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# The New York Times

**THE WEATHER**  
Today, cloudy, rain at times, high 70.  
Tonight, mostly cloudy early, clearing late, low 60. **Tomorrow**, sunny, warmer, low humidity, high 80. Weather map appears on Page B11.

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Prices in Canada may be higher

\$4.00



Protesters at the Singha Durbar, the seat of the Nepali government’s various ministries, as it burned in Kathmandu on Tuesday.

## Generational Clash Engulfs Nepal, Forcing Out Prime Minister

This article is by **Bhadra Sharma, Alex Travelli and Thomas Fuller**.  
KATHMANDU, Nepal — Protesters in Nepal’s capital, Kathmandu, set fire to the Parliament and Supreme Court buildings, police stations and politicians’ homes on Tuesday, as violent demonstrations continued despite the prime minister’s resignation and the reversal of a government social media ban that had sparked widespread anger.  
The generational clash between

an aging political leadership and younger citizens frustrated by corruption, unemployment and income disparities played out in dramatic fashion in Kathmandu, where flames poured from the windows of the Singha Durbar, the complex that is the seat of the Nepali government.  
As a sense of lawlessness took hold in the heart of Kathmandu on Tuesday, Nepal’s military said it would send troops to restore order, with some spotted on the street early Wednesday.

### Torching Buildings and Homes of Politicians

The departure of Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli, 73, on Tuesday came a day after the authorities opened fire into crowds of young demonstrators. At least 22 people have died amid some of the most widespread social unrest in the Himalayan country in years.  
The chaos was sparked by a

government ban last week on major social media platforms, including WhatsApp and Instagram, which lit a fuse on years of anger and frustration over official corruption and the wide gap between rich and poor. In the weeks before the ban, hashtags such as #nepobabies and #nepokids were trending in Nepal, highlighting the lavish lifestyles of the children of the elites.  
Access to social media is crucial in a country where people use the

## Israelis Target Hamas With a Strike in Qatar, A Gaza War Mediator

### Attack May Put Cease-Fire Talks at Risk

This article is by **Adam Rasgon, Vivian Nereim and Ronen Bergman**.

JERUSALEM — Israel attempted to kill senior members of Hamas in an airstrike on Tuesday in Qatar, a sharp escalation that brought the Mideast war to a close U.S. ally and a primary mediator in trying to end the conflict in Gaza.  
The Israeli strike on a Hamas meeting, where the group said its officials were discussing a cease-fire proposal backed by President Trump, threatened to undermine negotiations over the Gaza war. The direct attack on Qatar’s territory also risked antagonizing the Qatari government and destabilizing its diplomatic efforts in the war, particularly because the country’s political and economic stability hinges on its reputation as a haven for business and tourism in a volatile region.  
The afternoon attack by Israel’s air force hit an area of the capital, Doha, that is near schools and embassies, sending black smoke billowing into the air.  
Hamas said the Israeli strike had failed to kill senior officials in the group, without specifying whether they had sustained injuries. In a statement, the group confirmed that the son of Khalil al-Hayya, Hamas’s chief negotiator; his office manager; and three other people affiliated with Hamas had been killed in the attack.  
But the strike killed a member of Qatar’s internal security forces and injured a number of civilians, the country’s Interior Ministry said.

Qatar will continue its role as a mediator in the war, Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman, the country’s prime minister, said on Tuesday. But the Persian Gulf state has also formed a legal team to determine how to respond to Israel’s attack, he said, denouncing Israel’s prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, by name.  
“We have reached a decisive moment where there must be a response from the entire region to such barbaric actions,” Sheikh Mohammed said.  
President Trump said on social media that the U.S. military had informed his administration that “Israel was attacking Hamas” in the Qatari capital. “This was a decision made by Prime Minister Netanyahu,” he said. “It was not a decision made by me.”  
He said he had “immediately” directed his Middle East envoy, Steve Witkoff, to inform the Qa-

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**EVACUATION** The Israeli military ordered hundreds of thousands to flee Gaza City, signaling a full invasion. Page A5.

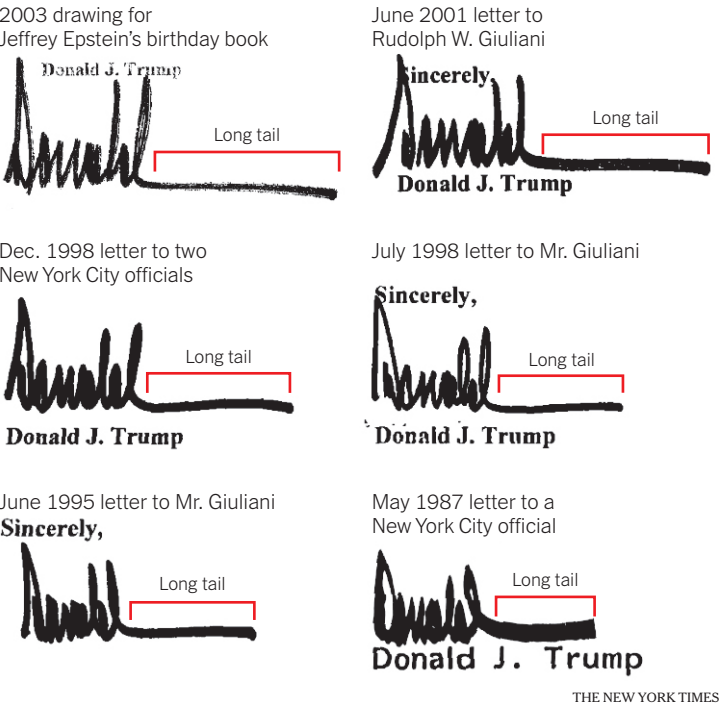
## Sizable Lead For Mamdani, Survey Shows

By **NICHOLAS FANDOS and RUTH IGIELNIK**  
Zohran Mamdani has opened a commanding lead in the race for mayor of New York City, buoyed by support for his affordability platform and by the splintered opposition, according to a new survey by The New York Times and Siena University.  
The poll found that 46 percent of likely voters currently planned to choose Mr. Mamdani, the Democratic nominee, in a four-way race. His support spans racial and ethnic groups but is especially strong among young and highly educated voters.  
By comparison, 24 percent of likely voters in New York City said they would support former Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, who is running as an independent after losing June’s Democratic primary; 15 percent would back the Republican candidate, Curtis Sliwa; and 9 percent favored Mayor Eric Adams, the scandal-scarred incumbent who is also running on an independent line.  
The survey captured the state of the race in early September at a moment of unusual flux. The day after polling began, The New York Times reported that President Trump and powerful figures in New York City were endeavoring to create a one-on-one contest between Mr. Cuomo, 67, and Mr. Mamdani, a 33-year-old state assemblyman and democratic socialist.  
The extraordinary effort has included negotiations about Mr. Adams potentially suspending his campaign and accepting a nomination to be ambassador to Saudi Arabia. Presidential advisers have also discussed strategies to

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### Signature With a Characteristic Flourish

The president has denied signing a birthday message to Jeffrey Epstein, but his signatures from that time are close matches. Page A11.



## Epstein Revelations Hinder Trump’s Attempts to Turn Page

By **LUKE BROADWATER**

WASHINGTON — Throughout his presidency, Donald J. Trump has proved himself adept at evading the controversies that have dogged him on a near-daily basis. With the vast powers of the presidency at his disposal, he often succeeds in pivoting the national conversation to focus on political terrain he finds more favorable, like immigration or crime.  
But for weeks now, there has been one controversy the president has been unable to evade:

the public clamor over his ties to Jeffrey Epstein, the deceased sex offender.  
Now, with the release this week of new information from Mr. Epstein’s estate, including a suggestive note apparently signed by Mr. Trump, the drip-drip-drip of revelations is complicating the White House strategy of brushing off the entire controversy.  
The president’s press secretary, Karoline Leavitt, on Tuesday was once again confronted

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## Longtime Mask Ban Lifted for Wildfire Fighters

By **HANNAH DREIER**

The U.S. government will provide wildfire fighters with masks to protect against smoke — reversing a decades-long ban that exposed workers to toxins known to cause cancer and other serious diseases.  
The Forest Service posted new guidance on Monday acknowledging for the first time that masks can protect firefighters against harmful particles in wildfire smoke. The move is part of a flurry of safety improvements in

### Forest Service Reverses Course Over Illnesses

recent weeks as the government faces increasing pressure to aid firefighters.  
For years, the Forest Service had barred workers from wearing masks, arguing that they were too cumbersome for the job. But current and former officials have said the agency did not want to deal with the potentially costly conse-

quences of admitting the long-term dangers of smoke exposure.  
In an about-face, the agency now says it has stockpiled some 80,000 N95 masks and will include them in the standard set of equipment for all large fires. It is encouraging firefighters to mask up and even suggesting that they shave their facial hair for a better fit. Previously, they were only allowed to wear bandannas, which offer no protection against toxins.  
“This is going to make a huge difference in protecting people’s

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## Brazilian Right Is Waving a New Flag: Old Glory

By **JACK NICAS**

BRASÍLIA — Brazil’s Independence Day has become the moment for the country’s nationalist, right-wing movement to take to the streets, protest the left and hoist the yellow and green of the Brazilian flag.  
This year, it carried a new banner.  
An American flag the size of a basketball court unfurled over several lanes of São Paulo’s main avenue on Sunday, with demonstrators holding the flag aloft as they protested the expected conviction this week of former President Jair Bolsonaro on charges of planning a coup.  
The flag was a message of thanks to President Trump for trying to intervene in Mr. Bolsonaro’s case. It became the defining image of the day’s enormous protests, plastered across social media and newspaper front pages. And it may soon be at the center of a police investigation that could involve the National Football League. (More on that later.)  
It was also a sign of the U.S. flag’s shifting global image as Mr.



A roughly 5,000-square-foot American flag was unfurled for an Independence Day protest on Sunday in São Paulo, Brazil.

Trump transforms how America is seen abroad.  
This year, right-wing demonstrators in South Korea waved American flags when protesting what they believed was a rigged election, echoing cries of “Stop the Steal” as Mr. Trump’s supporters did after the 2020 election. After Mr. Trump won last year’s elec-

tion, conservative Israelis excited about stronger U.S. support for the war in Gaza hung American flags from their windows and wore red-white-and-blue skull-caps.  
At the same time, in the United States, some protesters demonstrating against the Trump ad-

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**SPORTS B7-10**  
**Playing the Second Half**  
Damar Hamlin had a brush with death during an N.F.L. game in 2023. He’d like to be known for more. **PAGE B7**

**A Life-Shaping Line Drive**  
A gruesome injury in a 2014 Cactus League game linked two players, who “basically became family.” **PAGE B10**

**INTERNATIONAL A4-8**  
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The French president named a close ally as his choice for prime minister. The selection is unlikely to ease pressure on him from left and right. **PAGE A8**

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Each day of war risks a strike on many sites, including Chernobyl, that could scatter radioactive material. **PAGE A6**

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Christoph von Dohnanyi, 95, longtime head of the Cleveland Orchestra, was widely sought to sit in. **PAGE B13**

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The Treasury Department is dismantling efforts by the I.R.S. to shut down aggressive strategies used by top companies and wealthy taxpayers. **PAGE A16**

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A new report shows both the ambitions and limits of the “Make America Healthy Again” agenda. **PAGE A14**

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Mexico City’s food scene is changing, to mixed reactions, as a result of U.S. citizens taking up residence. **PAGE D1**



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The graffiti artist Fonki, who lives in Phnom Penh, takes inspiration from ancient Cambodian statues. **PAGE C1**

**Searching for Major Players**  
The independent music company Reservoir has acquired most of Miles Davis’s music publishing rights. **PAGE C1**

**BUSINESS B1-6**  
**Media Prince Becomes King**  
Lachlan Murdoch, a former philosophy student, will control the family empire for what may be decades. **PAGE B1**

**Downward Jobs Revision**  
A preliminary figure of 911,000 fewer jobs added could raise the pressure on the labor statistics bureau. **PAGE B1**

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**Carlos Lozada** **PAGE A18**

