

Pope Leo urges unity for divided Church
Vows not to be ‘autocrat’ at inaugural mass

REUTERS, Vatican City

Pope Leo XIV formally began his reign yesterday by reaching out to conservatives who felt orphaned under his predecessor, calling for unity, vowing to preserve the Catholic Church’s heritage and not rule like “an autocrat”.



After a first ride in the popemobile before tens of thousands of people in St Peter’s Square, Leo was formally installed as the 267th pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church and sovereign monarch of Vatican City at an outdoor Mass.

Well-wishers in the crowd waved US and Peruvian flags, with people from both countries claiming him as the first pope from their nations.



A firefighter works at the site of a private enterprise hit by a Russian drone strike, amid Russia’s attack on Ukraine, outside of Kyiv yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Russia launches ‘record’ drone attack: Ukraine

REUTERS, Kyiv

The largest known Russian drone attack since full-scale war began in 2022 killed a woman in the Kyiv region and injured at least three people, Ukrainian authorities said early yesterday, as Moscow stepped up strikes following peace talks on Friday.

Russia launched 273 drones by 8:00 am local time (0500 GMT), targeting chiefly the central Kyiv region and the Dnipropetrovsk and Donetsk regions in the country’s east, Ukraine’s air force said.

Based on data provided by the air force, this was Russia’s largest drone attack on Ukraine of the war. On the eve of the third anniversary of Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine on February 23, Moscow launched a then-record 267 drones.

The first direct talks in three years between Russia and Ukraine on Friday failed to broker the temporary ceasefire Kyiv and its allies have been urging. The 100 minutes of talks in Istanbul yielded an agreement to trade 1,000 prisoners of war on each side.

US President Donald Trump said he would speak to Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky today.

The sustained overnight Russian drone attack yesterday killed a 28-year-old woman in the capital region and injured at least three people, including a 4-year-old child, Ukrainian authorities said.

Israeli military intercepts missile from Yemen

Houthi target Ben Gurion Airport near Tel Aviv

AFP, Jerusalem

The Israeli military said yesterday it had intercepted a missile fired from Yemen, where the Iran-backed Houthi rebels claimed launching two missiles at Israel’s main airport.

“A missile that was launched from Yemen was intercepted”, the Israeli military said in a statement, adding that air raid sirens had sounded in several areas of the country.

The Houthis later said they had fired “two ballistic missiles” towards Israel’s Ben Gurion airport, near Tel Aviv. The Iran-backed rebels have regularly fired missiles and drones at Israel since the war in Gaza broke out in October 2023.

Earlier this month, a Houthi missile struck the area of the Tel Aviv airport, gouging a hole near its main terminal building and wounding several people.

On Friday, Israel bombed the Houthi-held Red Sea ports of Hodeida and Salif following three missile attacks in as many days. It threatened to target the Houthi leadership if the attacks continued.

Pak FM to visit China on heels of conflict with India

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan’s foreign minister will make a three-day official visit to China, his office said yesterday, a little over a week after Islamabad reached a ceasefire with India to end their most serious conflict in decades.

Ishaq Dar will start his visit today in Beijing where he will hold “in-depth discussions” with Chinese counterpart Wang Yi “on the evolving regional situation in South Asia and its implications for peace and stability”, his office said.

“The two sides will also review the entire spectrum of Pakistan-China bilateral relations and exchange views on regional and global developments of mutual interest,” it said.

Bomb kills one near California fertility clinic

FBI calls it ‘terrorism’

REUTERS

A bomb exploded near a reproductive health facility in Palm Springs, California, on Saturday, killing one person and injuring at least four in an incident the FBI called an “intentional act of terrorism”.

The authorities have a person of interest in the investigation and are not searching for a suspect, Akil Davis, assistant director of the FBI’s Los Angeles field office, told reporters. He provided no further details.

The person killed was near a vehicle that had been blown to pieces outside the clinic, operated by American Reproductive Centers, Davis said.



Italian and European Parliament members hold placards during a protest in front of the Egyptian side of the Rafah border crossing, calling for an end to the war and the entry of humanitarian aid into the Gaza Strip yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Portugal holds snap election

Centre-right leading in opinion polls

AFP, Lisbon

Voters in Portugal went to the polls yesterday for the country’s third general election in three years, with PM Luis Montenegro tipped to win, yet without a sufficient majority.

Final opinion polls indicate his centre-right Democratic Alliance is ahead of the Socialist Party and is likely to pick up more votes than in 2024.

But it is forecast to once again fall short of the 116 seats needed in Portugal’s 230-member parliament to obtain a ruling majority.

Storms, tornadoes kill over 25 in south-central US

AFP, London

Severe storms that tore through the US states of Missouri, Kentucky and Virginia left more than 25 people dead, leveling homes and businesses while knocking out power for tens of thousands, authorities say.

At least 18 people were killed in Kentucky in the storms Friday night, state governor Andy Beshear posted on X, while officials in Missouri said another seven were dead there.

Two people were also killed by falling trees in Virginia, local media reported.

Jamie Burns, 38, who lives with her husband and son in a trailer home in the town of London, Kentucky, fled to the basement of her sister’s brick house while the storm destroyed 100 to 200 houses in the area.

“Things that have been here longer than I have, things that have been here for 30-plus years are just flat,” Burns told AFP in a phone interview, her voice quavering. “It’s wild, because you’ll look at one area and it’s just smashed... totally flattened, like, not there anymore.”



Office of the Projector Director

Reviving the Technology of Muslin Yarn & Muslin Fabrics 'the Golden Heritage of Bangladesh' (2nd Phase) Project

Bangladesh Handloom Board

BTMC Bhaban (4th floor), 7-9, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.

Reference No: 24.05.0000.548.05.001.25-48

Date: 18.05.2025

e-Tender Notice (OTM)

e-Tenders are invited in the National e-GP System (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of the following works.

TID No	Name of the Tender
1113679	Side Development works. at Tarabo, Rupgonj, Naraygoanj.
1113680	Supplying, fitting and fixing Rezor Type Barbed wire at Tarabo, Rupgonj, Naraygoanj.
1114419	Construction of R.C.C Road works at Tarabo, Rupgonj, Naraygoanj.
1114422	Repairing works of Existing Boundary Wall at Tarabo, Rupgonj, Naraygoanj.

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To Submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system portal www.eprocure.gov.bd).

18.05.2025

Project Director

GD-1192

বাউবির দীক্ষা: সবার জন্য উন্মুক্ত কর্মমুখী, গণমুখী ও জীবনব্যাপী শিক্ষা

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শিক্ষাবর্ষ: ২০২৪-২০২৫

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e-Tender Notice 05/2024-2025

Memo No. 46.41.5900.004.54.004.21-149

Date:17.05.2025

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SL No	TID	Publishing Date & Time	Last Selling Date & Time	Closing & Opening Date & Time	Type of Method
01	1110117	19.05.2025	02.06.2025	03.06.2025	LTM
02	1110118	10:00 A.M	05:00 P.M	02:00 P.M	
03	1110119				
04	1110120				
05	1110121				
06	1110122				
07	1110123				
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54	1113436				
55	1113437				
56	1114371				

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17-05-25

Assistant Engineer

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GD-1200