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WAM

MOHAMMAD ATTENDS ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX

President His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan attends the final race of the Formula 1 calendar, the Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix 2023, from Shams Tower at Yas Marina Circuit. He was joined at the event by Shaikhs, state guests and dignitaries. The President congratulated the drivers participating in the race and F1 fans around the world on the successful conclusion of the 2023 championship.

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WAM

HAMDAN LEADS THOUSANDS IN DUBAI RUN

Shaikh Hamdan Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of The Executive Council of Dubai, yesterday led the world's largest fun run event — Dubai Run — on Shaikh Zayed Road as over 226,000 fitness enthusiasts joined him on the occasion. The runners and walkers took over Dubai's iconic Shaikh Zayed Road, marking the end of the month-long Dubai Fitness Challenge.

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Green signal for Dh18b Metro Blue Line

DUBAI'S BIGGEST PUBLIC TRANSPORT PROJECT TO HAVE 9 ELEVATED AND 5 UNDERGROUND STATIONS

DUBAI

BY KHITAM AL AMIR
Chief News Editor

The Dubai Metro Blue Line project, Dubai's biggest and most significant public transport project, has been approved on Friday.

At a total cost of Dh18 billion, the Blue Line project was approved by His Highness Shaikh Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime

Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai. The project that will strategically link key areas in the emirate through 14 stations is scheduled for completion in 2029, coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the Dubai Metro.

The project, spanning 30 kilometres in length, with half of it underground at depths reaching up to 70 metres, is set to transform the city's public transportation network, catering to the needs of approximately one million residents. During a ceremony held

The project, to be completed in 2029 and spanning 30km in length, with half of it underground at depths reaching up to 70 metres, is set to transform the city's public transportation network.

at Dubai Creek Harbour, Shaikh Maktoum Bin Mohammad Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the UAE, launched the Dubai Metro Blue Line project.

The Blue Line will offer a direct connection between Dubai International Airport and nine key areas along the line namely Mirdif, Al Warqa, International City 1 and 2, Dubai Silicon Oasis, Academic City, Ras Al Khor Industrial Area,

Dubai Creek Harbour and Dubai Festival City.

The Blue Line consists of nine elevated stations and five underground stations. By 2030, the Blue Line is anticipated to serve approximately 200,000 passengers daily, with this figure expected to increase to 320,000 passengers daily by 2040. The line is designed to handle an estimated capacity of about 56,000 passengers per hour in both directions at a service interval of about 1.5 minutes.

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Pressure mounts on Israel to extend ceasefire in Gaza

Biden says 'chances are real' for extending truce

GAZA

Israel faces mounting pressure to extend a four-day pause in its war against Hamas, but military officials fear that a longer truce risks blunting its efforts to rout the militants.

Yesterday, Israeli army said 14 Israeli hostages and three foreign nationals had been handed over to the Red Cross in Gaza.

That increases the number of hostages returned — and there is strong domestic pressure within Israel to extend the pause. It also increases diplomatic pressure on Israel from the international community,



AFP

Relatives of Palestinian prisoner Israa Jaabis (centre) welcome her at her home in east Jerusalem, yesterday.

which will become steadily less willing to countenance a return to the pounding of Gaza and the resulting humanitarian crisis.

US President Joe Biden, a staunch ally of Israel, on Friday said "the chances are real" for

extending the truce, as he urged a broader effort to achieve a two-state solution with a viable Palestinian state existing alongside Israel.

— AFP

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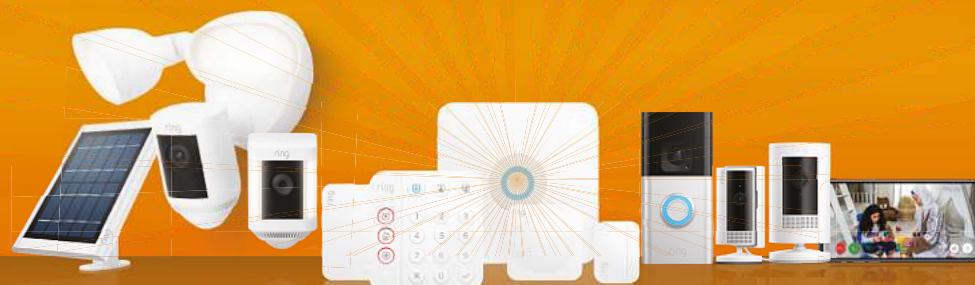
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