

Politics

## HoR Speaker appoints new Chief Justice of Libya's Supreme Court



The Speaker of the House of Representatives (HoR) Aqila Saleh announced in an HoR session in Benghazi on Thursday the appointment of Abdullah Abu Razizah as new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to replace Mohammed Al-Hafi, a step that could lead to more division - caused by the HoR - in the judiciary system.

The HoR session was suspended later on Thursday without any statement by the HoR on the quorum and whether or not it fulfills the needed requirements for taking such huge decisions for the country's Supreme Court.

The HoR member Mohammed Al-Raeid and other west-based members rejected attending the session that was held in Benghazi on Thursday. He told reporters that the reason for their rejection was the fact that Saleh had been working unilaterally without any commitment to the bylaws of the HoR.

Saleh said at the HoR session that the Presidential Council cannot devise a constitutional basis for elections as it is out of its authorities, adding that the Presidential Council is dealing with the Government of National Unity despite being expired and hasn't acted upon the confidence vote for a new government by the HoR.

He unveiled an agreement with the High Council of State on eliminating the conditions for presidential candidates except the need for the candidates to be of Libyan parents. Saleh also said the Governor of the Central Bank of Libya, Head of Audit Bureau and Head of Control Authority have lost their legal capacity and aren't under the HoR's supervision.

"Sovereign institutions are not under HoR supervision anymore and have lost legal status for violating HoR decisions. They should be under investigation for negligence. Also, the absent HoR members should have their membership terminated as per the bylaws, in addition to those who took state institutions' jobs or resigned." Saleh added.

Politics

## Libya's Mufti says giving UAE a piece of land in Tajoura is "nonsense"



The Libyan Mufti, Sheikh Al-Saddiq Al-Gharyani, has said the Government of National Unity's (GNU) allocation of a piece of land to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Tajoura is nonsense as Abu Dhabi has been fighting Libya, killed a number of its children and widowed several of its women.

The Mufti added on Tanasuh TV channel on Wednesday that the UAE had carried out air strikes on Wadi Rabea area and killed 22 people, on the military college in Tripoli and killed 30 cadets, saying that this is all added to UAE's intervention in Benghazi.

He described the GNU's approach of reciprocate allocation of land for embassies with the UAE as "nonsense" and said the real reciprocity with the UAE should be aggression for aggression, as the Quran has stated.

"War criminal Haftar is still living off the support of the UAE which is in whole as Zionist project and tool. Muslims shouldn't allow its embassy to be located in Libya without settling its situation. It should apologize but it hasn't done so yet for its aggression on Libya. Despite that, it was rewarded with 4 hectares of land to build an embassy. If the UAE enter Libya, it would corrupt it and open a Zionist project in Libya based on promoting prostitution, spying, atheism

and blasphemy." The Mufti said.

He called on Libyans to reject the UAE embassy's opening especially that it will be located on the beach where it would build a runway for planes and use the sea for ships that come without permission or passports.

The GNU allocated a piece of land to the embassies of the UAE, Qatar, US, and Turkey in a compound east of Mitiga air base - Airport - in a reciprocate move with those countries.



## Speaker of Libya's Parliament, Haftar's son arrive in Qatar

The Speaker of the Libyan House of Representatives (HoR) Aqila Saleh and the son of Khalifa Haftar, Belgassem - representing his father - arrived Saturday in Doha, Qatar; just two days after the visit of the Prime Minister, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, who met with Qatari Emir, Tamim Al Thani.

Qatar News Agency said Saleh and his accompanying delegation were received at Doha airport by the Head of Shura Council Hassan bin Abdullah Al-Ghanem and other officials, including Libyan ambassador to Doha, Hamad Al-Lafi and Qatar's ambassador to Libya, Khalid Al-Dawssari.

Earlier on Saturday, sources said Saleh had tasked member of the HoR Essa Al-Arebi, who is loyal to Haftar, with going to Qatar to strengthen relations.

HoR member Abdelmonem Al-Arefi, said Saleh's visit to Doha was part of the efforts to turn a new page as there can be no permanent friend or permanent enemy, adding that changing positions leads to changing political directions and that if Qatar isn't a mediator for stability then it won't be a mediator to see one party win over the other. Last Thursday, Emir of Qatar met with Dbeibah in Doha and reiterated the need to support international efforts to hold elections in Libya as the only choice for the people to reach stability, stressing rejection to transitional phases.



Politics

## Military sources: Forces loyal to Haftar arrive at Juweili camp in south Tripoli

**M**ilitary sources have told Al Jazeera Net website that forces loyal to Khalifa Haftar arrived in the biggest camp of forces loyal to Osama Juweili, a former Joint Operations Room commander, in Al-Aziziyah in south Tripoli.

The sources said the forces had 600 vehicles, including a series of Kornet missiles, and 38 members of the Tariq bin Ziyad brigade that is led by Saddam Haftar. They said the forces entered into small groups with the help of the Brigade 55 commander, Muammar Al-Dawi in Warshafana district, which saw violent clashes in the past few days.

Identical sources said the forces loyal to senior leader at Tripoli Revolutionaries Brigade, Ayoub Abu Ras, who withdrew from Ain Zara in south Tripoli arrived with their armed vehicles in Al-Aziziyah to be part of forces loyal to the House of Representatives-designated Prime Minister Fathi Bashagha.

Abu Ras has vowed to return to Tripoli after striking an alliance with Juweili's forces in support of Bashagha as they wait forces withdrawing from Sirte to arrive and join them, the sources told Al Jazeera.

Military sources close to Juweili in Zintan also confirmed to Al Jazeera Net that there was a mobilization in the town after his forces were expelled from their positions south and west of Tripoli, saying the forces are largely from Zintan tribes, in addition to the forces of Ayoub Abu Ras.

According to the sources, Juweili's military equipment included the Russian Pantsir systems that Haftar's forces used extensively during the period of their offensive on Tripoli.

In the last attempt to enter Tripoli, Juweili has ruled out that his forces were hit by drone strikes, saying that such an incident would change the battle radically, but a journalist in the Financial Times newspaper was recently cited as confirming that Juweili's forces were hit by about 18 drone strikes, saying they are likely linked to Turkey.



Politics

## Guterres: Three main challenges prevent pro- gress in Libya

The UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres says there are three main challenges preventing progress in the Libyan file.

"It is vital to maintain peace between eastern and western Libya, stop violence, and expedite the holding of elections which results should be acceptable to all," Guterres told reporters at the UN HQ in New York on Wednesday.

He stressed the need to maintain peace in Libya, between the east and west, as well as within the capital, Tripoli.

The UN head underscored that the cessation of hostilities in Libya is essential for reaching an agreement between the House of Representatives and the High Council of the State on the legal amendments to hold the elections. "This is a very important issue because it is related to legitimacy," Guterres said.

He also urged all external parties involved in the Libyan conflict to support the peace process until legitimate elections that everyone accepts take place.



Politics

## MP Daghim: Saleh will allow parliamentary elections if he assumes presidency of PC

Parliament Speaker Aqila Saleh had proposed a political initiative, which provides for holding parliamentary elections in exchange for a new presidential council headed by Aqila Saleh himself, provided that it would have a term of three years, MP Ziad Daghim has told the local news website, Fawasal.

Daghim described Saleh's initiative and the conditions he put forward as "unrealistic."

He said the Egyptian-Qatari rapprochement will reflect positively on Libya if the leaders of the Libyan scene have political competence.

The MP considered that Turkey's role is essential in the region and that it has common interests with Libya, some of which pass through Cyrenaica.

He also described Saleh's visit to Qatar as positive, indicating that it had been scheduled since last May.



Politics

## South Korea pledges to support work opportunities in Libya

The ambassador of Korean Republic to Libya, Lee Sang-soo, agreed with the Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Libya, Marc-Andre French, to increase his country's contribution to supporting local peace-building by \$ 400,000, bringing the support provided by Korea to the programme to \$ 6.599 million.

UNDP is working to strengthen the Libyan Korean Center in Tripoli under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation to become a unique center for advanced vocational training for professions that support reconstruction and economic resilience, UNDP said in a press release.

Through this new contribution, UNDP aims to transform the Libyan-Korea Center into a technical innovation hub focusing on environment friendly business opportunities.

The Korean ambassador to Libya affirmed his country's commitment and continuous support to Libya in its efforts to restore peace and stability, expressing his happiness to continue the support, which he hopes will contribute to Libya's recovery, rehabilitation and capacity building.



Politics

## Sabha fuel tank explosion's injuries increase to 17 persons

The Libyan Health Ministry said the number of injuries of the explosion of a Sabha fuel tank reached 17 persons, as the Minister of Health keeps following up on the developments of the incident and treatment efforts.

Sabha medical center said Tuesday night it had received 13 persons with burns from the explosion of a fuel tank in the southern city, while the Emergency and Ambulance Apparatuses said it was preparing ambulances to transport some injured persons to Burns and Plastic Surgery Hospital in Tripoli.

Ambulances arrived early on Wednesday morning from southern cities to Sabha to support the Emergency and Ambulance Apparatus teams at Sabha medical center.

The explosion of a fuel tank took place near Hasawna neighborhood in Sabha. The injured persons were sent to Sabha medical center, Sanha International Hospital and Aseel Al-Ghad Hospital. No critical injuries were reported.

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Economy

## HoR Finance Committee follows up the implementation of NOC budget

The Chairman of the Finance and Planning Committee in the House of Representatives (HoR), Omar Tantoush, has held a meeting with the Extraordinary Budget Follow-up Committee of the National Oil Corporation (NOC), in order to follow up on the implementation of its budget.

The NOC committee presented the steps it had taken to increase production, after liquidating NOC operational and development budget, as well as addressing previous commitments that would contribute to stabilizing and increasing production, reviewing NOC's plan for the year 2022 and the tripartite plan 2022-2025.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Oil Corporation (NOC), Farhat bin Qadara, had announced that the tripartite plan, in cooperation with companies operating in the oil sector, aims to bring Libya's oil production to two million barrels per day.

Economy

## French Court of Cassation confirms set aside ruling of 452€ award against Libya

The French Court of Cassation confirmed the decisions of the Paris Court of Appeal which set aside an award of EUR 452 million that had previously been issued against Libya, after Libya succeeded in proving the existence of “serious, specific and corroborating” indications of fraud in the settlement agreement that originally gave rise to the award.

Sorelec, a French company, initiated an ICC arbitration against the State of Libya in March 2013 after a dispute arose in relation to the enforcement of an agreement entered into by the parties in 2003, Curtis website said.

It added that when the arbitral proceedings had already reached an advanced stage, Sorelec submitted a document that it claimed to be a settlement agreement, on the basis of which the arbitral tribunal rendered the partial award dated 20 December 2017.

The website also said the terms of the settlement agreement provided that Libya had to pay Sorelec the amount of EUR 230 million within 45 days of service of the award, and that if Libya failed to do so, the tribunal would issue a final award ordering it to pay EUR 452 million.

“Since Libya did not pay within that period, the tribunal issued a final award on 10 April 2018 ordering Libya to pay EUR 452 million to Sorelec. Libya filed a set aside application before the Paris Court of Appeal against both awards in early 2018 on the basis that the alleged settlement agreement that had been validated by the arbitral tribunal had been obtained through fraudulent means.” The website indicated.

“On 17 November 2020, the Paris Court of Appeal issued decision, annulling the partial award on the basis that there was sufficient corroborating evidence to show that the Minister who had signed

the settlement agreement on behalf of the State had colluded with Sorelec.” It said.

Among the indications of fraud accepted by the court was the absence of involvement of the Libyan State Litigation Department (“SLD”) in the settlement negotiations, even though it was proven that the Minister in question was fully aware that the SLD was the sole body in Libya with the authority to conclude such an agreement.

The court also pointed to the absence of any evidence of substantive negotiations prior to the signing of the settlement and the fact that the agreement offered no obvious benefit to the State as being critical indications of fraud.

On 17 November 2020, the Court concluded that the partial award was contrary to the “French conception of international public order” and annulled it.

With a second decision, issued the same day, the Court determined that the annulment of the partial award necessarily led to the annulment of the final award, since the latter related to the enforcement of the former.

Sorelec appealed the two decisions to the Cour de Cassation on the basis that the State of Libya had acted disloyally by raising allegations of fraud in the appeal proceedings when such arguments had not been raised before the arbitrators during the arbitral proceedings.

The Court of Cassation rejected that argument and held that the actions of a party before an arbitral tribunal do not restrict the Court of Appeal’s assessment of the issue of international public policy. The Court of Cassation thus confirmed the decision issued by the Paris Court of Appeal setting aside the partial award.



Economy

## Libyan economic delegation visits Algeria to prepare for Transportation Forum in Africa

An economic delegation from Libya visited Algeria to take part in the preparations for Transportation and Transit Forum and Exhibition in Africa which is slated for the end of 2022.

The Head of the Management Committee of the Misurata Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Fathi Al-Turki, said that the forum will be held in Algeria but there will be contribution from the two countries.

Al-Turki hoped for the participation of some African countries to make the transit trade successful and enhance commercial operations between the two sides.

The remarks were made in a press statement on the sidelines of his meeting with the Head of the Confederation for Algerian Employers, Mohammed Sami Aqli, who criticized the small amount of trade exchange - 100 million dollars - between Algeria and Libya, saying this is so little compared to other countries and given the fact that the two countries share borders.

The Algerian Confederation added in a statement that the two sides exchanged visions on establishing economic partnerships between state institutions.

Opinions

# Is it elections or a third government?



By Abdullah Alkabar, a Libyan political writer and commentator

**D**espite tragedies and destruction left behind by wars, there is a positive side to them, which does not appear clearly to anyone who is not looking thoroughly with a scrutinizing eye to monitor their repercussions and changes. The end of any war is usually the end of a phase and the beginning of another new one. From the pools of blood and tears, and amidst wailing and groaning, a new reality emerges, different from the preceded one.

Throughout history, wars have been the most important engines of human progress; politically, intellectually, economically and scientifically. Many manifestations of scientific progress were the key outcome of wars. This is a long story that will not be addressed in this article. Rather, the purpose is to monitor the accelerated developments that followed the war of Saturday, August 27, in several areas in and around Tripoli, which speeded up the political moves to find a way towards a political solution that puts an end to the crisis of legitimacy, and limits the resorting to the force of guns. The most important developments after the settling down of the battles' dust were as follows:

Arrest warrants and travel bans were issued by the Military Prosecutor, against prominent figures of the political scene from the February leadership. Their fame and contribution to Revolution and subsequent wars against ISIS and Haftar did not stand in the way of enforcing the law.

The rush of members of the High Council of State (HCS), some of whom are aligned with the House of Representatives (HoR), and the Bashagha government deal, to issue a statement calling for parliamentary elections, and no doubt their fear of people's wrath, as they are accomplices in all calamities that befell the country, is what prompted them to issue such statement.

Regional and international moves sensed that the continued abortion of the elections means that the armed conflict will continue.

Al-Mashri and Aqila rushed to meet to discuss the constitutional basis and election laws, or in other words, contain the repercussions of the war, and cooperate to maintain their dominance of the political scene.

Turkish diplomatic moves seek to calm the situation in its areas of influence, while its opponents' (that is Russia and Egypt) areas of influence are calmer.

An American move to push for the nomination of the new UN envoy, after an eight-month failure since the resignation of former envoy Jan Kubis.

Many personalities and municipal councils repudiated the government mandated by Parliament, and declared their support for the Government of National Unity, which strengthened its position and became more powerful.

Eliminating the undisciplined militias in Tripoli, and then reduce their number, and concentrate the force in only about six factions.

The important question here. Are there civil leaders and organizations that can seize this opportunity, and mobilize the street to exert more pressure through peaceful movement, with a firm and non-negotiable position, which is commitment to holding parliamentary elections, and rejecting any extension of the current entities?

The international position in support of elections, the limited maneuvering space before the parties wishing to prolong the transitional phase, and the insistence of the Government of National Unity not to hand over except to an elected authority, provide an appropriate opportunity to continue pressing for termination of the HoR and the HCS, and reject the proposal to form a third government under the pretext of conducting elections, because it would only be another attempt to prolong the same failed entities and gloomy faces of the political scene.

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



Economy

## NOC to implement plan to increase oil production to two million barrels per day

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Oil Corporation (NOC), Farhat bin Qadara, has announced that the tripartite plan, in cooperation with companies operating in the oil sector, aims to bring Libya's oil production to two million barrels per day.

This came in the tenth meeting held by the NOC's Budget Follow-up Committee at the Cabinet Office, to review the plan to increase the country's oil production, which is currently estimated at 1.163 million barrels per day.



Economy

## Libya, Tunisia discuss further bolstering economic relations

Minister of Economy and Trade of the Government of National Unity, Mohamed Al-Hawij, has discussed with the Tunisian Ambassador to Libya, Al-Assa'd Al-Ajili, several economic issues to further bolster the two countries' economic relations.

The two sides discussed in a meeting promotion and revitalization of transit trade, activation of trade agreements, as well as follow-up of procedures for establishment of a joint free zone between the two countries, and joint exhibitions through cooperation with chambers of commerce.

The meeting, which was held at the Ministry's headquarters in Tripoli, dealt with joint commercial cooperation, facilitating procedures for the private sector and businessmen of both countries, and developing a strategy for economic and commercial cooperation, according to a statement by the Ministry of Economy posted on its Facebook account, on Thursday.



Health

## NCDC warns that monkeypox could cross to Libya

The Director of the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC), Haider Al-Sayeh, confirmed that the World Health Organization ranked Libya in the first place in the possibility of the spread of monkeypox and that infected cases may appear at any moment. Al-Sayeh stressed the readiness of all the center's health teams at the border crossings to detect suspected cases of monkeypox, pointing out to the preparation of a treatment protocol by the center's scientific committee.

He stated that the center has taken proactive measures since the global spread of the virus by providing virus detection triggers for suspected cases, training medical teams, in addition to preparing the treatment protocol for the virus.

Al-Sayeh added that according to the agreement, the infected cases will now be isolated in the departments of communicable diseases in hospitals, and that the disease is not very widespread and is not expected to spread widely in the country, as was the case with 'Covid 19.'

Among the countries neighbouring Libya, the Egyptian Ministry of Health announced last Tuesday that an Egyptian was diagnosed with monkeypox virus.

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Science

## First phase of solar power generation begins in Tajoura

The Solar Energy Research and Studies Center, in partnership with the General Electricity Company of Libya (GECOL), held on Wednesday a ceremony in Tajoura, an eastern suburb of Tripoli, to mark the launching of the first phase of the electric power generation project using the solar cell system.

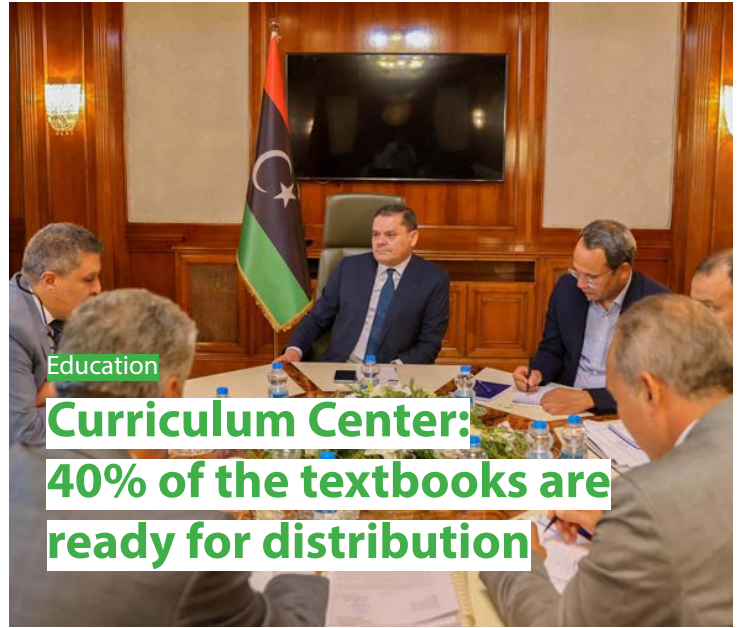
The ceremony was attended by many relevant authorities, academics, and research centers, besides the media.

The organizers presented an illustration to highlight the work and research on solar energy and the project's implementation stages, besides plans to link it to the national grid to enhance public electric services.

The project consists of 240 solar panels and two-way energy meters on an area of 1200 square meters, with a daily production of (400 kW) and an average annual production of (115-megawatt hours).

The attendees praised the importance of such projects and the GECOL's role in localizing solar energy projects in Libya.

The ceremony concluded with a scientific panel discussion before touring the project site for viewing.



Education

## Curriculum Center: 40% of the textbooks are ready for distribution

The Education Curriculum Centre says that about 40% of the textbooks are ready in the Ministry of Education's stores and that the procedures for bringing the rest of the quantities are going well, ensuring that the textbook will be available to all students at the beginning of the school year.

This came in a meeting at the Cabinet Office that included Prime Minister of the Government of National Unity, Abdul Hamid Dbeibah, the Minister of Education, Musa al-Maqrif, and directors of the educational facilities authority, the national examination center, and the curriculum centre.

Dbeibah pushed for giving the students a full mark to questions in which errors occurred or were unclear. For his part, the Minister of Education outlined the procedures for preparing questions, distributing committees, and conducting examinations.

The attendees also reviewed the steps adopted by the Ministry of Education to conduct the exams for the preparatory and secondary certificates, the difficulties that students faced, the observations of parents, and the follow-up of the ministry's steps for the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year.

Education

## Ministry of Education, US Embassy discuss developing the education sector in Libya



The Minister of Education in the Government of National Unity, Musa Al-Maqrif, discussed on Monday, with the Public Affairs Officer at the US Embassy in Libya, Abdul Rahman Kaniata, ways of cooperation to support the development of the education sector in the country.

The minister expressed his hope for the continuation of cooperation programs, referring in his speech to the Transforming Education Summit, which will be held on September 16 during the General Assembly in New York, thanking the US for its efforts to support stability in the country, according to a statement issued by the ministry.

Life

## 14 species of fish perish in Derna seaport

Chairman of the Organization for Science and Wildlife, Ezz El-Nasr Ebizio, has disclosed that it is likely that the death of fish in the seaport of Derna was due to the pollution of the waters of the port basin with sewage.

Preliminary estimates of the death of fourteen species of fish show the presence of sewage pollution in the aquarium and the emergence of high levels of toxic ammonia, Ebizio added.

He explained that samples were taken to the central city of Al-Bayda in order to conduct analyses to reveal the circumstances of the occurrence of this incident, which is a threat to marine environmental security.

Social media platforms circulated pictures and videos showing the death of large numbers of fish in the port of Derna, while specialists attributed this to the use of "poisons or explosives" by some fishermen to catch them, warning of the serious impact on fisheries and food security.



Photo of the Week

### Tripoli Weather Forecast



**TODAY**  
35°  
26°

**TUE**



35°/26°

**WED**



31°/25°

**THU**



30°/23°

**FRI**



29°/23°

**SAT**



31°/23°

**SUN**



31°/24°

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