

Politics

Misrata municipality asks political parties to take conflict away from the city

Misrata municipality has issued a statement after a meeting with military and security apparatuses in the city following the unrest that took place on Wednesday night after the entry of Fathi Bashagha to his hometown.

The final statement reiterated that the political parties that come from Misrata didn't consult with its leaderships in their endeavors and; hence, they couldn't use the city and its institutions for political campaigns or plunge it into conflicts.

The statement came after the House of Representatives-designated Prime Minister - not recognized yet locally or internationally - Bashagha returned to Misrata on Wednesday and then his loyalists said that a security force from Misrata - loyal to PM Abdul Hamid Dbeibah who is also from the same city - tried to storm Bashagha's house.

Bashagha was seen late on Wednesday amidst a crowd of supporters in Misrata in what he said a defiance to what Dbeibah-loyal forces wanted to do - which is kick him out of the city, according to his description.

The statement reiterated that February revolution constants are a red line and there can be no calling out of people as traitors or eliminating people based on whatever reasons.

"There will be a committee to be formed to communicate with all sides to come up with a proposal for the security and political situation in the country." The statement explained, stressing that the Misrata municipality is nonbiased.

Politics

Military leaders of eastern and western Libya end meetings

The leaders of the military institution issued on Tuesday a joint statement after their two-day meeting in Tripoli.

The leaders agreed to move forward with the national reconciliation project, the return of the displaced to their homes, and the formation of a joint committee to follow up the file of detainees and missing persons, according to the statement.

The leaders further agreed to start defining realistic steps to unify the military institution, stressing total rejection of fighting and violence, and vowed support a civil state.

The leaders praised the efforts of the 5 + 5 Joint Military Committee and the continuation of implementing the outcomes of its previous meetings.

The Chief of Staff of warlord Haftar's forces, Abdul Razzaq Al-Nadouri, arrived Monday morning at Mitiga Airport in Tripoli, accompanied by members of the Joint Military Committee 5 + 5 from the eastern region.

Al-Nadouri was met at the airport by the Chief of the General

Staff of the Libyan Army, Lt. Gen. Mohamed Al-Haddad after which the two sides engaged in lengthy discussions which ended Tuesday evening.

Politics

Ambassador Hurndall: Holding elections is important for Libya's progress



The British Ambassador to Libya, Caroline Hurndall, says that holding elections in Libya is vital for the country's progress.

Hurndall, who was attending an event hosted by the Turkish Embassy in Tripoli to mark the sixth anniversary of the 15 July failed coup attempt against Recep Erdoğan's government, told The Libya Observer that the current situation in Libya is challenging.

"We are trying to work with all Libyan leaders to really take their responsibility to revive the political process and get the country back on track towards establishing a basis and holding parliamentary and presidential elections."

She said that reopening the UK embassy in Tripoli highlights the "strong deep historic relationship" between the UK and Libya, which her government is looking forward to building on.

Ambassador Hurndall noted the UK's support to Libya in various fields, such as running demining programs, supporting the WHO work in Libya, and through the British council, which holds English exams and provides support for English teachers.

The UK diplomat confirmed that her government is working with international counterparts, the Libyan government, the HCS, and Parliament to help Libya take its own lead in becoming more stable and prosperous.

Politics

Bin Qadara announces the end of the closures in all oil fields and ports



The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Oil Corporation (NOC), appointed by the Government of National Unity, Farhat bin Qadara, has announced the end of the closures in all oil fields and ports, starting from Friday, lifting the state of force majeure in them.

Bin Qadara said that he gave his instructions to initiate production arrangements according to security and public safety standards, according to his speech in the meeting room of the Arabian Gulf Company in Benghazi, on Friday, after his meeting with notables of the Oil Crescent.

"NOC appreciates the efforts made by all local and international parties and pledges to adhere to professional and non-political

constants and it will continue to perform its duties in all impartiality", he added, pledging its commitment to systems of governance, transparency and disclosure, away from improvised individual action.

He also confirmed the company's continuous coordination with the Ministry of Oil and Gas, to reach the highest levels of production as soon as possible, and work to increase production in coordination with foreign partners, in addition to increasing the gas feeding power stations.

Bin Qadara had assumed his duties as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the NOC last Thursday, pledging to end the closures in oil fields and ports and to raise production rates as soon as possible.

Politics

UNSMIL Human Rights Director calls for accountability in Abu Salim massacre



UNSMIL's Director of Human Rights, Rule of Law and Transitional Justice, Suki Nagra, met with the Abu Salim Victims' Association on Thursday to discuss victim-centered transitional justice measures and national calls for accountability for the brutal 1996 mass killing of more than 1,200 detainees in Abu Salim prison.

UNSMIL reiterated that ensuring accountability for this crime against humanity is critical for rights-based national reconciliation and to send a clear message to human rights violators in the fight against impunity in Libya.

Tripoli Appeals Court ruled in mid-June that it was not competent to tackle the proceedings of Abu Salim massacre, sending the case to military judiciary. The judge said the case was a military one as a number of military officers were involved in the massacre.

Politics

Dbeibah says ready to hold elections away from power-sharing deals

The Libyan Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah has said his government is ready to hold elections once the High National Elections Commission announces its readiness.

Dbeibah added in a televised statement on Tuesday that national reconciliation didn't go through in a full manner in Libya because of the inflexibility of some parties, saying his government is with real reconciliation that leads to parliamentary and presidential elections based on a constitutional framework.

"We won't sit idly by and watch some parties cause harm to the living conditions of Libyans. The sacking of the National Oil Corporation's (NOC) chairman Mustafa Sanallah and replacing him with Farhat Bengdara was to resolve the blockade on oil production and exports. We wanted to right the wrong legal status of the board of the NOC," Dbeibah said.

He said talk about a deal to share power is just "delusion" and denied the rumors about a political deal being behind Sanallah's sacking, adding that those rumors were made by the party that lost everything after giving up everything for the sake of winning. He said the change of the NOC board was a must-do step.

Politics

Two brigades trade heavy fire in Libya's capital

Fierce fighting broke out Thursday night, July 21, in Tripoli and continued until dawn as two armed brigades exchanged fire in densely populated areas. The Special Deterrence Force (SDF), led by Abdul-Raof Kara launched a large-scale attack on locations controlled by Tripoli Revolutionaries Brigade (TRB), led by Ayoub Abu Ras. 10 people have been killed,

including a child, and 25 others wounded according to preliminarily statistics released by the Emergency Medicine Department. The clashes were first started in Zwait Dahmani and Furnaj districts where SDF seized some locations for TRB including the "Central Support Agency". The Fighting renewed on Friday afternoon in Mash-

tel Road in Ain Zara, causing damage to people's properties, as SDF is trying to move on other locations for TRB. Many people were trapped in the middle of the fighting and others sought shelter in wedding halls, according to videos circulated online. According to reports, several residents in Zin Zara are calling for a safe corridor to escape

the fighting as shells fall randomly on residential areas. Sources said the fighting was ignited after the abduction of a senior SDF commander by a group affiliated with TRB. The city's only functioning airport, Mitiga, suspended flights while some airlines evacuated their planes in anticipation of any escalation of the fighting.

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Economy

Libya Transport and Logistics Expo kicks off in Tripoli

Libya Transport and Logistics Expo kicked off on Tuesday at Tripoli International Fair, with the participation of more than 100 local and international companies specialized in the fields of transport, shipping, airlines, handling, ground services, insurance companies, tourism companies, and public and private sector institutions.

The exhibition, which is the first of its kind in the country, included offers and discounts on a number of services related to the transport sector in general.

Economy

Dbeibah

announces bonuses and salary increases across public sector in Libya

The Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Dbeibah announced in a cabinet meeting on Wednesday distributing bonuses and salary increases of some public sectors as well as the release of delayed payments for several sectors.

Dbeibah said that the salaries of doctors and paramedics will be paid, starting from next month, with the increase after completing the verification process with the Ministry of Finance, adding that the distribution of stipends for university students and students of higher institutes, 750 dinars for one academic year, will also be made next month.

He announced the continuation of releasing the salaries of "non-operating companies", whose employees have not received their salaries for years. He added that his government completed more than 80,000 releases.

"The salaries of employees of non-operational companies would be paid from January 1, 2022 to June 1, of the same year. Also, the distribution of the marriage grant, will resume along with the start of granting loans and housing lands on the International Youth Day: August 12, 2022." Dbeibah announced.

He also announced the distribution of the retirement allowance of 900 dinars, in addition to the differences for the past seven months of 2022.



Economy

Turkey proposes bartering to collect investors' money in from Libya

The chairman of the Turkey-Libya Council of the Foreign Economic Relations Board of Turkey, Murtaza Karanfil, proposed barter system to settle the Turkish investors' money in Libya and resolve the due payment issue, adding that the barter system can offer a new market of \$40 billion to Turkish businesses.

Karanfil said that Turkish businesses have not yet received \$4 billion in exchange for projects carried out in Libya prior to 2011, adding that the payment mechanism, which is now working with difficulties due to the political instability in Libya, can only be solved through the barter system.

He said that Turkey should move towards diversification in trade models with countries such as Libya, adding that developed countries also use the barter system in their trade.

Karanfil pointed out that this system would be beneficial for a country, such as Libya, that has only traditional trade methods, indicating that Turkey can import goods from Libya in exchange for the completion of public projects in there.

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Economy

NOC prepares to export shipments of crude oil after lifting force majeure on ports

The National Oil Corporation (NOC) is preparing to export quantities of crude oil after lifting force majeure on oil ports and fields, confirming that all arrangements have been made in order to resume production operations.

According to the NOC, it is scheduled that on July 20 a tanker will arrive at the port of Zueitina to load one million barrels of Abu Al-Tifl field crude, and a tanker will arrive at the Sidra port during the period from July 19 to 20, and two tankers will arrive at Ras Lanuf port on July 20/21, in addition to another tanker to load a shipment of Brega crude of 600,000 barrels.

Economy



Mellitah oil company resumes oil production, exports at El-Feel field

Mellitah oil and gas company said it resumed Tuesday operations at El Feel oilfield after operating the power generation unit and gradually reopening oil wells following the orders of the National Oil Corporation (NOC) to resume operations at the field.

The oil and gas company said operations started with a capacity of 40,000 barrels per day (bpd) and would increase once all wells had been opened.

Meanwhile, Oil and Gas Ministry expected that El Fell production rates would return to normal (68,000 bpd) in the coming days.

National Oil Corporation said Monday that all fields and ports would be resuming production and exports this week after three months of suspension.

Force majeure was lifted on last Friday in all fields and ports after the announcement of the newly appointed National Oil Corporation's Chairman Farhat Bengdara who replaced Mustafa Sanallah by orders of PM Abdul Hamid Dbeibah.

Economy



Dbeibah confirms GNU commitment to systems of transparency and disclosure of oil revenues

The Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity (GNU), Abdel Hamid Al-Dbeibah, has held a meeting with the head of the High Council of State (HCS), Khaled Al-Mashri, the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya (CBL), Al-Siddiq Al-Kabir, the head of the Audit Bureau, Khaled Shakshak, and the head of the Administrative Control Authority, Suleiman Al-Shanti.

The officials affirmed support for the GNU efforts in developing the oil and gas sector, stressing the need to achieve the highest levels of transparency and disclosure policy regarding the government expenditures and oil revenues, according to the CBL official Facebook page.

The meeting stressed the importance of the efforts made to return to work in the oil fields and ports and the positive economic impact of this.

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Opinions

What is going on in Libya?

Role of international consensus!

By Fathi Salem Abuzakhar, a Libyan writer



It is true that politics is not governed by any principle, as much as it is motivated by interests. What has recently happened in Libya is a cause for slipping into a cycle of skepticism and even accusations of treason.

The writer of this Opinion decided not to rush, before reading and contemplating the course of events on the complex Libyan stage, in which the leaders of the scene in Libya contribute and play secondary roles, as international rivals play the key ones. One could not miss the fact, that the ambiguity that hinders the Libyan scenes has its causes, and what makes the picture blurrier is the fact that what is happening on the Libyan stage is controlled behind the scene by international actors.

Causes of the blurry picture:

As said, the political dynamics on the Libyan stage is not subject to professional rules of politics which basis is sovereignty of the decision. In this respect, it is difficult to believe any Libyan official, regarding the interests of the international system, which has no concern for Libyan people as much as its concern for Libya's geopolitics, as well as its natural resources especially oil and gas, which prices have soared due to the war in the Ukraine and Russian pressure. The question here; who has removed Mustafa Sanallah?

Decisions of oil, and war and the international system:

It is to be noted that the crisis in Libya is an artificial one, maintaining the expired legislative bodies and contributing to the crisis are tangible evidence. Although, the two elected bodies did not live up to their responsibility towards the Libyan people and focused their attention more on their personal interests, extending them to the maximum extent possible, their use and preservation by the international community is clearly visible.

War and the international system:

Although the direct cause of the 2011 war was the arrogance of the dictator Muammar Gaddafi, but the international community played important roles in fueling it, siding with the unarmed free people of February in the beginning. However, after setting

foot on the Libyan soil, it drawn war plans, sometimes igniting wars and at other times extinguishing them, besides the media of disinformation that played its directive role in addition to the passion of the people, aspiring for freedom, and uprising against dictatorship.

Indeed, the international community took over planning command and left implementation tools to remotely or rather indirectly manage them with the invocation, exploitation and employment of Libyan diversity, ethnically, linguistically and sectarian, especially religious trends, including the exotic Salafist Madkhali funded by Saudi Arabia, and worse than that, an unjust division of the Libyan people: revolutionaries and stooges, free and slaves, which increased the chasm and helped ignite wars and skirmishes from time to time.

The last war on April 4, 2019, was flared up when the interests of the international community were rather complicated and overlapped and the post-utilitarianism of the United States flourished to the point of compatibility with its enemy Russia, in order to stop Chinese expansion in Africa, and their consent to support the invasion of Daesh Haftar to Tripoli. However, when the Free Libyans stood firm and stopped the attack of the war criminal and his mercenaries, supported by 7 countries: Egypt, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, France, Russia and America, America's tactic changed, especially after the Russians went too far and expanded in Libya and Mali, so the USA opened the way for the Turkish maestro, who found its interest in the maritime agreement, eyed before 2011, and its security by the military agreement, and when Haftar's mercenaries arrived back in Sirte, a red line was drawn by the Security Council members participating in the war and not by Mr. Sissi, as he claimed.

Today, despite the fact that the free Libyan people refuse to accept any complacency with the participants in the invasion of the capital, but they are yet to find hearing ears for their demands, as the decision of war is with the UN Security Council member states,

that produce weapons and military equipment.

The decision to welcome Abd al-Razzaq al-Nadori, by Mr. Mohamed al-Haddad was not welcomed by the free people of Libya, but if we went back to our argument at the outset of the article, the decision here is not a sovereign one, or else how are there two people for the one position of chief of staff?!, Adapting to or rejecting such state, cannot be expressed in a way that satisfies everyone. In this regard, it is difficult for the writer to identify a clear position, and perhaps, as we say in the Libyan dialect: "You blame and excuse."

Oil and the international system:

Although, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, founded in 1960 from 5 countries whose peoples do not speak English, yet it has adopted it as its official language. OPEC is working on regulating production quotas for oil-exporting countries, and the number has since increased to 13 countries, and then after OPEC Plus, the number reached 23 countries, including Russia, after it has been decided to reduce production.

It is true that OPEC established rules for accession and production quotas, but there are countries that control oil policies, driven by their interests, even if it requires to employ oil in the global conflict.

Without going into the sovereignty of the decision, to dismiss Mr. Mustafa Sanalla from his position, and appoint Mr. Farhat bin Qadara instead as head of the National Oil Corporation, it is to be said that the international consensus is the master of the situation and not as Mr. Dhebeiba tried to explain to us, who certainly discussed the issue, but the understandings are governed and organized by international meetings. Biden's visit to the Middle East is only to see beforehand implementation of the plans drawn up in official and secret meetings, with the help of countries, including those who seek US appeasement, such as the Gulf states, which need to secure their regimes, and Egypt, which needs wheat and loans, and others that serve their

their own interests, such as Israel, driven by Christian-Zionist doctrine, or its collaborators, such as Britain and Turkey, and those who have common and crosscutting interests such as Germany, Iran, Italy, and we should not forget those who have a hostile rivalry, as is the case with France and Russia. It is difficult to decipher the overlapping and intertwined interests, and without forgetting China, the Silk Road and its inroads into Africa, and here we find that Libya is acted upon and can only play the role of acceptance in securing the interests of all. This task is yet difficult and complicated, the Libyans of both gender standing idly by can easily indulge in

rhetoric and directing blames, so all be they intellectuals or politicians, biased to one side or the other, make mistakes.

The absence of clear picture of what is happening in the political scenes makes the poor Libyans ready to play reactive roles on the Libyan theater by closing oil, on the orders of Russia through Haftar, or running an armed convoy through an anonymous, taking advantage of the enmities inherited from the remnants of hatred for the former regime to sustain the crisis "Pacifier", spread terror, undermine security, or to use lack of services as pretexts: fuel, electricity, cash etc.

Final word:

We stress that today we may blame and yet excuse Mr. Dhebeiba for what is happening in the Oil Corporation. We also know that he retains the defense portfolio, but the war decision is with those involved in the 2019 war. The actors in Libya must support the path of peace, without sacrificing the civilian and democratic nature of the state, thereby consolidating the principle of rights and citizenship. God Be with Libya.

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect those of the Libya Observer

Health



Libya to strengthen cooperation with Turkey in health field

Deputy Prime Minister/ Minister of Health Ramadan Abu Jinnah discussed with Turkish Ambassador Kenan Yilmaz on Monday aspects of cooperation between the two countries in health aspects.

At the outset of the meeting, the minister welcomed the ambassador and the delegation accompanying him, praising his efforts to advance the Turkish-Libyan relations towards broader prospects that serve the interests of the two nations, a statement by the Health Ministry's media office said.

Discussions covered several topics, mainly sending Turkish medical teams to run Libyan hospitals.

For his part, the Turkish ambassador expressed his country's desire to widen the scope of cooperation between the two countries in various fields, including those related to the health sector.

Health

Ten-year-old boy regains eye-sight after undergoing surgery in Tripoli

A ten-year-old boy was able to see his family again after losing his vision as a result of retinal detachment and a macular hole. Ali Musallam lost his sight in the left eye a couple of years ago before losing his vision in the right eye and becoming blind as a result of the detachment of the retina.

A medical team at the Eye Hospital in Tripoli conducted a complex operation for Ali in which he had the retina returned to his right eye with silicone oil.

The hospital said the operation was a success, and the child has regained his vision, expressing the joy of the hospital's medical staff, led by Dr. Fathi Zanbeel, the retinal surgeon who operated. Major surgeries are being performed in the Eye Hospital of Tripoli as part of the localization of treatment program launched by the Ministry of Health last year.

Health

Ministry of Health calls on citizens to vaccinate against Covid-19

The Minister of Health has noticed an increase in Coronavirus cases, Deputy Minister of Health, Tawfiq Al-Darsi, declared, stressing that the situation is so far stable and public hospitals are in a state of full readiness.

In a press conference, Thursday, Al-Darsi stressed that the citizens should take the vaccinations and booster doses that are available in all vaccination centers, explaining that there is no protection from the virus except through prevention and vaccinations.

82 cases were recorded Wednesday out of 279 cases, that is 29%, including 10 cases that were admitted to intensive care unit, Al-Darsi added.

He warned of a fifth wave of Coronavirus, and urged commitment to social distancing, wearing masks and sterilization. He also instructed all government institutions to comply with Covid-19 precautionary measures.



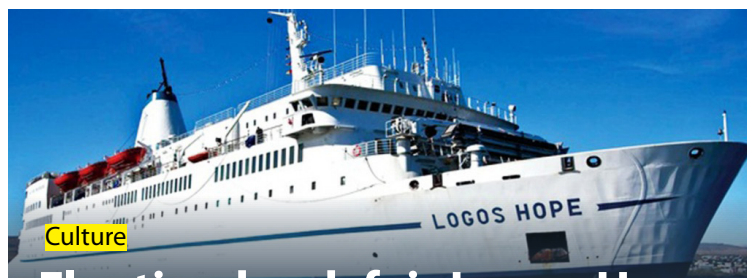
Travel

Libyan pilgrims head back home

The Director of the Information Office of the Libyan Airlines, Saber Al-Tir, has stated that the first batch of Libya's pilgrims to be arrived home on Wednesday, pointing out that the last batch will be on July 28.

Mitiga International Airport will receive eight flights, carrying 250 passengers per flight, while Misrata Airport will receive three flights, carrying 250 passengers per flight, Al-Tir said.

He also indicated that the airports of Sabha, Al-Abraq and Tobruk will receive one flight carrying 150 passengers, while Benina Airport will receive two flights carrying 250 passengers.



Culture

Floating book fair Logos Hope comes to Libya in August

The (Logos Hope) ship, the world's largest floating book fair is set to arrive in Libya, the Ministry of Culture has confirmed. The ministry held a preparatory meeting on Sunday to discuss preparations for hosting the event, which includes a campaign to disseminate the fair and the ministry's accompanying programs.

A statement by the ministry said that Minister of Culture Mabrouka Toghy had formed a committee to supervise the event, which will also feature cultural and artistic activities, in addition to a special program for children.

Operated by (Good Books for All), a nonprofit organization based in Germany, the vessel has visited more than 160 countries and received over 40 million visitors.

The ship, which carries over 400 international volunteers, will dock in Misrata city on August 2 before heading to the Shaab Port in Tripoli after one week.

Crimes

Gang member arrested in Al-Shwerf municipality

The Public Prosecution Office announced the arrest of a member of a gang that had kidnapped five foreigners for a ransom.

The Brigade 676 succeeded in arresting one of the kidnappers in Al-Shwerf municipality after tracking the suspects, the Public Prosecution Office explained.

The Brigade was able to identify the remaining kidnappers and the place of detention of the victims, determining the methods of torture used to force them to pay the ransom.



Crimes

7.5 million narcotic tablets seized in the port of Benghazi

The Public Prosecution has announced the seizure of 7,500,000 tablets containing the addictive pregabalin, inside a container designated for transporting goods, which arrived at the Benghazi sea port.

The Public Prosecution conducted an inspection to prove the crime, in cooperation with the General Department for Combating Smuggling and Narcotics.

It also confirmed that it has taken all legal measures regarding those involved in the smuggling operation.

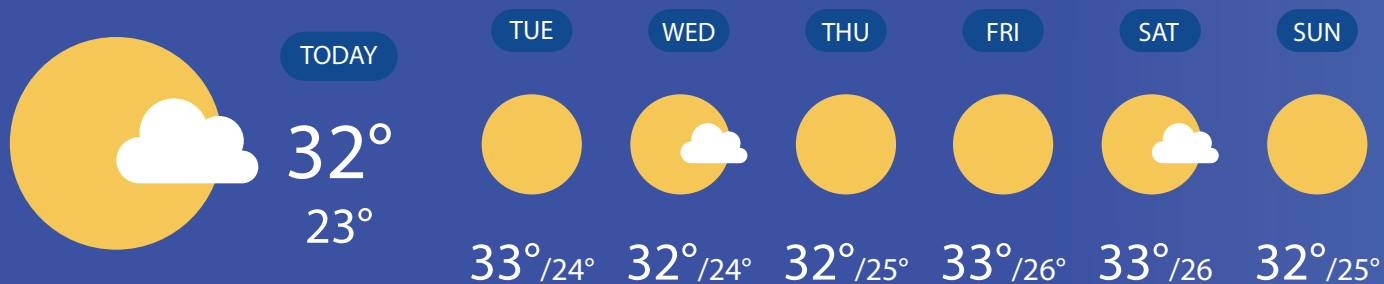
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