

# NEWS IN brief

**US-led coalition raids kill 29 in Syria's Raqa**  
 AFP, Beirut  
 US-led coalition raids on Raqa in northern Syria have killed 29 civilians over the past 24 hours as American-backed forces battle the Islamic State group, a monitor said Tuesday. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said nine women and 14 children had been killed in coalition air raids on Raqa city since Monday evening.

**Zimbabwe plans 'Mbabwe University'**  
 AFP, Harare  
 Cash-strapped Zimbabwe yesterday announced that it plans to build a \$1 billion university to honour Robert Mugabe, the 93-year-old president accused of brutal repression and bringing the country to economic ruin.

The university joins other facilities named after Mugabe including the government's school of intelligence, a main street in the capital Harare and the highway to his rural home.

**Qatar offers visa-free entry to 80 nationalities**  
 AFP, Doha  
 Qatar, isolated by its neighbours in a diplomatic crisis, has announced a visa-free entry programme for 80 nationalities to stimulate air transport and tourism.

The water programme, which came into immediate effect, affects countries of the European Union's Schengen zone, Western states, Latin American and Asian nations.

**Ruhani names female VP after criticism**  
 AFP, Tehran  
 Iranian President Hassan Rouhani appointed two female vice presidents yesterday but continued to refuse to nominate women.

The appointments were criticised by the state president announced his all-male list of ministers to parliament.



Chinese paramilitary police carry a survivor after an earthquake in Jiuzhaigou county, Ngawa prefecture, Sichuan province, yesterday.

# 60,000 evacuated after China quake

Death toll hits 19; more than 1,000 aftershocks recorded

AFP, Chengde  
 China yesterday evacuated nearly 60,000 people in its mountainous southwest after a strong earthquake killed at least 19, rattling a region where memories of a 2008 seismic disaster that left 87,000 people dead or missing remain fresh.

The 6.5-magnitude earthquake struck Sichuan province late on Tuesday, tearing cracks in mountain highways, triggering landslides, damaging buildings and sending panicked residents and tourists fleeing into the open.

The provincial government said that most of the tourists many stranded at a popular national park near the epicentre have been evacuated after spending a nervous night out in the open as more than 1,000 aftershocks rippled across the region.

Locals will also be moved to safer ground, according to the authorities.

The quake killed at least 19 people and injured at least 263, 10 of them seriously, official news agency Xinhua quoted local officials as saying. Two foreigners, a French man and a Canadian woman, are among the injured.

More than 2,000 kilometres (1,200 miles) to the northwest, a 6.3-magnitude tremor shook the far-western border region of Xinjiang yesterday morning, according to the US Geological Survey.

The Xinjiang quake, which was followed by aftershocks of 5.2 and 5.3 magnitude, injured 32 people and damaged more than 1,000 homes, Xinhua said.

# Car rams troops in Paris

Six injured; police arrest suspect after chase; counter-terrorism probe launched

AFP, Paris  
 French police shot and arrested a suspect in a dramatic motorway chase yesterday after a car smashed into soldiers outside a barracks in a Paris suburb, injuring six.

The suspected terror attack is the latest in a string of assaults that have hit France since January 2015, claiming more than 230 lives.

The servicemen were hit by a BMW which drove down a quiet street in the upmarket western Paris suburb of Levallois-Perret at around 8:00 am.

It accelerated as it neared the troops, rammed into them and then sped away.

"I heard a huge crash which I thought was the sound of scaffolding being put up," Thierry Chappé, a resident in a building opposite the crime scene, told AFP.

Police later gave chase to the vehicle on a motorway north of Paris, and shot and wounded the suspect, a man aged in his late 30s who was also arrested, sources involved in the manhunt said, speaking on condition of anonymity.



# Four killed in Kashmir violence

Three rebels and one civilian were killed in violence in Indian Kashmir yesterday, police said.

Two days after soldiers killed five fighters along the de-facto border with Pakistan.

Inspector general of police Muneer Ahmed Khan said soldiers and police cordoned off a residential area after receiving information there were armed militants there.

Ensuing gunfights then killed the three militants, he added.

The deaths sparked clashes between government forces and residents of the area, near the town of Tral, and showed locals strong against Indian rule.

A police officer later confirmed that a teenager struck by pellets fired by security forces died in hospital from his injuries.

# PROBE INTO ALLEGED RUSSIAN MEDDLING IN US ELECTION

# FBI raids home of former Trump campaign manager

AP, Washington  
 FBI agents have searched one of the homes of Paul Manafort, President Donald Trump's former campaign chairman, Manafort's spokesman said yesterday.

Spokesman Jason Maloni said in a statement that FBI agents had obtained a warrant and searched one of Manafort's homes, but he would not say when the search occurred.

The Washington Post, which first reported the raid, said it occurred the morning of July 26 at Manafort's home in Alexandria, Va.

"Mr Manafort has consistently cooperated with law enforcement and other serious inquiries and did so on this occasion as well," Maloni said.

Manafort has been a subject of a longstanding FBI investigation into his dealings in Ukraine and work for the country's former president, Viktor Yanukovich, Special Counsel Robert Mueller is also investigating Manafort as part of his probe into Russia's meddling in the 2016 election and any possible

collusion with Trump associates.

Manafort's deputy strongarming. He has also cooperated with congressional committees investigating the election interference. Manafort recently spoke with staff of the Senate Intelligence committee about a June 2016 meeting he attended with Donald Trump Jr. That meeting was described to Trump Jr. in emails as part of

Russian government effort to help the Trump campaign.

Manafort has also turned over documents to the Senate Intelligence and Judiciary committees.

Law enforcement authorities seeking to obtain a search warrant must generally establish to a judge that there is probable cause to believe that a crime may have been committed. Applications for such warrants

agents are looking for and the nature of the criminal activity they are investigating.

Manafort resigned from the Trump campaign last August after he was accused of accepting millions of dollars in cash for representing Kremlin interests in the Ukraine and the US, including his dealings



Paul Manafort

# Outsted Pak PM launches defiant procession

Thousands join in his support amid security concerns

REUTERS, Islamabad  
 Outsted Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif began a rally yesterday in a defiant show of political power after a Supreme Court decision disqualified him from office late last month over undeclared assets.

Sharif launched the "caravan" from Islamabad to his ancestral home town of Lahore, despite the concerns of close advisers about security for himself and the crowds he expected to draw.

Thousands of Sharif party supporters thronged the capital to join in the rally, setting up camps along the route he is expected to take and address supporters.

"Nawaz Sharif is still our prime minister," said worker Niaz Ahmad, who wore a lion look-alike costume, and chanted, "Lion, Lion!" referring to the "kingdom" of Sharif's political party.

Sharif, 67, resigned during his third stint as prime minister after the Supreme Court ruled on July 28 that he should be disqualified. The court also ordered a criminal probe into his family over allegations stemming from the "Panama Papers" leaks of international offshore companies.

Pakistan's new prime minister, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi, said the former leader was alert to security threats.

Sharif was seen off in Islamabad by Abbasi, the new cabinet and other party officials. Sharif's political adviser Asif Kirmani said,

"We really don't know how long he will take, how many days, we have no idea," Kirmani told reporters.

He said a huge number of people were waiting for Sharif along the Grand Trunk Road linking the capital, Islamabad, with Lahore, which is about 380 km (237 miles) distant.

Sharif, in recent meetings with party leaders, lawyers and media, said no corruption charges had been proved.



Nawaz Sharif



A woman gestures as she mourns the death of a protester in Mathare, in Nairobi, Kenya, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

# Country music legend Glen Campbell dies

Country music legend Glen Campbell, the mellow-voiced "Rhinestone Cowboy" who sold millions of albums over a career that spanned decades, has died at the age of 81.

Campbell, who left his mark on the music, television and movie worlds, died in Nashville, Tennessee, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

"It is with the heaviest of hearts that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, and legendary singer and guitarist," his family said in a statement.

Campbell's more than 70 albums sold more than 50 million copies, earning him six Grammy Awards, including a Lifetime Achievement Award, and membership in

the Country Music Hall of Fame and Musicians Hall of Fame.

Glen Travis Campbell was born on April 22, 1936 in a small town in the southern state of Arkansas, the seventh of 12 children of a struggling sharecropper.

According to Campbell's website, his father recognized his talent at an early age and bought him a guitar when he was four years old. He was taught to play by his Uncle Bob.

Campbell left home at the age of 14, performing on radio in his hometown of Albuquerque, New Mexico, before landing in Los Angeles in 1960.



Glen Campbell

# 2019 LOK SABHA POLLS

# Mamata launches 'BJP Quit India' campaign

Congress expels 8 MLAs after cross-voting in Gujarat RS polls

TNN, Kolkata  
 While the nation is commemorating the 75th anniversary of Quit India Movement, West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee has launched the "BJP Quit India 2019" with the slogan, "Mamata said at a public meeting in West Midnapore yesterday.

The chief minister alleged that the BJP was practicing divisive politics to destroy the secular fabric of the country.

"The BJP-led government is trying to divide the country. We will not allow it. We want this politics of communalism and

hated to come to an end. Democracy will triumph against all odds.

"This is an all-Bengal movement. All the districts, down to the block-level, will be covered. The agitation will continue till September 5," she added.

Cracking down on dissenters in Gujarat, the Congress yesterday expelled for six years eight of its MLAs who cross-voted in Wednesday's Rajya Sabha elections.

AICC general secretary in charge of Gujarat unit Ashok Gehlot said he has also recommended the expulsion of six of its legislators who had earlier resigned as MLAs. Three of them had later joined BJP.

Asserting that indiscipline will not be tolerated in the Congress, Gehlot said those expelled were indulging in anti-party activities.



Mamata Banerjee

# DALAI LAMA ON INDIA-CHINA ROW

# Talks the only way to resolve dispute

AFP, New Delhi  
 Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama said India and China must resolve their tense border standoff through talks, as the festering row shows no signs of easing.

"That (diplomacy) is the only way," the Nobel peace laureate said in an Indian capital.

"One side's retreat and defeat is an old-time thinking. In modern times, every country is dependent on each other," he was quoted as saying by the Press Trust of India news agency.

"Destruction of neighbour is destruction of yourself," the Indian and China have to live side by side."

Indian and Chinese troops have been locked in a standoff at a remote but strategically important Himalayan plateau near where Tibet, India and Bhutan meet.

The Doklam plateau gives China access to the so-called "chicken neck" — a thin strip of land connecting India's northeastern states with the rest of the country.



The Dalai Lama