Qatar, Japan to bolster relations at all levels

First Strategic Dialogue between the two countries starts

W hile the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani, yesterday received a phone call from Japan’s Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Toshimitsu Motegi, for the opening session of the first strategic dialogue between the two countries, Iraq-born Abdulrahman Al-Thani met yesterday with his Japanese counterpart for the first time in Tokyo.

The gathering was coinciding with the leadership of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani’s historic state visit to Japan last March, which has been described as a “moment in history” by both sides.

Mr. Al-Thani mentioned the importance of the dialogue, which he said would be another step to handle the existing partnership relations between the two countries and its commitment to long-term development cooperation.

“The dialogue is a result of the strong cooperation between Qatar and Japan,” he said,高度 viewing the importance of the dialogue as a step to build on the two countries’ strong partnership and to diversify cooperation and investment.

Mr. Al-Thani mentioned the bilateral relations in various fields, including trade, economic development, and cooperation in security, in addition to the importance of expanding the dialogue to cover new areas.

Motegi welcomed the dialogue that bas been established between Qatar and Japan, and expressed his hope for the development of cooperation and investment, adding that the dialogue would be a new milestone in the strategic partnership between the two countries.

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Road Patrol-Qatar competition opens

The Qatar Armed Forces (QAF) and the Ministry of Interior have announced the winners of the 2021 Road Patrol-Qatar competition, which was held at the Qatar Armed Forces Base in Doha. The competition aimed to enhance the skills of QAF personnel in emergency response and traffic management.

The competition was divided into two categories: the Quick Response Race and the wheel change race. The winners were awarded certificates and medals for their outstanding performances.

Al-Hamadi.DataAccess on Qatar

Qatar is an impartial mediator amid Afghan evacuations: FM

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has updated the list of countries, based on the categorisation of Covid-19 risk, to six countries, which include Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka, who are listed in the ‘Special Risk 6-Country Zone’, according to information available on the MoFA website.

On the other hand, the Cabinet has decided to follow the rules and procedures for temporary evacuation of nationals of any country to the extent they are subject to the rules of host countries.

The competitions, which will continue until August 30 with an international participation, aim to prepare the competition of specials, including the individual race, the acceleration and emergency braking, the military technical race, the team race, in addition to the engine bearing, traffic signal, emergency driving, and other special competitions.

The preparation for the competition aims to achieve the highest results in international competitions, as well as to ensure the safety of all the participants.

The Supreme Judiciary Council

The Supreme Judiciary Council has completed an unprecedented achievement in the number of judicial rulings and decisions issued by the courts and the Rental Disputes Settlement Committees, which reached 154,000 judgments.

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Katara set to host S’hail 2021 in Sept

**Shoppers cash in on promotions at LuLu back-to-school campaign**

**Ooredoo expands offering for prepaid Hala customers**

**Qatar Charity supports more than 6,000 Syrian families in Lebanon**

**Egyptian FM receives copy of credentials of Qatar’s envoy**

**Qatar, Japan to bolster relations at all levels**
Qatar's population now 70.3% fully-vaccinated

Some 336,293 people were vaccinated yesterday bringing the total number of vaccines given in Qatar to 2,420,351. A total of 2,420,351 vaccine doses have been administered to the population of Qatar. Seven more people were vaccinated bringing the total number of vaccines given in Qatar to 2,420,351.

Qatar’s population now 70.3% fully-vaccinated

The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) yesterday that 70.3% of, or 1,900,818 people, have received both doses of the coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine. The authorities have called on the public to adhere to precautions and social distancing to save the lives of Covid-19 patients.

CHS and PRIO publish major report on conflict trends in the Arab world

The Centre for Conflict and Humanitarian Studies (CHS) and the Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) have jointly released a joint report analyzing conflict trends in the Arab world. The report, titled “Transitions in the Arab World,” was published yesterday by both partners on August 25 (Doha time) in 15 countries.

Qatar participates in meeting of GCC senior foreign ministry officials

Qatar participated yesterday in the second meeting of GCC Committee in Jeddah, with the participation of Foreign Ministers of GCC member countries. Qatar’s delegation was headed by HE Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr. Nasser bin Hamad Al-Attiyah.

HMC attains ACGME-I re-accreditation as a sponsoring institution

HMC Medical Corporate Hospital has attained ACGME-I re-accreditation as a sponsoring institution. The hospital, which has achieved a high standard of quality management through its continuous efforts to enhance service quality, has received the ACGME-I re-accreditation for the period spanning from August 23, 2021, to August 22, 2026.

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The MoPH yesterday reported 312 new confirmed cases of Covid-19 among the community, and 18 among citizens. It also reported 123 recoveries from the virus, bringing the total number of recoveries in Qatar to 162,696.

In a statement yesterday, the health minister said that “it is important to be cautious as the risk of infection remains high. People are encouraged to wear masks and follow hygiene and social distancing measures.”

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Crisis-hit Lebanon to reopen schools starting next month

E XPRESS

Students in Lebanon will resume their studies in the classroom for the first time in over a year, as the government is set to reopen schools from Monday.

There are six categories of Lebanese students who will return to class. This includes students aged 11 to 14 who have received the first dose of the vaccine, and those aged 15 to 17, who have received both doses, as well as those aged 55 and above who have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

The first group of students to return will be those in grades one to six, followed by grades seven to nine, then grades 10 to 12, and finally those in higher education and vocational training.

For children younger than six years old, there will be no return to classes, as they remain at home in accordance with the Ministry of Education's guidance. However, educational and training activities, including distance learning, will continue to be provided to help students catch up on missed lessons.

The government has announced that the schools will follow strict health and safety measures, including mandatory mask-wearing, regular sanitization of classrooms, and social distancing.

In January, Lebanon's government announced a national vaccination drive to help combat the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The drive aims to vaccinate all Lebanese citizens aged 18 and above by the end of the year.

The first wave of vaccinations took place in April and May, with more than half of the population receiving at least one dose of the vaccine.

The government has also implemented other measures to curb the spread of the virus, such as the partial lockdown in March and a strict宵令 in August.

Despite these efforts, Lebanon continues to face a严峻的经济和人道主义危机，with the country struggling under the weight of the pandemic, the ongoing conflict with Israel, and the economic turmoil.

According to the World Bank, Lebanon's GDP is expected to decline by 14% in 2021, marking the fourth consecutive year of decline. The country is also facing a severe food and fuel shortage, with the price of basic commodities increasing sharply.

The government has announced a plan to supply the fuel required for the upcoming school year, stating that it will ensure the delivery of enough fuel to schools.

In addition, the government has announced a plan to provide financial assistance to families, including a fuel subsidy for those unable to afford it.

The move is seen as an attempt to ease the burden on families and provide some relief to the struggling economy.

Yemen to get $665mn of IMF reserves in SDR allocation

Gazza’s authorities stage jab lottery to boost vaccinations

Egypt to intensify vaccination ahead of a fourth Covid wave

REGION/ARAB WORLD
**Mozambique’s $2bn fraud trial begins**

**AFP/Reuters**

**Maputo/Johannesburg**

AFP/Reuters

The Mozambique trial of 19 entities linked to a $2bn fraud at the Catholic charity Ematum was due to start yesterday in the capital Maputo.

The scam, known as the “Ivory coast scandal”, involved a combination of blackmail, bribery and kickbacks, with a combination of blackmail, bribery and kickbacks, and the scandal, which began in 2013 and 2014 by Portuguese public prosecutors – Estado de Coisas, Moçambique Asset Management and Ematum – to the capital Maputo.

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New York

AFP

Rare tropical storm downgraded

A laked aloof, plumping palm fronds had just been uprooted. The delightful, frayed wires showed no signs of life. The inhabitants of the neighborhood appeared to be just as dead as the trees. The air was heavy with an almost palpable sense of fear that he would be punished for his sins.

“I think when this is over, the American people will have a clear understanding of what it does to hold back those years of growth and let us all be hopeful that they will rejoin society...

The White House is seeking to downplay the extent of that downgrading, saying the storm’s maximum wind speed was actually a mere 40 miles per hour, just below the threshold for a cyclone.

But increasingly it’s 78-year-old Biden, who is split between winning a second term and the Legislative Crown jewels that were meant to be

As intelligence reports started trickling in two days later, the Pentagon said that the Taliban was trading in narcotics, ruled that the US military was not to be blamed, and said that the Afghan people had to be the ones to decide their own fate.

The US is preparing to make the vaccine mandatory for US military personnel, US officials have said. The US military has said that they will require all personnel to be vaccinated, as well as private employees, to be able to work for the military.

The FDA, which gave the two-dose vaccine an emergency use authorization in December, may now be moving towards a full approval of the vaccine.

The approval also makes it easier for patients to receive a third dose of Pfizer’s vaccine, instead of just one or two doses. The US military and the Department of Defense are also considering offering a third dose to military personnel.

The US military has said that it is working to move for- ward making that vaccine available to all members of the military, and that the vaccine will be mandatory for all branches of the military.

President Joe Biden speaks during an update on the situation in Afghanistan in the Rosemary Room of the White House in Washington. (AFP)

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T...
**Vietnam**

**US pledges enduring engagement in Asia**

The US president and China’s foreign minister, both set to visit Vietnam this week, mark a dramatic shift in Washington’s foreign policy stance. The two leaders will attend the G20 summit in Rome on September 26, offering a rare opportunity for the US president to meet the Chinese leader personally. The visit will be the first official trip to Southeast Asia for either of the two leaders, and it comes as China and the US increasingly compete for influence in the region.

**Philippines**

**Philippines reports record virus cases**

The Philippines has recorded a total of 1.86mn Covid-19 cases, surpassing Indonesia as the country with the highest number of infections in Southeast Asia. The country’s health department said that the number of active cases had exceeded 1.74mn, with the highest number of new cases reported in August. The country is also facing a pressing situation as the highly transmissible Delta variant continues to spread, putting pressure on the country’s healthcare system.

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President Joe Biden and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi will hold their first face-to-face meeting this week in Rome, marking a shift in US-China relations. The meeting comes as the US seeks to reassert its leadership in the region and compete with China’s growing influence.

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**Carbon from UK blue hydrogen bid ‘to equal Innn petrol cars’**

A 25-metre (82-foot) tower will pump 100,000 cubic metres of air per minute into UK skies in a bid to absorb the annual amount of carbon dioxide emissions entering the atmosphere in a crucial decade for the planet.

The installation “is being looked at in an experimental way,” Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said.

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Delhi’s environmental mini-

curtle, Kat and Sat and the Aam

**Woratio**

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**Exhibition Rebellion targets central London**
The dangerous Balkan standoff

With two decades of war in Afghanistan coming to the grim end of possible time, it is worth remembering that three decades of Balkan conflict are being forgotten. Both are cases in how the mismanagement of war can have devastating and lingering effects for decades.

In the Balkans, a small war between the disintegrating state of Yugoslavia and one of its republics, Kosovo, was followed by a bigger conflict in Croatia. Within a year, a savage conflict was taking Bosnia on a path to almost certain destruction. Suddenly, Europe’s “peace-war” period had ended.

The Balkan wars of the 1990s and the Dayton Peace Agreement ended the conflict in Bosnia in 1995, but then came the Kosovo War, which continued until 1999 and was followed, in 2001, by a serious outbreak of violence in what is now North Macedonia.

All told, the Balkan wars claimed more than 100,000 lives, displaced millions of people, and set back the region’s economic and social development by decades. Though it had been living largely in rural areas, the old Yugoslavia had given its citizens a better standard of living than those of its socialist peers. The country’s large-scale disintegration changed all that.

The peace agreements that were cobbled together at the time were weak and fragile. Everyone understood that lasting stability would require a wider and much more comprehensive process of reform. And so, in 2003, European Union insiders declared that all the region’s countries should work toward full-fledged stability and lasting peace within the EU.

No one expected that to happen overnight. But nor did anyone think the integration process would be drawn out – as it has. Since Serbia and Slovenia’s accession in 2004 and 2007, respectively, the EU’s Balkan enlargement has effectively stalled.

Now that the prospect of integration is fading, the current chapter of Balkan history is coming to an end. The region’s economies are growing at a faster rate than those of its socialist peers. The country’s long, violent disintegration changed all that.

The EU’s overture in 2003 was a courageous and wise effort by both the EU and the United States, the outstanding issues between Serbia and Kosovo are nowhere close to being solved. Efforts by both the EU and the United States, the outstanding issues between Serbia and Kosovo are nowhere close to being solved. Efforts by both the EU and the United States.

The Narrow Corridor:

Why nation-building failed in Afghanistan

With more than 100,000 lives lost and some $2tn spent, all America has to show for its effort this month is the scenes of a desperate scramble out of the country — a humiliating collapse reminiscent of the fall in 1975.

By Dave Acemoglu

The United States tried to build a country in 20 years with the hope of bringing a country that had been a source of the world and its own people. As General Stanley McChrystal explained in the run-up to the war, the main objective of his mission was to bring about the formation of a regime of Afghanistan’s first post-Taliban president, Hamid Karzai (and his brother, Abdurrahman, the US-backed Afghan president who had to the US-backed Karzai in this week, co- autorized a book in 2004 documenting how the war strategy had failed). The US-backed Karzai then worked more closely with different local groups.

Now, with more than 100,000 lives lost and some $2tn spent, America has nowhere to go but the alternative has not been available. With security forces out of the country – a humiliating collapse reminiscent of the fall in 1975 – what went wrong?

And by the way, it was not in the way that most people think. While poor planning and a lack of adequate security, the problem has been that 20 years have passed since 9/11.

The US understood early on that the only way to win was to build a stable country with some semblance of law and order was to establish robust state institutions. Encouraged by many experts and now-defunct forces, the US military the Taliban a very different problem. Afghanistan lacked state institutions – functioning economic policies, courts, and knowledge-based human resources to solve the situation.

The Western economic and cold war were to help to find their own way to make the country. And because they worked without some degree of stability, foreign soldiers, mainly NATO forces, but also provide contractors – were deployed to maintain security.

In 2020, many nations-building as a “nation-building” or “nation-forming” effort failed, and policymakers were following a rather usual pattern to offer a theoretical solution to political science. The assumption was that you could establish a general political system in a country and make it a hub for all sources of power, you can though. Yet in most places, this theory is only half right, at best, and in Afghanistan, it is completely wrong.

Of course, Afghanistan needed a functioning government in the presence that one could be imposed from above by foreign forces was misguided. As James Robinson and Jesse Pollack argue in a 2019 book, “The Narrow Corridor,” this approach makes no sense if one’s starting point is a deeply heterogeneous country organized around cultural norms, where state institutions have long been absent or impotent. This, the top-down approach to state building, worked in some cases, such as in the Ottoman Empire. But most states have been constructed not by force, but by compromise and co-operation. The world has yet to convert to a model of power, where state institutions hold lightly by ensuring concordances of popular support. This does not mean that the US should have worked with the Taliban. But it does mean that it should have worked more closely with different local groups, and that it should have been more flexible in how it worked with different local groups.

Governments need to work more closely with different local groups, and that it should have been more flexible in how it worked with different local groups. Yet in most places, this theory is only half right, at best, and in Afghanistan, it is completely wrong.

The successful centralisation of power under state institutions more commonly involves the consent and co-operation of the people subject to it. In this model, the state is not imposed but negotiated with, which is a process that can work within many EU countries. Though politicians still pay lip service to the idea, new hurdles and delays tend to be greeted with more entrenched.

Today, Afghanistan is typical for aspiring nation builders. Why? Because the country – a humiliating collapse reminiscent of the fall in 1975 – what went wrong?

And by the way, it was not in the way that most people think. While poor planning and a lack of adequate security, the problem has been that 20 years have passed since 9/11.
The art of the deal: US envoy towards Taliban return

G7 leaders eye unity pledge on Taliban recognition, sanctions

Washington

Leaders of the G7 allies will likely meet in March to pledge unity and action on Afghanistan in the face of an overwhelming challenge, but without a new summit date of April 2022, which was expected to see recognition of the Taliban.

France watching Afghan evacuation suspected of links to Taliban

Paris

A group of Afghan nationals arrive on the tarmac after disembarking from a chartered Air Belgian airplane on the military airport in Malpensa, near Milan, for evacuation to European Union countries. The group includes soldiers, police officers, civil servants and their families, who will then move to other EU countries.

Delegates harness UN biodiversity goals online

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The Nu-Q's 13th incoming class was officially welcomed to school during the annual convocation ceremony.

“Successful entrepreneurs do more and think twice – when is it a good time, when is it a bad time, when is it almost impossible to tell whether an idea is good or bad, is to try and have the ability to adapt to changes in your life,” Randolph added.

“The idea of Netflix came over a long period of time, and the most wonderful circumstance for an entrepreneur is to love the problem,” Randolph said. “We all know that, all of a sudden, everything is changing, and you have to be ready to change, to provide tips and personal recommendations to empower others. We all know that the idea of Netflix came over a long period of time, and the most wonderful circumstance for an entrepreneur is to love the problem.”

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