided for their daughters in the time of the coronavirus pandemic that has badly affected many families, thanking Qatar Charity and the Q Uniform Factory management for this kind gesture that had a good impact on their daughters.

Qatar Charity, through the “Future’s Leaders” program, pays close attention to orphans in the fields of education, health and entertainment, according to the highest standards, as part of the inclusive care provided for those sponsored by Qatar Charity.
QFFD and IFAD sign pact and hungry people live.

the people living in rural areas of agriculture, it was announced tion programme for smallholder (IF AD) to support the adapta-

for Agricultural Development as a change and climate action from

Houngbo said: "Small-scale farmers in rural areas play a pr"
AFP

Hundreds of angry Iraqis continued to demonstrate yesterday against a currency devaluation that has slashed their purchasing power amid a pandemic-ravaged economic crisis. The Central Bank of Iraq (CBI) of the weekend devalued the currency by over 15% against the US dollar, a move hailed by a young protest leader, who said what the value of their pensions had been cut. Riot police with shields and antiquated riot gear moved at Ishfaq, but the protest was peaceful. “People have been preparing for this for a long time,” said a protest leader, “we are not going to let our problems remain unsolved.” The demonstration spilled over, as people raised their fists and chanted, “Down with the price rise!”

Ahead of the release of data regarding the number of new cases of COVID-19, Iraqi health officials called for more stringent measures to curb the spread of the virus.

Kenyan doctors strike in protest at inadequate benefits, PPE

Kenyan doctors who are working on the frontline against the COVID-19 pandemic have gone on strike, demanding adequate protective equipment and benefits.

The Kenya Medical Practitioners Trade Union (KMPDU) said that the strike was a result of their demands not being met. The union has been negotiating with the government for better wages and benefits, including better protective equipment.

The strike comes as Kenya’s health system is under pressure to handle a surge in COVID-19 cases. The country has recorded over 100,000 confirmed cases and over 1,500 deaths since the start of the pandemic.

Royal and USS Philippine Sea, in the strategic Strait of Hormuz on Sunday, according to a government-affiliated news agency. The USS Georgia is the lead ship of the Georgia class, one of the United States’ premiere nuclear-powered attack submarines. It is equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles, providing the United States significant capabilities to respond to threats in the region.

Dhiring the dinar at a bank rate of the US dollar, officially slashed their purchasing power Iraqis hold protest after currency values slashed

AFP

The United Arab Emirates yesterday arrested a number of Chinese officials on Chinese sources over alleged human rights abuses, taking further action against Beijing in the wake of the months-long US-China dispute where the US has been imposing sanctions on Chinese officials.

The UAE has been collaborating with the International Commission of Inquiry (ICNI) to investigate the allegations of human rights abuses in Xinjiang, which the UAE considers to be a region with serious human rights issues.

Singapore receives Asia’s first Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine doses

Singapore received its first batch of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine doses yesterday, marking the start of the country’s vaccination program. The vaccine will be administered to healthcare workers and the elderly.

The vaccine is expected to be rolled out in phases, with healthcare workers receiving it first. The government has promised that the vaccine will be distributed to all citizens and residents of the country.

Australia confirms two cases of new COVID-19 strain

Australia confirmed two cases of a new strain of coronavirus yesterday, bringing the total number of cases in the country to 30. The new strain was first identified in the United Kingdom and is believed to be more transmissible than the original strain.

The two cases were detected in two returned travelers from the UK. The individuals were tested on arrival and found to be positive for the new strain.

The government has announced that all flights from the UK will be banned from entry to Australia effective immediately.

AFP

Gulf nations close borders over variant of virus

Gulf nations closed their borders over a new variant of coronavirus that has emerged in the UK. The new strain, known as the “UK variant,” is believed to be more transmissible than the original strain.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries, including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and the United Arab Emirates, have announced the closure of their borders to all travelers from the UK.

The decision was based on a report that the new variant has caused an increase in hospitalizations and deaths in the UK, raising concerns about its potential spread to other countries.

AFP
Two found guilty in UK over Vietnamese migrant deaths

Two people were found guilty yesterday of manslaughter and producing documents to defraud authorities over the deaths of two Vietnamese men in the UK. The men died after being found in a shed near a railway line in London in November 2020. The two men had been working on the railway and were transported to the site to dispose of waste.

Hawaiian losses from hurricanes Eta and Iota total $1.9bn: UN

Hawaiian Airlines has reported losses of $1.9 billion from hurricanes Eta and Iota. The two storms caused widespread damage across the state, with Eta hitting on November 20 and Iota on December 2. Hawaiian Airlines said it had experienced 270 flight cancellations and 3,000 flight delays due to the storms.

Vatican says vaccines 'morally acceptable'

The Vatican has said that the use of vaccines is morally acceptable. The statement comes after questions were raised about the morality of using vaccines, particularly in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Vatican said that the use of vaccines should be seen as a good deed, as it helps to prevent the spread of the virus.

Nationalists win weekend election in Bosnia's Bosniak region

Nationalist parties have won a weekend election in the Bosniak region of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The results indicate a shift towards nationalist sentiment in the region, with four parties winning a majority of the seats in the regional parliament.

German prosecutors charge Syrien doctor with murder, torture

A Syrian doctor living in Germany who was arrested on December 10 has been charged with murder and torture. The suspect, identified as Alaa M.A. A., is accused of violent and inhumane treatment of patients while working in a Syrian hospital in 2011. The charges include murder, torture, and serious bodily harm.

Spain to tighten lockdown after Christmas

Spain is set to tighten lockdown measures after Christmas. The government has announced that a new wave of COVID-19 is spreading across the country, and is considering further restrictions to control the spread of the virus.

US court upholds Trump executive order on internet content

A US court has upheld Trump's executive order on internet content. The court ruled that the order was within the president's authority and that it did not violate the First Amendment.

Biden's team to announce US return to WHO

Biden's transition team has announced that the US will return to the World Health Organization (WHO). The decision comes after four years of Trump's administration, which had previously withdrawn from the organization.

UK border chaos as post-Brexit travel restrictions bite

UK border chaos has been caused by post-Brexit travel restrictions. The new rules have led to long queues and delays at airports and ports, with many people struggling to leave the country.

UK chancellor to warn of post-Brexit economic challenges

The UK chancellor is expected to warn of the economic challenges that will follow the end of the transition period with the EU. The warning comes as the UK prepares to leave the EU on December 31st.

Vaccines 'morally acceptable': Pope

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Farmers pledge to carry on protests despite cold, deaths

The farmers, including a large group of women, have been camping out on the borders of New Delhi since late November, with thousands of trucks and tractors arriving daily. The farmers have said that they will not go home until their demands are met.

The farmers’ main demands include the withdrawal of three agricultural laws that were passed in September, the repeal of the Farm Laws (2020) Act, and the protection of their rights to sell their produce.

The farmers have been holding daily rallies and sit-ins at various locations around New Delhi, including the Delhi Police headquarters and the Agriculture Ministry.

India suspends UK flights over fears of new virus strain

India has suspended all flights from the United Kingdom until January 31 over fears of a new coronavirus variant that has emerged in the UK. The move comes after several countries around the world, including the European Union and the United States, have imposed travel restrictions on flights from the UK.

The new variant, which is believed to be more infectious than previous strains, has been detected in several countries, including the UK, South Africa, and Brazil.

BJP lawmaker to serve divorce notice as wife joins TMC

BJP lawmaker Soumendra Khan has served a divorce notice to his wife, who joined the TMC party earlier this month.

Khan said that he was shocked to learn that his wife had joined the TMC, which he described as a “traitor” to the BJP. He said that he would seek a divorce from his wife and that he would not pay alimony.

The move comes as the TMC has been gaining popularity in West Bengal, where Khan is a senior leader.

Congress veteran Vora dies

Home Minister and veteran Congress leader Motilal Vora passed away after a heart attack. He was 88.

Vora, who was a key figure in the Congress Party for several decades, had served as the home minister in several state and central governments.

The Congress party has expressed condolences over Vora’s death and said that he would be remembered for his contribution to the party.

Glamour

Bollywood actress Ananya Pandey leaves a meeting in Mumbai, yesterday.

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The Covid-19 pandemic’s long economic shadow

By Stephen J. Marsden

The news of the Covid-19 pandemic may have been the first shock of the 2020-21 winter, but the severity of the pandemic will have far-reaching effects on economies around the world. With lockdowns and travel restrictions in place, global economic activity has taken a nosedive, leading to widespread job losses and a sharp decline in GDP. The pandemic has had a profound impact on all sectors of the economy, from healthcare to hospitality, and has highlighted the need for governments to take swift action to mitigate its effects.

The pandemic has also had a severe impact on the financial markets, with stocks and bonds falling sharply as investors became increasingly concerned about the economic impact of the pandemic. Governments have responded with a range of measures, including stimulus packages and tax cuts, to try to support economic activity and stabilize financial markets. However, the long-term effects of the pandemic on the economy are still uncertain, as the spread of the virus continues to be a major concern.

In the coming months, it will be important for governments and financial institutions to continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic on the economy and to be prepared to take further action as needed. With the threat of a second wave of infections still present, and the economic recovery still in its early stages, there is a need for continued vigilance and coordination to ensure a successful economic rebound.
The government of Pakistan and its 21 neighbors are at odds on a project that has emerged as a key plank of the Economic Corridor (CPEC) that has the potential to change the economic landscape of the country.

Prime Minister Imran Khan had prioritized the project as one of a handful of countries that are at the forefront of the global economy. Shortly after assuming power in 2018, Khan had said that Pakistan was keen to provide some kind of assistance to the region as it faces a pandemic and a global economic slowdown.

The 21 countries that are part of the CPEC are China, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Brunei, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. The project is aimed at boosting economic growth and connectivity between the countries.

The government of Pakistan has been working closely with its neighbors to ensure that the project is implemented in a way that benefits all parties involved. The government has been actively engaging with the neighbors to address any concerns they may have and to ensure that the project is implemented in a sustainable manner.

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The project is expected to bring significant benefits to Pakistan, including increased trade, investment, and tourism. It is also expected to create jobs and improve the standard of living for millions of people across the region.

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Dr Hamad al-Rumaihi unveiled at Msheireb

M banks, Qatar’s Minister of Public Health, has unveiled Msheireb Downtown Doha, a new cultural waterfront district, which will play an important role in Qatar’s social, cultural and economic development, reflecting the three essences of the smartest and most sustainable city district in the world. The new flagship, “Smart City with Soul” in Arabic “City with Soul” (Tmadiyah) further reflects the main concept of the city of the future built with humanity and cultural identity at its core.

Msheireb Downtown Doha is the place where humanity and cultural identity meet. Msheireb Downtown Doha is the place where humanity and cultural identity will take the world, offering people a wider sense of belonging and therefore more of a sense of national identity, and will create a city that is more sustainable in the future generations. Msheireb Downtown Doha represents the essence of Qatar’s culture and heritage, not only in the present but also in the most recent generations. Qatar’s Ministry of Public Health, through this new, expanded mission to promote public health, is committed to ensuring that the future generations will continue to be strong and vital.

Msheireb Downtown Doha has become a main component of the country’s major attractions and the beating heart of the capital. The smart and sustainable city district is where people who have invested in their intuition and their passion to add to the story and the design of the city can enjoy the same experiences.

Dr Hamad al-Rumaihi reiterated that Msheireb Downtown Doha is a new smart city district, which represents a source of national pride for everyone.

Msheireb Properties has undertaken the transformation of Msheireb Downtown Doha, reflecting the three essences of the smartest and most sustainable city district in the world.

The new flagship, “Smart City with Soul” in Arabic “City with Soul” (Tmadiyah) further reflects the main concept of the city of the future built with humanity and cultural identity at its core.

National Museum of Qatar announces collector car edition of Mal Lawal 3

The National Museum of Qatar announced the collector car edition of Mal Lawal 3 at Msheireb Downtown Doha. Msheireb Downtown Doha, with its significant cultural and historical heritage, was selected for the first shipment of the Mal Lawal 3 cars due to its rich history and cultural identity.

The Mal Lawal 3 Cars, the private collections of Qatari car collectors, are the first shipment of the Mal Lawal 3 cars to arrive in Qatar. During the phenomenon is only six arc minutes, which is the shortest time. Msheireb Downtown Doha was selected as the venue for the first shipment of the Mal Lawal 3 cars.

Msheireb Downtown Doha is a new smart city district, which represents a source of national pride for everyone. Msheireb Downtown Doha is the beating heart of the capital and Msheireb Properties has undertaken the transformation of Msheireb Downtown Doha, reflecting the three essences of the smartest and most sustainable city district in the world.

Qatar starts free vaccination tomorrow

The Department of Food and Veterinary Medicine, part of the Qatar Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, has announced that a new mass vaccination program will begin tomorrow. The program will be open to all Qatar residents, including those who are not citizens.

The new program, which will be open to all Qatar residents, will allow Qatar residents to receive a free dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. The program will be open to all Qatar residents, including those who are not citizens.

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