

Quick Read

Pope says Amazon feathers same as Vatican hats

VATICAN CITY: Pope Francis hit out at "offensive words" spoken against the Amazon's indigenous people, noting that a feather headdress is no more ridiculous than hats worn at the Vatican. "I was pained to hear, right here, a sarcastic comment about a pious man with feathers on his head who brought an offering," the pope said at the opening of a synod focused on the Amazon's poverty-stricken and isolated indigenous communities. "Tell me what's the difference between having feathers on your head and the three-peaked hat worn by certain officials in our dicaster (Vatican ministries)?" the pope said to loud applause. The three-week synod, or assembly, unites 184 bishops, including 113 from the nine countries of the pan-Amazon region, including Brazil. Representatives of indigenous peoples, some with their heads adorned with coloured feathers, are attending the synod, with many gathering in Saint Peter's Square on Monday. Before an audience of around 250 people, the Argentine pontiff decried "offensive words" used about indigenous peoples, and rejected reductive or destructive "ideological colonisations". The working document for the synod, known as the "instrumentum laboris", denounces in scathing terms social injustices and crimes, including murders, and suggests a Church action plan. The document has been criticised by ultra-conservative Roman Catholics, but the pope called Monday on the gathered bishops to feel free to draw up their own final document. He called the document "a martyr text destined for destruction", prompting laughter from the audience, before the synod got down to work.—AFP

US forces start Syria border pullback, alarming Kurds

QAMISHLI: US forces in Syria started pulling back on Monday from Turkish border areas, opening the way for Ankara's threatened military invasion and heightening fears of a militant resurgence. The withdrawal from key positions along Syria's northern border came after the White House said it would step aside to allow for a Turkish operation President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has warned could come at any moment. The move marks a major shift in US policy, and effectively abandons the Kurds, who were Washington's main ally in the years-old battle against the so-called Islamic State group. The Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF), the Kurdish-led militia that controls much of northeastern Syria, said early on Monday in a statement that "US forces withdrew from the border areas with Turkey". The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights war monitor confirmed that US forces had pulled back from key positions in Ras al-Ain and Tal Abyad. A Kurdish official also told AFP that US forces had started withdrawing from the frontier, making way for the Turkish onslaught, the scope of which remains unclear. Turkey has sent reinforcements to the border in recent weeks, and Erdogan said Monday in televised remarks the long-threatened offensive could "come any night without warning". His comments came after Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu said on Twitter that Turkey was "determined to ensure our country's existence and security by clearing terrorists from this region". He was referring to the SDF, which has ties to Kurdish militants inside Turkey and which Ankara considers a terrorist organisation. Fearing yet another chapter of bloodshed and mass displacement in the Syrian conflict, the United Nations said it was "preparing for the worst". The European Union warned that civilians would once again bear the brunt of a military assault. In its statement, the White House made clear it would stand aside when its NATO ally Turkey moves in. SDF spokesman Mustafa Bali said Washington's decision "is about to ruin the trust and cooperation between the SDF and US". "People here are owed an explanation," he said on Twitter. The SDF, which spearheaded - with backing from the US-led coalition - several of the most significant battles against IS over the past five years, also vowed to resist any Turkish attack. "As the Syrian Democratic Forces, we are determined to defend our land at all costs," it said in a statement posted on social media. Ankara says it wants to urgently establish a "safe zone" on the other side of the border where it could send back some of the 3.6 million refugees who fled the eight-year war in Syria to live on Turkish soil. But the Kurds argue that Turkey's goal is to weaken the Kurdish presence in the region by modifying the demographics of the area with the return of mostly Sunni Arab refugees. Ankara's planned offensive is expected to focus on the border areas of Ras al-Ain and Tal Abyad, which are Arab-dominated towns governed by the Kurdish administration in northeast Syria. Kurdish forces have dug trenches and tunnels in the two areas in preparation for a Turkish offensive, according to the Observatory. In Ras al-Ain on Sunday, local armed forces allied with the Kurdish administration stood behind dirt berms, monitoring the frontier. They had covered streets in the town with large metal canopies to block the view of Turkish drones, sources there told AFP. "The prudent should prepare for war," said Mustafa Bozan, a 79-year-old shopkeeper. Nearby, Issam Daoud said that local security forces have erected checkpoints at key entrances to the town. "The fate of the region will be the same as that of Afrin," the 38-year-old said, referring to a former Kurdish enclave captured by Turkish troops and Syrian rebels last year. The SDF has also warned that a Turkish offensive would reverse the military gains achieved against IS and allow for the militant group's surviving leaders to come out of hiding. In its statement, it said that IS cells would break out detained militants from Kurdish prisons and take over camps where their relatives are held. But Turkey's presidential spokesman Ibrahim Kalin said Monday that Ankara "will also continue to fight against DAESH (IS) and will not allow it to return in any shape and form." While a Kurdish-led operation earlier this year saw the death of IS's territorial caliphate, the organisation isn't dead and sleeper cells have been active in several parts of Syria and Iraq. US itself has warned that, short of sustained inter-

CORRECTION OF FATHER NAME



I have passed the SSC Matric Annual examination 2005 under Roll NO.100737 and passed the Inter Examination Annual 2007 under roll NO.38893 from BISE, BWP and have passed MBBS Exam during session 2009 to 2013 under registration No.16933 Serial No.MBBS 01836 from Bahria University Islamabad (Karachi Campus My father name is Mian Rabnawaz Hashim whereas on certificates my father name has been mentioned as Mian Rabnawaz Qureshi Hashmi which is incorrect. I want to get correction my father name from Mian Rabnawaz Qureshi Hashmi to Mian Rabnawaz Hashmi if any person organization / agency has any objection then the same may be intimated in writing to the secretary, BISE Bahawalpur and Bahria University Islamabad (Karachi Campus) within 15 days. Proclamation: Muhammad Faisal Hashmi son of Mian Rabnawaz Hashmi, R/o Street School Halqa No.4, Mohallah Nazim Sahib, Khanpur District Raheem

COURT NOTICE

Before in the court of Muhammad Ishaq Jassa Civil Judge 1st Class Tehsil Shahpur District Sargodha, Nasreen Akhtar Versus Sikander Hayyat S/O Raja Muhammadhayyat R/O House Number C39 Near Shugar Mill Block No 29, Muhalla Chirag Colony Joharabad Tehsil & Khushab Suit for maintenance allownces this add is being issued for you to appear in same court at 8 o'clock dated on 20-10-19 .other wise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse.

More than 16,000 flee unrest in Indonesia's Papua

JAKARTA: More than 16,000 scared residents have fled an unrest-hit city in Indonesia's Papua region, the military said on Monday (Oct 7), as one of the deadliest eruptions of violence in years sparked calls for an independent probe. Several dozen people were killed when violence broke out in Wamena city last month, with some victims burned alive when buildings were ablaze, and others stabbed in the chaos, according to authorities. Since mid-August, Papua has been hit by waves of mass protests and violence fuelled by racism against indigenous Papuans by Indonesians from other parts of the archipelago, as well as calls for self-rule in the impoverished region. The majority of Papuans are Christian and ethnic Melanesian with few cultural ties to the rest of Muslim-majority Indonesia. On Monday, the air force said about 11,400 people - mostly migrants - had been evacuated aboard military aircraft.

Several thousand more have left aboard commercial aircraft since late September, it added. Also Monday, Human Rights Watch called for a probe into 33 deaths during the Wamena riots to be led by the Southeast Asian country's National Commission on Human Rights. "The Indonesian government should also immediately allow the United Nations human rights office unfettered access to (Papua) to investigate the situation," the rights group said in a statement. The violence in Wamena was reportedly sparked by racist comments made by a local teacher towards students, but police have disputed that account. Since then, thousands of residents - both Papuans and non-Papuans - have been evacuated, as news of looming violence circulates on social media. Thousands of residents fled Wamena in Papua province after rioting in Indonesia's



Thousands of residents fled Wamena in Papua province after rioting in Indonesia's easternmost province. However, there were signs that Wamena was returning to normal with many shops and schools reopened - although most students have stayed home - while government offices have also been operating since last week, according to an AFP reporter. In August, protests broke out across Papua and in other parts of the country after the arrest, racial abuse and tear-gassing of dozens of Papuan students, in the city of



Then Indonesian military has evacuated thousands of non-Papuan migrants from Wamena after violence broke out in the province.

Global Extinction Rebellion protests begin in Australia

SYDNEY: Extinction Rebellion activists began gathering in cities across Australia and New Zealand on Monday to kick off a fortnight of global civil disobedience demanding governments take urgent action on climate change. Protesters held a silent meditation vigil on the steps of the state parliament in Melbourne early Monday, ahead of a march through the southern Australian city. Meanwhile, demonstrators shut down part of Wellington, New Zealand's capital, by chaining themselves to a bright pink car. They were the start of planned disruptions in 60 cities around the world over the next two weeks by Extinction Rebellion, which is warning of a looming environmental "apocalypse". Thousands are expected to join events this week in Australia, including a bee die-off enactment, a nude parade and a funeral process-

ion for the planet. Extinction Rebellion protesters are warning of an environmental apocalypse and demanding governments. Extinction Rebellion protesters are warning of an environmental apocalypse and demanding governments take drastic action to tackle the climate emergency. "We have tried petitions, lobbying and marches, and now time is running out," Australian activist Jane Morton said. "We have no choice but to rebel until our government declares a climate and ecological emergency and takes the action that is required to save us." Australia is ruled by a conservative government that has resisted taking comprehensive action to tackle climate change, while backing lucrative coal exports. Prime Minister Scott Morrison last month snubbed a United Nations climate summit after he was not invited to speak for lack of new

climate announcements. Extinction Rebellion's tactics in Australia have prompted senior conservative politicians to call for protesters' welfare payments to be cut and for public denunciations. "People should take these names and the photos of these people and distribute them as far and wide as they can so that we shame these people," Australian Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton said on radio last week, referring to the Extinction Rebellion protesters. "Shame them because of the actions they have committed and because they're acting outside of the law and against community standards. Let their families know what you think of their behaviour." In the northern Australian state of Queensland, home to huge coal mines and Dutton's electorate, harsher penalties are being considered in response to their regular disruption of peak-hour traffic.

Extinction Rebellion has scheduled non-violent protests chiefly in Europe, North America and Australia over the next fortnight. Events will also be held in India, Buenos Aires and Cape Town. An "opening ceremony" on Sun-

day evening attracted hundreds of people to central London, where plans are in place to shut down key sites including Westminster and Lambeth bridges, in addition to protests outside key government departments.—Reuters



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Before in the court of Arshad Mahmood District And Session Judge Banking Court Sargodha (H No 81/82 New Satellite Town , General Bus Stand Road Sargodha) , suit no156/2019 Zarai Tarqati Bank Limited ,Mankera Branch District Bhakkar Versus , Sana Ullah S/O Ameer Muhammad Caste Cheena R/O Mummayawala , Dagar Shada Tehsil Mankera , District Bhakkar , whereas the aforesaid plaintiff,s has instituted a suit against you and other for the recovery or rs =173,504. along with markup / interest and costs etc , summon under section 9(5) of the financial institutions (recovery of finances) ordinance ,2001 (ordinance no xlvi of 2001) . therefore this add is being issued for you to appear in same court at 8 o'clock dated on 20-11-19 .other wise the action would be taken against you and after that no excuse or objection would be accept

COURT NOTICE

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Austria conservative Kurz tapped to form government again

VIENNA: Austria's president on Monday tasked election winner Sebastian Kurz with forming another government, putting the 33-year-old conservative on course to start tough coalition negotiations after his far-right former ally was brought down by scandals. Kurz's People's Party (OeVP) came out ahead with 37.5 per cent in Sep 29 elections, but the far-right Freedom Party (FPÖ) with who he governed from 2017 until the "Ibiza-gate" scandal in May tumbled 10 points down to 16.2 per cent. A big winner of the elections were the Greens with 13.9 per cent, up by 10 points, as climate change became a top voter concern. This places Kurz, who has driven a hard anti-immigration line, in a tough spot to find a suitable coalition partner. After President Alexander Van der Bellen tasked him to form the government, Kurz said he would start official talks with all parties this week, insisting fighting illegal immigration continued to be a top priority. "It will be important to continue the resolute path to fight illegal immigra-

tion in Austria and also Europe," he said in a statement broadcast live on national television, standing next to Van der Bellen. His other priorities are fighting climate change, fending off any economic downturn, offering tax relief and reforming the social welfare system to ensure it is sustainable, even if that's unpopular, he said. Coalition negotiations are expected to take months. FPÖ leader Norbert Hofer said last week that he didn't see the election result as a mandate to enter a government, but that the situation could be "reassessed" in the "unforeseen situation" that Kurz failed to find a coalition partner until next year. One option, which looks increasingly likely, would be for Kurz to govern with the Greens, but he would need to rebrand himself and may anger some of his more right-leaning voters. Greens leader Werner Kogler also has said he wants to first assess if it makes sense to enter negotiations, saying he would need a "sign of reversal" from Kurz's past policies. The OeVP's partner for decades in the past, the Social Democ-

rats (SPOe), fell to a historic low of 21.2 per cent, according to official final results, making them also potential partners for Kurz but leaving them much weakened. The liberal NEOs took 8.1 per cent of the vote. Kurz became the world's youngest elected leader in 2017, but his government fell apart in May after his vice-chancellor, FPÖ leader Heinz-Christian Strache, was seen in hidden video footage appearing to offer public contracts in exchange for campaign help to a fake Russian backer. His other priorities are fighting climate change, fending off any economic downturn, offering tax relief and reforming the social welfare system to ensure it is sustainable, even if that's unpopular, he said. Strache, who led the party for 14 years, resigned from all posts amid the so-called "Ibiza-gate" scandal, and the fresh elections were triggered. Following further, more recent allegations against Strache - that he abused his party expense account - that cost the party votes, he announced last week that he is withdrawing from pol-