



CREDIT CARD DATA THEFT

Several residents have recently been targeted in scams related to theft of credit card information

P2 CRIME

THE BASIC LAW IS FOR ALL TO DEFEND

Constitutionalist João Albuquerque contends that, unlike Hong Kong, the attacks to the Basic Law in MSAR come mostly and surreptitiously from the Executive and the Legislature

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'PASTÉIS DE CHAVES' PRODUCED LOCALLY

P6 MDT REPORT

TUE.04
Sep 2018

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HKD 10.00

2305 4271

MacauDaily 澳門每日時報

Times

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

www.macaudailytimes.com.mo

Greater Bay Plan

\$238/3.5GB

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MSARG Dengue Fever Prevention Working Group

Xi pledges USD60b in financing for Africa

P11



RENATO MARQUES

WORLD BRIEFS

MALAYSIA Two Muslim women convicted under Islamic laws of attempting to have sex were caned yesterday in a rare public whipping that was slammed by lawmakers and rights activists as a form of torture. [More on p13](#)



MYANMAR A court sentenced two Reuters journalists to seven years in prison yesterday on charges of illegal possession of official documents - a ruling met with international condemnation.

YEMEN An airstrike by the Saudi-led coalition fighting Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi rebels in Yemen that killed dozens of people last month is an "apparent war crime," an international rights group said.

UGANDA Authorities have charged a fifth lawmaker with treason over his alleged role in an incident in which the president's motorcade was pelted with stones.

More on backpage

GAMING

Dealers call for tighter tobacco control

P3



CRIME

Credit card data theft scares several residents

Renato Marques

A Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesperson said yesterday during a press conference that several residents had been reportedly targeted in a fraud

that included the unlawful theft of credit card information and attempted misuse of such data to acquire goods or services from a particular website.

On August 25, three residents

notified the PJ of an attempted unlawful use of their credit cards. The three residents received messages from their banking institutions, notifying them of 36 attempts to use their cards to pay for various

goods or services on the one website.

Although the police said that none of the residents suffered any damage because they immediately reported the unlawful transactions, the PJ fears that more cases of the same kind will occur and warns residents to pay close attention to their transaction history.

The 36 attempts to unlawfully use stolen credit card information to purchase goods and services involved over USD2,500 (Over MOP20,000) in value.

At the moment, the PJ has not found any links that could explain how the three credit card details were unlawfully obtained, as none of them had been reported lost and their owners had been using them regularly without any problems.

In a separate case, the PJ also issued a warning regarding people who might be pretending to be police authorities investigating a "fallen object from a building" to enter citizens' houses. The PJ warns that such "modus operandi" is not used by the authorities and urges citizens to verify the identity of anyone who requests permission to enter their homes.

So far, the police are said not to have received any reports of loss or damage regarding these types of cases.

Imports increase 23 percent in July

TOTAL merchandise imports for July 2018 amounted to MOP7.54 billion, according to the latest data from the Statistics and Census Service (DSEC), up by 23.6 percent year-on-year. Meanwhile, total merchandise exports fell 17.6 percent to MOP918 million, with the value of re-exports also slipping by 17.4 percent to MOP791 million.

The rise in merchandise imports was led by an increase in the importation of mobile phones, watches and cosmetic products, according to DSEC. Exports were dampened by the 77.8 percent fall in the garment sector and a 38.4 percent decline in tobacco.

From January to July 2018, the total value of merchandise exports increased 5.6 percent year-on-year to MOP7.11 billion, with the value of re-exports (MOP6.18 billion) growing by 8.6 percent, but that of domestic exports (MOP930 million) declining by 10.9 percent. Total value of merchandise imports went up by 24.4 percent year-on-year to MOP50.9 billion.

The merchandise trade deficit widened to MOP43.79 billion in the first seven months of 2018.

Broken down by place of origin, merchandise imports in the first seven months of the year came mostly from mainland China (29.4 percent) and the EU (21.1 percent). Imports from Portuguese-speaking countries amounted to just MOP458 million, while that of 'Belt and Road' countries outside of the greater China region reached MOP4.42 billion.

When analyzed by destination, merchandise exports to the nine provinces of the Pan-Pearl River Delta area (MOP1.15 billion) increased by 3.5 percent year-on-year in the first seven months of 2018, but exports to Shanghai (MOP16 million) dropped by 82.6 percent, resulting in a net 3.9 percent decrease in exports to mainland China (MOP1.18 billion).

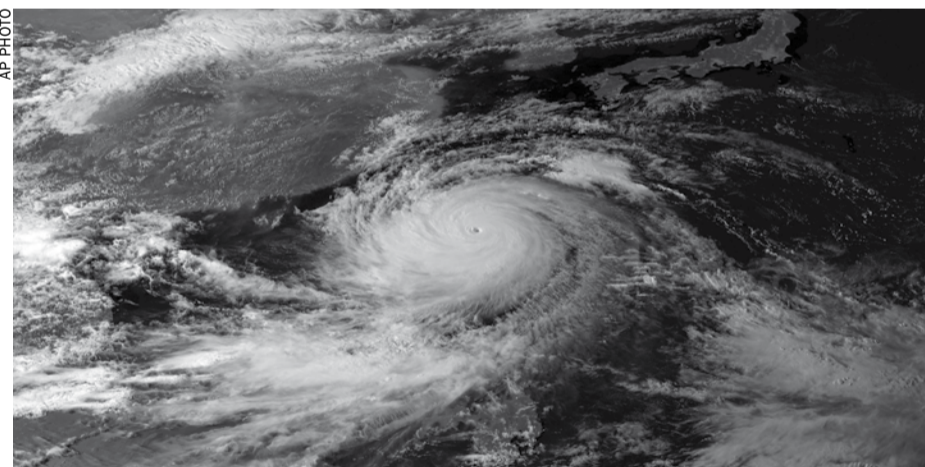
Meanwhile, exports to Hong Kong and the EU rose by 8.3 percent and 4.2 percent respectively, and those to Portuguese-speaking countries (MOP24 million) increased notably by more than 3,600 percent year-on-year.

SMG improves storm surge monitoring and forecasting skills

IN order to strengthen storm surge monitoring and forecasting capabilities, the Meteorological and Geophysical Bureau (SMG) is co-operating with the Pearl River Hydraulic Research Institute from Zhuhai to actively gather marine meteorological observations from the respective sea areas.

On Friday, the SMG issued a statement announcing the co-operation. By the end of this year, it is expected that Macau will be able to receive real-time surveillance data from weather buoys built by the Zhuhai institute.

Data will include the water depth, sea currents, wave height, wind speed, wind direction



and atmospheric pressure, among other classes of marine meteorological data.

The observations are believed to "extend the local district's meteorological monitoring range from the land to the nearby sea area, and

from meteorology to hydrology, so as to allow the SMG to better understand the meteorological and hydrological variations in the sea area close to the city."

The observations are expected to "provide important references re-

garding the monitoring and forecasting of storm surge."

In total, there are five weather buoys sending information to the SMG. These five buoys are located below the Sai Van Bridge, in the east sea area of the Macau

Peninsula, at the southeastern border of the Macau sea area, at the mouth of Mo Dao Men on the southwest of Macau and at the mouth of Huang Mao Bay on the southwest sea border of Macau.

The Zhuhai Institute is a direct affiliate of the Pearl River Water Resources Commission of the Ministry of Water Resources of China.

According to the SMG, the institute "has extensive experience in hydrological monitoring in the Pearl River estuary, and over the years, the institute has devoted itself to conduct extensive research on the Pearl River estuary and has installed many other weather buoys in the sea."

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Casino workers protest for tobacco control and better welfare

Julie Zhu

A group comprising hundreds of casino employees held a demonstration yesterday calling for better tobacco control inside gaming venues and better welfare conditions.

The demonstrators started marching at 4 p.m. from the World Trade Center, heading towards the government headquarters.

The group delivered two letters to two different governmental departments: one to the tobacco control office and another to the Chief Executive's residence.

These casino employees called on the government to enhance law enforcement activities inside casinos, in particular those regarding smoking.

In the past, many demonstrations were held by casino employees urging tobacco control inside casino premises.

This time, the group also proposed that the government ban frequent smokers from entering casinos.

Some gaming operators are accused of allowing gamblers to smoke inside casinos, in particular in areas where smoking is



Cloee Chao



Gaming workers handing the petition to authorities

prohibited.

Besides regulating smoking in casinos, the demonstrators suggest that casinos which do not attempt to stop unregulated smoking be penalized.

"In 2019, the new Tobacco Control Law will ban smoking in all gaming venues. However, according to what we know, we worry that many casinos will continue to allow gamblers to smoke in prohibited areas. They [casinos] even forbid workers from telling gamblers 'this area is not allowed for smoking'," complained Cloee Chao, president of New Macau Gaming Staff Rights Association, which organized yesterday's de-

monstration.

According to Cloee, the demonstrators mainly criticize the government for its weak law enforcement of the prohibition against smoking inside casinos.

"All six gaming operators are the same [in regard to allowing smoking inside casinos] because the law does not enforce any kind of punishment over the employer or the responsible personnel in the locations, so that the law enforcement operation will be unnecessary," said Cloee Chao.

Regarding gaming employees' welfare, the group hopes that casinos can pass on tips given by

customers to the dealers.

"We leave the tips inside a box once customers give them. However, casinos have never publicized how much in tips they received and where they are," said Chao.

According to the association president, who unsuccessfully ran for lawmaker during the last election, the casinos used to publicize the amount made in tips.

"However, later, it was never announced. [...] We really hope that they can bring out the tips and distribute them among workers," said Chao. "We hope that the government can better supervise casinos."

Giorgini takes office as Consul General of France in Hong Kong, Macau

THE new Consul General representing the French Republic in Hong Kong and Macau, Alexandre Giorgini, took office yesterday, succeeding Eric Berti. "It is a privilege to assume the position of Consul General of France in Hong Kong and Macau. I look forward to exploring these fascinating cities and introducing myself to its citizens. France has a flourishing partnership with both special administrative regions and I am committed to further strengthening our relationship in all aspects including close official relations, trade, cultural diplomacy and scientific cooperation," said Giorgini in a video released on social media.



Alexandre Giorgini

"We French, love you Hong Kongers for many reasons: your unique position as a bridge between cultures, your openness to the world, your attachment to free trade. It's no wonder thousands of French citizens have chosen to live among you," he added.

Prior to his assignment to Hong Kong and Macau, Giorgini was deputy director of Communication and Press and deputy spokesperson at the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs. The new consul has been a diplomat since 1999,

serving at the Directorate for Strategic Affairs (1999 - 2000) and the Directorate for European Cooperation (2002 - 2004). His first assignment abroad was in Roma, Italy, as first secretary at the French Embassy (2004 - 2008). He also served as Political Counselor at the French Embassy in Moscow, Russia (2008 - 2012). During his years in Russia, he learnt Chinese at the State University of Lomonosov. Giorgini holds a degree from Sciences Po Paris and an aggregation in History. He also graduated from the ENA (National School of Administration) and from the "Ecole normale supérieure".



Inner Harbor flood prevention works to commence this year

FLOOD prevention works at the Inner Harbor will commence this year, with the project expected to be completed in 2021.

The local government has planned to install a stormwater pumping station between piers 25 and 26 at the inner harbor.

The station will be used to collect rainwater from San Ma Lou and the Municipal Market of Patane.

The water will be collected by culvers with a capacity of 2,200 cubic meters and the water will drain through the pumping unit.

In order to reduce the amount of tidal water, the authority will carry out interception and diversion works by

targeting the existing rainwater outlet channels, strengthening the drainage network, and will also improve the road surface's drainage capacity.

In addition, the SAR government plans to carry out grouting and seepage prevention works along the Inner Harbor.

The government will also build 13 fixed pump wells, improve the anti-backflow facilities at the canal, enhance the drainage capacity, and improve the current measures for seawater inversion.

Finally, the SAR government plans to build a movable tidal gate at the Wan Chai estuary in order to alleviate, in the long-term, the flooding problems in the inner harbor area.

IAM logo revealed



The logo of the soon-to-be established municipal organization was revealed yesterday, according to a dispatch published in the Official Gazette. The Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM) explained that the design concept mainly makes use of the abbreviation of the municipal organization's Portuguese name, IAM, to form a blooming lotus flower. From left to right, the IAM logo features a color gradient starting with green, then blue and ending on a yellow note. Green represents plants and greenery, yellow represents land, and the intermediate gradient blue represents water.

Historical building partially collapsed

A historical building located at 6 Calçada do Lilau collapsed yesterday morning. The building has two stories and was unoccupied. A roof section of nine square meters, and one sixteen square meter wall collapsed. The collapse does not pose any danger to its neighboring buildings. The Cultural Affairs Bureau (IC) claimed to have already messaged the building's owner to follow up with the property's maintenance. The owner also submitted an engineering work plan to the IC. The bureau will later inspect the building together with the Land, Public Works and Transport Bureau (DSSOPT).

Cultural fund grants MOP300 million in subsidies

The Cultural Industry Fund has sponsored more than 160 projects since its launch in 2014 up to June this year. The total sponsorship involves more than MOP300 million. In the first half of the year, there were 15 subsidized projects, totaling MOP33 million, of which MOP8 million were subsidies and MOP25 million were interest-free loans. Last year, MOP145 million in subsidies were granted. Seventy percent of the subsidized projects involved amounts of between MOP1 million and MOP3 million.

EVA BUCHO



ANALYSIS

The defence of the Basic Law and the principle 'one country, two systems' is a duty of all

Members of the Legislative Assembly to "strictly observe and uphold the Basic Law," as results from paragraph (4) of Article 38 of the Regime of the Legislature and the Statutes of Members of the Legislative Assembly (Law 3/2000); and, finally, the validity of the laws, independent administrative regulations, and of supplementary administrative regulations and other normative acts of the MSAR, depends on its "conformity with the Basic Law," as per paragraph 1 of Article 3 of Law 13/2009.

The Central Authorities of the People's Republic of China (PRC), starting with its President, have also repeatedly and consistently affirmed the need to promote and defend the Basic Law, whether at the solemn meetings of the NPC, or when the leaders of the MSAR visit Beijing to render accounts of achievements and work under development, or at other less solemn occasions.

Thus, for example, following "The full implementation of the spirit of the 'Two Sessions': New journey of the development of

Macao," the director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the MSAR, Zheng Xiaosong, introduced four aspirations in the sessions, highlighting the following two: the full implementation of the principle of "one country, two systems" and the strict observance of the Constitution and the Basic Law of Macao" (Source: GCS, 2018-03-26).

If the attacks to the Basic Law, in HK, come from minority interests, the danger of attacks to the Basic Law in the MSAR come mostly and surreptitiously from the Executive and even the Legislature

Subsequently, the principal officials and the General Prosecutor of the MSAR were summoned to Beijing in April this year to undertake the necessary training. At the meeting which Han Zheng, member of the Standing Committee of the Politburo of the Communist Party of China and vice-prime minister, had with the trainees, he said he "hopes the government team of the MSAR will bring into daily life the spirit referred in the instructions of the Secretary-General, Xi Jinping, about the role of Macao, and the implementation of the principle of "one country, two systems" and the Basic Law in the staunch defence of the sovereignty, security and interests of the development of the Country." For the vice-prime minister, "the government team in charge must always defend the population and work for their benefit."

In order to strengthen the Government's capacity to manage and promote the development of Macau, of the four requirements, Secretary Sonia Chan highlighted the following two when speaking to the media: the first, with the meaning that "the directors shall implement, in full, the Basic Law and the principle of "one country, two systems"; the second, referring to the "need to defend the unity and sovereignty of the Country, as well as the interests of national development and security" (GCS, 2018-04-24, Source: Office of the Government spokesman Han Zheng). We see, therefore, special relevance has been given to the full and strict compliance with, and defence of, the Basic Law, both by the National People's Congress, the Central Authorities, and by the government team of the MSAR (at least in their declarations).

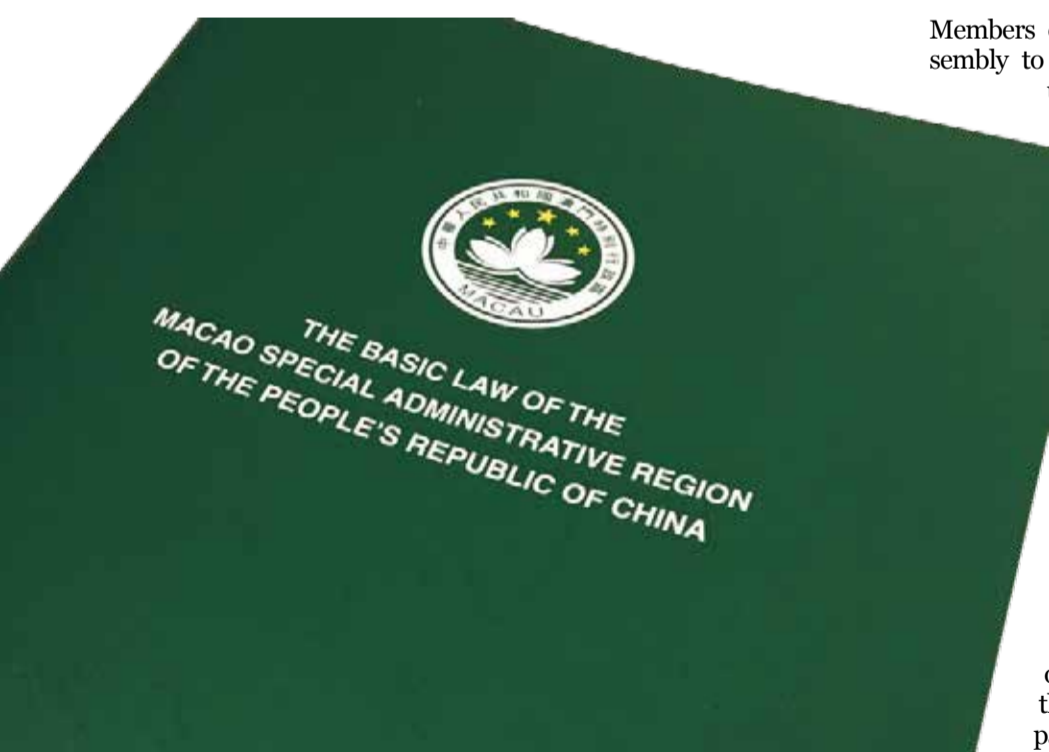
If, however, we take a look at the political activity and legislative action taken, whether by the Secretaries of the Executive, or

João Albuquerque
Lawyer

AS stated in several of its provisions, it is a duty of all holders of political power to respect, uphold and defend the Basic Law of the MSAR from the very moment of taking office. Article 101 strongly determines as a duty of "the Chief Executive, principal officials, members of the Executive Council and of the Legislative Assembly, judges and procurators

(...) [that they] must uphold the Basic Law (...); in paragraph (2) of Article 50 it also prescribes the duty of the Chief Executive to "be responsible for the implementation" of the Basic Law; in paragraph (1) of Article 71, it determines the duty of the Members of the Legislative Assembly "to enact, amend, suspend or repeal laws in accordance with the provisions" of the Basic Law.

Also, complementary legislation of the "mini-constitution" of the MSAR prescribes the duty of the





by the Members of the Legislative Assembly (and of the house), it can be quickly discerned that instead of the “strict observance of the Constitution and the Basic Law of Macao” (Zheng Xiaosong), or the implementation of the principle of “one country, two systems” and the Basic Law (Han Zheng), that instead of the leaders perform[ing], fully, the Basic Law and the principle of “one country, two systems” (Sonia Chan), and instead of “defend[ing] the Basic Law,” to which all have sworn at the time of taking up their roles, this has not always occurred. This is because the Secretaries have not been known to adequately transmit the training the leaders have received to their respective public services, or because the Secretaries themselves have not internalized the importance of non-violation of the Basic Law.

As an example you can point to the principle of equality (from the negative angle, the prohibition on discrimination), as set out in Article 25 of the Basic Law: the attempt to force non-resident workers to pay more for public transport than residents, or that non-resident women pay disproportionately more for the costs of child-birth, or, more recently, that homosexual students should be subject to exceptional and corrective measures serve as reminders of this principle.

This violation of the Basic Law has not only been at the hands of the Secretaries and of their public departments, but also by our very own Members of the Legislative Assembly, as per Article 37 (paragraph 2) of the Law 15/2009 regarding retroactivity of indexed valuations as at 1 July 2007, and with the Law on Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence, in such a way that led to the always insightful Pereira Coutinho to observe in June 2016, that Article 25 of the Basic Law is precisely the

one that is most violated: “This article is constantly being violated.”

What should also be mentioned, referred to earlier, is the draft resolution, which was tabled by the Members who intended to replace the law and wanted to interfere with the competences of the courts, all of which had been established by law and in the exercise of the legal profession. In addition, finally, by the conjunction of Article 105 of the Rules of Procedure of the Legislative Assembly with paragraph (a) of Article 107, we see the violation of the provisions in the final part of Article 75 of the Basic Law, which relates to the presentation by the Members of proposals for amendments to bills pertaining to Government Policy.

On the other hand, if we look at the events in Hong Kong which have challenged the unity, the sovereignty and security of the people's Republic of China, we find that it is, above all, from within society that radical sectors and separatists have emerged to lodge the strongest attacks on the Basic Law of the HKSAR and the principle ‘one country, two systems’.

In Macau, the residents, lovers of the Motherland and the MSAR, conversely - and it is unanimously recognized as such - have not only not expressed any sympathy and agreement with these attacks, equally clearly and unequivocally, they have disapproved and rejected them. And, we are, nevertheless, “somewhat victims of a situation that is not ours”, “we are paying the price of that irreverence,” as President of the Foundation Rui Cunha recently commented, in reference to “Occupy Central.”

If the attacks to the Basic Law, in Hong Kong, come, especially, from certain sectors, minority interests and extremists in society, the danger of attacks to the Basic Law in the MSAR come mostly and surreptitiously from the Exe-

cutive and even the Legislature, which should be the first organs of political leadership in the region to worry about their defence, their respect and strict compliance.

As a result of this de facto ‘dismissal,’ the Legislative Assembly has lost two legal experts, who are considered to be highly qualified and with extensive technical-legal experience

The announcement of the non-renewal of the contracts of lawyers Paulo Taipa and Paulo Cardinal, as advisors to the Legislative Assembly is of extreme concern to the residents of Macau, in particular, to the Portuguese community and, within this, to the legal community. As a result of this de facto “dismissal,” the Legislative Assembly has lost two legal experts, who are unanimously considered to be highly qualified and with extensive technical-legal experience. They have thoroughly scrutinized, together with the rest of the advisors under their direction, the violations to the Basic Law, as well as the rigorous use of the categories of the various branches of the Law and the design of the systematic construction of the provisions of law. They served, also, as an interface with the

lawyers of the Executive in the pursuit of the best legal solutions for the residents of Macau, which greatly facilitated the work of the lawmakers and judges who are now called upon to be the ultimate guardians of the Basic Law.

Such legal advice, given all the meritorious descriptions, helped to compensate for the lack in (legal) training of almost all of the Members of Legislative Assembly, without compromising the last word on policy, which always lies with the legislators. It is certain that Macau society has now gained two voices that certainly will continue to scrutinise future violations, but without the restraint and the moderation that their roles had heretofore imposed. The Legislative Assembly has, however, lost them, with manifest damage to the proper conduct of its legislative work and, thus, it is the MSAR that is made poorer.

The President of the Legislative Assembly has been touted as one of the three candidates for the Chief Executive and he has not denied this intention. Being imputed with the liability for the termination of the contracts of those advisors (refer to the request for clarification from members Pereira Coutinho, Ng Kuok Cheong and Sulu Sou on the non-renewal), his message to the community is likely to be the subject of several interpretations, all of them with negative impact upon his image: first as “political sanitation” (as already characterized by some commentators) and/or as a planned exchange of Portuguese lawyers (with exceptional qualifications and experience) for Chinese ones (young and still far from meeting the requirements) or, even for Portuguese lawyers without the necessary and in-depth knowledge of the realities of the MSAR. In any case, it results in an incomprehensible devaluation of the importance and the ne-

cessity for strict compliance with of the Basic Law. Or, as implicated, although not yet publicly, the withdrawal of his candidacy.

Indeed, to dispense of the best and most experienced legal consultants, who could guide him (as well as other legislators and Chairmen of the Committees) on the strict compliance with the Basic Law, the President of the Legislative Assembly is going in a direction counter to that of the other candidates for the role of the Chief Executive, who have sought to surround themselves with legal advisors with technical capacity and the professional experience to enable them to perform their job well and display an irreproachable record of accomplishments: resolution of the problems of the residents of Macau, without violations of the Basic Law, or, at least, with the least possible violations. On the other hand, no longer intending to apply for the position, the act in question can be understood as part of his declaration to withdraw his candidature.

In any case, it is unfortunate that such interpretations are politically possible, because Ho Iat Seng would undeniably be a good candidate for Chief Executive. On the other hand, perhaps the Central Authorities, one day, will summon, too, all the Members of the Legislative Assembly, to receive training in Beijing on the Basic Law and the imperative for its defence, as were the principal officials and the General Prosecutor. If that would happen, the MSAR will benefit, because the Basic Law and the principle of “one country, two systems” must be defended by all: by its residents and by all its political and public officials.

Translated from the Portuguese original by MDT/KTranz
This article was also published in Portuguese and Chinese by Plataforma weekly.

RENATO MARQUES



PEDRO ALMEIDA, CHEF AND ENTREPRENEUR

'Keeping it authentically Portuguese while producing locally'

Renato Marques

KEEPING traditional Portuguese flavors authentic while cooking in Macau is a task that seems difficult to some. Others decide to take different approaches to Portuguese traditional food by adapting it to a different audience – the Asian customer.

But there are exceptions, and some of the local entrepreneurs have started to see the advantages of “keeping traditional food authentic.” That seems to be the case of chef Pedro Almeida and his local partner, who they decided to bring to Macau the century tastes of northern Portugal through a snack that has existed for more than 150 years.

This idea was the genesis of “Pasteis de Chaves – Macau,” a snack shop located at Travessa da Se a few steps away from the tourist-filled Senado Square in central Macau.

The shop sells precisely the

“Pastel de Chaves,” a snack originating from the city of Chaves in Northern Portugal in 1862.

This flaky pastry is very popular in the Portuguese district of Vila Real, and was traditionally made using a minced beef-based filling. Despite staying faithful to its roots, the pastry has evolved and modern recipes include new fillings such as chicken, codfish and even sweet flavors.

Opened just a couple of months ago, the business has been running as expected, business partner and chef Almeida told the Times, revealing that the small business is part of a bigger plan that aims to bring traditional Portuguese flavors to the region.

“My partner, who is also a major stakeholder, is local, but he believes a lot in the potential of Portuguese products. The ‘Pasteis de Chaves’ was the second (out of four planned) projects under the motto of 100 percent Portuguese. There are two more

projects underway but I can say we will continue this path of respecting the Portuguese traditional gastronomy and not create mixed or fusion cuisines of any kind,” Almeida said. “We are trying to create something here with strong roots. We are taking this slowly and calmly, and as the shop is owned by us we do not need to submit to the extreme pressure [unlike many others] to pay the rent.”

This advantageous position has given the chef more freedom to try to follow the trends in Portugal and bring them to Macau:

“We can play a little, we can experiment with new flavors. Namely, we are about to start to make one sweet flavor, as we have many visitors that enter the shop and ask if that is a ‘sweet snack’ and many give up coming when they know there isn’t.” As with the savory beef and chicken flavors, the “sweet one will also be made with products from Portugal and that

can deliver Portuguese authenticity [in taste].”

“We aim to keep the quality and that’s why we are producing small quantities, although we have the capacity to produce more and accept more orders. We choose not to as we want to go slowly and step-by-step.”

■ The small business is part of a bigger plan that aims to bring traditional Portuguese flavors to the region

Responsible for faithfully recreating the northern Portuguese snack, Almeida told the Ti-

mes, “I was born in Chaves and I’m a chef. I had an idea already how the pastries were made but still I went to a special training in Chaves and when returned I started to produce it here.”

Although acknowledging that there are other “Pasteis de Chaves” already on the market in Macau that come directly from Portugal frozen, the ones sold at this shop are made locally.

“We started to produce the ‘Pastel de Chaves’ in a ‘bite size’ version due to the shop location and the fact that most people that visit us want to try several different things, while the traditional size [in Portugal] is a bit bigger.”

Currently, the best seller continues to be the traditional “beef flavor” but the chicken is also a good option “as there are many people that do not eat beef.” Coming soon will be the novelty of the sweet pastry that will be made with “fig leaf gourd.”

EDUCATION

Research camp project to be presented in Beijing

THE University of Macau’s (UM) Faculty of Arts and Humanities (FAH) recently hosted the Momento Boot Camp 2018, a one-month research camp gathering nearly 30 researchers from 11 regions.

According to the university, the research team worked together for one month on “Modelling Parameters of Cognitive Efforts in Translation

Production in Relation to Translation Universals,” a project sponsored by UM’s Multi-year Research Grant.

The project seeks to develop an integrated cognitive model of the translator’s mind based on empirical evidence, which is to be validated through a range of parameters, using various approaches and tools. The project is associated

with a UM-wide cross-disciplinary research project titled “Neuroscience, Big Data and Artificial Intelligence,” which is led by vice rector (academic affairs) Lionel Ni.

When addressing the boot camp participants, Ni said that translation is an important subject at UM, while cognition and artificial intelligence are some of the niches UM is deve-

loping.

The participants have gone through the standard collaborative research process: conceptualization and planning, and have now reached the implementation stage. The next steps will be evaluation and dissemination. Meanwhile, UM noted that progress has been made incorporating Asian languages into the system originally developed by

European scholars.

Outcomes of the boot camp will be presented at the Fifth International Conference on Cognitive Research on Translation and Interpreting to be held at Renmin University, Beijing in November.

Li Defeng, director of the FAH’s Centre for the Studies of Translation, Interpreting and Cognition, believes that the boot camp and its results will

help translation studies go beyond Eurocentrism. The collaborating universities include Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz in Germany, Durham University in the United Kingdom, the Federal University of Minas Geras in Brazil, the City University of London in the UK, Copenhagen Business School in Denmark, and Renmin University of China.

Macau becomes 9th highest tourism earner worldwide

MACAU was the ninth highest tourism earner worldwide last year, according to the latest report from the United Nations World Tourism Organization (WTO), bringing in a total of USD35.57 billion (almost MOP290 billion).

That marks a 17 percent increase from the \$30.37 billion recorded in 2016, and an improvement of three places in the rankings.

By international tourism receipts, Macau ranked first among the Northeast Asian jurisdictions sampled in 2017. Tourism revenue in China and Hong Kong recorded \$32.61 billion and \$33.3 billion respectively, and runner-up Japan earned \$34.05 billion. Although tourism arrivals in Northeast Asia rose 3 percent, tourism receipts across the region were down 5 percent on aggregate last year.

For the entire Asia-Pacific region, Macau placed third, ac-



counting for 9.1 percent of all tourism revenue in the region, behind only Thailand (\$57.47 billion) and Australia (\$41.73 billion).

International tourism revenue increased 4.9 percent in real terms to reach \$1.34 trillion in 2017, fueled according to the WTO by "strong outbound demand from both traditional and emerging markets"

In 2017, the U.S. retained its position as the top worl-

dwide earner from tourism, attracting \$210.74 billion in revenue. Spain and France ranked second and third worldwide with \$67.96 billion and \$60.68 billion respectively.

As for outbound tourists, some 1.32 billion international travelers were recorded in 2017, up by 6.8 percent year-on-year, of which slightly under half came from Europe and around one-quarter were from the Asia-Pacific region.

The 6.8 percent rise was the

highest annual increase since the 2009 global economic crisis, according to the World Trade Organization, and well above the WTO's forecast of 3.8 percent growth per year for the period between 2010 to 2020. "Growth was fueled by the global economic upswing, resulting in strong outbound demand from virtually all source markets," the WTO noted in its report.

China continued to be the lead global outbound travel market in terms of expenditure at \$257.7 billion. The next biggest spenders were the U.S. (\$135 billion), Germany (\$89.1 billion) and the United Kingdom (\$71.4 billion).

According to the report, some 80 percent of international visitors traveled within their own region, however 20 percent went further abroad to other regions.

The WTO is a United Nations specialized agency responsible for promoting and assessing the development of tourism.

Sulu Sou calls for comprehensive sex education

Lawmaker Sulu Sou has called on the government to implement comprehensive sex education into the curriculum. In an inquiry written to the government, Sou noted that "it is important for Macau to gradually promote comprehensive sex education." Sou believes that the priority of the city's education authority in terms of sex education, should be local schools. "The government authority has the responsibility to closely communicate with executives and teaching staff [of these organizations]," Sou declared. "How is the administration authority planning to cooperate with schools and educational organizations to teach students how to protect themselves, how to engage in safe sexual actions, and respect diverse sexual orientation?" Sou questioned.

Man arrested after stealing during flight

A mainland male citizen has been arrested for stealing on a flight. Reports were filed by two mainland residents, in July and August 2017. The flight departed from Beijing to Macau. Together, both individuals reported a total loss of MOP159,000. The 48-year-old suspect was arrested last Saturday, and denies the accusation. The police authority seized four bank cards which did not belong to the suspect, and USD1,100 in cash. The PJ believes that there is another affiliate on the run.

ADVERTORIAL

GEG Proactively Promoting a Healthy, Happy and Comfortable Work Environment

GALAXY Entertainment Group (GEG) holds its team members' wellbeing as its highest priority and is committed to supporting them through a wide range of programs.

Family and Health-Focused Summer Programs

This summer, GEG team members were encouraged to invite their family members to join any of its several Galaxy Macau Heart of House Tours. Participating children, spouses and parents of nearly 100 team members were treated to tours of normally off-limits areas such as the Team Member Services Center, the Team Member Clinic and the staff restaurants. Upon finishing the 90-minute tours,



GEG holds its team members' wellbeing as its highest priority.

participants left with a better understanding of their family members' behind-the-scenes working environment.

When team members with children leave work for the day, they face important responsibilities at home. GEG strives to support these employees as they build healthy and fulfilling relationships with their children. In coordination with the Sheng Kung Hui Macau Social Services Coordination Office (SKH), Galaxy Macau and StarWorld held the Happy Kids - Positive Parenting roadshow this summer.

Information on the "Six As" theory of healthy parent-child relationships was provided in back-of-house areas, and free consultations with SKH counselors were available to team members seeking individual support in their roles as parents.

To teach team members healthy stress management and injury prevention techniques, Galaxy Macau hosted a stretching workshop and an aerobic dance workshop this summer. Nearly 300 participants followed along as fitness professionals demonstrated stretching routines and

dance steps designed to address stress and fatigue. Team members left the workshops feeling relaxed and invigorated, while carrying with them stretching techniques that can be used as needed.

GEG Staff Restaurant Enhancement Scheme

As one of Macau's largest employers, feeding GEG team members in the back-of-house staff restaurants is a complex operation and requires an enormous amount of food daily - 2 tons of rice, 2.7 tons of meat and fish, 1.5 tons of vegetables. Providing team members with nutritionally balanced and satisfying meals is an important means of showing the company's appreciation and supporting employees' health. That is why GEG rolled out a staff restaurant

enhancement scheme this summer. Project supervisor Jason Hui, Executive Manager of F&B Operations & Culinary of Galaxy Macau, explained the company's motivation, "We initiated the enhancement scheme with a pledge to make employees feel as privileged as our guests and make them feel at home." To offer a variety of interesting cuisines and provide comfort foods for team members from abroad, the F&B department is creating weekly special dishes from countries like Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam. Having received extremely positive feedback from team members, GEG is looking into additional improvements inspired by the operations at other large corporations' staff canteens.



GEG rolled out a staff restaurant enhancement scheme to show the company's appreciation and support employees' health.

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Tariff fight adds to China's economic challenges

Joe McDonald

CHINA faces bigger economic challenges than its trade war with the U.S. Even before tit-for-tat tariffs, growth in the world's No. 2 economy was already forecast to cool from 6.8 percent last year to a still-robust 6.5 percent this year.

Communist leaders who are trying to engineer slower, more self-sustaining growth clamped down last year on a banking boom that encouraged businesses and families to borrow and

spend beyond their means. But it is a tricky balance to strike and communist leaders worry the economy is weakening too much.

Growth in retail sales, a bigger part of the Chinese economy than exports, was weaker than expected in July and close to a 14-year low. Factory output and other sectors also decelerated. Beijing responded by easing lending and boosting government spending.

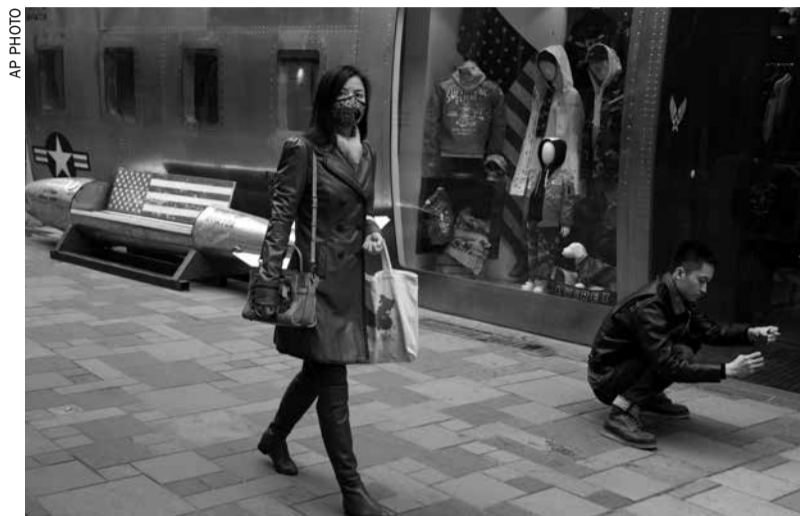
"We expect the economy to get worse before it gets better," said Nomura economists in a report.

Trump's advisers say the slowdown gives Washington leverage in the trade battle.

"Their economy looks terrible," said Trump's top economic adviser, Larry Kudlow, at a Cabinet meeting this month.

But analysts closer to China say it is doing better than Americans might think.

"A lot of this economic slowdown is really the result of an intended policy," said Tai Hui of J.P. Morgan Asset Management in Hong Kong. "The overall growth momentum is still relatively healthy and certainly broadly in line with the authorities' plans."



A shopper wearing a mask against pollution walks past a U.S. apparel store in Beijing

Here is a breakdown of China's economic strengths and weaknesses:

ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN

July's downturn was more abrupt than policymakers wanted. Growth in factory output slowed to 6 percent from May's 6.8 percent. Investment in factories and other fixed assets rose at the slowest rate in 19 years. Retail spending and corporate profits weakened.

With less demand from Chinese steel mills, global prices for iron ore are off 14 percent this year — and down 60 percent from their 2010 peak. That cuts revenue for Australia and other producers.

Chinese leaders want to shift emphasis from the headline growth number to poverty reduction, energy efficiency and the environment. But they need to keep the expansion above 6 percent to hit their target of doubling incomes from 2010 levels by 2020.

China's yuan has sunk in value against the dollar. That helps exporters by making Chinese toys, appliances and other goods cheaper for American consumers. But regulators wor-

ry it will trigger an outflow of money, making it harder for companies to borrow.

CHINA'S RESPONSE

Regulators eased credit controls, promised more spending on public works and announced policy changes aimed at making Chinese industry more productive.

Banks have been told to lend more freely to small exporters that might be hurt by Trump's tariffs. That temporarily backtracks on government efforts to rein in rising debt.

Beijing sees the "growth slowdown as a bigger near-term risk," said UBS economists in a report.

The government is pumping money into the economy with plans to spend more on building roads, bridges and other public works.

This month, sales of infrastructure bonds raised 280 billion yuan (USD41 billion), more than the total for the first seven months of the year, according to Macquarie Bank's Larry Hu.

Beijing has speeded up the rollout of plans to ease restrictions on foreign ownership in auto manufacturing, banking

and insurance.

The moves are not, however, intended to address American complaints at the center of the trade war. Those hinge on U.S. objections to Chinese plans for state-led creation of global champions in robotics, electric cars and other technologies. American officials complain those violate Beijing's market-opening commitments and might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

Instead, China is trying to reduce reliance on foreign markets and technology by promoting domestic consumption and industry development.

TUMBLING STOCKS

While Wall Street sets records, China's stock market is 2018's worst global performer. The market benchmark tumbled 25 percent from its January peak to mid-August. It has gained 3.7 percent since then after government spending plans helped to revive investor confidence.

The biggest decliners are real estate, construction and other companies hardest-hit by Beijing's lending controls.

Shares in Poly Real Estate Group, one of China's biggest developers, have lost 40 percent of their value this year. Aluminum Corp. of China Ltd., the country's biggest aluminum producer, is down by half.

The biggest gainers are smaller tech companies that look set to benefit from official industry plans. Shares in Zhongshi Technology Ltd., a Beijing-based maker of insulators for telecoms, medical and automotive equipment, are up 400 percent this year.

TRADE IMPACT

July exports to the United States rose 13.3 percent over a year ago despite a tariff hike. Fore-

casters expect exports to soften but say that will be due more to flagging global demand than to American controls.

The tariffs target Chinese goods such as medical equipment and factory machinery that Washington says benefit from improper industrial policies. But U.S. officials have tried to limit the blow to consumers by avoiding penalties on Barbie dolls, Apple iPhones and many other brand-name products made in Chinese factories.

China is the world's No. 1 trader, but exports have shrunk as a share of the economy.

Last year, they were equal to 19 percent of gross domestic product, down from 38 percent in 2005. Exports supplied 0.6 percentage points of GDP growth of 6.8 percent, while consumption accounted for more than half.

The United States buys about 20 percent of China's exports. Sellers of low-margin goods such as surgical gloves and handbags say American customers are canceling orders. But producers of higher-technology goods such as factory machinery and medical equipment report little impact.

Chinese leaders are encouraging exporters to sell to other markets, especially in Asia and Africa. That will be a challenge, because their consumers buy lower-value goods than Americans.

So far, U.S. tariff hikes have had little impact on a Chinese economy that is bigger than Japan and Germany combined. The first round hit July 6 and Trump says they could spread to cover up to \$250 billion of Chinese imports.

Credit Suisse says if all threatened U.S. tariffs are imposed, that might trim 0.2 percentage points off Chinese growth this year and 1.9 percentage points in 2019.

"I don't think Beijing is willing to yield significantly," said Hui of J.P. Morgan. "Especially to pressure from another country. You know the historical precedent of that is just not acceptable." AP

corporate bits

MACAU INTERNATIONAL LANTERN FESTIVAL OPENS



The opening ceremony of the 3rd Macau International Lantern Festival was held at the Waterfront Promenade of One Central Macau and Wynn Macau on Saturday. The event takes place at the Waterfront Promenade of One Central Macau and Wynn Macau, from now until October 15.

The month-long Lantern Festival was unveiled in the opening ceremony. Among the officiating guests were Helena de Senna Fernandes, director of Macao Government Tourism Office and José Tavares, Chairman of Administration Committee of the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau.

Led by renowned Macanese architect and artist Carlos Marreiros, the collaboration is

a contemporary art display themed "Love is in the Air", comprising 10 monumental and illuminative lantern sculptures between six to twelve meters tall located at One Central Macau Promenade. All lantern sculptures are designed by Carlos Marreiros, and feature the sculptures "Love Couple", "All You Need is Love", "Origami Love Rabbits Tree" and "The Poet of Love - Camilo Pessanha", "Joy of Love", "Emergency Love", "Queen of Hearts", "Eden's Fruit of Love" and "Love Rabbit for All", with ten out of five contemporary lantern sculptures decorated by the artist.

The 3rd Macau International Lantern Festival will again

extend its exhibits to Anim'Arte Nam Van. Themed "Tour & Play The Lantern", visitors are welcome to interact with this series of mid-Autumn installations comprising lanterns with rotating scenes, projection lights with interesting patterns and illuminating styling chairs.

The International Lantern Festival is hosted by One Central Macau and Wynn Macau, co-organized by Macao International Brand Enterprise Commercial Association (MIBA), in collaboration with Marreiros Architectural Atelier Limited and Macau Cultural Gifts Design Brand "Meeet", and supported by Macao Government Tourism Office (MGTO) and the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau (IACM).

As MeToo unnerves China, a student fights to tell her story



Ren Liping pauses during an interview after filing her petition to have her rape allegation case reexamined in Beijing

Yanan Wang, Qingdao

THE sight of five burly guards blocking the way out of her dorm filled Ren Liping with rage.

It was 3 a.m. on a recent Saturday and the thin, bespectacled 26-year-old Chinese graduate student was exhausted. Her mind raced back to earlier in the day when she had tried once again to publicly protest her alleged rape. Again, the police had stopped her and held her at a station for hours. Again, she was escorted back to campus.

Now this.

She pounded on the glass door with her fist, but the men ignored her. "This is illegal!" she shouted, to no response. She felt nauseous. Her face was numb. She picked up a bicycle pump in the corner and smashed it against the glass.

The door shattered.

"Whoever tries to suppress my case will end up like this door," Ren said to the men.

More than a year after she accused an ex-boyfriend of raping her on the China University of Petroleum campus in the coastal city of Qingdao, this had become Ren's life: a series of attempts to protest the university and authorities' mishandling of the case.

At every turn, Ren has been stymied by the school's guards or the police, who say there's no evidence of a crime. She was even detained in a hotel for six days at one point.

Her efforts highlight at once the challenges of reporting sexual assault in China and the determination of a new generation of Chinese women pushing the country into its own #MeToo moment despite attempts to silence them.

The movement has gathered considerable steam in China, with dozens of men, including prominent media personalities, non-profit advocates and even a top monk, publicly accused of sexual assault or sexual misconduct in recent months.

But like any social campaign, #MeToo poses a challenge to President Xi Jinping's administration, which has waged an unprecedented crackdown on civil society groups and activism that the ruling Communist Party deems as threats to its rule.

Ren accuses Liang Shengyu, her ex-boyfriend, of raping her on campus last summer. Liang denies the allegation. They are suing each other for defamation.

In an action that legal experts say is unprecedented, Ren is also suing the police — for what she's described as a mishandling of the investigation and the use of force against her.

"She is a representative for the #MeToo movement," said Lyu Xiaoquan, a Beijing lawyer who helped Ren prepare her initial complaints.

Ren and Liang met in 2013 when they were undergraduates at the university's geosciences department. Liang says he was attracted to Ren's strength

and independence. They dated for two years, experiencing for the first time the freedom of a romance far from their parents' scrutiny.

After a bitter breakup, Liang and Ren rarely spoke. But last summer they got back in touch, and on the evening of July 28, 2017, agreed to walk back to their dorms together after Liang completed an assignment in the lab.

At every turn, Ren has been stymied by the school's guards or the police, who say there's no evidence of a crime

Their accounts of the rest of the night diverge.

Ren said that Liang asked her if they could get back together, but that she said no because she liked someone else. Liang then cornered her in a bicycle parking lot, she said, pinned her against a concrete wall and put his hand inside her denim shorts.

Stunned and terrified, Ren tried to choke him but wasn't strong enough.

"You're dirty," she told him.

"You've been with me before. You didn't think I was dirty

then," he said, according to Ren.

Ren said Liang ignored her protests, pulled down her shorts and raped her. She was sobbing in pain, she said.

"Do you want to destroy me?" she cried at the time.

That's when he stopped, picked his cap up off the ground, and walked away, Ren said.

According to Liang, however, Ren had been pestering him for weeks because she thought he had a new girlfriend.

Liang said Ren tried to convince him to break up with this woman and that all they did that night was argue.

"We did not have any physical contact whatsoever that night," he said. "And there was no so-called rape or sexual assault or behavior of that kind."

At first, Ren did not plan on reporting her alleged rape.

"I didn't know what people would think of me," she said.

When it continued to haunt her five days later, she told the school, but administrators encouraged her to keep quiet. Then she went to the local police station, where a female officer told her to drop her claim, saying that not all sexual experiences are pleasurable, according to Ren.

Frustrated, Ren filed lawsuits against the police and started holding protests.

But the authorities' resolve to silence her only grew with her efforts. In June, after she shouted in the middle of a campus square about being raped, Ren

said security detained her inside a hotel room in Qingdao for six days while the city hosted a major summit.

Her parents were also ordered to stay in the hotel with her. Her mother, a wheat farmer from rural Henan, said university officials dangled vague job offers and study abroad opportunities to get Ren to drop her case. Their promises to investigate Liang's conduct never materialized, according to her mother, who requested that she only be identified by her surname, Zhang.

"Everyone lied to us," Zhang said. "It's because our family has no money or power — if we did, things wouldn't have reached this stage."

School officials declined repeated requests to comment. Police in a district in Qingdao that oversees the campus said investigators examined the case closely, interviewing Ren and Liang, their family members, teachers and classmates, and concluded that no crime had taken place. In a statement faxed to The Associated Press, the district police bureau said investigators asked Ren about the alleged rape multiple times but found inconsistencies in her description of the circumstances.

In July, Ren took a four-hour train ride to Beijing, joining the legions of petitioners who flock to the capital to seek help from the central government for what they believe are abuses of power by local officials that lead to personal losses such as home seizures or being laid off.

Ren submitted her documents to three petition offices. A security officer at one of the places remarked that she seemed too young to be among the more than 1,000 petitioners who come to the office every day. Two months later they would return to repeat the same cycle: line up, submit papers, wait, he said.

"Just like that, I was hit with a splash of cold water," Ren wrote on her online blog that night. "Hope has pretty much been extinguished."

The authorities have continued to monitor Ren's movements, she said, more than a year after she first went to the police. On a recent trip to a neighboring city, one man whom she says was trailing her dragged her into a black car when she tried to depart for a third city where she planned to meet with a lawyer.

But Ren remains determined to hold the police, the university and Liang to account.

On the eve of the Aug. 3 protest that would end up being thwarted, Ren posted somber photos of herself wearing a black sun hat and sunglasses, holding up a sign with "#METOO#" scrawled on it.

Ren correctly predicted she would face punishment for her actions. Quoting a Chinese proverb, she declared: "I'd rather be a shattered jade than an unbroken piece of pottery." **AP**



A screen panel showing a footage of President Xi Jinping with Ethiopia's PM Abiy Ahmed

BELT & ROAD

Xi pledges USD60 billion in financing for Africa

CHINESE President Xi Jinping yesterday pledged USD60 billion in financing for projects in Africa in the form of assistance, investment and loans, as China furthers efforts to link the continent's economic prospects to its own.

Speaking to a gathering of African leaders in Beijing, Xi said the figure includes \$15 billion in grants, interest-free loans and concessional loans, \$20 billion in credit lines, \$10 billion for "development financing" and \$5 billion to buy imports from Africa.

In addition, he said China will encourage companies to invest at least \$10 billion in Africa over the next three years.

China's outreach to Africa aims to build trade, investment and political ties with a continent often seen as overlooked by the U.S. and other Western nations. That has provided lucrative opportunities for Chinese businesses, while African nations are often happy to accept China's offers that come without demands for safeguards against corruption, waste and environmental damage.

No details were given on specific projects, although Xi said China was planning initiatives in eight areas, including providing \$147 million in emergency food aid, sending 500 agricultural experts to Africa, and providing scholarships, vocational training and trade promotion opportunities.

The pledge comes on top of a 2015 promise to provide African countries with \$60 billion in funding that Xi said had either been delivered or arranged.

Also yesterday, Xi promoted Beijing's initiative to build por-

ts and other infrastructure as a tool for "common prosperity" in a world facing challenges from trade protectionism.

Addressing businesspeople prior to the formal opening of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Xi said the "Belt and Road" initiative will expand markets. He tried to mollify concern that Beijing wants to build strategic influence, promising Chinese investment comes with "no political strings attached."

"Unilateralism and protectionism are on the rise. Economic growth lacks robust drive," Xi said in a speech. "China-Africa cooperation under the BRI is a way to common prosperity that brings benefits to both our peoples."

African and other Asian leaders have welcomed "Belt and Road" but some projects have prompted complaints about debt and other problems. The initiative involves hundreds of

projects, most of them built by Chinese contractors and financed by loans from Chinese state-owned banks, across an arc of 65 countries from the South Pacific through Asia to Africa and the Middle East.

In a major blow to China's ambitions, Malaysia recently canceled Chinese-financed projects worth more than \$20 billion, saying they were unnecessary and would create an unsustainable debt burden. Deeply indebted Pakistan is also reportedly reconsidering some projects in the multi-billion dollar China-Pakistan Economic Corridor that is a key link in the BRI.

China's outreach to Africa aims to build trade, investment, political ties with a continent often seen as overlooked

The Beijing forum brings together leaders from China and more than 50 African countries. Dozens of African leaders met with Xi ahead of the conference.

Xi made no mention of the political and debt concerns that overshadow some BRI projects. But Chinese officials previously have rejected accusations that projects leave host countries too deeply indebted to Chinese lenders.

"China's investment in Africa comes with no political strings attached," Xi said. "China does not interfere in Africa's internal affairs and does not impose its own will on Africa." AP

LIU QIANGDONG

JD.com founder returns to Beijing after US arrest

A Chinese e-commerce giant says its billionaire founder, Liu Qiangdong, has returned to China after earlier being arrested in the U.S. on suspicion of criminal sexual conduct.

Zhang Shuhan, a JD.com official, said yesterday by phone that "Liu Qiangdong has been released without charges and he is now back in China."

Also known as Richard Liu, the founder of the Beijing-based e-commerce site was arrested in Minneapolis late Friday on suspicion of criminal sexual conduct, jail records show.

Liu, 45, was released Saturday afternoon pending

possible criminal charges, Hennepin County Jail records show. The jail records don't provide details of the alleged incident.

Minneapolis police spokesman John Elder said Sunday that he couldn't provide any details because the investigation is considered active. He declined to say where in Minneapolis Liu was arrested or what Liu was accused of doing.

Minnesota law defines five degrees of criminal sexual misconduct, ranging from a gross misdemeanor to felonies, covering a broad array of conduct ranging from nonconsensual touching to violent

assaults with injuries. The jail records for Liu don't indicate a degree.

China's foreign ministry said yesterday the Chinese Consulate in Chicago is looking into the circumstances surrounding Liu's arrest.

Nasdaq-listed JD.com said in a statement Sunday that Liu was falsely accused while in the U.S. on a business trip, and that police investigators found no misconduct and he would continue his journey as planned. The USD45 billion company, the main rival to Chinese e-commerce giant Alibaba Group, said it would take legal action against "false

reporting or rumors."

Liu recently tried to distance himself from sexual assault allegations against a guest at a 2015 party at Liu's penthouse in Australia. Liu was not charged or accused of wrongdoing, but Australian media reported he tried unsuccessfully to get a court to prevent the release of his name in that case. The guest was convicted.

JD.com is 10 percent owned by Walmart, while Chinese internet firm Tencent owns 18 percent. Liu, who is worth an estimated \$7.3 billion, owns 16 percent of the company and has vast control over major business decisions. AP



Billionaire Liu Qiangdong, also known as Richard Liu



New Zealand's Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters arrives at Nauru international airport on the tiny Pacific nation of Nauru

PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM

Fate of Nauru refugees casts shadow over conference

Nick Perry, Nauru

SHAPED like a peanut and smaller than some big-city airports, this tropical Pacific island has an unusual history. Thanks to rich deposits of a fertilizer ingredient, Nauru's 11,000 citizens were once among the wealthiest people on earth. But after much of the phosphate was plundered, Nauru squandered its wealth on bad investments, like a 1993 musical about Leonardo da Vinci.

That left the island searching for new sources of income, and in recent years it found an answer by becoming a holding station for hundreds of refugees who tried to reach Australia by boat. Australia designed a policy of keeping boat refugees and asylum seekers far from its shores to deter more of them from trying to make the voyage, but many critics say the policy violates human rights.

The fate of those refugees, including a growing number of children who advocates say are suffering from life-threatening medical conditions, is casting a shadow over the Pacific Islands Forum conference that starts in Nauru today [Macau time]. The

forum brings together 18 members including Australia and New Zealand to discuss regional issues.

On the agenda are plans for an enhanced regional security agreement and discussions on the threat that climate change poses for low-lying islands. China's growing role in the Pacific will likely be a point of tension, with some forum members favoring diplomatic relations with Taiwan. But Nauru has been eager to limit discussion of the refugees.

■ The forum brings together 18 members including Australia and New Zealand to discuss regional issues

For years, Nauru has effectively prevented most journalists from reporting firsthand by charging 8,000 Australian

dollars (USD5,750) to apply for a media visa. Nauru has waived the fee for the forum, but has allowed only a handful of journalists and placed restrictions on them.

Many of the more than 600 refugees on the island describe the hopelessness and depression they feel after being stuck in limbo for up to five years. They say they're not accepted by the locals, and that many of their children don't attend island schools because they are bullied or made to feel unwelcome.

While the U.S. has taken some of the refugees from Nauru under a deal struck by former President Barack Obama and reluctantly accepted by President Donald Trump, many refugees fleeing places like Iran and Somalia say they have no realistic hope of being allowed into the U.S. under its current immigration policies, which has sharpened their sense of despair.

A series of Australian court cases have described how some of the 120 or so refugee children on Nauru have been evacuated because they are suffering from resignation syndrome, a medical condition in which they wi-

thdraw socially and stop eating and drinking.

Ahead of the forum, Nauru has hit back at the findings.

"Sadly some refugee children on Nauru are being manipulated into self-harm by some of their families (supported by activists) in a disgusting & tragic political game," the government wrote on Twitter. "The end goal is to make international headlines & get to Australia. This is the real child abuse."

But Louise Newman, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Melbourne who has advocated for the refugee children, says some of their symptoms are impossible to fake.

"To all intents and purposes, they become comatose," she said. "It's like they go into hibernation from the overwhelming stress. Their brain switches off engagement with their social environment. They don't respond to pain. Their knee-jerk reflex is absent."

Newman said she has seen four cases of Nauru children aged between about 10 and 14 with resignation syndrome. She said they typically need to be rehydrated intravenously and that full recovery can take a year

or more.

"It's very confronting," she said. "It speaks to me of the terrible consequences of policies that are poorly thought through for children. Australia should not be condoning what amounts to a form of state-sponsored child abuse."

Nauru in recent weeks has dismantled a much-criticized tent encampment that was home to some of the refugee families and relocated them into community housing. On Twitter, Nauru's government has denounced media reports that it was trying to polish its image ahead of the forum as "#FakeNews."

"Fact - it's dismantled because no longer needed," the government wrote.

Many of the leaders gathering this week in Nauru have little appetite for intervening in what they see as an issue between Nauru and Australia.

"We've got 50,000 people who are homeless back home," said New Zealand's Foreign Affairs Minister Winston Peters in Nauru, adding "we have to help fix their lives up as well before we start taking on new obligations of the level that some people would like."

Aside from the refugee issue, Australia faces other challenges at the forum, said Jonathan Pryke, the director of the Pacific islands program at Australia's Lowy Institute, a think tank.

A draft declaration for an enhanced security agreement states that climate change is the biggest risk to the region, Pryke said, yet climate change has become such a toxic issue in Australian politics that it helped topple former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull last month.

Turnbull's replacement Scott Morrison is planning to skip the forum, which Pryke said is not a good look, and he will instead send new foreign minister Marise Payne.

"I imagine they'll have to hold their nose to sign off on the declaration," Pryke said of the Australian delegation.

He said that as a tiny island, Nauru, which has been independent for 50 years, has limited options for making money. Despite that, Pryke said, it has managed to confound pessimists by surviving several boom-and-bust periods and the sometimes extravagant lifestyles of its political elite.

After losing the money from the phosphate, Pryke said, Nauru, which is just 21 square kilometers (8 square miles), remade itself first as a tax haven and money laundering hub and later as the camp for Australia's refugees.

"They have been a bit of a chameleon when it comes to generating new revenue," he said. "It's a good income source for them now. But it does come at the cost of the wellbeing for individuals who are on the island against their will. It's hard to justify." AP

TWO Malaysian Muslim women convicted under Islamic laws of attempting to have sex were caned yesterday in a rare public whipping that was slammed by lawmakers and rights activists as a form of torture.

Lawyers and activists said the women, aged 22 and 32, were seated on stools facing the judges and given six strokes from a light rattan cane on their backs by female prison officers. More than 100 people witnessed the caning in a Shariah courtroom in northeast Terengganu state, they said.

Muslim Lawyers' Association deputy president Abdul Rahim Sinwan said unlike caning under civil laws, the punishment under Islamic laws isn't painful or harsh and was meant to educate the women so they will repent. The women, dressed in white headscarves and clothing, didn't cry or scream but "showed remorse," he said.

"Repentance is the ultimate aim for their sin," he said.

Human rights groups slammed the punishment as a setback for human rights and said it could worsen discrimination against people in Malaysia's lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender community.

"Caning is a form of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and may amount to torture,"

MALAYSIA

Muslim lesbian couple caned in public punishment



AP PHOTO
Malaysian Muslim women arrive for prayer during the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Adha

Amnesty International Malaysia said in a statement. "People should not live in fear because they are attracted to people of the same sex. The Malaysian authorities must immediately repeal repressive laws, outlaw torturous punishments and ratify the U.N. Convention Against Torture."

Malaysia follows a dual-track justice system. Nearly two-thirds of Malaysia's 31 million people are Muslims, who are governed

by Islamic courts in family, marriage and personal issues. The two unidentified women were discovered by Islamic officials in April and sentenced last month by a Shariah court to six strokes of a cane and a fine after pleading guilty.

Thilaga Sulathireh, from the group Justice for Sisters who witnessed the caning, said she was shocked by the public spectacle. She said Malaysian laws were

inconsistent because civil laws prohibit corporal punishment against female prisoners.

"It's a regression of human rights in Malaysia. It's not about the severity of the caning. Corporal punishment is a form of torture regardless of your intention," she said.

Lawmakers also joined in the chorus of condemnation against the public caning.

"Islam teaches us to look af-

ter the dignity of every human being. And that mercy is preferable to punishment," opposition lawmaker Khairy Jamaluddin tweeted.

Lawmaker Charles Santiago said the government must repeal all laws that criminalize homosexuality.

"And this is because we really need to make sure that no one is publicly caned let alone because of their sexuality," he said.

Malaysia is seen as a moderate and stable Muslim-majority country, but Islamic conservatism is on the rise.

The caning occurred amid a climate of fear and discrimination against Malaysia's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. A few weeks ago, authorities removed the portraits of two LGBT rights activists from a public exhibition. Malaysia religious minister Mujahid Yusuf later said the government doesn't support the promotion of LGBT culture. A transgender woman was also beaten up by a group of people in a southern state this month. **AP**

AD



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THOUSANDS of people are expected to attend a concert early today [Macau time] in the eastern German city of Chemnitz against far-right protests.

The performances, by some of Germany's most popular bands, come in reaction to a week of sometimes violent rallies by far-right groups against migrants — and leftist counter protests.

The nationalists' protests were triggered by the fatal stabbing of a 35-year-old German man in Chemnitz on Aug. 26, allegedly by two migrants from Iraq and Syria.

The tension that has built up over the past week in Chemnitz reflects the growing polarization over Germany's ongoing efforts to come to terms with an influx of more than 1 million refugees and migrants to the country since 2015.

The concert, which is being promoted under the #WeAreMore hashtag, is part of an effort by German civil society to position itself against the growing far-right movement in parts of Germany.

Former Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel harshly criticized the political establishment for being too passive when it comes to fighting far-right groups in Germany and asked them to make a stronger showing in places with simmering discontent and anti-migrant sentiment.

"I think it would be good if as many representatives as possible — not only in Chemnitz but everywhere — go to places where we think the citizens are not agreeing with our state," he said.

But, Gabriel added, there was a clear line between angry citizens

GERMANY

Thousands expected to concert against far right



Visitors arrive for a concert against far-right protests in Chemnitz, Germany

and those inciting the people with hatred.

"We have to go with toughness after these terrorists," he said in an interview with Bild Television adding that, "there won't be any discussions with people who make the Hitler salute. There will only be the rigidity of the state."

Gabriel's comments followed Saturday's demonstrations by about 4,500 far-right protesters in Chemnitz, who were rallying against migration. Around 4,000 leftist protesters also marched through the city in a counter-protest, and 1,800 police officers were deployed to keep the groups apart.

Scenes earlier that week of vigilantes chasing foreigners in the city's streets and showing the Hitler salute have shocked people in others parts of Germany and beyond.

Gabriel also called on the domestic intelligence service to start watching the Alternative for Germany, or AfD, party,

which was voted into national parliament last year.

In the past, the nationalist AfD has officially distanced itself from radical far-right groups, but over the weekend it joined ranks for the first time with the more radical Patriotic Europeans Against the Islamization of the West, or PEGIDA, and Pro Chemnitz group and marched through the city together with them.

Former Foreign Minister S. Gabriel harshly criticized the political establishment for being too passive

Also on Monday, the widow of Chemnitz victim Daniel H., spoke out for the first time, saying that, "Daniel would have never wanted" the protests triggered by his killing. Their full names weren't given, in line with German privacy laws.

"Daniel was neither left nor right," widow Bianca T. said adding that she was shocked by how the far right was exploiting his death. "I looked at the events on Saturday night — this was not about Daniel at all."

"All we want to do right now is mourn him in peace," she said. AP

UN AGENCY

Trips across Mediterranean fall, but risks rise

PEOPLE smugglers are taking greater risks to ferry their human cargo toward Europe as Libya's coast guard intercepts more and more boats carrying migrants, increasing the likelihood that those on board may die during the Mediterranean journeys, the U.N. refugee agency said yesterday.

That's one of the key findings from a new UNHCR report about efforts to reach Europe. The report, titled "Desperate Journeys," said that even though the number of crossings and deaths has plunged compared to recent years, the voyage is more deadly in percentage terms for those who venture across.

It said that 2,276 people died last year while trying to cross, or one death for every 42 arrivals.

This year, it's 1,095 deaths, or one out of every 18 arrivals. In June alone, the proportion hit one death for every seven arrivals.

On the Central Mediterranean route so far this year, there have been 10 separate incidents in which 50 or more people died — most after departing from Libya. Seven of those incidents have been since June alone, UNHCR said.

"The reason the traffic has become more deadly is that the traffickers are taking more risk, because there is more surveillance exercised by the Libyan coast guards," said Vincent Cochetel, UNHCR's special envoy for the central Mediterranean. "They are trying to cut the costs: It costs them more to keep those people here longer in their warehouses, under captivity."

Libyan authorities intercepted or rescued 18,400 people between August last year and July this year — a 38-percent increase from the same period of 2016 and 2017. Arrivals by sea from Libya to Europe plummeted 82 percent in those comparable periods, to 30,800 in the more recent one.

UNHCR says a growing worry these days is deaths on land by people trying to get to Libya in the first place, or getting stuck in squalid, overcrowded detention centers: Many get returned there after failing to cross by sea to Europe.

"The problems after disembarkation [is that] those people are sent back to detention centers, and many disappear," Cochetel said. "Many are sold to militias, and to traffickers, and people employing them without

paying them."

He said the drop in departures means that traffickers attempt to "monetize their investment, which means they have to exploit more people. That results in more cases of slavery, forced labor, prostitution of those people — because they [smugglers] want to make money on those people."

Would-be workers and migrants are still pouring into Libya: Some are fleeing injustice, abuse or autocrats in their home countries further south in Africa. Others are looking for work in the oil industry or agriculture.

"I think you have more deaths on land," Cochetel said, referring to treks across the desert in Sudan, Algeria, Chad and Niger. "Many people in Libya are reporting having seeing people dead in the desert on



the way to Libya."

In Libya, instability continues even seven years after the fall of Moammar Gadhafi. French medical aid group Doctors Without Borders said Friday that fighting between rival militias in Tripoli, the capital, has endangered the lives of people trapped there and worsened humanitarian needs — especially at migrant detention centers.

Cochetel said Europe — where some countries have shown "appalling" squabbles about who would take in rescue ships carrying

migrants — should look at the root causes of such journeys. European populations need to shun anti-migrant rhetoric and realize that figures are down sharply, and migrant flows are clearly manageable at current levels, he said.

"Europe has to show the lead, has to be exemplary in its response, but it's quite clear that it's already too late when the people are in Libya," he said. "We need to work downstream in country of first asylum, in country of origin, and that takes time." AP

what's ON



SCULPTURE – A JOURNEY, EXHIBITION BY ANTONIO LEÇA

TIME: 3pm-8pm (Mondays)
12pm-8pm (Tuesdays to Sundays)

UNTIL: October 21, 2018

VENUE: A2 Gallery, Albergue SCM

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2852 2550

TREASURE OF SACRED ART OF ST. JOSEPH'S SEMINARY

TIME: 10am-5pm daily (closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

VENUE: St. Joseph's Seminary and Church, Rua do Seminário

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2835 7911

MANDARIN'S HOUSE

TIME: 10am-6pm daily (last admission at 5:30pm; closed on Wednesdays, open on public holidays)

ADDRESS: No. 10, Travessa de António da Silva

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2896 8820

ANNUAL ARTS EXHIBITION BETWEEN CHINA AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES—THE UNIVERSE

TIME: 10am-7pm (closed on Mondays)

UNTIL: September 9, 2018

VENUE: Ox Warehouse

ADMISSION: Free

ENQUIRIES: (853) 2836 6866

Offbeat

AP PHOTO



CLASSMATES CAN'T FIND TIME CAPSULE BURIED 30 YEARS AGO

Former classmates reunited in Michigan to uncover a time capsule buried 30 years ago. The result? They couldn't find it.

The seven classmates and two teachers spent two hours last week digging outside Coloma Junior High in southwestern Michigan. Tracy Gilmer said she remembers putting a Michael Jackson cassette in the box in 1988, along with assignments from an accelerated writing-and-reasoning program, including a fictional country.

"We had our own constitution and I actually sewed a flag for our country. I think the flag is in" the time capsule, she told The Herald-Palladium.

A teacher, Sandi Sanders, said information about the capsule was filed away but lost. Some wonder if rebellious classmates dug it up.

"We are all kind of in the dark trying to remember what was in it and where it is," Sanders said.

Coloma Superintendent Dave Ehlers said the box may have been unearthed earlier when work was performed to alleviate flooding behind the school. The group might use a different metal detector and keep hunting.

"It was an English class," Sanders said. "We didn't know how to measure."

TV canal macau



13:00	TDM News (Repeated)
13:30	News (RTPi) Delayed Broadcast
15:00	Portuguese Soap Opera
15:50	Cartoons
16:15	Portuguese Comedy
18:40	Micellaneous
19:35	Portuguese Serie
20:30	Main News, Financial & Weather Report
21:15	TDM Interview
21:50	Documentary
22:25	Portuguese Serie - Liberty 21
23:15	TDM News
23:50	Miscellaneous
00:25	Main News, Financial & Weather Report (Repeated)
01:10	RTPi Live

Cinema



CINETEATRO

30 AUG - 05 SEP



HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3: A MONSTER VACATION

ROOM 1

4:45pm

Director: Genndy Tartakovsky

Starring: Adam Sandler, Andy Samberg, Selena Gomez

Language: English (Chinese)

Duration: 97min

ALONG WITH THE GODS:
THE LAST 49 DAYS

ROOM 1

2:15, 18:30, 9:15pm

Director: Kim Yong-hwa

Starring: HA Jung-woo, JU Ji-hoon, KIM Hyang-gi

Language: Korean (Chinese & English)

DORAEMON THE MOVIE:
NOBITA'S TREASURE ISLAND

ROOM 2

4:45pm

Director: Kazuaki Imai

Starring: Wasabi Mizuta, Megumi Ohara, Yumi Kakazu

Language: Cantonese (Chinese)

Duration: 109min

KILLING FOR THE PROSECUTION

ROOM 2

2:30, 7:15, 9:30pm

Director: Masato Harada

Starring: Takuya Kimura, Kazunari Ninomiya

Language: Japanese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 123min

L STORM

ROOM 3

2:30, 9:30pm

Director: David Lam

Starring: Louis Koo, Julian Cheung, Kelvin Cheng

Language: Cantonese (Chinese & English)

Duration: 90min



HINDI MEDIUM

ROOM 3

4:30, 7:00pm

Director: Saket Chaudhary

Starring: Irfan Khan, Saba Qamar

Language: Indian Dialect (Chinese & English)

Duration: 132min

this day in history



Sexual Offences Act 1967

CHAPTER 60

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

Section

1. Amendment of law relating to homosexual acts in private.
2. Homosexual acts on merchant ships.
3. Revised punishments for homosexual acts.
4. Procuring others to commit homosexual acts.
5. Living on earnings of male prostitution.

1957 HOMOSEXUALITY 'SHOULD NOT BE A CRIME'

A report sponsored by the government has suggested homosexual behaviour between consenting adults should no longer be a criminal offence.

The proposal is the principal and most controversial recommendation put forward by the 13-member committee chaired by Sir John Wolfenden, Vice-Chancellor of Reading University, investigating the current law on homosexuality and prostitution.

The first print of 5,000 copies of the 155-page "Report on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution" - known as the Wolfenden report - sold out within hours of publication.

After its three-year long inquiry, the Committee on Homosexual Offences and Prostitution in Great Britain came to the conclusion that outlawing homosexuality impinged upon civil liberties.

It said society and the law should respect "individual freedom of actions in matters of private morality" and stressed it was neither condoning nor condemning homosexual acts.

Ultimately, private morality or immorality was "not the law's business".

It defined "adult" as being a person over the age of 21 and that such acts should be decriminalised only if they took place "in private" and with consent.

Under current law, various homosexual offences can incur anything from a £5 fine to life imprisonment.

The committee also made recommendations to "clean up the streets" of London and other major cities of prostitutes by introducing much higher penalties for soliciting.

But the report did acknowledge that by forcing prostitutes off the streets there could be a rise in the number of "call girls" and small ads in newspapers referring to "masseuses, "models" or "companions".

The Wolfenden committee included three women, judges, doctors, MPs, lawyers and ministers of religion.

Only one expressed his reservation on relaxing the law on homosexuality - James Adair, formerly Procurator-General at Glasgow. He believed it would be regarded by many homosexuals as "condoning or licensing licentiousness".

Courtesy BBC News

IN CONTEXT

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Geoffrey Fisher, supported the Wolfenden report's recommendation to decriminalise male homosexuality. (There was never a law against sex between women, so never one to repeal.)

He was joined by the British Medical Association, the Howard League for Penal Reform and the National Association of Probation Officers.

But the government rejected the proposal. Homosexual men would have to wait another ten years before the law permitted sexual relations between adults over the age of 21 - "in private" and not at all among members of the Merchant Navy or Armed Forces.

In Scotland sex between two men was not decriminalised until 1980.

The age of consent for gay men was lowered to 18 in 1994.

A law equalising the age of consent for gay men in line with that for heterosexual adults to 16 was forced through parliament in February 2000.

Sir John Wolfenden became director of the British Museum (1969-1973) and was made a life peer in 1974. He died in 1985.

YOUR STARS

Aries

Mar. 21-Apr. 19

All signs are pointing to a fantastic new beginning for you - and a long journey or a geographical change could be coming soon. If a trip is already planned, expect it to go incredibly well.

Gemini

May 21-Jun. 21

Your visions in recent dreams have been foreboding, although they are not literal warnings of what is about to happen. You cannot take these symbols at face value.

Leo

Jul. 23-Aug. 22

Are you being watched? If you feel like you are under an evaluation by a coworker, boss or even a potential sweetie today, why not turn the tables? Do your own evaluation on whoever you feel is evaluating you ...

Libra

Sep.23-Oct. 22

Letting your mind be quiet for a day will enable all sorts of brilliant new ideas to fly right in. Get ready for important revelations about someone in your life who may be putting pressure on you...

Sagittarius

Nov. 22-Dec. 21

If you have been itching for a progress report, here it is: The things you have been working on are well on their way toward success, although you might need to nudge them along today.

Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

If you are waiting for the hectic energy of your life to calm down so you can spend more time with the people you love, stop waiting! The fact is, that is simply not going to happen.

Taurus

April 20-May 20

Give yourself the gift of peace and quiet today. It's not selfish to want to be by yourself - it's healthy. You are in an inward phase of life, which will help you recharge your emotional batteries.

Cancer

Jun. 22-Jul. 22

It can be hard to be totally objective when your feelings are at stake, but if you can separate your emotions from what you need to do right now, you will be able to swing it with little if any difficulty.

Virgo

Aug. 23-Sept. 22

If you are starting a new situation today, do not put pressure on yourself to be a superstar right off the bat; you need to give yourself all the time you require to get a handle on your new routine.

Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Recent flashbacks have you feeling nostalgic - have you been curious about what an ex has been up to? Today would be a good day to get back in touch with them ... they are open to hearing from you.

Capricorn

Dec. 22-Jan. 19

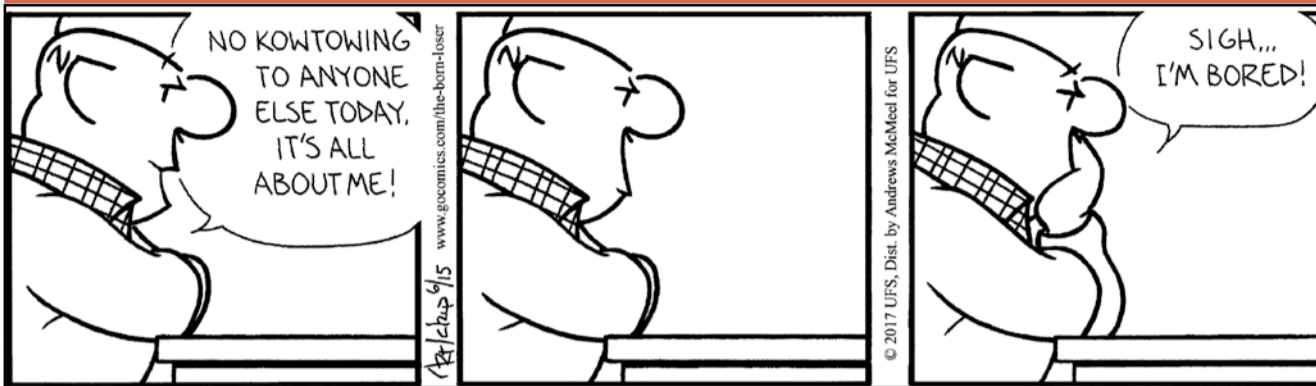
An everyday choice could carry additional weight for you today ... be careful not to make any of your decisions too quickly, because other people are involved in the outcome of your situation.

Pisces

Feb.19-Mar. 20

It's finally time to take your latest endeavor to the next level - so if you are in a burgeoning romantic relationship, plan a date where the two of you can really let loose and confess your real feelings for each other.

THE BORN LOSER by Chip Sansom



SUDOKU

Easy

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

Easy+

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

Medium

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9			7			4		
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4			9			7		
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Hard

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6		4						
						3		
7				1	2			
5							4	
				9				

WEATHER

	MIN	MAX	CONDITION
CHINA			
Beijing	20	31	clear
Harbin	16	22	thundershower
Tianjin	22	29	clear
Urumqi	9	19	shower/clear
Xi'an	23	31	clear/cloudy
Lhasa	13	24	shower/cloudy
Chengdu	24	31	clear
Chongqing	30	38	cloudy
Kunming	16	26	shower
Nanjing	24	31	cloudy/clear
Shanghai	26	32	cloudy
Wuhan	24	35	clear/cloudy
Hangzhou	25	33	cloudy/clear
Taipei	25	31	cloudy
Guangzhou	26	34	cloudy
Hong Kong	27	32	cloudy
WORLD			
Moscow	13	24	overcast
Frankfurt	14	26	drizzle
Paris	13	23	drizzle
London	15	20	drizzle/cloudy
New York	24	33	drizzle/clear

CROSSWORDS

ACROSS: 1- Witches; 5- Outmoded; 10- Pitchfork-shaped letters; 14- Egg; 15- Related on the mother's side; 16- Area of 4840 square yards; 17- Explosion; 19- Mend socks; 20- Watering hole; 21- Large quantity; 23- Pertaining to the stomach; 26- Sewage; 27- Jacob's favorite wife; 28- Male goose; 29- Great Lakes tribesmen; 30- Position; 31- Wrath; 34- City on the Rhine; 35- Common person of ancient Rome; 36- At a distance; 37- Med. specialty; 38- Bailiwicks; 39- Squirrel's prize; 40- Pants measurement; 42- Future ferns; 43- Saltlike compounds; 45- Ornamented tobacco pipe; 46- "Fighting" Big Ten team; 47- City on the Rhone; 48- Afternoon affairs; 49- Contemplation; 54- Silent; 55- Mellow Mel; 56- Fortuneteller's start; 57- French summers; 58- Did a blacksmith's job; 59- Preserve with salt;

DOWN: 1- Coal scuttle; 2- Hail, to Caesar; 3- Kind of reaction; 4- Level; 5- Clockwise; 6- Caper; 7- Mai ___; 8- DDE's bailiwick; 9- Condemn publicly; 10- Flat-bladed oar; 11- Ladderlike; 12- Like some vbs.; 13- Have a feeling about; 18- Nostrils; 22- Shoppe sign word; 23- Diving bird; 24- Brother of Moses; 25- Sparkle; 26- Swedish imports; 28- Flash of light; 30- Entreaties; 32- Street show; 33- Dadaist Max; 35- Foretells; 36- Pert. to the sense of hearing; 38- Z ___ zebra; 39- Cop ___; 41- Sounds; 42- Cured, in a way; 43- Blackjack request; 44- Aboriginal Alaskan; 45- Serious wrongdoing; 47- Farming prefix; 50- That's gotta hurt!; 51- Terre Haute sch.; 52- ___ the fields we go...; 53- Miss-named?;



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- PJ (Picket) 28 557 775
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- 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
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Ref: 18060681

Old Macau, Unique Walk Up
Macau
950 sq ft / HKD4.48M
HKD 4,715sq ft
Three Bedroom Apartment
Ref: 18065557

Office - Dynasty Plaza
Macau
Park-Side Work Space Spacious Commercial Space
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Manhattan D unit, High Floor
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HKD 7,800sq ft
Four Bedrooms Apartment
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Lakeview, Macau
Macau
3 Bedrooms Apartment Front Balcony
HKD 30,000 / 3,430 sq ft
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Violet Court, Helene Gardens
Coloane
2,530sq ft / HKD 20M
HKD 7,905sq ft
Beautifully Designed Apartment
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Manhattan D unit, High Floor
Taipa
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Each year **FMCC** invites you to be on the front row to attend the Macau International Fireworks Display Contest at the occasion of the French performance. An exceptional night full of emotions to spend with family and friends! **Open to all!**

Saturday, September 15
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Date: Saturday, September 15, 2018
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Venue: Macau Tower (Outdoor Plaza)

- 2018 FMCC members / members spouse @ MOP 448
- Guests and non-members @ MOP 548
- Minors between 6-11 @ MOP268
- Minors under 6 join free of charge

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F1

Vettel still prone to errors despite past successes

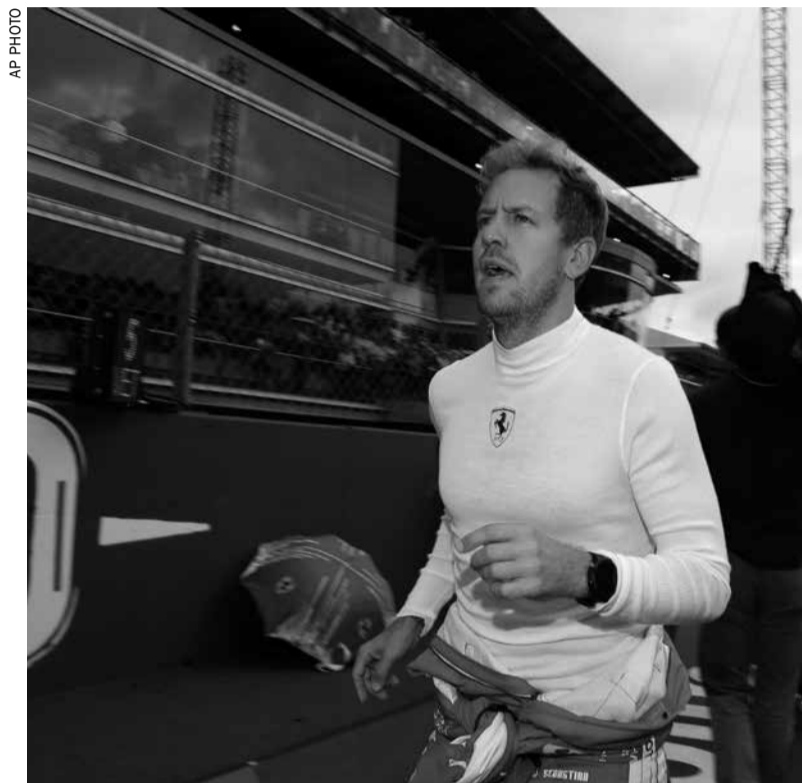
Daniella Matar, Monza

EVEN after winning four Formula One titles, Sebastian Vettel is still prone to worrying errors. Vettel made some key mistakes last season, allowing rival Lewis Hamilton to win the title, and the Ferrari driver appears to be throwing away his chances this year, too.

Ferrari was quicker than Mercedes all weekend at the Italian Grand Prix, even achieving a front row lockout in qualifying. That set the stage for what should have been Ferrari's first victory at its home track since 2010 and for Vettel to cut further into Hamilton's overall lead after winning the previous race in Belgium.

However, an early misjudgment cost Vettel as he hit Hamilton's Mercedes and briefly lost control, dropping back to 18th. Vettel eventually finished fourth but Hamilton won the race and extended his advantage to 30 points.

Last year, Hamilton publicly spoke about his rival's apparent



Sebastian Vettel

vulnerability under pressure as something he could exploit. That might work even better this season, with the intensity ramped up even further.

"The heat is there and it is unavoidable for all of us, for me and him," Hamilton said. "It is very difficult for people watching who are not naturally in it to feel

what we feel. The pressure is at its highest I can ever remember.

"That's the pressure you put on yourself, because you want to succeed. That's the pressure of all your desires and all your fears and also all the people who are depending on you, which is a lot of people."

Vettel insisted he had not been at fault in the collision but Hamilton pointed out that he and Ferrari driver Kimi Raikkonen engaged in an identical exchange later in the race with both drivers exiting the chicane cleanly.

It was the latest in a series of mistakes by Vettel, who crashed under no pressure while leading the rain-soaked German GP in July and gifted victory and the championship lead to Hamilton.

Vettel and Hamilton are both chasing a fifth F1 title to move level with Argentine great Juan Manuel Fangio and go two behind record-holder Michael Schumacher.

Ferrari has arguably had the better car this season but Hamilton and Mercedes still have the advantage in the drivers'

standings.

"The pressure is so high, all I can do is really focus on trying to deliver every single weekend, which obviously I'm trying to do," Hamilton said. "I definitely feel I'm extracting everything and more out of the car, but these last races, considering we've definitely felt we've not had the upper hand, we have been one or two steps behind to then finish ahead by one step, that's an incredibly proud feeling for everyone in the team."

Vettel has not been helped by his Ferrari team making errors, too, despite the team's new-found speed.

In Hungary, Ferrari botched the pit stops of Vettel and Raikkonen, while the decision not to invoke team orders in Monza was criticized as an "own-goal" by the Italian media.

Vettel was furious after Ferrari's rotation policy in qualifying saw him miss out on pole position after completing his final lap in front of Raikkonen and giving his teammate a vital tow.

Vettel tried to pass Raikkonen right at the start in Sunday's race but the move was fended off by the Finn.

In contrast, Valtteri Bottas sacrificed himself for the good of the team again, waiting to come in for fresh tires so he could hold up Raikkonen and allow teammate Hamilton to close the gap after the British driver's pit stop. **AP**

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opinion

World Views
 The Editors, Bloomberg

US AND CHINA NEED TO COMPROMISE ON TRADE, AND SOON

The next round of U.S. tariffs on Chinese imports — USD200 billion worth — could come as soon as this week, after talks to avert them ended without resolution. China is set to retaliate promptly with duties on nearly everything it imports from the United States. Even as he signaled an initial deal with Mexico, President Donald Trump declared it wasn't time to restart negotiations with China; administration hardliners appear to believe that the Chinese economy is more fragile than it looks, increasing U.S. leverage. For their part, Chinese negotiators seem resigned to wait until after the U.S. midterm elections before pushing for new talks.

Both sides should instead climb down while they still can.

China's apparent nonchalance suggests it still wants an easy way out of this conflict. Its negotiators have reportedly offered to buy more U.S. commodities — to bring down the bilateral trade deficit — and to refrain from devaluing China's currency to boost exports. But these moves would not address the main issue: China's failure to live up to its World Trade Organization obligations, especially in the way it bolsters its own high-tech sector through massive subsidies and by forcing foreign companies to transfer technology.

China continues to insist it's a developing nation that should be allowed scope to build up infant industries, even as it deflects pressure to open up cloud computing and other technologies by citing national-security concerns. And now worldwide anger at Trump's trade bluster seems to have persuaded Chinese leaders that they have global opinion on their side.

They're wrong. U.S. concerns about China's trade barriers, discrimination against foreign companies, and attempts to procure technology by any means are well-founded and widely shared. By ignoring or downplaying them, or taking half-measures to address them, China has already lost credibility internationally.

China's reluctance to reform runs counter to its long-term interests as well. It's pushed to the breaking point the multilateral trading system that has enabled the country's remarkable four-decade expansion — at a time when its economy is at risk of stalling before the country can break out of middle-income status. Meanwhile, the subsidies and market barriers associated with its "Made in China 2025" industrial plan are as likely to encourage fraud, inefficiency and waste as they are to generate innovation. China could foster greater competition and attract more investment by establishing a level playing field.

For its part, the Trump administration could best meet its own desire for improved trade by giving China room to adjust course. Chinese officials are justifiably confused about who speaks for the White House in trade talks. The good-cop-bad-cop routine that till now has balanced a more conciliatory Treasury department against hardliners in the U.S. Trade Representative's office has exhausted whatever negotiating value it may have once had. If the U.S. wants to extract reforms from China, it needs a set of clear, focused, consistent and reasonable demands, paired with firm enforcement mechanisms. It also needs to reestablish trust that the U.S. government will stand by any deal, despite Trump's shifting whims.

For the U.S. to drag out matters in an effort to bring the Chinese economy to its knees would be foolhardy. Leave aside the fact that any Chinese slowdown would hammer global growth and hence the U.S. economy. If the U.S. backs Chinese President Xi Jinping into a corner, its leverage will only diminish. Xi, who has promised to restore China to its rightful place at the center of the global economy, can't afford to be publicly bested by Trump. At a certain point, compromise will for him become impossible, regardless of what that means for China's gross national product.

Trump should be seeking concessions from China, not total capitulation. As he himself has said about how to succeed in negotiating any deal: "You can't be too greedy."

THE RUSSIAN STATE TV CHANNEL AIRS NEW BUZZ PROGRAM DEVOTED TO PUTIN

A Russian state-owned television channel has a new weekly current affairs program devoted to President Vladimir Putin. The first episode of "Moscow. Kremlin. Putin." aired on Sunday night, stressing the Russian president's work to address various crises and stay in touch with ordinary Russians.

The Kremlin has consolidated its control over television stations since Putin came into office in 2000, and

Putin's activities traditionally receive wide coverage on news programs on state television. Still, a weekly show devoted to news events as seen through the work of Putin is something new for Russia. The hour-long program on Rossiya 1 featured interviews with Putin's spokesman and the Kremlin pool reporter who covered the president's activities last week, as well as a segment about Putin's break in the mountains last month.



Station	Air quality
Roadside	80-100 Moderate
High Density Residential Area	50-70 Moderate
Ambient	80-100 Moderate

WORLD BRIEFS



ISRAEL Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu extended a warm welcome to Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte yesterday at the start of an official visit, despite being criticized for embracing a leader accused of human rights abuses.

EGYPT said that archeologists have unearthed one of the oldest villages ever found in the Nile Delta, with remains dating back to before the pharaohs.



LIBYA Some 400 prisoners escaped from a jail in the Libyan capital, authorities said, as recent fighting between rival militias compelled the U.N.-backed government to declare a state of emergency in and around Tripoli.

EU The European Union's top diplomat said that the world is going through a time of chaos and that the 28-nation bloc must work more closely with international partners as the multilateral system comes under threat.



GERMANY's government yesterday urged those aggrieved by the suspected killing of a man by migrants in Chemnitz to distance themselves from far-right extremists who have participated in violent, xenophobic protest marches in the eastern city over the past week. [More on p15](#)

NETHERLANDS The counter-terror chief says the country's threat level will remain at four on a scale that tops out at five following a double stabbing at the city's main railway station that officials say had a "terrorist motive."

Firefighters try to save relics as fire engulfs Rio museum

Peter Prengaman, Rio de Janeiro

A huge fire engulfed Brazil's 200-year-old National Museum in Rio de Janeiro, lighting up the night sky with towering flames as firefighters and museum workers raced to save historical relics from the blaze.

The esteemed museum, which houses artifacts from Egypt, Greco-Roman art and some of the first fossils found in Brazil, was closed to the public at the time of the fire, which broke out at 7:30 p.m. Sunday local time [yesterday, Macau time], it said in a statement.

There were no reports of injuries, the museum said, and it wasn't immediately clear how the fire began.

Roberto Robadey, a spokesman for the fire department, said 80 firefighters were battling the blaze and that by midnight local time it was "just about under control" and should be out within a few hours.

President Michel Temer called it "a sad day for all Brazilians."

"Two hundred years of work, investigation and knowledge have been lost," Temer said in a statement.

According to its website, the museum has a vast collection related to the history of Brazil and other countries, and that many of its collections came from members of Brazil's royal family.

Robadey said firefighters got off to a slow start fighting the blaze because the two fire hydrants closest to the museum were not functioning. Instead, trucks had to be sent to get water from a nearby lake.

But he added that some of the museum's pieces had been spared.

"We were able to remove a lot of things from inside with the help of workers of the museum," Robadey told Globo News.

Connected to the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, the museum has expositions that include anthropology, archaeology and paleontology, among others.

The vice director of the mu-



seum, Luiz Fernando Dias Duarte, told Globo news the museum suffered chronic underfunding.

Two hundred years of work, investigation and knowledge have been lost.

PRESIDENT TEMER

"Everybody wants to be supportive now. We never had adequate support," he said.

Latin America's largest nation has struggled to emerge from its worst recession in decades. The state of Rio de Janeiro has been particularly hard hit in recent years thanks to a combination of falling world prices of oil, one of its major revenue

sources, mismanagement and massive corruption.

Just over a month before national elections, even before the flames were put out, the fire was leading to recriminations about dilapidated infrastructure and budget deficits in the city that hosted the 2016 Summer Olympics.

"Unfortunately, given the financial straits of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and all the other public universities the last three years, this was a tragedy that could be seen coming," Marina Silva, one of the leading presidential candidates, tweeted.

On Instagram, Rio Mayor Marcelo Crivella called on the country to rebuild.

"It's a national obligation to reconstruct it from the ashes, recompose every eternal detail of the paintings and photos. Even if they are not original, they continue to be a reminder of the royal family that gave us independence, the [Portuguese] empire and the first constitution and national unity," he said. **AP**