

Humanitarian crisis in flooded East Africa

Tropical Cyclone Hidaya

Hidaya is the first documented system to have reached tropical cyclone status :



Tropical Cyclone Hidaya threatens to worsen humanitarian crisis in flooded East Africa

The World Meteorological Organization warns that Tropical Cyclone Hidaya, which is projected to make landfall in Tanzania and Kenya this weekend, threatens to worsen the humanitarian crisis triggered by torrential rains in these and other heavily flooded countries in East Africa.

"Hidaya is the first documented system to have reached tropical cyclone status in this part of the world. We are not talking about Sudan. We are talking about lower and East Africa," WMO spokesperson Clare Nullis told journalists in Geneva on Friday. "It is historically significant. It is also going to have a very big impact, specifically on



Floods on Tanzania and Kenya's coast

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Police raids shake up schools' graduation plans



Robotic probe launched to lunar far side

The Chang'e 6 robotic probe, tasked with the world's first attempt to retrieve samples from the moon's far side, embarked on its historic journey on Friday from China's southernmost province of Hainan. A Long March 5 heavy-lift carrier rocket — the biggest and mightiest

space vehicle in China, standing at 20 stories and weighing 870 metric tons — blasted off from its launch pad at 5:27 pm with the 8.35-ton Chang'e 6 spacecraft aboard and soared skyward, leaving hundreds of thousands of spectators awestruck at and around the coastal Wenchang

Space Launch Center. The liftoff marked the beginning of the country's second lunar sample-return expedition after the successful Chang'e 5 mission in the winter of 2020. Yet the unfolding mission will be much more difficult, challenging and

riveting than the Chang'e 5, which landed on the moon's near side, and will definitely be recorded — regardless of whether it is a huge success or

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Hamis negotiators arrive in Cairo for Gaza truce talks

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Uganda to repatriate remains of executed Christian martyrs

"Ugandan Martyrs"
Uganda



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Former Trump aide Hope Hicks testifies he told her to deny Stormy Daniels affair

Donald Trump
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Why Do People Need A Foreign Certificate And What Opportunities Does It Have?



By: Ne'matova Farangiz
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- The Writing and Reading modules of the academic exam focus on subjects required for the candidate's intended course of study. These modules covered three areas: science and technology, the natural sciences, and the humanities.
- The exam quickly gained popularity. By 1995, there were 210 test centres around the world, with more than 40,000 students taking the IELTS each year. The certificate is valid not only in English-speaking countries but also in European countries.
- Therefore, it is better to have an IELTS certificate than a linguistics university diploma. A person sometimes decides to take an exam to get an IELTS certificate but cannot clearly answer the question: why does he need it?



Do you know why it is so difficult to start a new job, take on a responsible task and succeed? Often, the problem is that we cannot formulate a clear goal and competently build a way to achieve it. Do you want to study at a prestigious university and have a high-paying profession? In that case, a foreign certificate, i.e., IELTS, will help people of all ages. Nowadays, foreign certificates such as IELTS, TOEFL, and BEC are widespread all over the world, and the need for them is increasing day by day. There is no question that this piece of paper, which requires strength, will, patience and perseverance, can illuminate the future path of a person and radically change his life.

The International English Language Testing System - simply put IELTS confirms the level of knowledge of the English language. The first version of the exam was

developed in the 1980s. The authors of the project were the British Council and the Cambridge University Examination Board. The exam had six options dedicated to different fields of science and one general option for candidates with higher education. Reading, listening and speaking skills were tested. The number of people who wanted to take the test increased from 4,000 to 10,000 in 5 years, but the organisation of the exam was not perfect. In 1989, he joined the British and Cambridge Council with an international program for the development of Australian colleges and universities. The exam was called IELTS. At the same time, since then, an unchanged structure has been developed: in two versions (general and academic preparation), there were four modules, i.e., reading, listening, writing, and oral parts. The speaking and listening sections were no

different.

The Writing and Reading modules of the academic exam focus on subjects required for the candidate's intended course of study. These modules covered three areas: science and technology, the natural sciences, and the humanities. The exam quickly gained popularity. By 1995, there were 210 test centres around the world, with more than 40,000 students taking the IELTS each year. The certificate is valid not only in English-speaking countries but also in European countries. Therefore, it is better to have an IELTS certificate than a linguistics university diploma. A person sometimes decides to take an exam to get an IELTS certificate but cannot clearly answer the question: why does he need it?

Various factors play a role: "friends advised," "the desire of my parents..." But there is no understanding:

why do I need this? Does the certificate really play an important role in our lives? We can give several examples of this question. First of all, the presence of this certificate in obtaining long-term visas, residence permits, and any immigration documents greatly facilitates this work. Providing an IELTS certificate is not only a mandatory requirement of the embassy but also a great psychological factor for yourself. You can come to the country to have the opportunity to freely communicate with native speakers. In addition, if you dream of working abroad, you cannot do so without a certificate. There is often a lot of competition for all candidates for prestigious positions, and high IELTS scores become an important competitive advantage. There is one more point: even if you are approved for the desired position, a certificate

is required to obtain a work visa, even if factors other than the exam play a role. Few people think about it, but you may be asked to take IELTS to confirm your language proficiency. If you succeed in the task, you may be offered a job and a higher salary. Even if you are not sure of your knowledge, don't rush to immediately watch the movie with dubbing or Uzbek or Russian subtitles.

You should be able to "tune" to the opportunities that suit you. Choose the country, university, and entry requirements that suit you. The main thing is not its scope, but its specific purpose. Thus, it is necessary for you to define your goal and be serious about achieving it.

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Language

The Mother Tongue - The Soul Of A Nation



By: Mehryniso Juraeva
xxxxxxxxxxxx



Worth Noting:

The mother tongue is the primary vehicle through which a nation's cultural identity is expressed. It is the language that carries the stories, myths, and legends that have been passed down through generations. These narratives shape a nation's collective memory and provide a sense of continuity and belonging. The mother tongue is also the language of the arts, literature, and music, which are essential components of a nation's cultural heritage.

Language is the lifeblood of a nation, the medium through which its culture, history, and identity are expressed. The mother tongue, the language a person learns from their parents or caregivers, is the most intimate and personal expression of this cultural identity. It is the language that shapes our thoughts, emotions, and understanding of the world around us. In this article, we will explore the significance of the mother tongue as the soul of a nation.

The Role of the Mother Tongue in Cultural Identity

The mother tongue is the primary vehicle through which a nation's cultural identity is expressed. It is the language that carries the stories, myths, and legends

that have been passed down through generations.

These narratives shape a nation's collective memory and provide a sense of continuity and belonging. The mother tongue is also the language of the arts, literature, and music, which are essential components of a nation's cultural heritage. The mother tongue is not just a means of communication; it is a reflection of a nation's values, beliefs, and worldview. It is the language that shapes the way people think, feel, and interact with each other. The mother tongue is the foundation upon which a nation's cultural identity is built, and it is the soul that gives life to this identity.

The Importance of Mother Tongue Education
The importance of mother

tongue education cannot be overstated. When children are taught in their mother tongue, they are better able to understand and engage with the material being presented. This leads to improved academic performance and a stronger sense of cultural identity. Mother tongue education also helps to preserve and promote a nation's linguistic heritage. As globalization and the spread of English as a lingua franca continue to exert pressure on local languages, it is essential to ensure that the mother tongue is not lost. By promoting mother tongue education, we can ensure that future generations will continue to have access to their cultural heritage and the rich tapestry of their nation's history.

The Role of the Mother Tongue in National Unity

The mother tongue is not only a reflection of a nation's cultural identity; it is also a unifying force. In multilingual societies, the mother tongue can serve as a common language that brings people together. By promoting the use of the mother tongue in public life, governments can foster a sense of national unity and pride. The mother tongue can also serve as a bridge between different linguistic communities. By learning and appreciating the mother tongues of others, people can gain a deeper understanding of their fellow citizens and the diverse cultural heritage of their nation. This can help break down barriers

and promote greater social cohesion.

Conclusion

The mother tongue is the soul of a nation, the language that carries its cultural identity, history, and values. It is the foundation upon which a nation's cultural heritage is built, and it is essential to ensure that future generations have access to this rich tapestry of stories, myths, and legends. By promoting mother tongue education and the use of the mother tongue in public life, we can foster a sense of national unity and pride, and ensure that the soul of our nation continues to thrive.

By: Mehryniso Juraeva
Student of Termez State university

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A Pain That Has Become An Anthroponym



By: Aziza Saparbaeva
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The event that happened in the life of Amir Temur and left a scar on him for life took place in Seistan in 1362. At the suggestion of Malik Qutbiddin, governor of Seistan, two friends go to fight against his enemies. During the battle, Amir Temur was seriously injured by a bow arrow on his right elbow and right leg. As a result, he will be lame for life.

Amir Temur remembers this in his "Tuzukoti Temuriy":

"On my way to Baktarzamin and Kandahar, I stopped and built a village [2] when I reached the Hirmand [1] river. I stood by that river for several days to rest my soldiers. At that time, about a thousand Turkish and Tajik horsemen from the Garmsir [3] region and their troops joined me. In this way, Garmsir region came under my control.

Then I decided to travel to Seistan [4]. When this news reached the governor of Seistan, he sent gifts and greetings through the ambassador and asked for my help: "My enemies oppressed me and took my seven fortresses from my hands. If they cut the hand of the enemy from me, I would supply their soldiers with food for six months."

After consulting on my own, I decided to march towards Seistan. Seeing that I took five of the seven fortresses captured by the enemy by force and anger, fear fell into the heart of the governor of Seistan, and he took his yesterday's enemies as his friends, and held such a council among themselves: "If Amir Temur stays here as long as I stay, it is cer-

tain that the property of Seistan will be lost from our hands", saying that all the Sipah and raiyats of Seistan united and attacked me.

Because the governor of Seistan did not keep his promise, I was helpless and started fighting against them. At that moment, a bullet hit my elbow and another shot hit my leg.

Even so, I won over them in the end. But I didn't like the climate of that country, so I left there and went to Garmsir again. I stayed in that region for two months until my wounds healed."

The Spanish ambassador de Clavijo, who traveled to Samarkand in 1404, wrote that Amir Temur lost many of his troops when he faced the cavalry of Seistan. "They also knocked Temur off his horse and injured his right leg. After that, he became lame for life and got the name Temurlang," writes Claviho. He also says that Amir Temur's right hand was injured, he was paralyzed, and then he lost his finger.

Because of these injuries, the Persians called him "Temurlang". Therefore, in Russian and Western sources, his name is given as "Tamerlan", "Tamerlain".



Comments:

- 1) Hirmand - the Helmand River in the south of present-day Afghanistan.
- 2) Land means residence here.
- 3) Garmsir (Persian - hot country) - adjacent lands of Seistan.
- 4) Seistan is a country located in the south-east of present-day Iran and south-west of Afghanistan. In 1872, it was divided between Iran and Af-

ghanistan. The part up to the Helmand River passed to Iran, and east of it to Afghanistan.

In the first and second picture, the statue of Amir Temur and the state he built.

In the third photo, the author of the article is Aziza Saparbaeva.

Mother

Mother Value



By: Davlatnazarov Davlatnazar
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

.....

Mother – such a captivating word. Undoubtedly, she is the most precious, esteemed, and significant person in the world for a human being. When we say mother, all the goodness of the world appears before our eyes.

A mother is an irreplaceable individual who loves you unconditionally, sees the best in you, and appreciates you endlessly. Whether you are tall or short, rich or poor, healthy or sick, in any situation, no one values, loves, or cares for you like a mother does.

So why do some individuals fail to appreciate our mothers? We even sometimes treat them with more burden than they deserve. There is a saying: "Heaven lies beneath the

feet of mothers". Think about how many individuals rush to serve their mothers.

Do you realize how many people struggle to provide even a fraction of what your uncomplaining mother does for you? Do you know that no matter how much you pray, you cannot repay her for everything she does for you?

Are you afraid of losing the warmth of your mother's embrace when you return home? Your mother, who always eagerly awaits your arrival, who prepares warm meals for you, who cares for you tirelessly, is not with you forever. Even thinking about it is very frightening.

That's why appreciate your mother while she's still here. Listen to her every day, even if just for a moment. Hold her hand, look into her eyes, and pray to God to extend her life. Mothers witness all your successes and failures in your younger years, and they give you the best of themselves.

So why should you not be there for her when she becomes frail and aged? When you have a little time, spend it with your respected mother. Take her prayers, which are more valuable than anything, that cannot be found anywhere else. Later, you will see that those prayers will be the source of your strength in that world. My dear ones, appreciate your mothers while you have the chance, before it's too late!"



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Motivation

World Queen Of Chess

By: Dilfuza Mahmatkulova
xxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

- As a result of his teacher's unceasing efforts and efforts, in 2016, he won his first victory in the standard, rapid and blitz Asian Championship held among his peers in Tehran, the capital of Iran. After this year, he won a gold medal at the championship held in Iasi, Romania.
- Interestingly, in this year's Italian World Championship, Afruza was delayed due to a Schengen visa and could not participate in the 1st round.
- Although there was one more round left, there was no need to play it anymore, he won the 2nd round. His words were as follows: Veni, VEDI, Vechi, (I came, I saw, I won.) The morning of November 26 was a very exciting moment for our Queen, and this morning was also a festive one. welcomed him.



Abstract: This article is about how Afrouza Hamdamova became a 14-time champion

Key words: Championship, Its secrets, World Queen of Chess.

Afrouza Hamdamova was actually born on February 25, 2009, in the Saryosi district) - a member of the Uzbekistan women's national chess team, several times the champion of the World, Asia and Uzbekistan, women's

FIDE master Afrouza Hamdamova became the 14-time champion of Uzbekistan in her age category among school-children, recently she broke the record ahead of schedule at the World Youth Chess Championship held in Montesilvano, Italy on May 12-25. Now we can say that Afrouza Hamdamova is the first world champion among girls in the history of Uzbekistan. Afrouza, who participated in chess from this age, is currently a stu-

dent of the 8th grade of the 42nd school in the city of Samarkand. After classes, he strives and is sought after by his coaches Shahob Hamrakulov and (Father) Akbar Hakimov to practice his favorite profession. As a result of his teacher's unceasing efforts and efforts, in 2016, he won his first victory in the standard, rapid and blitz Asian Championship held among his peers in Tehran, the capital of Iran. After this year, he won a gold medal at the championship held in

Iasi, Romania.

Interestingly, in this year's Italian World Championship, Afrouza was delayed due to a Schengen visa and could not participate in the 1st round. Although there was one more round left, there was no need to play it anymore, he won the 2nd round. His words were as follows: Veni, VEDI, Vechi, (I came, I saw, I won.) The morning of November 26 was a very exciting moment for our Queen,

and this morning was also a festive one. welcomed him. I dedicate this victory to my people, - says Chess Queen Afrouza Hamdamova

All of his opponents were good chess players but because I had been playing against them for several years I knew how to move by heart, playing black in the main roles was difficult, I could only beat me if they made a mistake, if they didn't make a mistake the game would end in a draw. The main weakness of my opponents was that they couldn't play well in the endgame, so I won the endgame regardless of which color I split. My biggest goal is to raise the flag of Uzbekistan high

They emphasized that she is the youngest among women to become a grandmaster.

Who does not envy young people! At present, in the youth press club, our princess Arfuza Hamdamova was awarded 100 million soms, and her coach was awarded 50 million soms.

Do you like it?

That is why Afrouza was called the World Queen of Chess.

In conclusion: I must say that there are currently many competitive competitions in sports, chess, and chess, and I would like to recommend them to young people to participate. there will be difficult, numbing times full of obstacles to overcome and feelings of being turned away from it all. When you feel lost, just remember that anything worth achieving is not easily acquired. So don't hold back. Don't get caught up in the clock; Do what he is doing.

Mahmatkulova Dilfuza Jahangir's daughter was born on January 14, 2007 in Shahrizabz district of Kashkadarya region. The pursuit of knowledge has yielded results. She is a 10th grade student of the 47th general secondary school of Shahrizabz district. Dilfuza Mahmatkulova is young, a poet and has achieved many achievements, the coordinator of Shahrizabz City.

*Dilfuza Mahmatkulova
School student from Shahrizabz district, Kashkadarya region*

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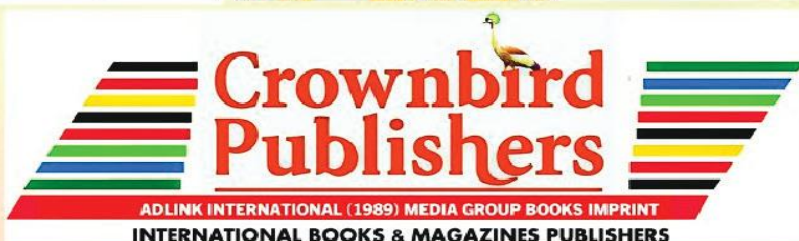
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Global News

Tropical Cyclone Hidaya threatens to worsen humanitarian crisis in flooded East Africa

By: VOA

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Worth Noting:

- OCHA reports heavy rains and floods in these five countries have affected more than 637,000 people, including 234,000 who are displaced. It says governments and humanitarian agencies are still assessing the damage and destruction of infrastructure, which is extensive.
- “In terms of economic losses, it is still too early to say. When you look at the images of bridges and roads being swept away, it is going to be immense,” said Nullis. “The loss of livestock, the disruption of agriculture. It is a huge, huge investment.”
- In an address to his nation Friday, Kenyan President William Ruto outlined a series of measures to deal with this emergency, noting that no corner of the country “has been spared from this havoc.”



Schoolchildren are stranded on a damaged River Zingiziwa bridge in Dar Esalaam, Tanzania, on April 25, 2024. Flooding in Tanzania caused by weeks of heavy rain has killed at least 150 people as of May 4, 2024, and affected hundreds of thousands more.

Tanzania, where the ground is already absolutely sodden. Tanzania, which has suffered flooding, is about to get hit with more heavy rains falling ... from this system.

“And the moisture in this tropical cyclone will also impact Kenya, where there is also very, very bad flooding,” she said, noting that “climate change was supercharging extreme weather.” El Nino, which sparked heavy rains and severe flooding sweeping East Africa, is waning. Despite this, the WMO says this weather event still carries a big punch and is leading to more heavy rainfall, devastating floods and landslides in the East African region.

While casualty figures continue to rise, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reports this disaster so far has killed more than 400 people. This includes at least 210 in Kenya, more than 150 in Tanzania and others in Burundi, Rwanda and Somalia.

OCHA reports heavy rains and floods in these five countries have affected more than 637,000 people, including 234,000 who are displaced. It says governments and humanitarian agencies are still assessing the damage and destruction of infrastructure, which is extensive.

“In terms of economic losses, it is still too early to say. When you look at the images of bridges and roads being swept away, it is going to be immense,” said Nullis. “The loss of livestock, the disruption of agriculture. It is a huge, huge investment.”

In an address to his nation Friday, Kenyan President William Ruto outlined a series of measures to deal with this emergency, noting that no corner of the country “has been spared from this havoc.” “Sadly, we have not seen the last of this perilous period, as this situation is expected to escalate,” he said. “Meteorological reports paint a dire picture. The rains will persist, increasing both in duration and intensity for the rest of this month and possibly after.”

While all those caught in this disastrous event are suffering immense hardships, the U.N. refugee agency expresses particular concern about the welfare of thousands of refugees and other displaced people “being forced to escape once again for their lives after their homes were washed away.”

“In Kenya, nearly 20,000 people in the Dadaab refugee camps, which host over 380,000 refugees, have been displaced due to the rising water levels,” said Olga Sarrado Mur, UNHCR spokes-

person.

“Many of them are among those who arrived in the past couple of years after a severe drought in neighbouring Somalia. Some 4,000 people are currently sheltering in six schools with facilities that have been extensively damaged,” she said.

She noted that many of the tens of thousands of refugees in Tanzania, Burundi, and other hard-hit countries in the region have had to relocate multiple times as water levels continue to rise. She said many people are struggling to find shelter, to pay the rent, and to earn enough money to feed themselves and their families.

“Climate change is making many parts of the world, especially in fragile regions like East Africa and the Horn of Africa, increasingly uninhabitable,” said Sarrado Mur.

“Storms are more devastating. Wildfires have become commonplace. Floods and droughts are intensifying. Some of these impacts are irreversible and threaten to continue worsening, and displaced people are bearing the brunt of the impact,” she said.

The WMO reports early warning systems are critical in saving lives before natural disasters strike. It says these systems are more crucial than ever to protect people from the extreme weather conditions stemming from human-induced climate change.

“So, on tropical cyclones, we do have very, very good warnings these days in most parts of the world that enable evacuations to take place,” said Nullis, underscoring that early warning systems enable “what we call anticipatory action, which

is sort of prepositioning by humanitarian agencies of relief supplies.”

“Thanks to such actions, we have prevented a great loss of life in many regions of the world,” she said.

However, UNHCR Sarrado Mur observed that “many of the preparations resulting from early warnings often do not reach the most vulnerable communities, including refugees or other displaced communities, which often are in areas that are more exposed to these climate hazards.”

She emphasized the importance of providing funding to vulnerable peoples and the communities hosting them, “so they can be equipped and be prepared, and so they can adapt to this new situation which is, unfortunately, the new reality.”



Global News

Satellite to measure Earth's precipitation

By: China Daily
xxxxxxxxxxxxWorth
Noting:

- Since October, the satellite has completed over six months of operational trial runs, with stable operation of the satellite-ground system. Functions such as the receiving, processing and archiving of data have met the standard level.

- The satellite has provided strong support for meteorological services related to major events such as the Asian Games in Hangzhou last year. It also offered data to monitor floods in Pakistan and the recent heavy rainfall in Yemen, Chen said.

- China has successfully launched 21 independently developed Fengyun meteorological satellites since 1988, with nine currently operational.

As the 20th satellite in the Fengyun system, FY-3G is the world's first satellite to deploy the combined detection of active precipitation measurement radar with passive microwave and optical remote sensing, marking a transition from passive observation to active probing.



Chen Lin, deputy chief designer of the FY-3G ground system, said global observation of precipitation, particularly that of three-dimensional structures, has been a challenge in meteorological detection/China Daily

The Fengyun-3G, a satellite measuring precipitation on Earth, officially began operational services on Wednesday after being launched last April, China Meteorological Administration said.

As China's first low-orbit precipitation measurement satellite, FY-3G can monitor hazardous weather and provide three-dimensional precipitation information.

Chen Lin, deputy chief designer of the FY-3G ground system, said global observation of precipitation, particularly that of three-dimensional structures, has been a challenge in meteorological detection.

The launch of the FY-3G satellite signifies progress in the country's global precipitation observation and three-dimensional structure detection capabilities, he said.

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months of operational trial runs, with stable operation of the satellite-ground system. Functions such as the receiving, processing and archiving of data have met the standard level.

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As the 20th satellite in the Fengyun system, FY-3G is the world's first satellite to deploy the combined detection of active precipitation measurement radar with passive microwave and opti-

cal remote sensing, marking a transition from passive observation to active probing. This integration enhances China's comprehensive meteorological observation capabilities, according to the administration.

FY-3G can capture critical information such as the internal temperature and humidity of typhoons, typhoon intensity and affected areas, which enables the prediction of typhoon development and precise monitoring of related rainfall events. The China Meteorological Administration, along with the Ministry of Emergency Management and other departments, said China may experience an increase of heavy rainfall in May, particularly in the southern and northwestern regions, elevating the risk of geological disasters.

The risk of forest fires is high in parts of northeastern and

southwestern China, while Yunnan province may face continuing droughts. The central and western areas of the Inner Mongolia autonomous region as well as Northwest China are at high risk of encountering dust storms.

Moreover, northeastern, southwestern and southern regions may face increasing risks of agricultural disasters, according to a notice released by the emergency management authority on Wednesday.

Analysis by a number of departments suggests that in May, regions including parts of Zhejiang, Fujian, Jiangxi, Guangdong and Hunan provinces are forecast to see a 20 to 50 percent increase in precipitation.

This increased rainfall may lead to severe weather such as thunderstorms and strong winds, posing a higher risk of flooding and hail, the no-

tice said.

Meanwhile, Yunnan, western Guizhou and southern Sichuan may experience temperatures 1 to 2 C higher than the same period in previous years, with precipitation levels 20 to 50 percent lower than normal, it said.

Prolonged drought conditions in Yunnan may worsen due to higher temperatures and continued low precipitation. Frequent cold air and strong wind activities are expected in northern regions. The risks of forest fire are expected to be high in parts of Inner Mongolia and the provinces of Heilongjiang, Sichuan and Yunnan, it added.

Israel - Palestine

Hamas negotiators arrive in Cairo for Gaza truce talks

Taher Al-Nono, a Hamas official and advisor to Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh, said meetings with Egyptian and Qatari mediators had begun and Hamas was dealing with their proposals “with full seriousness and responsibility”.

By Reuters
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Worth Noting:

- “Any agreement to be reached must include our national demands; the complete and permanent ending of the aggression, the full and complete withdrawal of the occupation from Gaza Strip, the return of the displaced to their homes without restriction and a real prisoner swap deal, in addition to the reconstruction and ending the blockade,” the Hamas official told Reuters.

- An Israeli official signalled its core position on this was unchanged, saying “Israel will under no circumstances agree to end the war as part of a deal to free our hostages.”

- The war began after Hamas stunned Israel with a cross-border raid on Oct. 7 in which 1,200 people were killed and 252 hostages taken, according to Israeli tallies.



Director of the Central Intelligence Agency William Burns testifies at a Senate Intelligence Committee hearing on worldwide threats to American security, on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., March 11, 2024. REUTERS/Julia Nikhinson/File Photo

Hamas negotiators began intensified talks on Saturday on a possible Gaza truce that would see a halt to the fighting and the return to Israel of some hostages, a Hamas official told Reuters, with the CIA director already present in Cairo for the indirect diplomacy.

The Hamas delegation arrived from the Palestinian Islamist movement's political office in Qatar, which, along with Egypt, has tried to mediate a follow-up to a brief November ceasefire amid mounting international dismay over the soaring death toll in Gaza and the plight of its 2.3 million inhabitants.

Taher Al-Nono, a Hamas official and advisor to Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh, said meetings with Egyptian and Qatari mediators had begun and Hamas was dealing with their proposals “with full seriousness and responsibility”.

However, he reiterated the group's demand that any deal should include an Israeli pullout from Gaza and an end to the war, con-

ditions that Israel has previously rejected.

“Any agreement to be reached must include our national demands; the complete and permanent ending of the aggression, the full and complete withdrawal of the occupation from Gaza Strip, the return of the displaced to their homes without restriction and a real prisoner swap deal, in addition to the reconstruction and ending the blockade,” the Hamas official told Reuters.

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The war began after Hamas stunned Israel with a cross-border raid on Oct. 7 in which 1,200 people were killed and 252 hostages taken, according to Israeli tallies.

More than 34,600 Palestinians have been killed - 32 of them in the past 24 hours - and more than 77,000 have been wounded in Israel's

military operation, according to Gaza's health ministry. The bombardment has laid waste to much of the coastal enclave.

PRESSURE FOR DEAL

Before the talks began there was some optimism over a potential deal.

“Things look better this time but whether an agreement is on hand would depend on whether Israel has offered what it takes for that to happen,” a Palestinian official with knowledge of the mediation efforts, who asked not to be named, told Reuters. Washington - which, like other Western powers and Israel, brands Hamas a terrorist group - has urged it to enter a deal.

Progress has stumbled, however, over Hamas' long-standing demand for a commitment to end the offensive by Israel, which insists that after any truce it would resume operations designed to disarm and dismantle the faction.

Hamas said on Friday it would come to Cairo in a “positive spirit” after study-

ing the latest proposal for a deal, little of which has been made public.

Israel has given a preliminary nod to terms which one source said included the return of between 20 and 33 hostages in exchange for the release of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners and a weeks-long suspension of fighting.

That would leave around 100 hostages in Gaza, some of whom Israel says have died in captivity. The source, who asked not to be identified by name or nationality, told Reuters their return may require an additional deal with broader Israeli concessions. “That could entail a de facto, if not formal, end to the war - unless Israel somehow recovers them through force or generates enough military pressure to make Hamas relent,” the source said.

Egyptian sources said CIA Director William Burns arrived in Cairo on Friday. He has been involved in previous truce talks and Washington has signalled there may be progress this time. The CIA declined to com-

ment on Burns' itinerary.

Egypt made a renewed push to revive negotiations late last month, alarmed by the prospect of an Israeli assault against Hamas in the southern Gaza city of Rafah, where more than 1 million Palestinians have taken shelter near the border with Egypt's Sinai Peninsula.

A major Israeli operation in Rafah could deal a huge blow to fragile humanitarian operations in Gaza and put many more lives at risk, according to U.N. officials. Israel says it will not be deterred from taking Rafah eventually and is working on a plan to evacuate civilians. Saturday's Cairo talks come as Qatar reviews its role as mediator, according to an official familiar with Doha's thinking. Qatar may cease hosting the Hamas political office, said the official, who did not know if, in such a scenario, the Palestinian group's delegates might also be asked to leave.

NEWS PAPER

IN BUSINESS



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Global News

Robotic probe launched to lunar far side

By:
xxxxxxxxxxxx.....
Contd from Page 1Worth
Noting:

- Like its predecessor, the Chang'e 6 spacecraft is designed and built by the Beijing-based China Academy of Space Technology, a subsidiary of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp, and also consists of four components — an orbiter, a lander, an ascender and a reentry capsule.
- Its operational process will basically mimic that of the Chang'e 5 spacecraft. After the probe reaches lunar orbit, its components will separate into two parts, with the orbiter and reentry capsule remaining in orbit, while the lander and ascender start approaching the lunar surface.
- When everything is ready, the lander-ascender combination will make a soft landing in the South Pole-Aitken Basin — a gigantic crater on the lunar far side and also the largest, oldest and deepest basin recognized on the moon. It will then start using a drill and a mechanical arm to gather surface and underground samples.



A Long March 5 heavy-lift rocket, carrying the Chang'e 6 robotic lunar probe, blasts off on Friday from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province. SU DONG/FOR CHINA DAILY

an unfortunate failure — as a symbol of audacious and pioneering work in the history of humankind's lunar exploration.

Previously, 10 lunar sample-return missions were undertaken by the United States, the former Soviet Union and China, but all these samples were collected from the moon's near side.

As one of China's, and also the world's, most significant space journeys this year, major steps in the Chang'e 6 mission have made headlines around the globe and have garnered a lot of attention from the Chinese people.

The local tourism authority in Wenchang estimated at least 200,000 travelers arriving in Longlou, a township that is home to the launch complex, on Friday to witness the liftoff.

According to the China National Space Administration, after flying for about 37 minutes, the Long March 5 rocket successfully placed the robotic lunar probe into an Earth-moon transfer trajectory, the gateway to our celestial neighbor.

Complex operation
Within the next several days, the Chang'e 6 probe is programmed to fly along

its moonward trajectory and make some correction operations before conducting a key braking maneuver to avoid accidentally flying past the moon. Thereafter, the spacecraft will be captured by the moon's gravity and move into a lunar orbit. Like its predecessor, the Chang'e 6 spacecraft is designed and built by the Beijing-based China Academy of Space Technology, a subsidiary of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corp, and also consists of four components — an orbiter, a lander, an ascender and a reentry capsule.

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underground samples.

If everything proceeds smoothly, up to 2 kilograms of stones and soil will be collected and packed in a vacuum-sealed metal container inside the ascender.

After the collection operation is completed, the engines of the ascender will elevate it to lunar orbit for docking with the reentry capsule. The vacuum-sealed container carrying the samples will be transferred to the module before the ascender undocks.

The combination of orbiter and reentry capsule will then depart the lunar orbit and return to the Earth's orbit, where the pair will break up and the reentry capsule will conduct a host of complicated maneuvers to return to the Siziwang Banner Landing Site in the Inner Mongolia autonomous region.

The main difference between the Chang'e 5 and Chang'e 6 probes lies in their landing destination on the moon and corresponding technical issues, the most crucial of which is the communication difficulties between the lunar far side and Earth.

In order to establish a data link for the Chang'e 6 probe, China deployed a new relay satellite in the lunar orbit in March.

Wang Qiong, a deputy chief designer of the Chang'e 6 mission, said there will be a host of challenges and uncertainties during the 53-day expedition, adding that Chinese scientists and engineers have made efforts to work out the best available solutions.

"During the Chang'e 5 mission, the probe worked on the near side, so we could monitor its work processes and send control signals to it anytime. But in the case of Chang'e 6, we will have to depend solely on the Queqiao 2 relay satellite to transmit data and signals. The satellite has a limited coverage over the landing site, which will consequently restrict our communication with the Chang'e 6 probe," he said.

Wang said that engineers have applied some new advanced technologies in the mission, such as a rapid sampling system and a smart data-analysis mechanism, to ensure that the sample-col-

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Contd Page 15

Global News

Robotic probe launched to lunar far side

By: Diaspora Times Team
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Contd from Page 14

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- Wang said that engineers have applied some new advanced technologies in the mission, such as a rapid sampling system and a smart data-analysis mechanism, to ensure that the sample-collection tasks are effectively and efficiently completed on the lunar surface within shorter operating time.

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In the case of a communications blackout, the Chang'e 6 probe is capable of conducting some key maneuvers in accordance with preset programs, he added.

Scientific benefits

The lunar far side is the hemisphere of the moon permanently facing away from Earth due to tidal forces on the planet. As it is never visible from Earth, that region was once dubbed the "dark side of the moon" even though it receives just as much sunlight as the near side.

The moon's far side has been extensively photographed by various spacecraft, starting with a Soviet probe in 1959. However, no probe had touched down on its surface until China's Chang'e 4 mission, which landed in the South Pole-Aitken Basin in January 2019.

Due to its many mysteries, the far side has been a subject of scientific speculation and popular sci-fi culture since the Apollo era.

As the landing destination, the South Pole-Aitken Basin is believed to hold clues to intriguing and important science questions.

There has been a popular hypothesis that the basin was formed through the impact of a massive asteroid, around 200 kilometers in diameter. The collision was so powerful that it excavated some of the lunar mantle — material between the lunar core and the crust — and brought it to the surface. The physical characteristics of the gigantic crater thus appear to be different from other lunar regions.

Chinese researchers have found that the layer of soil on the far side is much thicker than on the near side, but they have yet to find out why the crust on the two sides drastically differs in terms of thickness.

Scientists around the world called for a sample-return mission to the far side, underlining that the advantage of going there is the potential of learning more about the interior composition of the moon.

According to mission planners at the China National Space Administration, many scientists at home and abroad have said they are eagerly waiting for the Chang'e

6 probe to bring back samples from the far side, because such materials will hold high scientific value.

For instance, samples brought back by the Chang'e 5 probe have helped scientists find that there were volcanic activities on the moon's near side around 2 billion years ago. Samples from the far side will allow them to verify the hypothesis that volcanoes became inactive on that hemisphere about 4 billion years ago.

Professor Martin Sweeting, a fellow of the Royal Society of the United Kingdom and a distinguished professor of space engineering at the University of Surrey, told China Daily before Friday's launch that he was "looking forward to the launch of Chang'e 6 that will, for the very first time, bring unique samples from the far side of the moon".

Sweeting said that landing and retrieving samples on the far side, out of the Earth's direct sight and communication, is a "very complex and demanding engineering activity" that will rely on advanced control systems and robotics on the surface and communications via the Queqiao 2 relay satellite in lunar orbit.

"The surface on the far side is very different to the near side ... with a multitude of impact craters and relatively few flat and dark areas, so comparing the composition of the far side samples from Chang'e 6 with those previously gathered from the near side will be of great scientific value to the international community," he said.

Giuseppe Reibaldi, president and founder of the Moon Village Association, a Vienna-based NGO, and executive secretary of the Global Expert Group on Sustainable Lunar Activities, said the Chang'e 6 mission will combine the challenges of the previous two Chinese lunar expeditions — the Chang'e 4 probe that made the first landing on the far side and the Chang'e 5 that recovered samples from the moon's near side.

The lunar formation and composition are not well understood till today, and analyzing the samples from the far side will make a major contribution toward understanding them, said Reibaldi, who worked for the European Space Agency for 35 years.

"It is expected that some



A Long March 5 heavy-lift rocket, carrying the Chang'e 6 robotic lunar probe, blasts off on Friday from the Wenchang Space Launch Center in Hainan province. [Photo/China National Space Administration]

materials recovered from the far side will be made available to the international science community, to give more scientists access to these samples, like it was done in case of Chang'e 4," he added.

International cooperation

In addition to the unprecedented attempt to collect samples from the lunar far side, the Chang'e 6 probe also holds significance because it is expected to bring three European science payloads to the far side.

According to the space administration, there is a radon measuring instrument from France's national space agency on the Chang'e 6

lander, which will help study the movement of lunar dust and some volatile chemicals between the lunar regolith, a layer of unconsolidated rocky material, and the lunar exosphere.

The second payload is a passive laser retroreflector from Italy's National Institute for Nuclear Physics, which will be used as a laser range-finder for the Chang'e 6 lander. The third payload, developed by the Swedish Institute of Space Physics with support from the European Space Agency, will be the first-ever dedicated negative ion instrument flown beyond Earth. It will seek to detect negative ions emitted from the lunar surface as a

result of interaction with solar winds.

More than 20 proposals from foreign space agencies and research organizations contested for the golden opportunity to join the Chang'e 6 mission to reach the far side. The three from Europe emerged as winners.

This is not the first time for China to offer opportunities to foreign scientists to deploy their science equipment on the moon. During the Chang'e 4 mission, the Chinese probe had carried German and Swedish sensing devices to the far side.

Uganda to repatriate remains of executed Christian martyrs

By AFP

Uganda is to repatriate the remains of two "Ugandan Martyrs" who were executed more than a century ago for refusing to renounce Christianity, a Church official said Sunday.

Twenty-two Roman Catholics and 23 Anglicans, mostly young men, were killed in 1885 and 1886 on the orders of the then king of Buganda, now part of Uganda, who was wary of the growing influence of Christianity.

They all suffered gruesome deaths -- most of them were burnt alive, others killed with spears or knives.

The White Fathers, a Roman Catholic society also known as the Missionaries of Africa, sent the remains of two of the martyrs to Rome where the Catholics were later canonised, while others were kept in Uganda.

"The date for the return of the remains and relics is not yet set but most likely it will be in September this year," Father Richard Nyombi of the Kampala Archdiocese, who is also a member of the White Fathers, told AFP.

The bones being sent back to Uganda are those of Charles Lwanga and Matiya Mulumba, Nyombi said, adding that they would be put on display at the Uganda Martyrs University along with artefacts includ-



ing a chain used during the executions and a cross made from the mvule tree.

Their return will be part of the commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the date the Catholics were made saints by Pope Paul VI in October 1964.

A shrine has been established where

the executions took place at Namugongo, a suburb of the Ugandan capital Kampala.

Namugongo is a major Christian pilgrimage site where often huge numbers of the faithful visit from across Africa and the world on June 3, the anniversary of many of the killings in 1886.

The martyrs included men who had served as pages to the Buganda king, Kabaka Mwanga II.

Some of the remains were missing because they were eaten by wild animals after their execution, Nyombi said.

The return of the bones from Rome will be timely, he said, giving the

faithful an opportunity to reflect on the values of the martyrs at a time "Uganda is facing a number of challenges, economic hardships, moral decay and corruption".

Press Cartoon Award

Indian, Hong Kong satirists win press cartoon award

By AFP

Indian cartoonist Rachita Taneja and Hong Kong's Zunzi were awarded the biennial Kofi Annan Courage in Cartooning Award on Friday, which is International Press Freedom Day.

Taneja has been under threat of a prison sentence since a member of India's ruling Hindu nationalist party complained about her online webcomic Sanitary Panels, whose stick figures take on subjects like harassment, homophobia, menstruation and authoritarianism.

Zunzi was dismissed by his newspaper in 2023, three years after China adopted National Security laws that have reshaped Hong Kong's arts, culture and media. Officials complained his images were "distorting and unethical".

India ranks 161 out of 180 countries on the Reporters Without Borders (RSF) Press Freedom Index and Hong Kong ranks 140.

The ceremony on Friday for the Kofi Annan award is accompanied by an exhibition of press cartoons, which Iranian lawyer and Nobel Peace



Prize winner Shirin Ebadi was due to open later in the day near the headquarters on Lake Geneva of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights.

This year's award and exhibition highlight "the pivotal role of women in the fight for freedom (and)... the challenges faced by female car-

toonists globally" said the organisers -- the Freedom Cartoonists Foundation and the city of Geneva.

"We want to highlight the increasing numbers of women press artists. In addition to the pressures they are under due to their professions, they have to face threats because they are women," said the foundation head,

Swiss cartoonist Patrick Chappatte. Taneja risks six months imprisonment if India's supreme court upholds a complaint from a member of the student wing of the ruling BJP.

The country's press freedom rankings have declined markedly since Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi took office in 2014,

while restrictions on civil society have seen rights groups such as Amnesty International severely curtail their local operations.

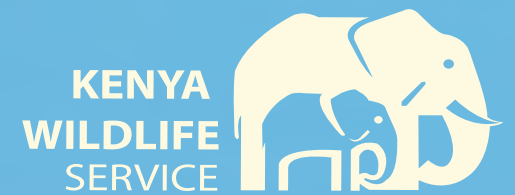
Zunzi, born in Hong Kong in 1955, began his career as a political caricaturist with Ming Pao in 1983.

The paper sacked him last year after months of criticism from officials and attacks on freedom of expression, the foundation said.

The authorities complained his drawings displayed "sanctimonious humour that damages Hong Kong's image".

His books and albums are banned from public libraries.

The exhibition "Cartooning for Freedom" from Friday to June 2, focuses on three topics -- women's rights; the ongoing wars in the Middle East, Ukraine and Sudan; and artificial intelligence.



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Diaspora

Life Experiences And Creative Collections Of The Poet Abdulla Oripov

In this article, the life experiences and works of the poet Abdulla Oripov



By: Tongatarov Mirjalal Shermurod
xxxxxxxxxxxx



Abdulla Oripov

Worth Noting:

- Poet and public figure, People's Poet of Uzbekistan Abdulla Oripov's first poems such as "Golden fish", "Why I love Uzbekistan" were written in his student years and are new, talented and unique to Uzbek poetry. signaled that a poet with a voice was coming.
- Soon after, the publication of his first collection of poems, "Mitty Star" (1965), confirmed the correctness of this initial perception of poetry fans. After that, the poet's "My eyes are on your way" (1966), "Mother" (1969), "Ruhim", "Uzbekistan" (1971), "Khotirot", "The wind of my country" (1974), "Uzma-face", "Awe" (1979), "Fortress of Salvation" (1981), "Dream of Years" (1983), "Pilgrimage Book", "Munojot" (1992), "Election" (1996), "The World" (1999), "The Heart of a Poet" (2003) and other poetry books were published. Oripov entered Uzbek poetry in the 60s of the last century as the ambassador of a new breeze that started in the former Soviet society.

Abstract: In this article, the life experiences and works of the poet Abdulla Oripov are briefly described.

Key words: Abdulla Oripov, poem, poet, work, Koson, activity, letter - movement, "Golden fish", "How much I love Uzbekistan", "Mitty star".

Abdulla Oripov was born on March 21, 1941 in the village of Nekoz, Koson district, Kashkadarya region. Having graduated from high school with a gold medal in 1958, Oripov entered the Faculty of Journalism of Tashkent National University and graduated with honors in 1963. "Yosh gvardiya" (1963-69), editor at Gafur Ghulam Literary and Art Publishing House (1969-74), literary employee, head of the department at "Sharq tyzni" magazine (1974-76), O' Literary consultant at the Writers' Union of Uzbekistan (1976-82), secretary-in-charge (1985-88), secretary-in-charge of the Tashkent regional branch (1982-83), editor of "Gulkhan" magazine (1983-85), since 1996 O At the same time, he worked as the chairman of the Writers' Union of Uzbekistan, as the chairman of the State Agency for Copyright Protection

of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Poet and public figure, People's Poet of Uzbekistan Abdulla Oripov's first poems such as "Golden fish", "Why I love Uzbekistan" were written in his student years and are new, talented and unique to Uzbek poetry. signaled that a poet with a voice was coming. Soon after, the publication of his first collection of poems, "Mitty Star" (1965), confirmed the correctness of this initial perception of poetry fans. After that, the poet's "My eyes are on your way" (1966), "Mother" (1969), "Ruhim", "Uzbekistan" (1971), "Khotirot", "The wind of my country" (1974), "Uzma-face", "Awe" (1979), "Fortress of Salvation" (1981), "Dream of Years" (1983), "Pilgrimage Book", "Munojot" (1992), "Election" (1996), "The World" (1999), "The Heart of a Poet" (2003) and other poetry books were published. Oripov entered Uzbek poetry in the 60s of the last century as the ambassador of a new breeze that started in the former Soviet society. From his first poems, he worked on the way to the establishment of a new poetic thought in national poetry; new views that began to

appear in marriage, changes in the spiritual world of people, the need for freedom of thought and behavior determined the ideological content of Oripov's poems. The romantic mood in Oripov's early poems gradually gave way to philosophical observations, and the poet's reaction to events and incidents in life became active. In this sense, poems such as "Golden fish", "Reserve", "Genetics", "To the crowd" showed that Oripov is expanding the horizons of lyrical poetry at the expense of depicting life's problems. The same thing caused Oripov to turn to the epic genre and effectively use the possibilities of the lyric-epic image. Abdulla Oripov paid special attention to the issues of spirituality in his epics such as "The Road to Heaven" (1978), "Hakim and Death" (1980), "Ranjkom" (1988), and connected some defects in the spiritual world of people with scientific and technical development and revealed the conflict between the flight of thought. In general, the spiritual problems presented in Oripov's poems and epics became especially relevant during the period of independence, and the poet's portrayal of the same

issues was more advanced than his time (most of them were written before the 90s). showed that he was gone. In his works, on the one hand, the philosophy characteristic of Gafur Ghulam's lyrics is noticeable, on the other hand, the musical fluency and artistic simplicity characteristic of Hamid Olimjon's poems are reflected. In Oripov's poems, these 2 sources express the main features of Oriphon poetry. here is another important quality in the poet's lyrics of recent years, the description of feelings and experiences has not weakened. This is a large influx of elements of lyrical-epic imagery into Oripov's poems. In the years of independence, he began to create in various types and genres of literature. During this period, the restoration of historical justice, honoring the memory of the warlords and scholars who lived in the past inspired Oripov to write the poetic drama "Sahibqiron" (1998), which shows the great role played by Amir Temur in the historical fate of the peoples of Central Asia. In this work, the national poet vividly embodied the image of Amir Temur, the founder of the powerful Timurid

dynasty, which ruled for nearly three centuries, and who created social, political, economic and cultural conditions for the beginning of the Eastern Renaissance in the 15th century. This play was played with great success in all major theaters of the republic and on the stages of neighboring countries. Abdulla Oripov will be remembered as the author of the text of the National Anthem of the Republic of Uzbekistan. He is the author of most of the scripts written for Navroz and Independence holidays.

When Oripov chaired the Union of Writers, he led the literary process of the newest history of Uzbekistan. His poetry influenced the creation of many poets such as Muhammad Yusuf. Abdulla Oripov worked effectively in bringing masterpieces of world literature to Uzbek readers. He skillfully translated the "Hell" part of Dante's "Divine Comedy", the works of AS Pushkin, NANEkrasov, TG Shevchenko, L. Ukrainka, R. Hamzatov, Q. Quliyev and M. Bayjiyev into Uzbek. In turn, his works have been translated into many foreign languages, such as Russian, English, Bulgarian, Turkish, Ukrainian, Turkmen, Azerbaijani. In 1990, he was elected to the Oliy Council of Uzbekistan, and in 1995, he was elected to the Oliy Majlis of Uzbekistan. Abdulla Oripov is a full member of the International Academy of Science, Education, Industry and Arts of California (AKSh). Professor of Soka University (Japan). He was a member of the Chief Editorial Board of the National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan, a laureate of the State Prizes of the Republic of Uzbekistan named after Hamza and Alisher Navoi.

Tongatarov, son of Mirjalal Shermurod, 2005. 05.17. Koson district, Kashkadarya region. Second-year student of the history faculty of Karshi State University. CIS leader badge. Stars of the Enlightenment Square Top 100 badges. About 20 scientific articles. Student of the year awardee and candidate of the faculty of history. Faculty and university coordinator

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Diaspora

Former Trump aide Hope Hicks testifies he told her to deny Stormy Daniels affair

Trump has pleaded not guilty to charges of falsifying business records to cover up a \$130,000 payment made at that time to Daniels, who was threatening to go public with her story of their 2006 sexual encounter.

By: Reuters
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President Donald Trump with former White House Communications Director Hope Hicks in Washington, March 29, 2018. REUTERS/Carlos Barria/ File Photo

Worth Noting:

- She said Trump did not want his wife Melania to see the story, which also included allegations that he had an affair with former Playboy model Karen McDougal. Trump has denied having sex with either woman.

- “He was concerned about how it would be viewed by his wife, and he wanted me to make sure the newspapers weren’t delivered to the residence that morning,” Hicks said.

- Prosecutors in the first criminal trial of a former U.S. president argue that the payment to Daniels corrupted the election by suppressing news that could have influenced voters as they decided whether to back the Republican Trump or Hillary Clinton, then his Democratic rival.

- Prosecutors say Trump falsified records to cover up election-law and tax-law violations, which elevates the 34 counts he faces from a misdemeanour to a felony punishable by up to four years in prison.

Hope Hicks, a former top aide to Donald Trump, testified on Friday that he told her in the final days of the 2016 presidential election to deny that he had a sexual relationship with porn star Stormy Daniels.

Hicks’ testimony gave jurors an inside look at the campaign’s damage-control efforts when Trump faced multiple accusations of unflattering sexual behaviour in the waning weeks of his successful White House campaign.

Trump has pleaded not guilty to charges of falsifying business records to cover up a \$130,000 payment made at that time to Daniels, who was threatening to go public with her story of their 2006 sexual encounter.

Hicks testified that she told Trump four days before the Nov. 8, 2016, election that the Wall Street Journal would publish details of Daniels’ story.

“He wanted to make sure that there was a denial of any kind of relationship,” said Hicks, who served as campaign press secretary. She said Trump did not

want his wife Melania to see the story, which also included allegations that he had an affair with former Playboy model Karen McDougal. Trump has denied having sex with either woman.

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Hicks’ testimony could help Trump’s lawyers make their case that he paid off Daniels to keep his wife, not voters,

from hearing the adult film star’s allegations.

She said Trump told her that his personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, paid off Daniels to “protect him from a false allegation” out of the “kindness of his own heart.”

Hicks said she thought that would have been out of character for Cohen. “I didn’t know Michael to be an especially charitable person or selfless person,” she said.

Hicks teared up briefly during her testimony.

Trump, the Republican candidate for president again this year, sat expressionless at the defendants’ table during the testimony by Hicks, the first person who worked for Trump’s campaign to appear as a witness in the 11-day-old trial.

Hicks said the campaign was rattled by the public release of an audio recording from the “Access Hollywood” TV show in which Trump bragged about grabbing women’s genitals.

She said Trump was upset, but also played down the comments.

“Mr. Trump felt like this

wasn’t good, but it was also just like two guys talking, locker-room talk,” she testified.

The 12 jurors and six alternates have yet to hear from the main players in the case, including Daniels and Cohen.

Earlier in the day, the judge overseeing the trial told Trump that a gag order that bars him from commenting about witnesses and jurors would not prevent him from testifying, as Trump had told reporters on Thursday.

“I want to stress to Mr. Trump: you have an absolute right to testify at trial,” Justice Juan Merchan said.

Trump said his legal team would try to overturn the gag order, which bars him from making public comments about jurors, witnesses, and families of the judge and prosecutors if those statements are meant to interfere with the case.

Merchan fined Trump \$9,000 on Tuesday for violating the order and signalled on Thursday he may impose more fines for what prosecutors say are further violations. Merchan has said

Trump could be jailed if he does not change his ways.

Trump says the case is an attempt by Democrats to undercut his chances of defeating Democratic President Joe Biden in the coming Nov. 5 presidential election.

The case features sordid allegations of adultery and secret payoffs, but it is widely seen as less consequential than the other three criminal prosecutions Trump faces and perhaps the only one to be tried before the November election.

The others charge him with trying to overturn his 2020 presidential defeat and mishandling classified documents after leaving office. Trump has pleaded not guilty to all of those also.

Still, a guilty verdict could hurt Trump’s presidential bid, Reuters/Ipsos polling has found.

Diaspora

Mother Is A Great Miracle

Mother! The most magical word in the universe and the one that resonates on every human tongue.



By: Sotimboyeva Dilnura
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xxxxxxxxxxxx

Worth Noting:

• Our mother is our umbrella on a rainy day and a lamp that lights our way in the dark. He is so bright that he does not even pay attention to the fact that he is melting away because he is lighting the way for us children. A person who helps us in the most difficult situations in our life, comforts us when we are depressed.

• Perhaps, Allah Almighty has given us the so-called mother as a guardian angel. What have we been able to give to the person who gave his whole life for us, and what can we do in the future? Every child should be able to ask himself this question. Now we have grown up and found our place, and it is interesting for our friends on the street how much we earn and what position we work in.



Uzbek Mother

Mother! The most magical word in the universe and the one that resonates on every human tongue. Even if it is a word, it is a word that when it sounds on our tongue, the figure of a woman who encourages our whole body to be alert, and who gave her whole being for us in our fantasy world, is embodied. We have appeared in his own body, so that from this moment there will be a thousand praises to the one who will take care of us and will not miss his love no matter how old we are! Humans are created to love the person they see with their eyes open. To this day, the main theme under the pen of many poets is the figure of the mother. Mother became the theme for the most beautiful song sung by artists and singers. We even shout "Motherland" in front of our native land. We call the language we speak Mother tongue, the lan-

guage of our mother. These are not enough for a mother figure, actually.

Based on mother's care, we learned to be kind to other people. We were able to take our first steps with our little hands in the palm of our hands. What is good and what is bad, we studied our mother's behavior down to every small detail. Our mother is our first teacher. Because 70% of everything in a person's life can be learned by the age of five. Our mother educates and brings us up to this age. Our mother is our umbrella on a rainy day and a lamp that lights our way in the dark. He is so bright that he does not even pay attention to the fact that he is melting away because he is lighting the way for us children. A person who helps us in the most difficult situations in our life, comforts us when we are depressed. Perhaps, Allah Almighty has given

us the so-called mother as a guardian angel. What have we been able to give to the person who gave his whole life for us, and what can we do in the future? Every child should be able to ask himself this question. Now we have grown up and found our place, and it is interesting for our friends on the street how much we earn and what position we work in. But it is enough for us to be healthy for our mother. We should be a person who makes our parents proud. Let's make them proud. That's why he makes a mother's heart a mountain. Let Palonchi hear you say that it is not your child, but his upbringing, and all his fatigue will leave his body.

Let's remember the times when we were young, even if we got a small insect in our hands, there were butterflies around us. Are we running now that our mother is sick? Every child will receive the

same response from their future children as they treat their parents. Therefore, it is the duty of children to take care of our beloved heavenly one. They are protecting us now. We should worry as much as our mother is afraid of losing us. A man who sucks raw milk realizes the value of what he has after losing it. But let the previous people be an example for us. Let us not repeat the mistake made by many. Two days ago, my mother called at six o'clock in the morning. They say, "My daughter, how are you?"; their voices tremble. If I say yes, thank you, I will go to work. Every day my phone rang. I see only my mother. I didn't even know what happened. When I asked in the evening, one of our neighbors scared my mother saying that your daughter died in a dream. They were walking around without telling me that they are afraid of

me on Mother's Day. There are many examples of how a mother can take care of us. By the way, let's return it in double share, as our mother is kind to us.

If they give such an opportunity in Mashhara, Take one person to heaven. I would choose without thinking, saying thank you My precious mother.

If I have achieved any success in my life, my mother has a big contribution to it. Because the person who sincerely believes in me and my strength is my mother. My mother was able to give me everything a girl could need. My mother listened to me gratefully, encouraged and supported me when I was depressed. He created all conditions for me to live independently. Sometimes I was upset that my mother would not deny me whatever decision I made. Now that I have grown up, I realized that he prepared me for a big life by letting me live independently. I am very grateful to my mother these days. Because no matter what the problem is, I can solve it earlier than my peers. This is one of the great achievements that my mother gave me.

If I were asked for the second time in my life who do you want your mother to be, I would choose my parents without hesitation. As long as our mother is healthy, our children will be lucky. Our mothers wait for us day and night at home, praying for us. If there are people you hurt, I would advise you to apologize quickly. One of the main and best qualities of all mothers in the universe is that a mother always forgives. Let us protect our mothers because they are our keys to heaven.

They say that Mother is pleased with God. In the afterlife, they call it the judge of prayer. If you curse, they say hell itself. Don't curse, get a blessing, man!

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Police raids shake up schools' graduation plans

Schools like the University of Southern California and Cal Poly Humboldt in Northern California, leaders have cancelled or moved key events off campus altogether.

By Reuters
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People stand around a statue of George Washington tied with a Palestinian flag and a keffiyeh inside a pro-Palestinian encampment at George Washington University in Washington, DC, U.S., May 2, 2024. REUTERS/Craig Hudson/File Photo

Worth Noting:

- Reuters asked 20 U.S. colleges and universities where major protests have ensued how the demonstrations had affected commencement plans. Of the 11 that responded, only three did not expect to alter their security protocols for the event.

- Some university leaders have called in riot police wielding batons and flash-bang grenades to disperse and arrest hundreds of protesters, citing a paramount need for campus safety, even as civil rights groups have decried such tactics as unnecessarily violent violations of free speech.

- The anti-war protests have been staged in response to Israel's offensive in Gaza, which it launched after a Hamas attack on Oct. 7 that Israel says killed 1,200 people. Israel has killed over 34,000 people in retaliation, according to Gaza health authorities, and flattened the Palestinian territory.

volunteers on how to mitigate disruptions: a change from the usual duties of guiding guests around campus and showing them to their seats.

Everyone facilitating the University of Illinois' commencement the following weekend will have undergone similar special training. Schools like the University of Southern California and Cal Poly Humboldt in Northern California, leaders have cancelled or moved key events off campus altogether.

What are typically joyful ceremonies in which robed students cross stages to accept diplomas will have a different feel this month at many universities where pro-Palestinian protests and police crackdowns have upended the final days of the school year.

In recent days, students across the U.S. have rallied or set up tents at dozens of universities to protest Israel's war on Gaza. Demonstrators have called on President Joe Biden, who has supported Israel, to do more to stop the bloodshed in Gaza and demanded schools divest from companies that support Israel's government.

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At Columbia University - the epicentre of the student protest movement, where New York police cleared a two-week-old encampment by arresting dozens of peaceful protesters on Tuesday - President Nemat Minouche Shafik acknowledged in a

Wednesday statement that many were concerned about the university's plans for its May 15 commencement.

"We look forward to sharing more information about preparations that are underway soon," her statement said.

Meanwhile, schools that have avoided more explosive confrontations with protesters by allowing encampments to remain on campus or agreeing to consider divestment demands are under less strain ahead of their graduation celebrations.

University of Minnesota Interim President Jeff Ettinger announced on Thursday that protesters had agreed to end their encampment in exchange for an opportunity to discuss divestment with the Board of Regents and a promise that the school will not pursue disciplinary action against them.

"The student coalition has agreed they will not organize disruptions at upcoming final exams and commencements, allowing those activities to continue as planned," Ettinger said in a campus-wide email.

DISRUPTION MITIGATION

For some schools, the additional security measures for graduation ceremonies have invited yet more controversy.

More than 300 University of Michigan faculty, staff and alumni signed a letter protesting the disruption-mitigation training for commencement volunteers for commencement, saying staff should not be asked to quell "people trying to express free speech in a place where free speech is permitted."

The volunteers have been trained to identify and de-escalate "problematic behavior," including "prolonged yelling, stomping," "random yelling/shouts against someone or about current issues," and "holding signs (silently) that block the view of others," according to a copy of the training slides seen by Reuters.

The training instructed volunteers to issue two verbal warnings to hecklers, and then have public safety and security officers escort them from the event if they persist.

Anne Elias, a training manager for the university's library services, was not asked to complete the training but helped write and collect signatures for the letter protesting it.

"I have real concerns with asking any staff member to engage in any type of policing behaviour... even gently reminding people when they are allowed to speak and how they are allowed to speak," she said.

A spokesperson for the university said the school's aim was not to suppress free expression or peaceful protest, but rather to "limit significant disruptions, ensure safety and support a successful event worthy of the achievements of the university's extraordinary graduates."

USC'S CONTROVERSIAL CANCELLATION

The University of Southern California has gone further

than any other U.S. university surveyed by Reuters, calling off its main-stage graduation ceremony last week after cancelling the valedictorian speech by a Muslim student who said she was silenced by anti-Palestinian hatred.

Instead, graduates are invited to an evening "family graduate celebration" in the Los Angeles Coliseum, featuring drone shows, fireworks, surprise performances, and the school's marching band, according to a statement USC released on Friday.

The school said in April that new safety measures this year, such as additional screening, would increase the processing time for guests "substantially." That made it impossible to host the ceremony that typically brings 65,000 students, families and friends to the USC campus, the school said.

"They weren't very clear at any point with what the exact security concerns were," student Jaden Ackerman said in an interview shortly after USC called off the ceremony.

William Kimber, another student, expressed sympathy for all the graduates, especially since many would have missed their high school ceremonies in 2020 due to the pandemic. He was also unconvinced by the school's rationale for cancelling the ceremony.

"We've provided a lot of funds and stuff before to protect, like, (Barack) Obama," Kimber said, referring to the former U.S. president. "And now they can't provide the same protection for the students? It's kind of stupid."