

## RAGE AGAINST CORPORATE GREED

# Protests turning into global movement

AFP, Rome

Clashes erupted in New York and Rome and protesters camped out yesterday in world-wide demonstrations seen as a show of force by a rising global movement against corporate greed and government cutbacks.

There were rallies in 951 cities in 80 countries around the globe on Saturday in an extension of a campaign born on May 15 with a rally in Madrid's central Puerta del Sol square by a group calling itself "Indignados" ("Indignants").

"The fact is there is now clearly an international movement. Its preface was the 'Arab Spring' seen in Cairo, Tunis and Benghazi," Eugenio Scalfari, a columnist for the Italian daily La Repubblica.

"It expresses the anger of a generation with no future and no faith in traditional politics but above all financial institutions seen as responsible for the crisis and profiteers of the damage to the common good," he said.

The biggest rallies were in Lisbon, Madrid and Rome, where tens of thousands came out. There were thousands too in Washington and New York where the "Occupy Wall Street" movement has gained momentum in recent weeks.

In Rome, which saw the worst violence of the day, the march quickly degenerated into running street battles between groups of



hooded protesters and riot police who fired tear gas and water jets into the crowd.

"Today is only the beginning. We hope to move forward with a global movement. There are many of us and we want the same things," said protester Andrea Muraro, a 24-year-old engineering student from Padua.

Berlusconi later condemned the "incredible level of violence" at the march, which took place amid a security lockdown on Rome's major monuments.

Groups of protesters torched cars, smashed banks and vandalised a church in

the Italian capital, hurling paving blocks and bottles at police.

Seventy people were injured and there were 12 arrests.

In New York, 88 people were arrested as police on horseback charged into busy Times Square and at least one woman was injured.

In London, scuffles broke out after a few thousand people gathered in the financial district near St Paul's Cathedral, raising banners saying: "Strike back!" "No cuts!" and "Goldman Sachs is the work of the devil!"

Some of the London protesters spent the

night camped out in front of the cathedral in around 70 tents despite police calls for them to disperse. Participants said they intended to stay until the government responded to their demands.

Major protests took place at European Union institutions in Brussels and Frankfurt, as well as in Athens, where painful budget cuts imposed by international lenders in return for a bailout have sparked widespread anger.

In Canada more than 10,000 blew bubbles, strummed guitars and chanted anti-corporate slogans at peaceful protests in cities across the country.

"I believe a revolution is happening," said 30-year-old Annabell Chapa, who brought her one-year-old son Jaydn along in a stroller to a rally in Toronto.

There were smaller mostly peaceful protests also in Amsterdam, Geneva, Miami, Montenegro, Paris, Sarajevo, Serbia and Zurich, with protesters chanting anti-capitalist slogans and wearing satirical masks.

In Mexico, Peru and Chile, thousands also marched to protest what they slammed as an unfair financial system and stagnant unemployment.

As the day began, hundreds rallied in Hong Kong and Tokyo where demonstrators voiced their fury at the Fukushima nuclear accident.

## LIBYA WAR

# Deadly calm in Sirte after fierce fighting

AFP, Sirte

Fighting around the last pockets of resistance in Muammar Gaddafi's hometown of Sirte abated sharply yesterday with some besieging troops saying they were deliberately holding fire after an exodus of civilians.

An AFP correspondent heard only intermittent rocket and small arms fire around the Dollar and Number Two residential neighbourhoods in the northwest of the city where Gaddafi loyalists are holed up.

A National Transitional Council fighter told AFP that there had been an exodus of civilians from the two neighbourhoods in early morning and that the besieging troops were eager to give others the chance to leave.

The lull contrasted sharply with Saturday afternoon when Gaddafi loyalists mounted a fierce counter-attack, forcing back the NTC fighters under a barrage of rockets and shelling.

A medic at a field hospital behind the eastern front line said four NTC fighters were killed and 22 wounded in the fighting on that side of the city of Saturday.

"Those killed were mainly from sniper bullets. And the wounded were injured by explosions and rocket attacks," Dr Ahmed Bushariya told AFP.

A commander on the western side of the city echoed the concern about the sniper threat.

"At the very front line, they have very professional snipers," said Salah al-Jabo. "According to doctors, 80% of the fighters killed in the last two days were shot in the head or in the chest."

# Anti-Saleh protests continue in Yemen

## Activists urge UN intervention as 5 more killed

AFP, Sanaa

Yemeni troops shot dead five demonstrators in the capital yesterday as they attempted to block a new bid by activists to bring 10 months of protests against veteran President Ali Abdullah Saleh to a head.

The defiant march by tens of thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators in Sanaa came despite the deaths of at least 12 people in a similar protest in the capital on Saturday.

Medical officials stationed at a makeshift field hospital near Change Square said three protesters and two dissident soldiers were killed, and at least 40 people wounded in Sunday's crackdown.

The violence erupted when protesters approached Al-Zubeiri Street, which marks the dividing line between parts of the capital held by troops loyal to Saleh and those held by dissident units led by General Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar, who rallied to the opposition in March.

An AFP correspondent on the scene said snipers positioned on rooftops overlooking the street opened fire on the protesters, who were being led by dissident troops from Ahmar's First Armoured Division.

In a separate protest in Yemen's second-largest city Ta'ez, one protester was killed when government troops opened fire on demonstrators also calling for Saleh's resignation.

Earlier yesterday, General Ahmar released a statement calling on the international community to take immediate action to stop the bloodshed and force Saleh to step down.

"We are calling for an urgent intervention by the international community to bring an immediate stop to the massacres by this ignorant murderer," the dissident commander said.

He said it was time for the international community to "force" Saleh to sign a deal brokered by impoverished Yemen's wealthy Gulf neighbours.

## British voters back Scotland separation

AFP, London

A simple majority of British voters outside Scotland back Scottish independence from the United Kingdom, a poll published yesterday found.

The ComRes poll for The Independent on Sunday and Sunday Mirror newspapers showed that support for Scotland going it alone has risen sharply in recent months.

Some 39 percent of adults in England, Wales and Northern Ireland thought Scotland should become an independent state -- up six points since May -- while 38 percent disagree.

Scottish National Party advocates independence and wants to put the matter to a referendum towards the end of the five-year term.



## Pope declares 'Year of Faith'

AFP, Vatican City

Pope Benedict XVI yesterday declared a "Year of Faith" starting on October 11, 2012.

He said it would give "a greater impulse to the mission of the entire Church to bring man out of the desert where he often finds himself, towards life and towards friendship with Christ."

The German pope has repeatedly warned about the decline of religious practice in the developed world, particularly in Europe.

## PRISONERS SWAP DEAL

# Israel unveils list

REUTERS, Jerusalem

Israel yesterday made public the names of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners it will free in exchange for soldier Gilad Shalit as part of a deal it reached with Hamas.

Shalit was captured in June 2006 by Palestinian militants who tunneled into Israel from the Gaza Strip. He has been held in the Hamas-ruled territory ever since.

The repatriation of captured soldiers, alive or dead, has long been an emotionally charged issue for Israelis. Many have served in the military and see their return as sacrosanct. But they also feel a sting over the release of convicted killers.

The first phase of the prisoner swap involves 450 men and 27 women. Another 550 will be released in about two months, according to officials familiar with the Egyptian-mediated deal.

Some prisoners originally from the West Bank will be sent to the Gaza Strip and other prisoners will be exiled abroad.

Israel's Prison Service posted the list of those to be let out on its website.

Israelis who oppose the freeing of the prisoners, some serving life sentences for deadly attacks, now have 48 hours to appeal to the country's highest court to prevent the release.

The court is not expected to intervene, however. The deal was approved Tuesday by a large majority in the government and has broad public support.

## 8th Tibetan in act of self-immolation

AFP, Beijing

A former monk set himself on fire near a Tibetan Buddhist monastery in southwest China, rights groups said yesterday, in the latest protest against perceived religious repression in the region.

Norbu Dathul, 19, called out "Tibet needs freedom" and "His holiness the Dalai Lama must return" before setting himself alight on Saturday in the main market of Aba, London-based Free Tibet said, citing exiled Tibetan sources.

Police extinguished the flames and took the former monk away, the activist group said, adding that "his current well-being and whereabouts are unknown".

# Syria forces shoot at activist funeral

## Assad promises new constitution

AFP, Nicosia

Syrian security forces opened fire on a funeral procession for an activist in the oil-rich east yesterday as they pressed a crackdown on dissent, a human rights group said.

Syrian security forces in Deir Ezzor fired live bullets at a funeral procession of 7000 for Ziad al-Obeidi, who was killed by regime forces, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

Meanwhile, security forces carried out raids and arrests in the flashpoint central province of Homs and in the outskirts of Damascus, with 19 people arrested in Dmeir, the Observatory said.

President Bashar al-Assad on Saturday appointed a committee to draft a new constitution within four months as activists reported more killings, arrests and gunfire in several protest hubs across Syria.

A key demand of the opposition has been the removal of Article 8 of the constitution which stipulates that the Baath party is the sole "leader of state and society," giving it a monopoly on power.

Security forces killed 12 people in Syria on Saturday alone, activist and sources said.

# California declares 'Steve Jobs Day'

AFP, Los Angeles



Amid global mourning for the death of Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, California Governor Jerry Brown has declared this Sunday as "Steve Jobs Day" in the southern US state.

"In his life and work, Steve Jobs embodied the California dream," Brown said in a statement.

"To call him influential would be an understatement... His innovations transformed an industry, and the products he conceived and shepherded to market have changed the way the entire world communicates."

A memorial event was scheduled to be held yesterday at Stanford University in Silicon Valley. An October 19 memorial for Apple employees at the company's headquarters in Cupertino, California, is planned.

The iconic executive died in on October 5 at the age of 56 after a years-long battle with cancer. He was buried in a private ceremony at a non-denominational cemetery three days later.

# 'Bunga Bunga' inspires line of accessories

AFP, Grumello Del Monte

While his fellow businessmen moan about Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's constant sex scandals and the fallout for Italy's image abroad, Carlo Pagani has decided to cash in.

Inspired by the Italian leader's "bunga bunga" parties -- reportedly a form of lap dancing enjoyed by Berlusconi, Pagani's small plastics factory has come out with the "Bunga Bunga Band", a bracelet with supposedly aphrodisiac qualities.

And it won't stop there. The businessman has registered various trademarks linked to the now famous phrase and will launch a full line of accessories.

"When we saw the words 'Bunga Bunga', they sounded magical," Pagani told AFP during a visit to his Castelberg Technologies factory in Grumello del Monte, near the north-



ern city of Bergamo.

While the bracelet was the first off production lines, the businessman is planning to expand internationally with a full "Bunga Bunga" line of items including necklaces, keyrings, perfumes, lingerie and even body oil.

"For us 'Bunga Bunga' has an extremely positive sense. It means joie de vivre!" said Pagani, whose factory also produces accessories for

major brands including French cosmetics giant L'Oreal and Italian fashion house Prada.X

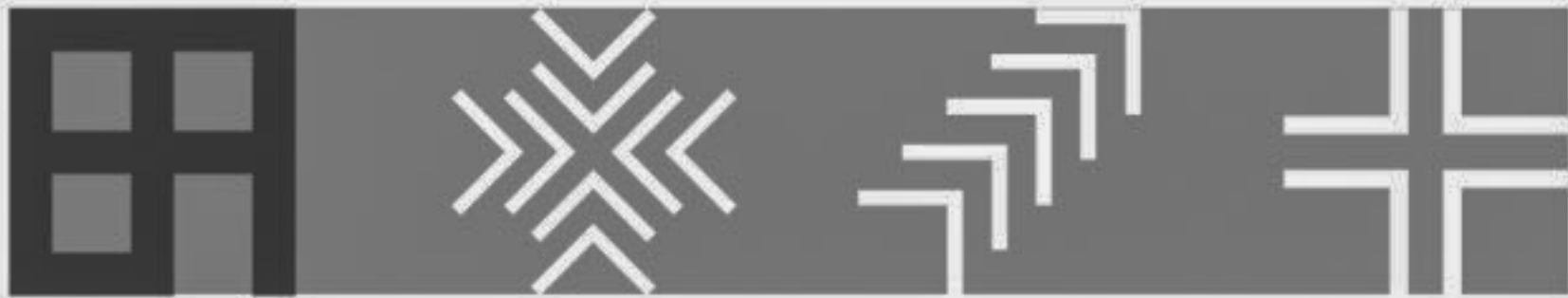
It "has no political meaning. We respect all politicians. Even Berlusconi."

Pagani's factory employs 40 people -- one of the thousands of small and medium-sized companies that make up the backbone of Italy's economy and are now struggling.

Pagani said he has invested \$276,000 in the project so far and plans to turn it into a "global brand" aimed at a young audience. He is in contact with distributors in France, Germany, Russia and Switzerland.

The bunga bunga scandal broke last year when it was revealed that Berlusconi was being investigated by prosecutors for alleged involvement in an underage prostitution ring with raunchy parties at his villa near Milan.

## NOTICE OF THE EIGHTH EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING



Notice is hereby given to all members of Bank Asia Limited ('the Bank') that the Eighth Extra-Ordinary General Meeting of the members of the Bank will be held on Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at 11:00 AM at the Council Hall of Institute of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh at 160/A, Kakrail, Dhaka-1000 to transact the following business and if deem fit to adopt the following resolutions as Special Resolutions:

### PROPOSED SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

(I) **To consider change in the denomination of share value from Tk.100.00 (Taka one hundred) only per share to Tk.10.00 (Taka ten) only per share pursuant to the Order dated 15.09.2011 of the Securities and Exchange Commission:**

(a) **Altering the Memorandum of Association of the Company**

"RESOLVED that the existing Clause V of the Memorandum of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended to read as follows subject to permission from the regulatory authorities:

The authorised capital of the Company is Tk.1,500,00,00,000.00 (Taka one thousand and five hundred crore) only divided into 150,00,00,000 (one hundred and fifty crore) ordinary shares of Tk. 10.00 (Taka ten) only each with rights, privileges and conditions attaching thereto as are provided by the regulations of the Company for the time being, with power to increase and reduce the capital of the Company and to divide the shares of the Company from time to time into several classes and to attach thereto respectively such preferential, deferred, qualified or special rights, privileges or conditions as may be determined by or in accordance with the regulations of the Company and to vary, modify or abrogate any such rights, privileges or conditions in such manner as may for the time being be provided by the regulations of the Company."

(b) **Altering the Articles of Association of the Company**

"RESOLVED that the existing Article No. 6 of the Articles of Association of the Company be and is hereby amended to read as follows subject to permission from the regulatory authorities:

The Authorised Share Capital of the Company is Tk.1,500,00,00,000.00 (Taka one thousand and five hundred crore) only divided into 150,00,00,000.00 (one hundred and fifty crore) ordinary shares of Tk. 10.00 (Taka ten) only each."

(c) **Effectiveness of the change in denomination of share value**

"RESOLVED that the change in denomination of the value of the share of the Company from Tk.100.00 (Taka one hundred) only per share to Tk.10.00 (Taka ten) only per share shall become effective from December 04, 2011 and record date, for the purpose of determining the effectiveness of the change, shall be December 01, 2011."

(II) **To adopt the new Memorandum and Articles of Association.**

"RESOLVED that a new printed Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company with all amendments made up to this date in exclusion and in substitutions of the existing Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company be and are hereby adopted as the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of the Company and the same to be filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms (RJC), Dhaka for record."

Dated: Dhaka  
October 17, 2011

### Notes:

- The Record Date of the Company is 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2011. Trading of the Company's shares in the Stock Exchanges will remain suspended on the Record Date.
- The shareholders whose names will appear in the Register of Members of the Company as at the close of business on the Record Date will be entitled to attend and vote at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting.
- Any member of the Company entitled to attend and vote at the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote on his /her behalf. The proxy must be a member of the Company.
- The instrument appointing a proxy duly stamped and signed by the Member must be submitted at the Registered Office of the Company at least 48 (forty eight) hours before the meeting.

By order of the Board

(Aminul Islam)  
Company Secretary

**Bank Asia**  
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Corporate Office (Registered Office)  
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