



GAMING REVENUE DROPS SHARPLY IN PORTUGAL

Gaming revenue in Portugal, where Stanley Ho's family has strong interests, has dropped 33 percent over six years

P7



'BIRDMAN' FLIES HIGH AT THE 2015 OSCARS

P10,11 SPECIAL



THAILAND: ACTIVISTS FOUND GUILTY OF INSULTING MONARCHY

Two theater activists were sentenced to two and a half years in prison on charges of insulting Thailand's monarchy

P13

TUE.24
Feb 2015

T. 18°/ 21° C
H. 85/ 99%

Blackberry email service powered by CTM

N. 2256 **MOP 5.00**
HKD 7.50

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

FOUNDER & PUBLISHER Kowie Goldenhuys EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Paulo Coutinho



"THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'"

WORLD BRIEFS

TAIWAN A black sport utility vehicle (SUV) crashed into a security barrier outside the office building of Taiwan leader Ma Ying-jeou early yesterday, his office spokesperson Ma Wei-kuo said. The 39-year-old driver, identified by the surname Lin, was taken away by police soon after the crash, which occurred at 6:42 a.m. Though the SUV sustained damage, the driver was not injured.

PHILIPPINES At least 20 members of Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF) were killed in the clash with the Philippine government forces in Pikit, North Cotabato last Saturday, the military said yesterday. Col. Noel Clement, commander of the army's 602nd Brigade, said the figure was based on information provided by military personnel on the ground and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), which helped in the conduct of the operations.

SINGAPORE will increase spending significantly in the coming years as it strengthens its social security system and helps older and middle-income workers. The country will raise its pension-savings salary ceiling and enhance the rates for retirees, Finance Minister Shanmugaratnam said in his budget speech in Parliament yesterday. The median age of Singapore's citizens will rise to 47 in 2030 from 39 in 2011, while life expectancy has increased by 10 years over the last three decades, according to the National Population and Talent Division. The government last year set aside S\$9 billion (USD6.6 billion) for health care and other benefits for the elderly as part of a Pioneer Generation Package.

IRAN-USA Officials say the U.S. and Iran are shaping the contours of a deal that could allow Iran to progressively ramp up its nuclear program over the last few years of its duration. Western officials cite long-awaited progress on many elements that would have to go into a comprehensive deal being negotiated yesterday.

More on backpage

Festive stalls selling CNY items affected by rain

P5 MDT REPORT



Mandarin set to become 'lingua franca' in Macau and Hong Kong

P2,3

Portuguese use Cantonese only 'for taxis and at the market'

FIVE centuries after the Portuguese first settled in Macau, Portuguese nationals living in the MSAR still have not mastered the Cantonese language. Temporary residency, difficulties in learning the language, and its inferior status compared to Mandarin prevent the Portuguese from speaking fluent Cantonese.

Gilberto Lopes, editor-in-chief at Radio Macau's Portuguese channel, is a representative case: Based in Macau for 25 years now, he does not speak Cantonese and nor do his daughters. "I've made some attempts [to learn the language] but that was it. I realize that it was a mistake not having persisted," he said.

"When I arrived in Macau, I was not expecting that I would stay for so long," he recalled, adding that many Portuguese nationals thought that they would leave the territory in 1999, upon its handover to China. "Very few of those who arrived in that time learned Cantonese," he explained.

Gilberto Lopes's daughters studied Mandarin at the Portuguese School of Macau (EPM), but "they did not evolve significantly."

EPM's teaching quality spoke loudest when Mr Lopes was thinking of a school for his daughters. Besides, "It did not make sense to send them to a Chinese school if neither of their parents is Chinese."

Maria Antónia Espadinha, vice-rector of the University of Saint Joseph, said she regrets not having sent her children to a Luso-Chinese school. "I felt quite frustrated because I always thought my children would go to a Luso-Chinese school. Everyone discouraged me, but even today I regret it. I think it would broaden their horizons," she acknowledged.

Having settled in Macau 21 years ago, Espadinha also attempted to learn Chinese but recognizes that it did not go too far. "The first thing I did when I got here was to register for Cantonese classes. I completed two semesters but later I never managed to find a suitable timetable," she recalled, adding that today she is only able to



The Portuguese Consulate in Macau stands at the former St Rafael Hospital

use Cantonese when speaking to a taxi driver or at the market.

"We are able to live in Macau [without knowing the language]. But it would improve our living if we did speak Cantonese – something the Chinese community highly appreciates," she commented.

Nevertheless, the scenario seems to be changing, since younger generations "have a more open spirit."

Designer Filipa Simões, for instance, has been living in Macau for 11 years now, and chose to enroll her three-year-old child in a Chinese kindergarten – a rare choice among the Portuguese community here.

"We truly wanted Matilde to learn Cantonese so she could fully enjoy life in Macau. We wanted her to be a fully accomplished citizen," she added.

Still in her first kindergarten year, Matilde is able to speak Cantonese more fluently than her parents. "She does not speak Cantonese with us often, but when she does, we do not always understand her," she said.

So far, Matilde's parents – both from Portugal – are pleased with her progress. The child already knows the English alphabet and some Chinese characters.

"As long as she's happy and learning at the same time, for us it's a win-win situation. She guides us. She's a very social child, and has many friends. When she is with her best friend, she only speaks Chinese," Filipa Simões said.

Cabell Chan, a Cantonese teacher in Macau, acknowledges that there's a growing interest among Portuguese nationals in learning the local language.

"In these past years, I was quite surprised to see Portuguese people showing up at my classes. They say they want to be able to communicate with Chinese [locals], and want to learn

more about the community, which was quite surprising for me because I had this idea that the Portuguese did not feel the need to learn Chinese," she recalled.

She recognizes that it is significantly harder to learn Cantonese than Mandarin, and that there are more Mandarin courses available. "Some classes are even free of charge," she added.

Nevertheless, it often happens that she has students who have already learned Mandarin but later realized that people do not speak the language often, and who have now decided to learn Cantonese instead.

Ms Chan stressed that it is not

It would improve our living if we did speak Cantonese – something the Chinese community highly appreciates

MARIA ANTÓNIA ESPADINHA

impossible to master the Cantonese language, but that it requires a great deal of dedication and practice outside the classroom. "Students can be fluent speakers if they're in an environment where they're exposed to the language, where they have to speak to other people. If they don't practice, they forget it," she warned. **MDT/Lusa**

ONE SHOT NEWS



The Public Security Police revealed that 418,228 people had crossed the borders of Macau yesterday by 9 p.m., with inbound visitors reaching 220,602 and outbound 197,626. The Border Gate checkpoint registered 139,007 entries and 126,012 departures.

The police once again imposed first-level crowd control measures at San Ma Lo (Avenida de Almeida Ribeiro) yesterday afternoon. They have also implemented measures in the vicinity of the Ruins of St Paul to separate vehicles and pedestrians. According to their estimation, the border crossing peak period will end tomorrow.

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

MDT's Website has logged over
86 million page views
since January 1st, 2012 up to today.

Thank You!

Like us? facebook.com/mdtimes

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報
Times

DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF_Paulo Coutinho paulocoutinho@macaudailytimes.com
MANAGING EDITOR_Paulo Barbosa paulo.barbosa@macaudailytimes.com
CONTRIBUTING EDITORS_Eric Sautedé, Leanda Lee, Severo Portela
CHINA & FOREIGN EDITOR_Vanessa Moore vanessa@macaudailytimes.com
DESIGN EDITOR_João Jorge Magalhães magalhaes@macaudailytimes.com | NEWSROOM AND CONTRIBUTORS_Alberto Martins, António Espadinha Soares, Brook Yang, Catarina Pinto, Cyril Law, Emille Tran, Grace Yu, Irene Sam, Jacky I.F. Cheong, Jenny Philips, João Pedro Lau, Joseph Cheung, Juliet Risdon, Keith Ip, Renato Marques (photographer), Richard Whitfield, Robert Carroll (Hong Kong correspondent), Rodrigo de Matos (cartoonist), Ruan Du Toit Bester, Sandra Norte (designer), Sum Choi, Viviana Segui | ASSOCIATE CONTRIBUTORS_JML Property, MacauHR, MdME Lawyers, PokerStars | NEWS AGENCIES_Associated Press, Bloomberg, Lusa News Agency, MacauHub, MacauNews, Xinhua | SECRETARY_Yang Dongxiao amy@macaudailytimes.com

SEND NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION AND PRESS RELEASES TO: NEWSROOM@MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM WEBSITE: WWW.MACAUDAILYTIMES.COM.MO

A MACAU TIMES PUBLICATIONS LTD PUBLICATION

ADMINISTRATOR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Kowie Geldenhuys kowie@macaudailytimes.com
SECRETARY_Juliana Cheang juliana@macaudailytimes.com
ADDRESS_Av. da Praia Grande, 599, Edif. Comercial Rodrigues, 12 Floor C, MACAU SAR Telephones: +853 287 160 81/2 Fax: +853 287 160 84
Advertisement advertising@macaudailytimes.com
For subscription and general issues:
general@macaudailytimes.com | Printed at Welfare Printing Ltd

Mandarin's growing influence in town

MACAU'S mother tongue now has a strong competitor: Mandarin is becoming widely spoken in the streets and is being used as medium of instruction in some classrooms. There are some who fear that Cantonese might be a dying language.

"If the government does not protect the language, it will progressively disappear," said Stephen Matthews, professor of linguistics at the University of Hong Kong and expert on the development of Cantonese.

"Macau and Hong Kong were predominantly dominated by Cantonese. This started to change in the past 10 to 15 years. Before, we hardly heard Mandarin; it was a minority language. Now it's not like that at all," he said.

In the streets, shops and schools, Cantonese had always been the main language. After Macau's handover to China in 1999, the city developed a closer relationship with the mainland, and as Macau's tourist arrivals and economy surged, a new language emerged.

According to the 2011 census, 83.3 percent of Macau's population regards Cantonese as their everyday language, but linguists and professors say that this is changing. "The community is progressively changing from one language to the other," said Matthews.

The researcher claimed that Mandarin is now more present in Macau than in Hong Kong because of the influx of tourists. In 2014, Macau received 31.5 million visitors, with a vast majority from mainland China.

"I think Mandarin will rapidly become the lingua franca in shops and taxis. That will



happen in Hong Kong, but first it will happen in Macau," he added.

The professor recalled that linguistic change takes an average of three generations to be completed, and that Macau's youth is halfway through that process.

"It's a gradual and insidious process. Cantonese will become a language [that is] only spoken at home; that is one step in the process. People might not realize that Mandarin is taking over the city because this is a subtle

change," he acknowledged.

Matthews explained that one of the reasons behind this language migration lies in schools, which are now focusing on Mandarin. Mathematics teacher Jack Ng shared a similar opinion: "More and more schools are using Mandarin as a medium of instruction, not only for Chinese, but also in other subjects. There are many teachers who come from China and only speak Mandarin." He stated, "There's an atmosphere implying that Mandarin should

enjoy a higher status."

However, he also noted, "Officially, nothing tells us that [Mandarin] should be the medium of instruction to teach Chinese, but I think it will be seen as the norm," he stressed.

Data provided by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau (DSEJ) shows that 77 out of 120 schools in Macau teach Mandarin – eight of which use it as the medium of instruction, either partially or totally.

Linguist Brian Chan, from the University of Macau, ack-

nounced that Mandarin has become a more common language here, but remains optimistic that Cantonese will prevail due to its cultural strength. "People value Cantonese very much. I have been asking my students, and they say that they love the Cantonese [language] and want to preserve it. Without the language, they think their sense of identity fades away."

Chan acknowledged that the neighboring SAR seems more preoccupied with the possibility of Cantonese disappearing than Macau is. "In Hong Kong, people fear that they'll lose their language to Mandarin. In Macau, people do not express [their opinions on that matter] that much," he recognized.

For now, Chan does not find an obvious indicator that Cantonese is indeed disappearing. "But who knows what will happen in the future? It might happen all of a sudden," he said.

MDT/Lusa

I think Mandarin will rapidly become the lingua franca in shops and taxis. That will happen in Hong Kong, but first it will happen in Macau

STEPHEN MATTHEWS

A language between two empires

WITH the predominance of the Portuguese language in Macau, in legal and administrative systems, and the importance of Mandarin, as China's national language, the position of Cantonese is indefinite. While it may be the language most widely spoken by Macau people, it's unclear if it will ever be considered an official language.

Until 2049, Portuguese and Chinese will remain Macau's official languages. But for many, it's unclear what "Chinese" means here, and what lies behind it. Does it refer to

the group of related varieties of Chinese spoken across the country, Cantonese included, or does it refer to Mandarin?

The matter is rather controversial, particularly in Hong Kong, and has been the subject of intense political debate. Although the official webpage of the HKSAR government now states that Cantonese, Mandarin and English are the official languages, an article published last year on the Education Bureau website read: "Although the Basic Law stipulates that Chinese and English are

the two official languages in Hong Kong, nearly 97 percent of the local population learn Cantonese (a Chinese dialect that is not an official language) as their commonly used daily language." The statement sparked controversy, leading the bureau to promptly take down the article.

In Macau, the Office of the Chief Executive clarified that the word "Chinese" in Macau's Basic Law refers only to its written form, and does not refer to a specific spoken dialect. "There's no interpretation. Both

Mandarin and Cantonese are largely used by the government and Macau's population."

Scholar Rui Rocha, an expert in Chinese history, language and culture, believes that Cantonese is not considered an official language due to "political matters."

Brian Chan, a linguist from the University of Macau, thinks that the Macau government – without saying it openly – discusses that question in Cantonese. "I don't know why they don't want to take a firm position, but in every cabinet they

speak Cantonese. I think it's fair to say it is the de facto official language."

Rocha recalled that the language's current status has historical roots: although widely spoken by Macau's population, the language has always lived between the two "empires" that have ruled the territory.

"Two 'linguistic imperialists' were brought together here: Portugal and China," he recalled, adding that the motto of China's language reform stated, "one nation, one people, one language," which "shows that the country does not welcome other languages."

Mandarin became an

official language in 1913, although the majority of China's population did not speak it. Professor Rui Rocha recalled that Sun Yat-sen, the first Chinese president, even campaigned for Cantonese, as he believed that Mandarin was "a simplistic language" and that its choice would not be prestigious for China.

On the other hand, Macau also had to deal with the Portuguese language. The scholar lamented this fact, saying, "Macau was a colonial project; people would come here and speak the administration's language. Portugal always regarded Cantonese as a language without prestige." MDT/Lusa



ICQ dental team is a group of dental specialists with internationally recognized qualifications. We provide all range of dental services:

- Oral examination and radiology investigation
- Restorative and Cosmetic Dentistry
- Children Dentistry
- Orthodontic Treatment
- Oral and Dental implant Surgery
- Endodontic Treatment
- Periodontal Treatment
- Emergency Treatment

We are committed to deliver high quality dental services with personalized care. We ensure the highest level of infection control.

Website: www.icqoral.com
Facebook: www.facebook.com/icqoral

CONSULTATION BY APPOINTMENT: OFFICE HOUR: 10:00AM-19:00PM
CLOSE ON SUN, TUE AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Rm1907, 19/F, AIA Tower, Nos. 251A-301, AVENIDA COMMERCIAL DE MACAU, MACAU SAR
TEL: (853)28373266 FAX: (853)28356483 EMAIL: info@icqoral.com [WWW.ICQORAL.COM](http://www.icqoral.com)

New Sunshine Cleaning Services Ltd.



Carpet Cleaning

Call: 2883 3008

Member of General Association of Macao Cleaning Service Industry

KTRANZ TRANSLATIONS LIMITED

ACCURATE, TIMELY & COMPETITIVE TRANSLATIONS

Languages

ENGLISH, CHINESE, PORTUGUESE,
JAPANESE, KOREAN, SPANISH,
FRENCH, ARABIC, RUSSIAN

Services

TRANSLATIONS, PROOFREADING,
COPYWRITING, DATA INPUT,
NEWS MONITORING

We translate +10,000 words a day

Contact: Ms Juliana Cheang

Email: juliana@ktranz.com.mo

Tel: +853 2871 6081 / 2 Fax: +853 2871 6084

Address: Av. Infante D. Henrique, 62 2/F, Macau

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

86 million page views

Top Ranking Countries



“THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’”

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

Unique Visitors **6,045,481**

Visits **7,921,716**

Pageviews **86,770,021**

10.95 Pages Per Visit

Booths selling CNY paraphernalia struggle with business



Mr Lai, a festive stall owner

João Pedro Lau

BAD weather and the poor design of stalls have created unfavorable results for owners of Chinese New Year pinwheel stalls outside the A-Ma Temple in Barra.

The site of the pinwheel stalls, which also sell incense and other CNY-related products, is one of the traditional destinations in Macau during the season. Their operating period usually begins on the day before CNY and finishes on the seventh day of CNY – February 25 this year.

This is the second year Mr Lai has invested in a CNY stall outside the A-Ma Temple, and he told the Times that business in the Year of the Goat is not going

his way.

“This year’s business is really poor. I only got my investment back in the afternoon of the second day of CNY (February 20). I started profiting on the first day of CNY last year,” he said. “To be frank, there are fewer people coming here this year. Of course, there are people who came to worship the gods and offered incense. But there are really not many who came [to the stalls] to shop.”

Mr Lai noticed that many of his customers were from Macau and Hong Kong, with most of the foreign or mainland tourists just browsing. “[Foreign or mainland tourists] got a feel for the CNY holiday sentiment [by browsing]. But they would not buy anything. First of all, they think that it is troublesome to

take back home a pinwheel. Second, they would not have the time to worship and offer the incense.”

He explained that visitors who came in with a tour group have very little free time – usually no more than 10 minutes – to visit the ancient temple. “They have to spend at least five minutes to buy the incense and they won’t have the time to squeeze into the temple to offer it. Therefore, they would rather just browse the goods and experience the New Year atmosphere,” he said.

Moreover, one of the difficulties Mr Lai faced this year was the weather. Despite all the stalls having rooftops, goods were still dampened by rain since there were not extra facilities to shield them from the occasional heavy

Firework stalls suffer from heavy rains

OTHER CNY businesses affected by the rain were the firework and firecracker stalls at the two designated firework and firecracker areas, which were open until last night. It is reported that owners of multiple stalls have complained about disappointing results, with some of them deciding not to bid for a stall again next year.

One of the owners said that the unstable weather conditions have reduced the number of

visitors in the firework areas. He said that business is far worse than last year, and has decided to cut prices to clear the goods even if it means losing money.

Another owner said that around one-third of his goods were damaged by the rain. They hope that the government can improve the design of the stalls and the drainage systems in the areas.

Some also estimated that they have lost more than MOP100,000 because of the rain.

INJURIES AND FIRES AT THE FIREWORK AREAS

THE FIRE Services Bureau has handled two fires close to the designated firework area, near NAPE in Macau. They were caused by grass and rubbish bins being burnt nearby. Meanwhile, the Macau Red Cross has provided treatment to 60 people suffering from minor burns or scratches in the firework areas. The number of injuries this year is lower than in 2014, with 75 people injured and five sent to hospital for treatment last year.

downpour. He also pointed out that unlevelled terrain around the stalls has led to rainwater flowing toward them, creating large puddles. He claims to have lost a cart of goods to rainwater already. Mr Lai said that he is not certain whether he wants to participate next year.

Ms Lam, owner of another stall, said that they have earned back their capital, but cannot profit much because of the rainy weather. Like Mr Lai, Ms Lam has lost several carts of goods to rainwater.

One factor she believes will affect business is the position of her stall. While Mr Lai’s stall is located near the entrance of the Maritime Museum, which he said is not ideal, Ms Lam’s stall is closer to the A-Ma Temple bus stop and the main street, which she said is more convenient for potential customers.

Having already lowered prices, Ms Lam said that they are not going to have another sale to clear their products. She said that, aside from the weather, the fact that many tourists would buy incense instead of pinwheels is something that affects their business. This is unlike the locals, who will usually buy a pinwheel to take home.

Ms Lam hopes that the government can redesign the stalls for next year and slightly elevate them from the ground to prevent damage from rainwater. She also thinks it would be helpful to add a larger shed to the front of the stalls.

The Times also spoke to several tourists and residents, and found that pinwheels do have more appeal for the locals.

Mr Chan, a resident who visited the stalls yesterday, said that he goes to the area every year. However, he decided not to buy a pinwheel yesterday and will shop on the very last day. He thinks that the pinwheels are slightly expensive this year and wants to wait until the last day to get a special price. The local resident also noticed that there are fewer people in the area this year.

Ms Teng, traveling from Chengdu with her husband and two children, said they found the pinwheels interesting. She said that they do not have Canton-style pinwheels in their city and wanted to buy their children one of each.

Ms Liu, another mainland visitor, said that she is more interested in buying incense because it is inconvenient for her to take the pinwheels back home.

ICE CREAM SELLER NOT AFFECTED BY WEATHER



THE TIMES spoke to Mr Wong, owner of the Mei Dik ice cream cart, which is usually seen stationed outside the A-Ma Temple. He said that over the CNY period business was “pretty good” despite the rain. However, Mr Wong noted that there were few people visiting the temple, and he did

not hear people lighting firecrackers inside as frequently as they usually would. He also said that the weather this year has been satisfying for him because it is warm. “There was a year when it was very cold. For us, it’s always good to have the sun coming out,” he said.

Jeep®


GRAND CHEROKEE



Mature · Wild · Challenge

- The New Uconnect® System features an 8.4-inch touchscreen , the most luxury control panel ever .
- Quadra-Lift® air suspension system the ultimate control of your suspension .
- Selec-Terrain traction control system - five modes to tackle any condition .
- New eight-speed automatic transmission - quicker and smoother .

* about the picture may be different from Macau specifications

 Find us on
"Jeep Macau"

Xin Kang Tai Auto Parts & Motor Sevices Limited

Showroom: Advenida do Dr. Francisco Vieira Machado, No. 459, Edifício Industrial Nam Fung, R/C, C-D, Macau

tel : 2871 7762

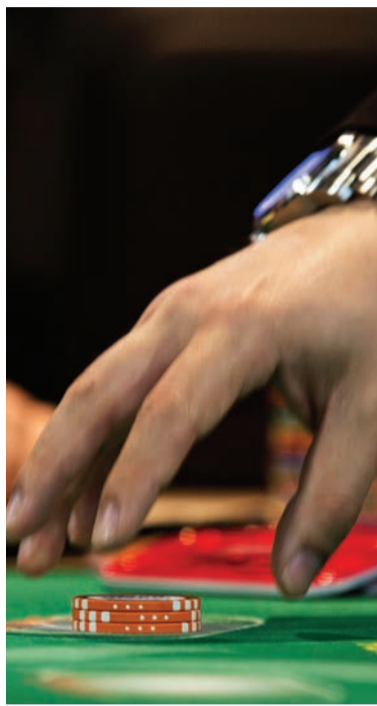
GAMING

Study finds differences between Chinese gamblers

CASINO customers have important subcultural differences, according to a research article entitled "Behavioral Differences in Gaming Patterns among Chinese Subcultures as Perceived by Macao Casino Staff," which was co-authored by scholars of the School of Hotel and Tourism Management (SHTM) at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

First published by the Cornell Hospitality Quarterly, and reviewed yesterday by Hospitality Net, the article focuses on observations made by gaming operator staff on variations in behavior between gamblers from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The researchers state that managers of Macau casinos should understand those differences in order to improve the quality of service that is offered to these guests.

More than half of the gamblers in Macau are from mainland China, and just over a quarter are from Hong Kong. The region is also a popular destination for Taiwanese



gamblers, who account for around four per cent of the total number.

The researchers note that the origins of these players denote their having "lived through diffe-

rent pasts" and experienced different political systems. They have conducted face-to-face interviews with more than 300 dealers, pit managers and supervisors from "all 33 of Macau's casinos" in order to assess their perceptions of the gamblers.

Analyzing these responses, the researchers categorized casino customers and concluded that the group of Chinese customers – whether they come from the mainland, HK or Taiwan – display similar betting behavior, but differ in all other behaviors.

"For instance, the staff members perceived the mainland Chinese to be the least tidy and most disruptive of the three groups, whereas they perceived Hong Kongers more positively in both regards. However, there was widespread agreement that Hong Kong gamblers were the most likely to complain and ask for favors or promotional items, although they were also the most likely to follow the dealer's guidance," Hospitality Net

mentions.

The interviewees also noticed that gamblers from Hong Kong are more challenged by new games, while mainland Chinese tend to avoid novelty. Taiwanese gamblers are reportedly more passive and likely to play alone. They are also thought to be slightly better tippers.

Researchers also identify and express concerns "about what can only be called the staff's negative perceptions of mainland Chinese, given that they are Macau casinos' number one customer segment." The researchers argue that there is a need for "cultural sensitivity training for staff" and "clearly posted guidelines and rules for customers."

The article categorizes Hong Kongers as "focused gamblers" who "enjoy playing new games, exhibit peak-and-valley betting patterns, enjoy playing in tidy surroundings, expect good service and who will probably complain in its absence." Promotional offers

and special new game training sessions are recommended to cater for this group.

Gamblers from the mainland are deemed "sociable" and enjoy "gathering together in groups, observing others playing, playing a game together, and enjoying having a smoke together" [the study was conducted prior to the smoking ban]. Regarding slots, researchers comment that this type of gambler wants to learn the rules in order to overturn suspiciousness of unfamiliar games. Hence, they conclude that casinos should assign more staff members to their slot and electronic table games areas.

Taiwanese gamblers are categorized as "passive and game-focused gamblers" in the research. They spend less than the other two groups, but are perceived as valuable customers because "they are relatively easy to serve, create less trouble, and tip more." For this group, the research recommends the strengthening of marketing efforts.

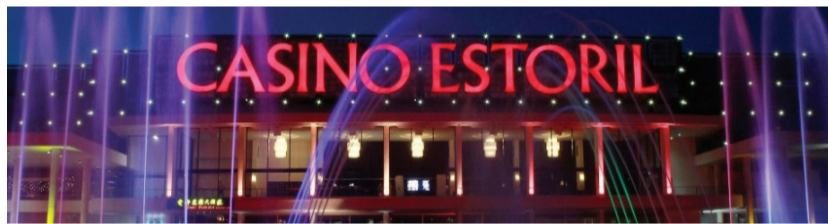
Gaming revenue drops 33 pct in Portugal

GAMING revenue from casino and bingo facilities in Portugal has dropped 33 percent over six years, reaching EUR313 million, the lowest since 2008, Portuguese newspaper Público reports.

Three of Portugal's most emblematic casinos (Casino Estoril, Casino Lisboa and Casino da Póvoa de Varzim) are managed by Estoril-Sol, a company chaired by Stanley Ho. The Macau tycoon is chairman of the board of directors, and his daughter Pansy Ho serves as chairman of the executive committee.

The Portuguese casino business declined from EUR381 million to EUR267 million between 2008 and 2014. Casino revenue dropped 2 percent in 2014 year-on-year.

Casino companies in Portugal



are required to pay an annual tax that can amount to 50 percent of their global gaming revenue. Between 2001 and 2014, the Portuguese government was able to get EUR2359 million from casino concessionaires' tax, with most of it used to finance Portugal's Tourist Office and tourism promotion opportunities.

The gaming sector says that illegal gambling, online gambling and the country's financial crisis have played a role in the decline of gaming revenue.

Over the past few years, casino companies have also pointed out that taxes on gaming revenue are not adjusted to the current situation and may threaten the sector.

The vice-chairman of the board of Estoril Sol, Mário Assis Ferreira, told the Times last year that "although many people aren't aware of it, taxation of Portuguese casinos finances 62 percent of the national tourism industry, and the national tourism industry represents 10 percent of Portugal's GDP." CP

Gov't calls for tax reimbursement register

The Financial Services Bureau (DSF) has urged employees from the private sector to register with their banks for a reimbursement of 60 percent of their 2013 income tax. Until tomorrow, employees can register with their bank to receive the funds through a bank transfer. People may receive their income tax reimbursement from the following banks: Bank of China, Banco Comercial de Macau, Luso International Bank, BNU, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), OCBC Weng Hang and Tai Fung Bank.

Six cases of bird flu in Guangdong

The Health Bureau (SSM) said yesterday that six new cases of the H7N9 bird flu virus have been identified in Guangdong province. According to information provided by the Guangdong authorities, a 55-year-old man is in serious condition after contracting the disease. Since 2013, Chinese authorities have reported a total of 593 cases of bird flu, causing 211 deaths. Although there aren't any reported cases of bird flu in Macau, authorities say they have taken preventive measures and have a contingency mechanism. As more cases of bird flu are likely to emerge in China, Macau's Health Bureau has said that it does not rule out the possibility of cases also emerging here.

AD

advertising@macaudailytimes.com

30m pageviews per year
www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Times App

New look more features

Times App on App Store & Google Play

MacauDaily 澳門日報 Times

THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

From MPI to the World

MPI 達致靜宇

理工 開放日 2015

14:00 - 18:00 28th Feb

The gateway to a new future opens for you

Like MPI on Facebook · QR Hunt · Vote for a Game

www.ipm.edu.mo

Rua Luiz Gonzaga Gomes

Inquiry : 8599 6111 / 8599 6172

Email : registry@ipm.edu.mo / pr@ipm.edu.mo

HSBC CEO Gulliver kept millions in Swiss account while paying low HK taxes

David Scheer

HSBBC Holdings Plc, struggling to contain a political storm over the bank's facilitation of tax evasion through its Swiss unit, said Chief Executive Officer Stuart Gulliver paid taxes after setting up his own Swiss account and keeping his legal residence in Hong Kong.

The bank, reacting to an article in the Guardian late Sunday, said in an e-mailed statement that Gulliver opened the account in 1998 to hold bonus payments while working in Hong Kong. He paid Hong Kong taxes on the bonuses there, and since moving to the U.K. in 2003, he has paid U.K. taxes on his earnings globally, it said.

"Mr. Gulliver voluntarily declared his Swiss account to U.K. tax authorities for a number of years," HSBC said, without specifying when that began. A company spokesman declined to elaborate. The bank was set to report earnings yesterday in London.

HSBC has come under political fire after the publication of a report by the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists this month showed details of how its Swiss unit handled accounts for tax evaders and criminals in past years. Gulliver, 55, offered the company's "sincerest apologies" in full-page ads in British newspapers last week. He said Europe's largest lender has since toughened internal controls and cut some clients at the Swiss private bank.

Gulliver was listed as the beneficial owner of an account



at HSBC Suisse in the name of Worcester Equities Inc, a company registered in Panama, the Guardian reported Sunday. His bonuses were paid through that entity until 2003, and the account had a balance of USD7.6 million in 2007, the newspaper said. While the publication detailed the account and his continuing use of Hong Kong as a residence, it didn't accuse him of breaking laws.

"The Swiss account was set up in 1998 in the name of a Panamanian company for reasons of confidentiality, and this had no other purpose and provided no tax or other advantage," HSBC said in the statement. "Full tax

was paid in Hong Kong on the bonus payments."

Since leaving Hong Kong for the U.K. in 2003, Gulliver has paid U.K. taxes on his worldwide earnings, minus a credit for taxes paid in the Asian city, according to the bank. In 2011, he moved the CEO's office to London "in the best interests of the company," rather than keeping it in Hong Kong where he would have ceased being a U.K. tax resident, the bank said.

HSBC is among a handful of banks to face probes in recent years for their roles in a Swiss banking system that let depositors conceal identities, and in many cases dodge taxes or lau-

nder ill-gotten cash. In 2013, HSBC reached a \$1.9 billion deferred-prosecution deal with the U.S. Justice Department to resolve claims it enabled Latin American drug cartels to launder money.

The firm's most recent woes stem from seven-year-old data stolen by Herve Falciani, a self-described whistle-blower. The information-technology worker pilfered client account details from HSBC's Geneva office in 2008 and passed them to the French government. More detail about the data was released this month, prompting local authorities to search HSBC's Geneva private-banking office

last week.

Chairman Douglas Flint is set to face questions on Wednesday at a U.K. Parliament hearing over his role as finance director when the bank was found helping customers avoid taxes.

The company has multiplied its compliance workforce to more than 7,000 from 1,500 four years ago and is spending as much as \$1 billion each year to boost internal controls, Flint has estimated. Staff were hired to ferret out wrongdoing and introduce automated systems to detect suspicious transactions.

HSBC, which traces its roots to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp., was required by British regulators to move to London from Hong Kong more than two decades ago following its acquisition of Midland Bank Plc as part of a push westward. Gulliver had moved to Hong Kong in 1980, becoming a permanent legal resident along with his wife, an Australian.

"It should not be a surprise that Mr. Gulliver, who has spent the majority of his nearly 35-year career at HSBC in Hong Kong, has made his home there," the bank said. **Bloomberg**

USD7.6m

Gulliver's Swiss account had a balance of USD7.6 million in 2007

corporate bits

GEG CELEBRATES CHINESE NEW YEAR WITH TRADITIONAL CEREMONIES AND LION DANCES



Officiated by the executive members of Galaxy Entertainment Group ("GEG"), a traditional Chinese New Year Ceremony was held at Galaxy Macau with a dragon

and lion dance performance. GEG Executives participated in the traditional ceremony and ritual at StarWorld Hotel, wishing Macau an auspicious Year of the Goat.

PRADA JUMPS IN HONG KONG AS SALES RECOVERY SEEN IN 2015

Prada SpA jumped in Hong Kong trading amid expectations same-store sales growth will speed up this year, after it reported a slight fall in full-year sales as fewer Chinese splurged on USD2,950 handbags and other luxury products.

Prada shares climbed 3.9 percent to HK\$44.25, the highest close in two weeks. They rose as much as 6 percent earlier yesterday. The benchmark Hang Seng Index was little changed.

"We expect a re-acceleration in retail same-store sales growth and greater operating leverage," Citigroup Inc. analysts led by Thomas Chauvet wrote in a note yesterday, referring to outlets



open at least a year and citing factors including more moderate space growth, signs of turnaround at the Miu Miu brand, the Prada brand's repositioning in Japan and the U.S. and introduction of handbags with lower price points. Revenue fell 1 percent to

3.55 billion euros (\$4 billion) in the 12 months through January, the Milan-based owner of brands including Miu Miu and Car Shoe said in preliminary figures issued Sunday, against the median analyst estimate of 3.57 billion euros compiled

by Bloomberg. It announced plans in December to open fewer stores in fiscal 2016 and introduce more bags priced between 1,000 euros and 1,200 euros.

While the new handbags at lower price points "has not been enough to offset overall decline at the brand so far, this should be key for recovery in 2015," Barclays Plc analysts led by Vineet Sharma wrote in a note yesterday.

Sales in Asia Pacific dropped 5 percent, mainly because of the deteriorated markets in Hong Kong and Macau during the second half of the year. Chinese President Xi Jinping's two-year crackdown against graft has impacted sales of luxury goods in Hong Kong and gamblers' spending in Macau.



Dermatology 皮膚科 / Aesthetic Medicine 美容医学

Transform yourself

with CoolSculpting®



FEAR NO MIRROR.

Now offering a non-surgical and natural way to eliminate stubborn fat.



Avenida Xian Xing Hai, 105, Golden Dragon Centre 11/D Macau - 澳門新口岸冼星海大馬路金龍中心11D 樓

Phone 電話: (+853) 28228320 - info@daliclinic.com - www.daliclinic.com

new business opportunities are just a handshake away



MACAU AFTER WORK



deltabridges.com



sales@deltabridges.com (+853) 66965212 (+86) 13326647710

Kung Hei Fat Choi



Oscars speeches filled with political activism, pet issues

Beth J. Harpaz

MUCH of the chatter going into the Oscars was about the lack of diversity in the Academy's choices, specifically the dearth of nominations for "Selma." But while there were plenty of references to racial justice, issues mentioned in acceptance speeches ranged from suicide to Alzheimer's and Lou Gehrig's disease to wage equality for women.

IMMIGRATION

Sean Penn raised eyebrows with a reference he made to green cards in presenting the Oscar for best picture to Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu for "Birdman," but the two are friends and Inarritu interpreted the comment as a joke. "Who gave this son of a bitch his green card?" Penn said.

Inarritu, who is Mexican, hugged Penn warmly, and joked that the U.S. government might now impose immigration rules on the academy: "Two Mexicans in a row, that's suspicious." Alfonso Cuarón, another Mexican director, won for "Gravity" last year.

On a serious note, he said, he hoped the "latest generation of immigrants ... can be treated with the same dignity and respect of the ones who came before and built this incredible immigrant nation."

ALS AND ALZHEIMER'S

In accepting the award for best actress for "Still Alice," Julianne Moore said the movie shines a light on Alzheimer's, saying, "People with Alzheimer's deserve to be seen." She also noted that Richard Glatzer, who directed and wrote it with Wash Westmoreland, has ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Eddie Redmayne, accepting the

best actor award for his portrayal of Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything," said: "This Oscar belongs to all of those people around the world battling ALS."

SUICIDE

Graham Moore, who won the Oscar for best adapted screenplay for "The Imitation Game," said in his acceptance speech that he had tried to kill himself as a teenager.

"When I was 16, I tried to kill myself because I felt weird and I felt different and I felt like I did not belong," he said. "I would like this moment to be for the kid out there who feels like she's weird and different and feels like she doesn't belong. ... Yes, you do."

Backstage, Moore said he saw the public moment as a rare opportunity for a writer and figured that "I might as well use it to say something meaningful."

Earlier in the ceremony, Dana Perry mentioned that her son had killed himself. Perry made her comments in accepting the Oscar for best documentary for "Crisis Hotline: Veterans Press 1."

"We should talk about suicide out loud," she said.



Graham Moore accepts the award for the best adapted screenplay for "The Imitation Game"

DEMOCRACY AND CITIZENFOUR

Laura Poitras used part of her speech accepting the award for best documentary for "Citizenfour" to note that "the disclosures that Edward Snowden reveals don't only expose threats to our privacy but to our democracy."

But when the camera went back to Oscar host Neil Patrick Harris, he was quick to make a reference to the controversy surrounding Snowden: "The subject of 'Citizenfour' couldn't be here for some treason."

Snowden is living in Russia to avoid arrest here. His supporters think he's a hero; critics think he's a traitor.



Dirk Wilutzky, from left, Laura Poitras and Glenn Greenwald accept the award for best documentary feature for "Citizenfour"

WAGE EQUALITY AND MORE ROLES FOR WOMEN

Meryl Streep leapt to her feet cheering, pointing and shouting, "Yes! Yes!" as Patricia Arquette ended her Oscar acceptance speech with a call for women's rights.

"To every woman who gave birth to every taxpayer and citizen in this nation: We have fought for everybody else's equal rights. It's our time to have wage equality in the U.S.," said Arquette, who won best supporting actress for

portraying the mother in "Boyhood."

The movie "Wild" didn't win anything, but its two nominees, Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern, also talked about women needing better representation in Hollywood on the red carpet before the show.

Witherspoon said she started her own production company, making "Gone Girl" and "Wild" because she "got frustrated" with roles available to women. Dern said she was "proud" along with Witherspoon to be among "two of the 47 women nominated tonight. May we see that number double." AP



Patricia Arquette accepts the award for best actress in a supporting role for "Boyhood"

Leanne Italie

HIGH collars replaced sexy cutouts, and Classic Hollywood in blacks and whites took hold of the Oscars red carpet yesterday night with help from a smoking Saint Laurent worn by Margot Robbie and a heavily beaded look for fashion It girl Lupita Nyong'o.

There was a slight show of color. Anna Kendrick was in a coral silk-and-chiffon gown with a jeweled halter collar by Thakoon.

Emma Stone was on her way to best-dressed in a drop-dead beaded Elie Saab in celery green. The back was low, the side slit high and the lines of embellishment were impeccable.

High collars and demure gowns on the red carpet



Marion Cotillard



Dakota Johnson, left, and Melanie Griffith arrive at the Oscars



Anna Kendrick

Reese Witherspoon wore pale blue and white, a Tom Ford off-the-shoulder gown he contacted

her about. "He called me. He had this beautiful sketch," she said. "He works so hard

and loves women."

Starlet-of-the-moment Dakota Johnson decided on a ponytail — ode to

her "Fifty Shades of Grey" character Anastasia Steele? — to go with her red one-shoulder Saint Laurent with a dash of sparkle detail. Also in Saint Laurent was Robbie, in a deep black gown draped at the front with sheer long sleeves, her blond hair straight as a pin in a side part.

Nominee Marion Cotillard walked in a white Dior Couture gown with an overlay of circle cutouts, high collar and a caped effect at the back. She was sleeveless but high-necked in a stunning pair of diamond earrings. It may be among the more divisive looks of the night.

Also high-necked in white: Nyong'o in a heavily embellished custom Calvin Klein,

open at the back and said to be hand-sewn with 6,000 pearls of varying sizes.

"My jaw dropped. It was absolutely stunning," said Joyann King, editor of Harpersbazaar.com.

Julianne Moore's Chanel was also heavily adorned with about 80,000 beads.

Scarlett Johansson went for green, while there was a small contingent in strapless red, including Rosamund Pike in Givenchy Haute Couture. Nominee Felicity Jones was Team High Collar in icy blue-white by fellow Brit Sarah Burton for Alexander McQueen.

"It's all hand-sewn, even these little pockets of pearls," Jones said, pointing to chunky embellishment at the hip. AP

Jake Coyle
Film Writer, Los Angeles

'Birdman' takes flight at an Oscars punctuated by politics

BIRDMAN" captured Hollywood's top honor at the Academy Awards yesterday, where the jazzy, surreal comedy about an actor fleeing his superhero past won best picture at a ceremony punctuated by passionate pleas for equality.

On a stormy night in Hollywood, the 87th annual Academy Awards — which came in humbled by backlash to its all-white acting nominees — bristled with politics and heartfelt speeches about women's rights, immigration, suicide prevention and race.

Oscars voters opted for a movie that epitomizes much of Hollywood — showy, ego-mad, desperate for artistic credibility — over one («Boyhood») that prized naturalism and patience. «Birdman (or The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)» also won best director for Mexican filmmaker Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, best original screenplay and best cinematography.

"Maybe next year the government will inflict immigration restrictions," said Inarritu, recalling last year's best director winner, Alfonso Cuaron. "Two Mexicans in a row. That's suspicious, I guess."

Inarritu, a larger-than-life figure of frizzy hair, regularly wrapped in a scarf, concluded the night's many moving speeches that called for societal progress. Inarritu said he prays his native country finds "a government we deserve" and that immigrants to the U.S. "can be treated with the same dignity and the respect of the ones who came before and (built) this incredible immigrant nation."

The ceremony at the Dolby Theatre, hosted by Tony Award veteran Neil Patrick Harris, was heavy on song-and-dance to near-Grammy



Alejandro G. Inarritu accepts the award for best director for "Birdman or (The Unexpected Virtue of Ignorance)"

levels. Lady Gaga lavishly performed "The Hills Are Alive" from "The Sound of Music" with a rapt Julie Andrews looking on.

The awards overwhelmingly went to less-seen independent films and were widely spread around. All eight of the best-picture nominees won awards, including Britain's Eddie Redmayne for best ac-

tor for his technically nuanced performance as Stephen Hawking in "The Theory of Everything."

"Please know this that I am fully aware that I am a lucky, lucky man," said the young British actor. "This belongs to all of the people around the world battling ALS."

All of Sunday's big winners were first-timers, including

best actress winner Julianne Moore, who won for her performance as an academic with early onset Alzheimer's in "Still Alice."

"I read an article that said that winning an Oscar could lead to living five years longer," said Moore. "If that's true, I'd really like to thank the academy because my husband is younger than me."

■ Oscars voters opted for a movie that epitomizes much of Hollywood — showy, ego-mad, desperate for artistic credibility

Harris gave the Academy Awards a cheery tone that sought to celebrate Hollywood, while also slyly parodying it. "Tonight we honor Hollywood's best and whitest — I mean brightest," he began the night, alluding to this year's all-white acting nominees.

Though Richard Linklater's 12-years-in-making "Boyhood" was the critical favorite for much of awards season, it won only best supporting actress for Arquette.

Tears streamed down the face of David Oyelowo, who played the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. in "Selma" and was famously left out of the best actor nominees, during the rousing performance of the song "Glory" from the film. Immediately afterward, Common and Legend accepted the best song Oscar with a speech that drew a standing ovation.

Wes Anderson's "The Grand Budapest Hotel," a European caper released in March when many awards contenders were still shooting, tied for the most Oscars with "Birdman." The academy awarded Anderson's latest confection with awards for production design, score, costume design and makeup and styling.

At Hollywood's studios has increasingly focused on mounting global blockbusters, the Oscars have become largely the providence of smaller indies. In the night's opening routine, Jack Black, playing villain to the cheery Harris, lamented Hollywood releases "opening with lots of zeroes, all we get is superheroes."

"Birdman" was thus a fitting winner: a meta-movie about an actor (Michael Keaton) reconciling himself to his superhero fame. Backstage, co-writer Nicholas Jacobone warned: "Birdman 4" will open next summer. AP



Eddie Redmayne accepts the award for best actor for "The Theory of Everything"



Julianne Moore accepts the award for best actress in a leading role for "Still Alice"

DESPITE an estimate that colonists could not survive for more than 68 days on the Red Planet, the Mars One Mission received more than 200,000 applications worldwide, and two Chinese have made it on to the shortlist.

If Li Dapeng, 33, is selected as one of the final 24 candidates he will embark on a one-way settlement mission to Mars by 2025.

The agronomist said that despite his passion for the mission, his family do not share his enthusiasm, according to China Central Television.

"This is something important I can do for mankind's future," he said, adding that he hoped there would be opportunity to explore other planets.

"[What] if I die on the Red Planet?" Li wrote on his microblog, asking other applicants for their opinions on the one-way trip.

A graduate of the China Agricultural University's college of biological sciences, Li now works for the Handan City Forestry Bureau in north China's Hebei Province. He admits to having already spent "thousands of yuan" on books on Mars and astronautics, and has worked hard to improve his English.

Li said, should he be successful, the first thing he would do on Mars would be to "let my family know I'm all right".

However, Li has yet to gain the approval of his family and he said that if they refused to support him, he might withdraw.

The 100-people shortlist, 50 male and 50 female, includes two from China - Li and Lin

Two mainlanders may be among future Mars residents

Xiaoxia, a 31-year-old astronomy lover - as well as Chinese American Sue Ann Pien, 35, and British born Chinese Maggie Lieu, 24, who holds a astrophysics doctorate.

According to the project, female candidates will be expected to give birth on Mars, paving the way for an established human colony.

"My family are worried about me, but my mum encouraged me to do it," Maggie Lieu told people.com.cn, a website run by the People's Daily, the Communist Party's mouthpiece.

"My mum asked: 'Can I drive your car [when you go to Mars]?'", Lieu said, adding that she hoped the mission could inspire more youngsters to develop an interest in space.

The Mars One Mission is a Dutch venture and the brainchild of entrepreneur Bas Lansdorp, who aims to raise more than USD6 billion U.S dollars to fund it.

The reduced shortlist of candidates is expected to be announced in the middle of the year.

The candidate selection requirements include: "An understanding of the risks involved, team spirit and their motivation to be part of this life-changing expedition," said the organizers.

The venture is expected to be

AP PHOTO



made into a reality TV show, which will be broadcast across the world.

The Mars One team has drawn up plans with Lockheed Martin to have a satellite in orbit around the planet by 2018, but other issues surrounding landing and colonizing on Mars are ongoing.

Since the mission was first announced in 2013, doubts have been raised over it just being

a front to raise money through the application fees and advertising contracts. But its Dutch organizer said the boom in private spaceflight and the rapid development of space technology made the project possible.

Lieu does not think it was a stunt. "[When] Neil Armstrong [...] came back from the moon with rock samples, they were of great scientific value. This project is the same."

Pang Zhihao, a researcher at the China Academy of Space Technology, however, reserved optimism: "Mankind has not even stepped foot on Mars, let alone established a settlement there. [And this mission will apparently] achieved by a private company with only a few dozen staff?"

The United States has plans to send humans to Mars in around 2035. **Xinhua**

Insight: Lunar New Year gift giving in the Internet era

THE traditional scene of children clad in red, knelt down, kowtowing to their elders, who hand them red envelopes containing "lucky money" for Spring Festival is now a rarity.

Nowadays, this has been replaced by one tap on a mobile app, with no need to even meet in person.

Ushering in the Year of the Sheep, people across the country could be seen shaking their cell phones in order to receive digital red envelopes.

Several Internet companies, including Tencent, Alibaba, Sina and Baidu, released red envelope games, hoping to grab a slice of the e-payment market, as users must link their debit or credit cards to their accounts.

While elderly relatives continued to send the



traditional red envelopes, the younger generation exchanged e-envelopes.

Guo Lifeng, a migrant working in east China's Zhejiang Province, did not go back to central Hubei Province this Spring Festival. However, he did not feel lonely as his family created a WeChat group to exchange red envelopes and blessings.

"Tradition is still tradi-

tion, but nowadays it has been injected with a new vigor, but the original customs are still there," Guo said.

On Lunar New Year's Eve last Wednesday, more than one billion people sent or received red envelopes on WeChat. Alibaba's Alipay saw 4 billion yuan (about USD650 million) sent on that day alone.

There were around 649 million Chinese Internet users as of December, including 557 million that used their cell phones to connect to the Internet.

The festival has helped cultivate loyalty to certain Internet brands, Hong Tao of Beijing Technology and Business University said.

"Giving and accepting red envelopes is a way of

socializing. [With] only a smart phone, people can easily interact with each other," said Wang Dengfeng from Peking University's psychology school.

"It is good that this old tradition has been modernized," said Wan Jianzhong, an expert on folk customs and cultural anthropology at Beijing Normal University, but he warned that people should not be obsessed with the amount inside the red envelopes, instead they should value the goodwill attached to them.

This year the number of SMS' sent dropped markedly, tens of billions were sent during past Spring Festivals. The reason: SMS have a cost, but prepaid Internet access is free.

Traditionally, Chinese stock up on holiday essentials in the weeks

leading up to Spring Festival, as most businesses will close for at least the first two or three days of the week-long holiday.

In recent years, in e-commerce crazy China, people have shifted from shopping at street fairs to buying from online retailers.

Young people, especially, favor online Spring Festival shopping for its efficiency and convenience.

Meanwhile, certain officials can use this online trend to their advantage - to send their superiors discreet gifts, away from prying eyes. In recent years, these cards have been the focus of the austerity campaign.

Experts, however, have called for rules to be established to regulate online cash flow and other irregularities. **Xinhua**

BANGLADESH

Death toll rises to at least 70 in ferry disaster

Julhas Alam, Dhaka

THE death toll from a weekend ferry disaster in central Bangladesh rose to 70 yesterday in the latest shipping mishap in the South Asian nation.

The official search for more bodies by divers at the accident site was called off late yesterday morning after the ferry was brought to the surface and towed to the shore.

A local government administrator, Rasheda Ferdousi, said they would continue to monitor the river around the accident site as there were still "some missing." But he would not give an exact figure.

"Our people are using boats to survey the river for any dead bodies. But here at the scene we are calling off the search as there

are no more bodies inside the ferry," Ferdousi said.

Up to 140 passengers were thought to be on the river ferry when it capsized Sunday afternoon after being hit by a cargo vessel.

The accident happened on the Padma River about 40 kilometers northwest of Dhaka, the capital.

The ferry, the M.L. Mosta, sank in 6 meters under water before a salvage ship pulled it to the surface.

Rescuers recovered 48 bodies on Sunday and another 22 yesterday, according to a police control room at the scene.

Inspector Zihad Mia, who is overseeing the rescue operation, said it was not known how many passengers were missing and how many survived. Ferries in Bangladesh usually do

AP PHOTO



Bangladeshi rescue workers carry the dead body of one of the victims after a river ferry carrying about 100 passengers capsized Sunday after being hit by a cargo vessel

not maintain formal passenger lists.

"We don't have a clear picture about how many were exactly on the ferry when it sank," Mia said. "But I think many have survived."

Jewel Mia, an official from the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority, told reporters at the scene that up to

140 people were on the ferry when it sank.

By yesterday morning, police had handed over 58 bodies to their families, said local police chief Mohammed Rakibuzzaman. At least nine were children, he said.

A passenger who survived said many people were trapped inside the ferry when it sank. "The

passengers who were on the deck survived, but many who were inside were trapped," Hafizur Rahman Sheikh was quoted as saying by the Prothom Alo newspaper.

Sheikh said the cargo vessel hit the middle of the ferry.

A Ministry of Shipping statement said an investigation had been ordered. **AP**

THAILAND

2 activists who staged play found guilty of insulting monarchy

Thanyarat Dokson, Bangkok

A court in Thailand sentenced two theater activists to two and a half years in prison yesterday on charges of insulting the country's monarchy.

The activists produced a play called "The Wolf Bride" about a fictional monarch and his adviser. It was performed at Bangkok's Thammasat University in 2013 to mark the anniversary of a 1973 anti-dictatorship uprising led by students.

Thailand's lese majeste law is the world's harshest, carrying a punishment of three to 15 years in jail for anyone who defames, insults, or threatens the monarchy. Anyone can file a lese majeste complaint with police, and the charge has frequently been used as a weapon to harass political enemies. In this case, a group named the Royal Monarch Alert Protection Network filed the complaint.

Patiwat Saraiyaem, a 23-year-old university student, and Pornthip

AP PHOTO



Patiwat Saraiyaem



Pornthip Munkong

Munkong, a 26-year-old recent graduate, have been in jail since last August and their bail requests were repeatedly turned down by a Bangkok court. Both pleaded guilty, a common practice in lese majeste cases, in December.

In announcing the verdict, a Bangkok Criminal Court judge said the play contained content that defamed the monarchy and was presented to a large number of spectators.

Pawinee Chumsri, the defendants' lawyer, told reporters they were not likely to appeal.

The government installed by Thailand's military, which seized power from an elected administration in a coup last May, has made defending the monarchy a

priority in an effort to ensure stability toward the end of 87-year-old King Bhumibol Adulyadej's reign.

The New York-based group Human Rights Watch called the jail terms "yet another serious blow to freedom of expression in Thailand and another dark mark on Thailand's already battered international reputation."

"Vowing to protect the monarchy, the ... junta has accelerated efforts to hunt down alleged lese majeste actions and statements, and prosecute people for peaceful expression of views, like conducting a play, posting online, or making a speech," the group's Asia director, Brad Adams, said in a statement. **AP**

NEPAL

Gov't pledges to improve climbing conditions on Everest

Binaj Gurubacharya, Kathmandu

NEPAL is improving weather forecasting systems, stepping up security and promises swift rescues if needed during the upcoming climbing season on Everest in attempt to recover from the worst mountaineering disaster on the world's highest peak last year.

Fees for individual climbers will also be cut to attract climbers back.

The chief of Nepal's Mountaineering Department Puspa Raj Katuwal said yesterday that the government will ensure that conditions will be safer for both international climbers and Nepalese guides, and that a camp with officials will be deployed at the base camp for the three-month climbing that begins in March.

An avalanche near the base camp last April killed 16 local guides and prompted climbers to abandon the 2014 climbing season.

"We are working on plans to improve the conditions on the mountain this year. We are setting up a full-time office tent at the base camp which will have our officials throughout the climbing season," Katuwal said.

That would allow the officials to quickly respond to any problem on the 8,850-meter mountain. They would also provide security, settle disputes among climbers and monitor the activities of the hundreds of climbers and

AP PHOTO



In this Oct. 27, 2011 file photo, the last light of the day sets on Mount Everest as it rises behind Mount Nuptse as seen from Tengboche, in the Himalaya's Khumbu region

guides at the base camp.

The Nepalese government has been repeatedly criticized for not having a presence at the base camp and doing too little despite earning millions in permit fees.

The country's national weather service will provide forecasts for Everest for the officials to release at the base camp. The officials will also monitor the amount of garbage taken by climbers down the mountain. Left-behind garbage has become a problem in recent years.

Katuwal said he was confident that climbers would return to Everest, especially because of the slashed permit fees, which will cost USD11,000 per climber this year for permission to climb Everest, down from \$25,000. **AP**

NORTH KOREA

Authorities bar foreigners from Pyongyang marathon

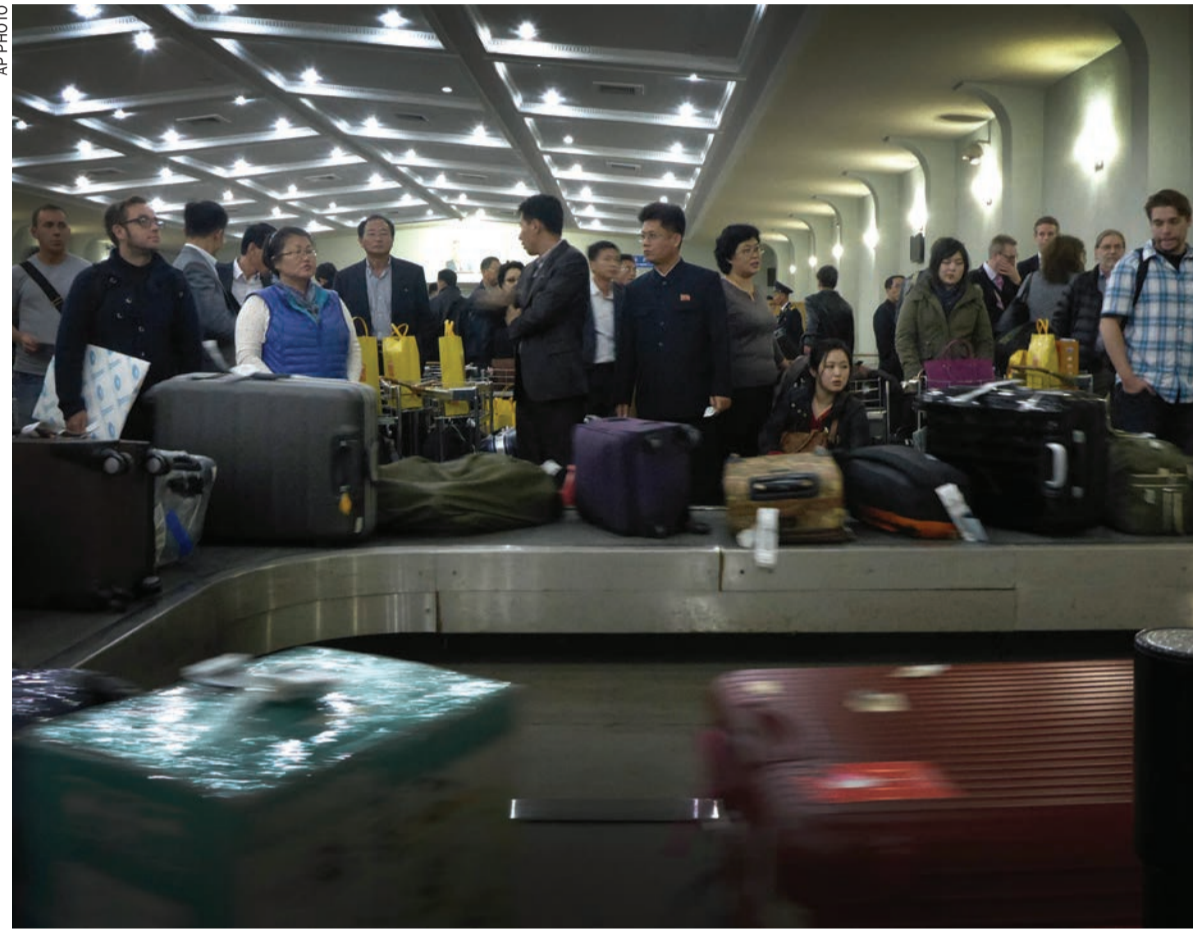
Eric Talmadge, Tokyo

TIGHTENING the screws even further on travel to their already isolated country, North Korean authorities have barred foreigners from one of the year's most popular tourist events — the annual Pyongyang marathon — because of ongoing concerns over the spread of the Ebola virus, travel agencies said yesterday.

While no cases of Ebola have been reported anywhere near North Korea, the country shut its doors on foreign tourists in October with some of the strictest Ebola regulations in the world. North Korean media have suggested Ebola was created by the U.S. military as a biological weapon.

Nick Bonner, co-founder of Beijing-based Koryo Tours, said he did not think the decision reflected any deeper problems in the North's secretive and often enigmatic government, though the news comes amid reports leader Kim Jong Un has called for increased combat readiness and, at a meeting of senior party and military leaders, described tensions on the peninsula as graver than ever before.

North Korea has been under increasing pressure from the U.N. over its human rights record and is facing new sanctions from Washington over its alle-



In this Oct. 21, 2014 file photo, passengers wait for their luggage upon arrival at the Sunan International Airport in Pyongyang, North Korea, before closing its door for foreign visitors to visit the country in fear of the Ebola virus

ged involvement in the massive hack attack on Sony Pictures in December. Joint military exercises between the U.S. and South Korea that the North says are a provocation will also begin soon.

Bonner said more than 400 foreign runners had signed up

with his agency alone for the event, which is to be held April 12. He said he was informed by officials yesterday that the race — billed as one of the most exotic marathon locales on Earth — would be open only to local runners. Another agency spe-

cializing in North Korea travel, Young Pioneer Tours, also confirmed on its website that it was cancelling its tours for the event.

Bonner, speaking with The Associated Press by phone from Beijing, said he remains hopeful the Ebola restrictions will be

lifted by the end of next month. Even if they are, however, the restrictions apparently made it too difficult for marathon organizers to be ready in time to deal with the influx of foreign runners, who were allotted 500 slots.

Last year's race through the streets of Pyongyang, including a 10-kilometer competition and a half marathon along with the full course, was opened up to foreign recreational runners for the first time and was a big success. Elite runners from around the world are usually brought in for the main event. Bonner said they apparently won't be allowed in this year.

Known officially as the Mangyongdae Prize International Marathon, the race is sanctioned as a bronze-label event by the International Association of Athletics Federations and has been held annually for 27 years. It is held in conjunction with a series of sporting competitions, arts festivals and cultural events marking the birthday of North Korea's founder, Kim Il Sung, on April 15.

Since the Ebola measures were announced last October, visas for nonessential travel have been halted and, regardless of country or region of origin, all foreigners allowed in are technically subject to quarantine under medical observation for 21 days.

North Korea has made a concerted effort to bolster its tourist trade in recent years by setting up special tourism zones and developing scenic areas and recreational facilities. Tens of thousands of Chinese tourists visit each year, according to Koryo Tours, while tourists from other countries are rarer. **AP**

Kristen Gelineau, Sydney

AUSTRALIA

Gov't to tighten immigration laws in counterterror bid

AUSTRALIA will strengthen its immigration laws and crack down on groups that incite hatred under a raft of counterterrorism measures introduced yesterday in a bid to combat the threat from home-grown terrorists.

Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced the nation's new anti-extremism strategy following the release of a government review into December's deadly siege at a cafe in Sydney's busy Martin Place plaza.

Man Monis, an Iranian-born, self-styled cleric with a long criminal history, took 18 people hostage inside the cafe, forced them to hold up a flag bearing the Islamic declaration of faith and demanded he be delivered a flag of the Islamic State group. Monis and two hostages were killed.



Australia's Prime Minister Tony Abbott speaks about the nation's new anti-extremism strategy during a question time at Parliament House in Canberra

The government review found no major faults with multiple agencies that failed to detect Monis was a threat, despite the fact that he was out on bail on sexual assault

and accessory to murder charges. But Abbott acknowledged the system itself had failed, saying Monis should never have been allowed into Australia, should not have been

out on bail and should not have been able to get a gun.

"It's clear that in too many instances, the threshold for action was set too high. And that the only beneficiary of that was the Martin Place murderer himself," Abbott said. "We cannot allow bad people to use our good nature against us."

The measures announced yesterday would revoke or suspend Australian citizenship for dual nationals who fight alongside terror groups overseas, axe welfare payments and consular services to those involved in terrorism and clamp down on "hate preachers," or

groups that incite religious or racial hatred.

Australia's government raised the country's terror warning level in September in response to the domestic threat posed by supporters of the Islamic State group. In September, the group's spokesman Abu Mohammed al-Adnani issued a message urging attacks abroad, specifically mentioning Australia.

Abbott warned that the terrorism threat in Australia has escalated, noting that one-third of all terrorism-related arrests since 2001 have occurred in the last six months. At least 110 Australians have gone to Iraq and Syria to

fight alongside extremists, and the nation's security agency is juggling more than 400 high-priority counterterrorism investigations — more than double the number a year ago, Abbott said.

Earlier this month, two men were charged with planning to launch an imminent, Islamic State-inspired terrorist attack in Australia after Abbott said they appeared on a video threatening to stab the kidneys and necks of their victims. And in September, a man arrested during a series of counterterrorism raids was charged with conspiring with an Islamic State leader in Syria to behead a random person in Sydney.

"The terrorist threat is rising, at home and abroad, and is becoming harder to combat," Abbott said. "Today's terrorism requires little more than a camera phone, a knife and a victim." **AP**

Sylvia Hui, London

ISIS EXTREMISM

Families of 3 missing UK girls urge 'Please come home!'

THE families of three missing British schoolgirls believed to have fled to Syria to join the Islamic State extremist group have issued emotional public appeals urging them to come home, as police said yesterday they were still searching for them in Turkey.

The girls, all 15 to 16 years old and said to be "straight-A students" from the same east London school, disappeared from home last Tuesday without leaving any messages. Authorities said they boarded a plane to Istanbul.

The relatives of Shamima Begum and Amira Abase, both 15, and Kadiza Sultana, 16, broke down in tears as they spoke of their shock and fear in televised interviews on British media.

"We miss you. We cannot stop crying," said Abase Husen, Amira's father, clutching a teddy bear Amira gave to her mother on Mother's Day. "Please think twice. Don't go to Syria."

The case has captured wide attention in Britain, where au-



This is three image combo of stills taken from CCTV issued by the Metropolitan Police in London, shows Kadiza Sultana, 16, left, Shamima Begum, 15, center and 15-year-old Amira Abase going through security at Gatwick airport, before they caught their flight to Turkey

thorities have warned that the threat is growing from Britons travelling to Syria to fight with

Islamic State militants. Officials say at least 500 people have left for Syria, and police

say there is a growing trend of young girls and women interested in joining the group.

Authorities have been criticized after it emerged that, before the girls disappeared, Begum had had online contact with a fourth girl who left for Syria in 2013 to become a "jihadi bride" — to marry a militant fighter.

All the families said there were no signs that the girls were interested in extremism or of what they were planning.

Scotland Yard said its officers were working closely with Turkish authorities in their investigation.

Begum's elder sister, Renu, said Shamima was a "sensible girl."

"She's a clever girl, but she's only young. And young minds can easily be swayed," she said. "You're our baby. We just want you home." AP

EGYPT

Court sentences activist to 5 years in prison

Hamza Hendawi, Cairo

AN Egyptian court sentenced an icon of the country's 2011 revolt to five years in prison yesterday, showing authorities' determination to continue to stifle dissent despite promises by its president to release "wrongly jailed youths."

The verdict came in the retrial of well-known activist Alaa Abdel-Fattah, who earlier received a 15-year prison sentence for organizing an unauthorized protest and allegedly assaulting a police officer.

The courtroom erupted after the verdict, with those in the gallery shouting: "Down with oppression!" One man collapsed as Abdel-Fattah's family and friends wept and screamed: "Down with military rule!" Police ultimately ordered everyone to clear the courtroom.

Defense lawyer Mohammed Abdel-Aziz decried the verdict as "harsh and oppressive."

The court "didn't take into consideration any of the evidence that showed the defendants' innocence," he said.

Another rights lawyer on hand, Taher Abou el-Nasr, said: "Regrettably, the verdict was expected. We no longer expect acquittal."

Lawyers said they will appeal the ruling to Egypt's Court of Cassation, the country's highest appeals court.

An outspoken blogger, Abdel-Fattah has been in and out of prison in the years since the 2011 ouster of autocrat Hosni Mubarak. He campaign-



Egypt's most prominent activist Alaa Abdel-Fattah

ned against military trials for civilians during the 17 months that generals held power following Mubarak's resignation. He also opposed Islamist President Mohammed Morsi, whom the military overthrew in 2013.

The charges against him stem largely from a law prohibiting protests in Egypt without prior government permission, a measure that came after Morsi's overthrow. Activists and rights groups have criticized the law as a way to stifle all dissent.

Abdel-Fattah was accused of inciting an "unauthorized" demonstration on Nov. 26, 2013, against a clause allowing military trials for civilians in the draft of a new constitution, which was later adopted by referendum.

Earlier, Mona Seif, Abdel-Fattah's sister and one of the organizers of the Nov. 26 protest, said her brother attended the demonstration but denied he had organized it, saying it was called for by a group that campaigns against military trials for civilians. AP

UK

2 politicians caught in lobbying sting deny wrongdoing

Gregory Katz, London

TWO former senior British government ministers have denied wrongdoing after being caught in a hidden-camera sting appearing to offer access to politicians and diplomats in return for cash.

Jack Straw, who was foreign secretary under Labour Party Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Conservative former Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, were secretly filmed by reporters posing as representatives of a fictional Hong Kong-based communications agency. The reporters said they were seeking top U.K. politicians to join the firm's advisory board.

Rifkind was recorded saying he could arrange "useful access" to British ambassadors, while Straw spoke of using "charm and menace" to change politicians' minds.

The sting by Channel 4's "Dispatches" and the Daily Telegraph newspaper has reopened debate about political lobbying.



Malcolm Rifkind



Jack Straw

Rifkind and Straw, who are still lawmakers, have referred themselves to parliament's standards watchdog.

As foreign secretary, Straw was an outspoken public advocate of the decision to invade Iraq in 2003, while Rifkind played a highly visible role in diplomatic efforts to bring peace to the Balkans.

Rifkind continues to play a prominent role as chairman of the parliamentary committee that oversees the intelligence services.

He said yesterday that allegations of wrongdoing were "unfounded."

Straw said his conversa-

tion related to activities he might undertake once he leaves Parliament after the generalelection in May.

In a lengthy statement, he said he has fully complied with the parliamentary ethics code and disclosed all of his outside interests. He said he had checked out the bogus Hong Kong firm before meeting with its purported representatives to discuss possible work for his post-parliamentary career.

"Events have, however, shown my checks were not sufficient to overcome the skillful deception of the undercover reporters," he said. AP

what's ON



"BEYOND THE SURFACE, MIO PANG FEI
FEATURED ART EXHIBITION" (MACAU)
TIME: 12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)
3pm-8pm (Mondays)

UNTIL: March 1, 2015

VENUE: Albergue SCM – Gallery A2, Calçada da
Igreja de São Lázaro No.8, Macau

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550 / 2852 3205

THE PROMOTION PROJECT TO MACAU ARTISTS,
EXHIBITION OF CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY
BY CHOI CHUN HENG

TIME: 10am-7pm

UNTIL: February 26, 2015

VENUE: UNESCO Centre of Macau,
Alameda Dr. Carlos d'Assumpção

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2872 7066

THE SPRING SEASON HAPPINESS OF JIN AND YU
– EXHIBITION OF LUNAR NEW YEAR TRADITIONS
OF TIANJIN AND CHONGQING MUNICIPALITIES

TIME: 9am-7pm

UNTIL: March 13, 2015

ADMISSION: Free

VENUE: Lou Lim Ioc Garden / No. 10 Estrada de
Adolfo Loureiro, Macau

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8988 4100

ABSTRACT PAINTINGS
FROM THE MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm

(closed on Mondays, no admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: March 29, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

19TH AND 20TH CENTURY PORTRAIT OIL
PAINTINGS – MAM COLLECTION

TIME: 10am-7pm

(Closed on Mondays, No admission after 6:30 pm)

UNTIL: December 31, 2015

VENUE: Macau Museum of Art,
Av. Xian Xing Hai, s/n, NAPE

ADMISSION: MOP5

(Free on Sundays and public holidays)

ENQUIRIES: (853) 8791 9814

Offbeat

INDIA INSISTS:
OBAMA'S TREE IS NOT DEAD

Officials in India want to make one thing clear: The tree that President Barack Obama planted in New Delhi three weeks ago is not dead. It just looks dead.

The peepal tree was awash in leaves when Obama planted it at the New Delhi memorial to Indian independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi. By Thursday, though, it was

just a single lonely stem.

Its lack of leaves has been giving Indian officials sleepless nights, with the media here blasting them for allowing the tree to die less than a month after the presidential visit.

But the reality: Peepal trees often lose their leaves this time of year.

"It's a seasonal phenomenon," B.C. Katiyar, a top regional government horticulturist, said, after he and other officials visited the tree and pronounced it in good health. "It will send out shoots within the next 10 days."

The peepal, or ficus religiosa, is seen as holy by many in Asia — the Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment under the tree in 589 B.C.

TV canal macau

13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
14:30	RTPi Live
17:35	Brazil Avenue (Repeated)
18:30	TDM Sports (Repeated)
19:30	Soap Opera
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:00	TDM Interview
21:45	Happy Endings S2
22:10	Brazil Avenue
23:00	TDM News
23:30	Miscellaneous
00:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)

cinema

CINETEATRO

18 FEB - 25 FEB

STAND BY ME DORAEMON_

ROOM 1

2.00, 5.40

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 95min

TRIUMPH IN THE SKIES_

ROOM 1

7.30 pm

Language: Cantonese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 127min

KINGSMAN: THE SECRET SERVICE_

ROOM 2

2.30, 7.15, 11.30 pm

Director: Matthew Vaughn

Starring: Colin Firth, Michael Caine, Samuel L. Jackson

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 127min

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR_

ROOM 2

4.45 pm

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 127min

STAND BY ME DORAEMON_

ROOM 2

7.15 pm

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 95min



FROM VEGAS TO MACAU 2_

ROOM 3

3.45, 7.30, 9.30 pm

Language: Cantonese (English and Chinese)

Duration: 90min

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR_

ROOM 3

2.00, 5.45 pm

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 127min

MACAU TOWER

19 FEB - 04 MAR

12 GOLDEN DUCKS_

2.30, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30 pm

Director: Matt Chow

Starring: Eason Chan, Louis Koo, Sandra Kwan Yue Ng

Language: Chinese (Chinese)

Duration: 92min

this day in history



1955 BRITAIN'S BIG FREEZE

Deep snow and freezing temperatures continue across Britain leaving many parts of the country cut off from essential supplies.

More than 70 roads in Britain are blocked by snow, according to the Automobile Association and hundreds of vehicles have been abandoned in snowdrifts as high as 30ft (9m).

Rail travel has also been severely affected and some areas in northern Scotland have not had a train service for several days.

The RAF has been working flat out to drop food and medical supplies to affected areas.

Concerns for the welfare of the country's thousands of sheep are mounting as many are completely cut-off from food supplies.

The RAF has dropped nearly 40 tons of hay over the Scottish Highlands during the past week but reports of many sheep being buried deep in snowdrifts are continuing.

Sport has also been severely affected. Most race meetings have been cancelled and the Football Association has indicated it may consider extending the season to catch up on missed games.

Temperatures have fallen below 28 degrees Fahrenheit (minus three degrees centigrade) - four degrees below freezing and the lowest for 30 years.

The low temperatures have caused severe frosts and icy conditions across the country.

In total about 60 counties in Britain are affected by snow and ice, according to the AA.

One of the worst affected areas in the country is Caithness in the Scottish Highlands, which has been totally isolated and without power or light since 17 February.

Two days ago a light aircraft carrying two people crashed in the snow in Caithness. The pilot and his passenger were rescued by a naval helicopter.

Floods on Britain's east coast made conditions almost unbearable and the AA described driving conditions in the south as treacherous.

In the west country there are concerns for livestock on Exmoor and Dartmoor which are both cut off by snow.

Yesterday more snow and 60-mile-per hour (96 kph) blizzards in the west paralysed many parts of Devon and Cornwall. Cornish police reported that 70 vehicles had been abandoned in 10-foot (3m) snowdrifts.

Many people have also been stranded in the Pennines in northern England.

This current spell of freezing weather conditions began in the first week of January. There was a slight thaw towards the end of the month but more snow began to fall in the middle of February.

As yet there are no signs of improvement in the conditions.

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The severe weather conditions continued across Britain into March.

Sheep farmers were probably the worst affected by the big snow of 1955. Despite the valiant efforts of the RAF many thousands of sheep died from exposure.

YOUR STARS

Aries
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
Someone has to go first — and it might as well be you! In fact, with energy this good, it's hard to imagine how anyone could beat you to first place. Enjoy the rush and the thrill of new adventure!

Taurus
April 20-May 20
You'd rather get it all done correctly than get it done on time — and that is likely causing some strife at work or at home. Try to keep it civil, but stand your ground for as long as you can.

Gemini
May 21-Jun. 21
Someone needs to step up and say something — and it seems to be your turn. Your mental and social energies are prompting you to take the lead when it comes to moving in the direction of righteousness.

Cancer
Jun. 22-Jul. 22
You're talking faster than you're thinking today — which only leads to problems if you've got a secret to keep. If so, you may want to sequester yourself away for the day or only speak with those you trust.

Leo
Jul. 23-Aug. 22
Your great energy keeps on pushing you in lovely new directions, and you should find that you're better able to keep having fun even when things look dire. Let a smile be your umbrella!

Virgo
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
You're feeling a bit intimidated by all the requests you're getting — but you are free to say no to at least some of them! It's not selfish if too much is being asked of you. Prioritize and move forward.

Libra
Sep. 23-Oct. 22
You are facing a big-deal situation that could be terrific or awful — but even if it's bad, you should be able to get something good out of it. Just don't take anything too seriously and you should be fine.

Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
This isn't a good time to think about your own needs — others have to come first. It still works out to your advantage, because all that good karma is sure to come in handy sometime soon.

Sagittarius
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
You're having more fun than should be allowed in any one life — so enjoy! Your people can't help but smile as they see you go about your day, and you should pick up a few folks who've been down.

Capricorn
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
You've got to put off today's big issues, if possible. Things are not really going in your favor, but you should still be able to get everything together if you can just stay focused.

Aquarius
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
You like to push the envelope, and today shows how well you can stun ordinary thinkers while still keeping them interested. You may change the conversation in a big way. Expect success!

Pisces
Feb. 19-Mar. 20
You are feeling a little subdued today, but you should be able to hide out from the worst of your fears. Things should start to feel a lot safer by this time tomorrow. Sometimes you just need a time out!

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

5	3		8					
			4			6	5	
6		2		1				
	9			2	7			
6	9	7	4		8			
3	7				4			
	9		2			1		
5	4		8					
		5		3	2			

Easy+

			1	4	7			8
4	3	7				1		
2			9					
5	9		7					
1	4				2	6		
				2		9	5	
				6		3		
		3				5	8	6
8		9	5	3				

Medium

			4					9
7	8		6					
3				8		2	5	
	3	4		9				
	6	8	5	2	4			
	5	9		1				
6	1	5						4
				4		6	7	
4			3					

Hard

				2	7			
	8						5	
	1							
7	4					6		
			1	8				
			5					
2						3		
		4					1	
6			9					

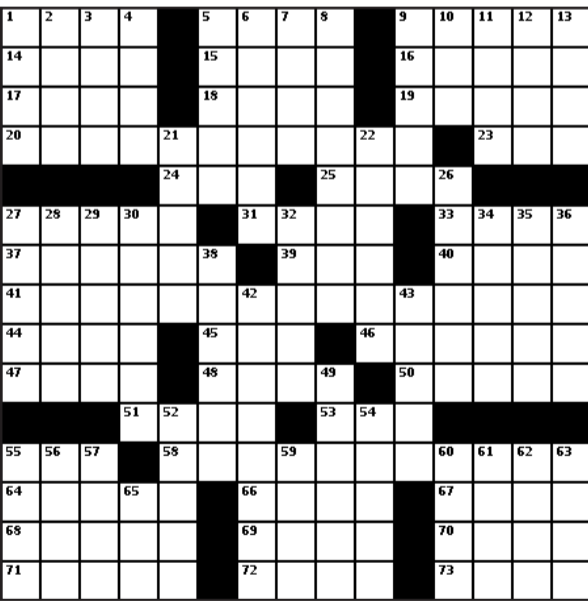
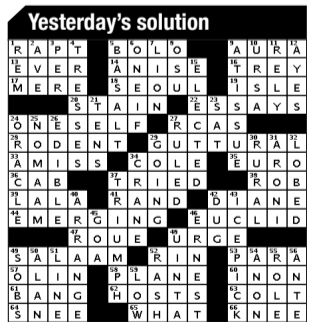
WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	-6	5	clear/overcast
Harbin	-18	-7	cloudy/clear
Tianjin	-2	8	cloudy/overcast
Urumqi	-8	1	clear
Xi'an	0	10	clear/cloudy
Lhasa	-5	11	clear/cloudy
Chengdu	8	17	cloudy
Chongqing	10	18	overcast
Kunming	6	22	clear
Nanjing	5	13	overcast
Shanghai	6	11	drizzle/overcast
Wuhan	2	14	cloudy
Hangzhou	7	12	drizzle/overcast
Taipei	17	24	drizzle
Guangzhou	19	23	moderate rain
Hong Kong	18	21	drizzle
WORLD			
Moscow	1	5	drizzle
Frankfurt	1	3	drizzle
Paris	2	8	drizzle
London	3	8	drizzle
New York	-12	0	overcast/cloudy

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Let ___; 5- Prefix with meter; 9- Seeps; 14- Still; 15- Satirist Mort; 16- Give guns again; 17- "The Time Machine" people; 18- Explorer Tasman; 19- Army leader?; 20- Powerfully binding; 23- Evergreen tree; 24- "... ___ the cows come home"; 25- Former Virginia senator Charles; 27- Hotelier Helmsley; 31- Psychic; 33- Kitchen addition; 37- Burial; 39- Writer Hentoff; 40- Desertlike; 41- In spite of; 44- Merriment; 45- Debtor's letters; 46- Comfort in misfortune; 47- Crew needs; 48- Ship's company; 50- Wallops; 51- Sounds of disapproval; 53- Lubricate; 55- Snapshot; 58- Produced in the bone marrow; 64- Boise's state; 66- Uris's "___ 18"; 67- Mogul capital until 1658; 68- Aromatic wood; 69- Hgt.; 70- Panhandles; 71- Sample; 72- Baseball team; 73- Meets with;

DOWN: 1- Frozen treats; 2- Currency unit in Western Samoa; 3- Voting group; 4- Chieftain, usually in Africa; 5- Me too; 6- Tabs; 7- Not now; 8- Abuse; 9- Toothbrush brand; 10- Not 'neath; 11- Madcap; 12- Ashtabula's lake; 13- Diving duck; 21- Pong maker; 22- Main arteries; 26- Parish officer; 27- Vernacular; 28- Name on a bomber; 29- Aquatic mammal; 30- Freshest; 32- Come afterward; 34- Experiment; 35- Tinged; 36- Boundaries; 38- Adhesive; 42- Cavalry; 43- Aristocratic; 49- Like many mittens; 52- Campfire treat; 54- ___ at the office; 55- Ancient Briton; 56- Thought; 57- Heels; 59- Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"; 60- Apprehends; 61- Arch type; 62- Impulse; 63- Back talk; 65- Boater or bowler



Crossword puzzles provided by BestCrosswords.com

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Emergency calls 999
- Fire department 28 572 222
- PJ (Open line) 993
- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
- PSP 28 573 333
- Customs 28 559 944
- S. J. Hospital 28 313 731
- Kiang Wu Hospital 28 371 333
- Commission Against Corruption (CCAC) 28326 300
- IACM 28 387 333
- Tourism 28 333 000
- Airport 59 888 88
- Taxi 28 939 939 / 2828 3283
- Water Supply - Report 1990 992
- Telephone - Report 1000
- Electricity - Report 28 339 922
- Macau Daily Times 28 716 081



FOR SALE
www.JMLProperty.com

FOR RENT
More info, please contact us
Info@JMLproperty.com
(853) 2835 2699 Office

<p>Pou Kei Unit A Macau 870sq ft / HKD 5.3M HKD 5,747sq ft Apartment with Rooftop Ref: 14075408</p>	<p>Tong Cheng Hin ,Unit D Macau 396 sq ft / HKD 3.3M HKD 8,333sq ft Low Floor Apartment Ref: 15015430</p>	<p>Unique Roof Top Apartment Central Macau 639 sq ft / HKD 5.988M HKD 9,370sq ft Government Offices Viewings Ref: 14095414</p>	<p>Chun Fok Village, Wai Heng Kok, High Floor Unit Taipa 993sq ft/ HKD 7.850M HKD 7,905sq ft OLD TAIPA VILLAGE Ref: 15015431</p>
<p>EDF. HOU CHAN Macau 8 Bedrooms Apartment Building in Old Macau HKD 40,000 / 2,390 sq ft Ref: 14090440</p>	<p>The Manhattan, Unit D Taipa Taipa 4 Bedrooms Apartment Luxury Residence HKD 36,000 / 2,488 sq ft Ref: 15015429</p>	<p>Modern Apartment Central Taipa - Nam Long Taipa 1 Bedrooms Apartment Newly renovated HKD 15,000 / 820 sq ft Ref: 15020468</p>	<p>Tou Un Taipa 1 Bedroom Apartment Great Location HKD 12,500 / 686 sq ft Ref: 14050418</p>

卓雅物業
JML property since 1994

AD

TENNIS

Nadal drops to fourth, passed by Murray, as Djokovic stays top

Danielle Rossingh

RAFAEL Nadal dropped to fourth in the men's tennis rankings after a rare defeat for the Spaniard on clay while Novak Djokovic remained the world's top-ranked male player.

Nadal, a 14-time major champion, was beaten by Italy's Fabio Fognini in three sets at the Rio Open on Saturday. The nine-time French Open winner's semifinal loss on clay in 12 years came after he wrapped up his previous match at 3:18 a.m. the same morning.

Even though he has had a difficult start to the season, losing to German veteran Michael Berrer in the first round of Doha before ending a 17-match win streak against Czech Tomas Berdych in the Australian Open quarterfinals last month, Nadal was optimistic.

"I'm working well, I have the right attitude, I have to



Rafael Nadal

improve things and I think that I'm on the right path and closer to the level of game that I'm looking for," Nadal, 28, said in a news conference

in Rio. Britain's Andy Murray passed Nadal to take the No. 3 spot, with Djokovic keeping the top spot and Switzer-

land's Roger Federer in second.

After winning two majors and finishing the 2013 season as the top-ranked player, Nadal's 2014 was difficult by comparison.

He injured his back during his Australian Open finals defeat to Switzerland's Stan Wawrinka, only to rebound and win a ninth Roland Garros title in June. After losing to Australian teenager Nick Kyrgios in the last sixteen at Wimbledon, Nadal struggled with injury and illness which forced him to miss his U.S. Open title defense.

Nadal will play in the Argentina Open this week, while Serbia's Djokovic, Murray and Federer are competing in the Dubai Duty Free Championships.

Serena Williams of the U.S. remains the top-ranked female tennis player, ahead of Maria Sharapova of Russia at No. 2 and Romania's Simona Halep at No. 3. **Bloomberg**

F1

Alonso making 'solid recovery' after crash

MCLAREN says Fernando Alonso is making a "solid recovery" after being concussed following a crash in Formula One testing and is staying in hospital for further observation.

The Spanish driver was airlifted by helicopter to the hospital for precautionary checks after his McLaren collided with a wall at the Barcelona-Catalunya circuit on Sunday.

In a statement released yesterday, McLaren says Alonso is chatting to family, friends and hospital staff as he recovers "from the effects of the medication that successfully managed his routine sedation."

McLaren says MRI and CT scans returned "completely normal" results and the team "will evaluate in due course whether or not he will participate in the next Barcelona test." **AP**

AD



C&C LAWYERS
公正律師事務所



合伙人 PARTNERS:
官樂怡 Rui José da Cunha • 山度士 Álvaro Rodrigues • 馬天龍 Nuno Sardinha da Mata • 趙魯 Zhao Lu ••

聯營律師 ASSOCIATES:
馬傑安 João N. Marques
高文軒 Adelino Correia •
羅善齡 Zelina Rodrigues
馬德龍 Nuno L. Martins
白秀蘭 Susana Batalha
杜慧盈 Rita Andorinho
馬潔冰 Maria J. Marques
陶義德 António I. Azeredo

白穎怡 Iclia Berenguel
洗玲鳳 Mariana A. Esteves
薛明恩 Maria A. Giestas
飛嘉華 Carlos S. Ferreira
黃保毅 Wong Pou Ngai, Karen
安東尼 António Manuel Santos
馮梓然 Fong Chi In
杜力信 Nelson de Azevedo
宋哲言 João Gonçalves Assunção
羅桃 Luo Tao, Elina

實習律師 TRAINEE LAWYERS:
曹樂萌 Cao Lemeng, Rui
楊越華 leong Ut Wa
羅成軒 José J. Rodrigues
歐文傑 Miguel Evaristo
王洋玲 Ema Wong

• 私人公證員 Notary Public • 中國委託公證人 China Appointed Attesting Officer



WWW.CCADVOG.COM
TEL: (853) 2837 2642 / 2837 2623




C&C CLUB

RECOLHA DE ROUPAS E BRINQUEDOS
收集玩具及衣服
TOYS AND CLOTHES COLLECTION



vamos alegrar quem precisa!
讓我們給需要的人帶去快樂!
let's bring some joy to those in need!

C&C CLUB
MONDAY TO FRIDAY | 9:30 - 18:30
AV. DA PRAIA GRANDE, Nº 759, MACAU
CLUB@CCADVOG.COM

John Pye
Sports Writer

CRICKET

England beats Scotland to post its 1st win at 2015 World Cup

ON the plus side for Eoin Morgan, his England squad now has a winning record at this World Cup against countries that aren't hosting the tournament.

After heavy back-to-back losses to co-hosts Australia and New Zealand, England was under intense pressure in its Pool A match against Scotland at Christchurch yesterday.

Scotland had never beaten England in a one-day cricket international, but was confident after giving New Zealand a scare and had no hesitation in sending the English in to bat after winning the toss.

Moeen Ali came to the fore, scoring 128 and sharing a 172-run opening stand with Ian Bell, who scored 54, to set England on course for a big total of 303-8.

He picked up two wickets, and Steve Finn recovered from the battering he took against New Zealand to take 3-26, as England bowled Scotland out of 184 in 42.2 overs to secure a 119-run victory.

"I don't think there was ever a state of panic," said Morgan, who ended his own lean streak with the bat by scoring 46 from 42 deliveries. "Obviously we had two hard games and the fact that we didn't perform was most disappointing.

"But a win just puts things a little more at ease. It gives guys a little bit of confidence, even the guys who didn't perform today will benefit from guys who have had a little bit of success today."

England lost to Australia by 111 runs at Melbourne on the first day of the tournament, and slumped to an eight-wicket defeat to New Zealand last Friday after it was bundled out for 123 — the Kiwis needed only 12 overs to reach the victory target.



England's Moeen Ali (center) is congratulated by teammates Ian Bell (left) and Eoin Morgan (right) after taking the wicket of Scotland's Richie Berrington during their Cricket World Cup match in Christchurch, New Zealand.

England had some wobbles against Scotland, with Ali, Gary Ballance (10) and Joe Root (1) all dismissed within the space of 10 balls, but Morgan held the lower order together with partnerships of 49 with James Taylor (17) and 45 with Jos Buttler (24) until he was dismissed in the last over.

Scotland started confidently in reply, with South African-born opener Kyle Coetzer making 71 runs and hitting 11 boundaries,

but the loss of early wickets derailed the run chase.

"We're very disappointed," Scotland captain Preston Mommsen said. "We went into the halftime break pretty sure we were in with a shout. Unfortunately, with the bat we just couldn't get going. We're a better side than we showed today."

West Indies captain Jason Holder wants his team to live up to expectations when it plays Zimbabwe in Canberra today,

and knows Chris Gayle can have a big impact on that.

The West Indies bounced back from a demoralizing opening loss to Ireland to beat Pakistan by 150 runs on Saturday, and Holder is hoping to maintain the momentum.

"We still have full confidence in him, and it's very good to see that still he hasn't fired and we still gain 300 runs," Holder said. "I'm sure when his contribution comes, we'll get so-

mewhere close to 400."

The West Indies won the first two Cricket World Cups, in 1975 and 1979, but haven't returned to the final since losing the championship match to India in 1983. It has been a long and painful decline for the Caribbean team, but 23-year-old Holder has a positive outlook on the future.

"It's early days for me in captaincy in terms of this West Indies team," said Holder, who took over in December, "but I think over time and once I can get my players to come together a lot to gel as one unit, I think we can be world-beaters."

Morgan was thrust into the England captaincy when Alastair Cook was dropped amid concerns over the team's force in the limited-overs arena. He's had to endure a lot of criticism in his short term at the helm, particularly for his run of low scores. The big win over Scotland helped England improve its net run rate, a statistic that could be important later when quarterfinal spots in each group are up determined. England's next game is against Sri Lanka in Wellington on Sunday.

"In your head I think you can be guilty of building up a tournament, convincing yourself you have to play your best throughout a tournament and hammer every side in order to win it, to gain confidence," he said. "The games I've watched haven't shown that at all — strong sides have been beaten. It's about getting points on the board." **AP**

FOOTBALL | CHAMPIONS LEAGUE PREVIEW

City, Barcelona meet again in last 16

Steve Douglas
Sports Writer

Wed, 3:45am
Man City v Barcelona
H 3.6, D 3.7, A 2.2

BARCELONA'S passage to an eighth straight Champions League quarterfinal could be blocked by a Manchester City team desperate to end three years of underachievement in the competition.

For the English champions, there's also the matter of avenging an exit at the hands of Barcelona at the same stage last season, when losses



Barcelona's Lionel Messi (3rd left) tries to get through the Manchester City defence during a Champions League, round of 16, second leg, soccer match between FC Barcelona and Manchester City at the Camp Nou Stadium in Barcelona.

in both legs of the last 16 — for a 4-1 aggregate defeat — demonstrated the

gulf between the clubs. So what has changed in the last 12 months? Bar-

celona has a different coach in Luis Enrique, an improved strike force after Luis Suarez joined Lionel Messi and Neymar, but perhaps a less dominant midfield as the impact of Xavi Hernandez starts to wane.

Before Saturday's 1-0 loss to Malaga, Barcelona had won 11 consecutive games in all competitions to bring an end to a worrying period that featured below-par performances and speculation about a falling-out between Messi and Enrique.

While the Spanish team breezed into the knockout

stage with a match to spare, City squeezed through thanks to an astonishing late turnaround against Bayern Munich in its next-to-last group game and then a 2-0 victory in a win-or-bust match at Roma.

City failed to advance from its Champions League group in back-to-back seasons, but has progressed for two seasons in a row to finally make an impact in Europe and reward the heavy spending of its owner from Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed bin Al Nahyan, since 2008. City also appears to have

gotten over a slump in results over January, with big wins over Stoke and Newcastle in its last two Premier League games reviving its title defense and rediscovering the attacking swagger that characterized the team's last few seasons.

City manager Manuel Pellegrini believes it could be different this time against Barcelona: his team is fresher — owing to early exits in both domestic cup competitions this season — and has gained more experience in Europe.

Barcelona, spurred on by the sparkling Messi, starts as favorite but expect a more streetwise City over the two legs compared to last year's meetings. **AP/Odds by Betfair**

opinion

Our Desk

João Pedro Lau



DIS-COMMUNICATION

Throughout my 18 months as a journalist, the one expression I have heard most often from government officials is “continue to communicate with the public and collect more opinions.” I commend the person who first came up with this phrase, since it manages to give the impression that the speaker is going to do a lot of things, while at the same time making no promise of any meaningful outcome. It is like a mother telling her kids to clean their room and the kids, annoyed, simply reply “Fine.” You know the room will remain untidy.

The government talks about “communication” and “collecting opinions” when being asked about many issues: the LRT, Macau’s tourism capacity, the city’s public transportation, inflation, the higher-than-my-grandma’s-blood-pressure housing prices – as if the magic phrase means anything, or they would really do something.

But do not accuse them of doing nothing; after all, they have organized many consultation sessions for proposed legislation and major construction projects. Those sessions usually last two to three hours, and are, surprisingly, not censored at all. They do not pre-select participants to speak during the session or stop them from making criticisms. As genuine as those consultation sessions are, they are the prime example of what I call “dis-communication”: a failure for meaningful communication.

If you have participated in one of these sessions, you will have noticed that, apart from explaining some technical questions regarding the subject of the consultation, officials attending usually do not answer questions or engage in debate over fundamental issues. For example, they are very good at telling you how legislation should be drafted in order to avoid any contradictions to already existing laws. However, when asked about principal issues, the government retreats to rhetoric prepared beforehand.

One example is when the government consulted people about increasing the number of directly and indirectly elected seats in the Legislative Assembly. Officials never discussed the possibility of increasing more directly elected seats, or explained why there are government appointed seats in the first place. This is not communication at all, only the appearance of it.

The authorities are not the only one engaging in dis-communication. There are many people who refuse to acknowledge the flaws in their thoughts and arguments during debate on political ideas; they keep repeating their ideas and ignore others who point their flaws out.

This is a frustrating situation and is very bad for a democratic society. This is because, in a democracy, everyone can affect the government with their vote. If people hold on to their own views and refuse to listen to other opinions, they are incapable of making an informed choice.

Therefore, I implore my fellow residents to open themselves to debate and discussion and to have their ideas tested, especially those related to politics. Only through this will we have a true political awakening that might lead to a better future for Macau.

THE BUZZ POPE AWARDS HIGH CHURCH HONOR TO ARMENIAN MYSTIC ST. GREGORY

Pope Francis has declared St. Gregory of Narek, a 10th-century mystic and poet revered in particular by Armenian Catholics, a doctor of the church.

Yesterday’s designation of one of the highest church honors on an Armenian monk comes a few weeks before Francis celebrates a Mass to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the massacre of Armenians by Ottoman Turks that some call the first genocide of the

20th century.

The title of doctor of the church is reserved for people whose writings have greatly served the universal church.

Gregory, who lived around 950 to 1005, is considered one of the most important figures of medieval Armenian religious thought and literature. His Book of Prayers, also called the Book of Lamentations, is his best-known work.

USA

Children of Asian casino workers reshape Connecticut school

Michael Melia, Montville (Con.)

AT Connecticut’s casinos, the staff can speak to you in nearly any Asian language.

The diversity of the workforce at the casinos, which cater heavily to Asian gamblers from New York, is changing the complexion of nearby public schools that have been hiring more language specialists and adding new cultural traditions.

At the Mohegan Elementary School, down the road from the Mohegan Sun casino, many of the casino workers’ children are preparing for a celebration of the Lunar New Year. A dragon parade, with puppets drawn by students in the English-learners program, will march before the student body as Chinese music plays over the loudspeakers.

Chinese families account for about 20 percent of the student body, according to educator Lianne Kaplan, who sees familiar faces among dealers and other workers when she visits the casino.

“When I look around at the tables, I think, ‘Parent. Parent. Uncle. Parent,’” said Kaplan, who oversees the programs for students learning English as a second language.

Mohegan Sun and its near-by rival, the Foxwoods Resort



AP PHOTO

Casino, bring dozens of buses full of Asian-American visitors every day to this corner of rural southeastern Connecticut. The casinos have Asian marketing teams that develop and promote clubs, restaurants, concerts and table games such as Sic Bo that appeal to the hugely important Asian demographic.

As part of the strategy, Foxwoods President Felix Rappaport said it seeks employees with the right language skills.

“We have the capacity to communicate with people in pretty much any Asian language you can think of,” he said.

Mohegan Sun’s ongoing celebration of last week’s Lunar New Year will include concerts by a Hong Kong pop singer, Chinese cultural craft demonstrations and an appearance by winners of the Miss New York Chinese Beauty Pageant. Riders on Asian bus lines are receiving traditional red envelopes with YSD5 to \$100.

The English learners at

Mohegan Elementary School also are receiving red envelopes, but with stickers inside, not cash.

Chinese students make up the majority of the 52 students who qualify for special language instruction out of roughly 350 students at the school, Kaplan said. The casino opened in 1996, but school officials say the diversity has grown notably over the last decade, with some Asian families coming from New York City and others coming directly from overseas.

The school employs a native Mandarin speaker who doubles as a teacher’s aide and parent liaison, as well as a part-time tutor, and the district also has a translator for notes to parents. Signs throughout the school appear in English and Chinese. Principal Allison Peterson said the school tries to make parents feel comfortable by translating as much as possible.

In Norwich, one of the area’s bigger cities, the school district has English learners representing 37 languages and often hires a private contractor to facilitate communications. Sheila Osko, the district’s director of language and translation services, said many families choose the city because of its proximity to their jobs at Foxwoods. AP

THE DECISIVE MOMENT

Bloomberg



Foggy days. The Two International Finance Centre tower, top right, and the International Commerce Centre, top left, are seen over the clouds in Hong Kong over the weekend.

Station	Air quality
Roadside	25-45 Good
High Density Residential Area	30-50 Good
Ambient	20-40 Good

SOURCE: DSI/MG

WORLD BRIEFS

UK The families of three British schoolgirls believed to have fled to Syria to join the Islamic State extremist group have issued emotional public appeals urging them to come home as police searched for them in Turkey. The girls, all 15 to 16 years old, disappeared from their homes last Tuesday. Authorities said they boarded a plane to Turkey. More on p15

UK Two former senior British government ministers have denied wrongdoing after being caught in a hidden-camera sting appearing to offer access to politicians and diplomats in return for cash. Jack Straw, who was foreign secretary under Labour Party Prime Minister Tony Blair, and Conservative former Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind, were secretly filmed by reporters posing as representatives of a fictional Hong Kong-based communications agency. The reporters said they were seeking top U.K. politicians to join the firm’s advisory board. More on p15



UKRAINE A Ukrainian military spokesman says continuing attacks from rebels are delaying Ukrainian forces’ pullback of heavy weapons from the front line in the country’s east. Under a peace agreement reached on Feb. 12, both sides are to withdraw their heavy weapons anywhere from 25 to 70 kilometers to create a buffer zone. Ukrainian officials said Sunday that they were planning to begin.

SWITZERLAND The World Health Organization (WHO) released new injection safety guidelines yesterday, providing detailed recommendations highlighting the safety features for syringes, including devices that protect against accidental needle injury and consequent exposure to infection. As part of the effort to help all countries tackle the pervasive issue of unsafe injections, WHO is recommending new “smart” syringes for injections into the muscle or skin, which have features that prevent re-use.