

PUTTING YOU IN THE PICTURE



■ Stamps, coins, documents and antiques dedicated to Bahrain's history went on display last night at an exhibition organised by the Bahrain Philatelic Society. The 12th Philatelic and Numismatics Exhibition was opened by Transportation and Telecommunications Minister Kamal Ahmed at Bahrain National Museum. Auction of rare coins, banknotes and other items will take place at the Golden Tulip Hotel from Friday until Thursday, organised by the society. Above, banknotes on display and, right, Mr Ahmed visits the exhibition yesterday.

Services to mark New Year Eve set

SERVICES to mark New Year's Eve and Day are set to be held tonight and tomorrow.

There will be a Watchnight service at Awali Church beginning at 11.30pm on New Year's Eve.

On New Year's Day at 9.30am there will be a Family Service at St Christopher's Cathedral.

Meanwhile, the annual New Year service of Good Shepherd Foursquare Church will be held tonight at 10pm at Alun Morris Hall of St Christopher's Cathedral.

Senior pastor K L Bhaskaran will share the message.

It will be a multi-national service comprising Indians, Sri Lankans, Pakistanis, Ghanaians, South Africans, Nigerians, Filipinos, Kenyans and Ivoirians.

For details, contact 39463657.



■ A memorandum of understanding was signed between Bahrain Polytechnic and Otago Polytechnic of New Zealand. The document allows for student and staff exchange programmes between the two institutions, as well as the sharing of academic materials. The signing ceremony took place at Bahrain International Circuit. Above, Otago Polytechnic chief executive Phil Ker, left, and Bahrain Polytechnic acting chief executive Dr Mohamed Al Aseeri at the signing ceremony.



■ Mr Kutty ... in Bahrain

Astrologer on visit

FANS of a travelling astrologer, who claims he can change people's fortunes by measuring "the effects of planetary energies on human behaviour", have until next month to see him in Bahrain.

T R Jayaprakash Kutty, son of well-known fortune teller T M R Kutty, believes that he can help people lead better lives and find "elusive peace" through his predictions.

He hails from the Palakkad district of Kerala and does not charge a fee for his consultations.

For appointments, call 36447784.

KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN
ESKAN BANK



Notice

Eskan Bank gives notice of its intention to cease to provide all the financial services licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain at its Jid Ali Branch, effective from January 31st, 2016.

New Branch will be located at "DANAT ALMADINA", Dana 1, shop 12, Building 3611, AlQoud Avenue, Block 812.

For inquiries, kindly call "Hala ESKAN": 17567888

Saudi Arabia shoots down Scud fired from Yemen

RIYADH: Saudi Arabia said it intercepted a Scud ballistic missile fired from Yemen towards Jazan region. According to a report in *Okaz*, the Command of the Coalition in support of the legitimate government in Yemen said that Saudi Air Defence Forces intercepted the missile and destroyed it. The alliance and the Air Force immediately located the rocket launch platform inside Yemeni territories and destroyed it.

■ IS suspects held in Turkey

ANKARA: Turkish police yesterday detained two Islamic State (IS) suspects accused of plotting a suicide bombing on New Year's Eve celebrations in the capital Ankara.

Turkish officials said the two men, reportedly both Turks, were planning to strike an area in the centre of Ankara that is expected to be packed with revellers on the night of December 31. Police confiscated one suicide bomb vest, one bomb mechanism with ball bearings and one rucksack with bomb-making materials.

■ Fireworks display called off

BRUSSELS: Authorities in the Belgian capital Brussels last night called off the city's traditional New Year's Eve fireworks display, citing fears of a militant attack. On Tuesday, federal prosecutors said two people suspected of plotting an attack in Brussels on New Year's Eve had been arrested during house searches in different parts of the country.

■ India test-fires missile

MUMBAI: India yesterday successfully test-fired a long range surface-to-air missile jointly developed with Israel from its warship in its maiden attempt, joining a select group of countries which has such an anti-air warfare capability for their navies. The Barak 8 missile fired by the Indian Navy from its warship *INS Kolkata* on the Western Seaboard successfully intercepted an aerial target at extended ranges, a statement by Indian Navy said. The missile has a range of nearly 70km.



■ A Bahraini sustained injuries in a three-car pile-up on Shaikh Khalifa bin Salman Highway yesterday. The accident happened when one of the vehicles suddenly stopped causing the other two to crash into each other. Above, a car involved in the crash. Picture: ABDUL AMEER AL SALATNA

■ Iran rocket test 'provocative'

DUBAI: The US yesterday accused Iran of launching a "highly provocative" rocket test last week near its warships and commercial traffic passing through the Strait of Hormuz, exposing how tensions between the two countries could escalate even after a landmark nuclear deal. On Saturday, the *USS Harry S Truman* aircraft carrier, the *USS Bulkeley* destroyer and a French frigate, the *FS Provence*, were passing through it, said Cmdr Kyle Raines, a US Central Command spokesman. As they passed, Iranian Revolutionary Guard vessels announced they'd be carrying out a live fire exercise, Raines said. After 23 minutes, the Iranian boats fired "several unguided rockets" about 1,370m from the warships and commercial traffic, he said.

■ Cosby charged with assault

WASHINGTON: Bill Cosby was charged yesterday with drugging and sexually assaulting a woman at his home 12 years ago – the first criminal case brought against the comedian. The case could send the 78-year-old to prison. Montgomery County first assistant district attorney Kevin Steele said the victim "came to consider Mr Cosby her mentor and her friend" after the two met through her work at Temple University.