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Sunday, AUGUST 23 , 2026
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NEW YORK NEWS

The Voice of People

From New York



Photo: Mayor Mamdani says that taxes on second homes will help fund social programmes aimed at New Yorkers struggling with affordability
Image Source: Getty Images/BBC

NY Tax Backlash

Pied-à-Terre List Ignites Debate

Alexander Sullivan:
A heated debate erupted at City Hall on Tuesday during a city council oversight meeting addressing New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani's controversial "pied-à-terre" tax rollout. The dispute centers on a public list containing nearly one million properties, which critics argue unfairly targets homeowners and poses serious security risks. The proposed tax imposes an annual fee on second homes valued over $5 million and condos or co-ops worth more than $1 million. While the city ultimately sent tax notices to 17,000 residents, the published list exposed the addresses of wealthy figures, including hedge fund manager Ken Griffin and actress Cynthia Nixon. Council Member Kamillah Hanks criticized the publication as a "hit list," warning that it could invite scams. Supporters, including Morris Pearl of Patriotic Millionaires, argued that wealthy owners of luxury secondary homes should contribute more to city services. The surcharge is projected to generate $500 million annually to fund public programs.

HIGHLIGHT

●Mayor Zohran Mamdani's proposed tax targets luxury second homes.
●A public property list sparked privacy and security concerns.
●The surcharge could generate $500 million annually.

Edmonton Temple Stabbing Attack

Two Injured In Canada Gurdwara

John Paul

A violent stabbing attack at a Sikh temple in Edmonton, Canada, left two worshippers injured on Friday, August 21, 2026, inside the Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple. According to the Edmonton Police Service, a 27-year-old suspect attempted to enter the prayer area before confronting staff and allegedly stabbing two men, aged 75 and 51. Witnesses detained the suspect until police arrived.
Both victims remain in stable condition with non-life-threatening injuries.
The suspect had reportedly been released from an Alberta federal prison just one day earlier and failed to report to his designated halfway house. Police are investigating whether the attack was motivated by hate, amid reports that a copy of the Sikh scripture was desecrated.

HIGHLIGHT

●A 27-year-old suspect is in custody after the Edmonton temple stabbing.

●Two worshippers, aged 75 and 51, were injured but are stable.



Photo: The Nanaksar Gurdwara Gursikh Temple in Edmonton, Canada.
Image Source: Getty Images/BBC



Photo: Trump has repeatedly mentioned making Canada the "51st state" of America since returning to office
Image Source: Reuters/BBC

US-Canada Trade Talks Collapse

Trump Tariffs Spark Trade War

Rodrigo Diaz

Trade relations between the United States and Canada reached a historic low after bilateral negotiations collapsed late on Friday, August 21, 2026. The breakdown triggered new 50% U.S. tariffs on a targeted range of Canadian imports valued at about $20 billion.
President Donald Trump criticized Canada, saying it wants "the benefits of being a State, without being one," while also accusing the country of imposing heavy tariffs on American farmers. Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney condemned the move as a "miscalculation" and announced dollar-for-dollar retaliatory tariffs beginning September 8, 2026, targeting U.S. steel, dairy, appliances, and electronics.
The dispute has raised concerns over the future of the USMCA, which supports about $1.6 trillion in annual trade between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said there are currently no plans to resume negotiations.

HIGHLIGHT

●U.S.-Canada trade talks collapsed, triggering 50% tariffs.

●Trump criticized Canada over trade and statehood remarks.

●Canada announced retaliatory tariffs starting September 8.

●The dispute threatens the broader USMCA trade relationship.

Libya Tests Unity Path

Rivals Agree On Historic Budget

Lily Anderson

Fifteen years after the fall of Tripoli and the overthrow of Muammar Gaddafi, Libya's rival factions are exploring an unexpected avenue toward stability. In April 2026, the country's competing legislatures agreed on a unified national budget of 190 billion dinars, approximately $30 billion, split between the eastern and western administrations.
This landmark agreement, backed by the United States, represents the first joint fiscal compromise in more than a decade. Since the 2011 uprising, Libya has been plagued by parallel institutions, delayed elections, and devastating oil blockades. However, the recent budget deal suggests a shift from economic confrontation toward pragmatic bargaining. While political reconciliation remains elusive, economic necessity has forced cooperation. Joint military training exercises were recently held in Sirte, while oil production has stabilized after years of shutdowns. Security challenges persist, highlighted by the assassination of military intelligence chief Fawzi al-Mansouri in Benghazi.

HIGHLIGHT

●Rival Libyan factions agreed on a unified budget for the first time in over a decade.

●The agreement comes 15 years after the downfall of Muammar Gaddafi.

Whether this growing economic cooperation can lead to a lasting political settlement and national elections remains a major test for the divided country.

NEW YORK NEWS
Sunday, AUGUST, 2026
ISSUE-94
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ANTI-ISLAM RALLY IN DETROIT: TRAITORS TO THE CONSTITUTION

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COMMUNITY NEWS

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MTA Boosts Open Transit

NYN Community Desk

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) announced on August 20, 2026, that it will run enhanced subway and Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) service to accommodate the massive crowds expected at the annual US Open tennis championship in Queens. The service upgrades will begin on August 23, 2026, and run through the end of the tournament on September 13, 2026.
MTA Chief Customer Officer Shanifah Rieara urged the anticipated one million attendees to utilize public transit, highlighting that subway rides cost $3 and off-peak LIRR tickets are $5. To manage the influx, the MTA will stage extra 7 trains and run up to seven express trains from Mets-Willets Point after evening matches.
LIRR President Rob Free confirmed that the railroad will add the Mets-Willets
Point stop to four westbound AM peak trains and four eastbound PM peak trains on the Port Washington Branch, alongside extra evening cars. Despite overlapping New York Mets games at Citi Field, subway executive Bill Amarosa assured that the agency is fully prepared to handle the concurrent sporting events seamlessly.



Photo: MTA officials announce enhanced 7 train and Long Island Rail Road service for three-week US Open starting Aug. 23. Thursday, Aug. 20, 2026.

Queens Celebrates Global Culture

NYN Local Correspondent

The Queens International Food and Music Festival celebrated its ninth year on Sunday, Aug. 16, drawing crowds to Phil “Scooter” Rizzuto Park in Richmond Hill. The free event featured international food, live music, and cultural performances. Attendees sampled Guyanese and Caribbean specialties, while local restaurants including Food by Parika, Regent Lounge, and Kaieteur Restaurant competed in a cooking contest featuring duck curry and baigan choka. The festival also featured performances by Brian Mohan, Randy “Recklez” Ramdin with the Angels Caribbean Band, and the Shelly Ramnanan dance troupe. Sponsored by EmblemHealth, the event brought the community together through food, music, and shared culture.



Photo: Several Queens residents were on hand for the Queens International Food and Music Festival on Sunday, Aug. 16, at Phil “Scooter” Rizzuto Park.
Image Source : Alice Moreno

New Restaurants At JFK



Photo: A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held for the Dos Toros Taqueria restaurant in Terminal 4 at John F. Kennedy International Airport, the result of a partnership between JFKIAT and HMSHost.
Image Source: Photo courtesy of JFKIAT

NYN Community Reporter

On Wednesday, Aug. 19, JFKIAT, the private operator of Terminal 4 at John F. Kennedy International Airport, officially expanded its culinary offerings by debuting four new New York City-based restaurants. The expansion, completed in partnership with global travel restaurateur HMSHost, aims to showcase the city's rich cultural diversity to international and domestic travelers alike. The newly introduced dining options include FIELDTRIP, a Harlem-born rice bowl concept founded by James Beard Award-winning Chef J.J. Johnson; Bessou, a Japanese-American eatery established by Maiko Kyogoku; Chopt, a popular custom-salad chain started by Colin McCabe and Tony Shure; and Dos Toros Taqueria, a San Francisco Mission-style taqueria brought to the East Coast by brothers Leo and Oliver Kremer. According to Roel Huinink, CEO of JFKIAT, these local brands bring globally influenced flavors that reflect the unique character of New York City. The new locations are designed to accommodate busy travelers, offering quick-service options, grab-and-go menus, and dedicated breakfast selections to improve the passenger experience at one of the nation’s busiest airport terminals.

Apple Pressed On Empower

NYN Neighborhood Report

On August 21, 2026, New York City lawmaker Shaun Abreu sent a formal letter to Apple Inc. demanding the removal of the ride-hailing application Empower from its App Store. Abreu, who serves as the City Council Transportation Committee Chair, argued that the tech giant is enabling illegal transit operations within the five boroughs. According to city officials, Empower has been operating without a Taxi & Limousine Commission license since 2022. The service, created by Yazam Inc., allegedly bypasses regulatory oversight, driver vetting, and passenger safety protocols. Despite receiving a cease-and-desist order, the company continues to dispatch more than 100,000 trips per week and owes the city over $45,000 in unpaid fines. Abreu also said Empower avoids paying the state congestion surcharge and MTA congestion pricing toll, allowing it to offer fares about 20% lower than competitors such as Uber and Lyft. The New York City Law Department filed a lawsuit in March 2026 seeking to shut down the service. Apple is reportedly reviewing the matter.



Photo: Uber and Lyft drivers in Lower Manhattan.
Image Source: Lloyd Mitchell



Photo: Construction workers remove scaffolding from the HighBridge Houses.
Image Source: Photo by Lloyd Mitchell

NYC Targets Unsightly Scaffolding

NYN News Correspondent

On Thursday, August 20, 2026, the New York City Department of Buildings finalized sweeping new regulations designed to force property owners to dismantle the miles of unsightly scaffolding lining city streets. The reform aims to stop landlords from leaving sidewalk sheds up indefinitely without making progress on building repairs.Under the new rules, building owners must submit scaffolding renewal requests every 90 days, a significant shift from the previous automatic annual renewals. Each request must include a detailed progress report on facade repairs. Additionally, the city is introducing graduated monthly fines starting next year for owners who leave sheds up without active work after 180 days.
Mayor Zohran Mamdani announced that the city has already seen a nearly 10 percent drop in sidewalk sheds since he took office in January, with 7,427 permitted sheds standing as of August 17, 2026.
To improve the pedestrian experience, the city also proposed six alternative modern designs to replace traditional green plywood structures. City Council Member Gale Brewer praised the initiative, noting it will bring much-needed relief to neighborhoods heavily impacted by long-standing scaffolding.

Prayer Time IN New York

FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
04:54	12:58	04:43	07:41	09:02
04:55	12:58	04:43	07:39	09:00
04:57	12:58	04:42	07:38	08:58
04:58	12:57	04:41	07:36	08:56
04:59	12:57	04:40	07:34	08:54
05:00	12:57	04:39	07:33	08:52
05:02	12:56	04:38	07:31	08:51

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OPINION

Queens Celebrates Global Culture

Page-02

ANTI-ISLAM RALLY IN DETROIT: TRAITORS TO THE CONSTITUTION

– Imam Shamsi Ali

Recently, there has been a surge of anti-Islam and anti-Sharia rallies and demonstrations in various cities across America. The perpetrators are only a handful of people, at most a few dozen, yet they claim to speak on behalf of hundreds of millions of Christian Americans.

The main driver of this activity is Jack Lang, one of the conspirators and perpetrators of the attack on Capitol Hill when Donald Trump lost the presidential election to Biden. He was arrested and imprisoned, but was released through an amnesty granted by Trump after he was re-elected as president.

Based on his digital footprint, Jack Lang himself is in fact a Zionist Jew. Several photos show him praying and kissing the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem and meeting with leaders of the Zionist state of Israel. That is why many believe that Jack Lang is a paid conspirator deliberately sowing enmity to provoke a clash between Christians and Muslims in America.

Since his release from prison, Jack Lang has carried out similar acts in several cities, such as in Texas in front of the Islamic Center led by Sheikh Yasir Qadhi, one of the charismatic scholars in America, in Philadelphia, and including in New York in front of the official residence of New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani a few months ago. Interestingly, when he did it in Minnesota, the Somali community stepped in and taught him a lesson. The same thing happened when he did it for the first time in Detroit and Los Angeles a few days ago.

In their actions, Jack Lang and his group use freedom of speech and expression as a justification. This is something that we, the Muslim community in America, highly value and are grateful for. However, freedom of speech and expression must be understood in its proper and reasonable context. That freedom was never intended to disturb, obstruct, let alone destroy the rights of others, including the right of the Muslim community to practice their religion. Therefore, Jack Lang's justification is a forced pretext made in the name of the Constitution.

A Combination of Racism and Islamophobia

If we observe Jack Lang's movement, both in actions and in words, it can be concluded that what I call his activity as a "trouble and chaos maker" is motivated by two main things.

First, like Trump and his followers including Jack, they suffer from a severe disease of racism. They are followers of Nazi ideology who feel superior based on the white race, or white supremacy. Hence their targets in general are non-white people, especially Hispanics and Black Americans.

The attacks on the Muslim community are also driven by this sentiment. That is because Muslims in America and the West in general are categorized as newcomers (immigrants) and non-white. For a long time, Islam in America has been seen as a non-white religion, particularly seen as the religion of Arabs, South Asians, and Africans. These racists view Islam as an Eastern religion (demographically) that is considered backward and uncivilized.

However, their hatred and hostility towards the Muslim community is more than just racism. It is also driven by hatred, anger, and even frustration over the unstoppable growth of Islam. They have exerted all their power and resources; media, political power, economy, and others, yet Islam continues to rise and grow. In the words of a Jewish rabbi: "The more Islam is pressed, the higher it rises." This makes them, Jack Lang and his group, increasingly uncomfortable and willing to do anything to hinder that growth. This attitude is more popularly known as Islamophobia; an irrational fear of Islam. Feeling threatened by something that is not a threat and does not threaten. One of these fears is that Muslims will take over America.

Detroit became a target because many of its city officials are Muslim, from the Mayor, to City Council members, to its Chief of Police (Ali Shaheen). And they are so worried, even terrified, that the Detroit phenomenon will spread to other regions and cities of America.



— Imam Shamsi Ali : Director, Jamaica Muslim Center & President, Nusantara Foundation

An Attempt to Divide

More than just racism and Islamophobia, what this anti-Islam group is doing is suspected to be an attempt to divide two communities that have great potential to cooperate for the good of America and the world. We know that the largest religious group in the world today is Christianity, if Catholics and Protestants are combined. While Muslims are the second largest religious group, even the largest if Christians are divided into two groups: Catholics and Protestants.

Radical groups like Jack Lang and others actually do not want to see these two communities live in peace and harmony. Because, as mentioned earlier, Jack Lang is a Zionist and has close ties and even interests with Zionist Israel. Some believe that Jack Lang and his group receive financial support from Zionist Israel to carry out their mission. And that appears to be a reality. Jack Lang is a Zionist Jew committing crimes against Islam in the name of Christianity. Thus, both communities (Muslim and Christian) are in fact victims of the Zionist Jack Lang and his gang.

Traitors in the Name of Patriotism

What is even more evil about Jack and his group is the betrayal they commit against America's values and Constitution in the name of patriotism and defending America. In fact, what is happening is a betrayal and destruction of America's own values and Constitution.

We all know that America prides itself as the champion of democracy. Not only does it claim to be a democratic country, but it often claims to bring and defend democracy in various parts of the world. A claim that is certainly open to criticism and debate. Because in reality, often in the name of democracy, America does things that are clearly paradoxical to democracy. What was done in Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran, and even in Latin American countries, most recently in Venezuela, is clearly an insult to the concept of democracy it claims to uphold.

America also claims to be the most tolerant and to provide freedom of religion to all its citizens. It is even the most eager to assess religious freedom in various countries around the world. Furthermore, its relations with other countries are often linked to assessments of religious freedom in those countries.

Most importantly, the American Constitution is quite ideal in terms of religious freedom. Referring to its Constitution, I am among those who have always defended and praised America for its religious freedom. Unfortunately, the constitution is often positioned merely as a beautiful concept, but not rooted in the behavior of some Americans, as seen in the behavior of Jack Lang and his group. Therefore, referring to America's ideal values and Constitution, I dare say that Jack Lang and his group, up to their boss in the White House, are traitors and destroyers in the name of patriotism. This is what has made religious leaders in Detroit unite and reject Jack Lang and his gang.

Finally, I want to say that what Jack Lang and his like are doing will not bring any goodness or benefit to the community they claim to represent (Christians). Nor will it benefit the nation and state of America. On the contrary, what is happening is betrayal, destruction, and humiliation of the nation and the state.

And for Islam and the Muslim community, we will not be intimidated, let alone frightened and weakened. These actions that are not in line with American values and the Constitution will instead become motivation for us to continue to do good, not only for the Muslim community, but we will continue to contribute to making America, our common home, better. And Islam will never stop, even though it is hindered in various ways. On the contrary, Islam will continue to advance and grow stronger, becoming part of what will determine the direction of this nation's journey forward. InshaAllah!

> **"Radical groups like Jack Lang and others actually do not want to see these two communities live in peace and harmony."**



> **"We will continue to contribute to making America, our common home, better."**

The Science of Sleep: Why Rest Is Essential for a Healthy Life

Dr. Nadia Rahman

Sleep is often treated as time lost, especially in a world that celebrates constant activity, long work hours, and nonstop digital engagement. Yet science tells us the opposite: sleep is one of the most important biological processes for maintaining physical health, mental clarity, and emotional balance.

During sleep, the body does not simply "switch off." The brain organizes memories, the immune system strengthens its defenses, hormones are regulated, and damaged tissues begin to repair. A lack of proper sleep can affect concentration, mood, decision-making, and overall health.

Modern technology has made healthy sleep more difficult. Smartphones, social media, late-night work, and constant notifications keep the brain active long after the body needs rest. Many people now carry stress directly into bed, making deep and restorative sleep harder to achieve.



— Dr. Nadia Rahman Science Writer and Health Educator

Scientific research also shows that regular sleep patterns matter. Going to bed and waking up at similar times helps the body maintain its natural internal clock. Simple habits—reducing screen use before bedtime, limiting late caffeine, keeping the bedroom quiet, and allowing enough time for rest—can improve sleep quality significantly.

Sleep should not be seen as laziness. It is a biological necessity. Just as the body needs food, water, and movement, it also needs proper rest. A healthier society must learn to value sleep not as wasted time, but as essential time. When we protect our sleep, we protect our minds, our bodies, and our ability to live well.

PHILANTHROPY

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Food Distribution Serves Jamaica Community

Save the People USA provides practical support to local residents

NYN Newsroom

A line of volunteers, boxes of food, and residents arriving for support turned a neighborhood gathering in Jamaica, Queens into another example of direct community service by Save the People USA (STPUSA).

The organization held a food distribution on Thursday, August 13, 2026, beginning at 2:30 p.m. at 87-41 165th Street, Jamaica, NY 11432. Volunteers organized supplies and helped distribute food items to community members, including fresh produce visible at the distribution tables.

The event reflected STPUSA's continuing focus on humanitarian work at the neighborhood level. Food assistance



remains one of the most immediate forms of community support, offering residents practical help while also creating a sense of care and connection between local organizations and the people they serve. For volunteers, the distribution offered a chance to take part in direct service. Their work included preparing food items, assisting at tables, and helping the distribution run smoothly. The effort showed how organized volunteerism turns community concern into meaningful action.

The program also highlighted the importance of dignity in humanitarian service. A food distribution does more than provide groceries. It creates a setting where residents receive support in person and where community organizations remain visible, accessible, and engaged with local needs.

Save the People USA has continued to use community-based programs to connect humanitarian service with local participation. Through events such as this one, the organization brings volunteers and residents together around a shared goal of supporting families and strengthening neighborhood ties.

The August 13 food distribution carried a simple message through action. Service becomes most meaningful when it reaches people directly and responds to everyday needs with care and respect.

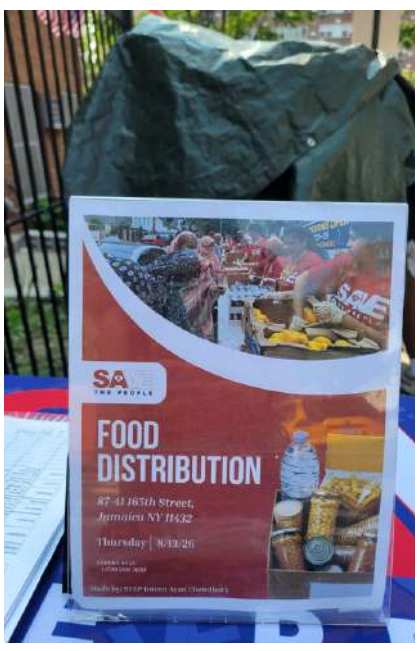
For STPUSA, the event represented another step in its ongoing humanitarian efforts in Queens. By bringing food, volunteers, and community members together, the organization reinforced its commitment to compassion, local service, and helping people through practical support.

















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Mawlid Celebration Brings Community Together

Scholars and families gather at Empire State Plaza

NYN Special Correspondent



Faith, scholarship, and youth participation came together in Albany, New York, as the North American Muslim Alliance (NAMA) hosted its Convention and Mawlid Celebration 2026, bringing Muslim families, scholars, imams, and young participants together for a full day of religious learning and community engagement.

The gathering took place on Saturday, August 22, 2026, beginning at 9 a.m. at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center.

The program centered on Islamic education and the remembrance of Prophet Muhammad (SAW), while giving attendees opportunities to hear from religious scholars and take part in activities designed for different age groups.

Featured speakers included Shaykh Yasir Fahry, Shaykh Saiful Azam Al-Azhary, Shaykh Dr. Muhammad bin Yahya Al-Ninowy, Shaykh Yusuf Azhari, Shaykh Khushtar Noorani, Mufti Manzarul Islam Azhari, Imam Bilal Khan, Imam Adnan Rokadia, Imam Muhammad Abu Bakr, and Mufti Sajjad Raza Madni.

Their participation added a broad range of religious voices to the convention.

A major part of the event focused on children and teenagers through the Children's Youth Competitions. Young participants ages 5 to 12 joined a painting competition based on "The City of the Prophet (SAW)." Teenagers ages 12 to 18 took part in a speech competition on the character of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and its relevance in today's world, as well as an essay competition focused on the Prophet as a role model for children and youth.

The program also included a Quiz and Kahoot Challenge for participants ages 12 to 18, testing their knowledge of the life, teachings, and noble character of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). Winners received prizes, while participants were offered certificates and free participation in the youth activities.

The convention reflected NAMA's effort to combine religious scholarship with family and youth engagement. By giving younger participants a central role alongside established scholars and imams, the event created a space where Islamic learning, creativity, and community connection were shared across generations.

The 2026 NAMA Convention and Mawlid Celebration closed as a gathering centered on faith, education, and participation, with youth activities serving as a key part of the day's broader community focus.





Hifz Graduation Marks a Milestone

Families and teachers celebrate student dedication

NYN Digital Desk



Years of discipline, repetition, patience, and faith reached a meaningful milestone as students of Jamiah Qurania Academy were honored during a Hifz Graduation Ceremony celebrating their completion of Qur'an memorization.

The gathering recognized students who dedicated themselves to memorizing the Qur'an, an achievement that requires sustained focus and commitment over a long period.

For the graduates, the ceremony marked the completion of a demanding educational and spiritual journey. For their families and teachers, it became a moment to celebrate the support, encouragement, and guidance that helped make the accomplishment possible. Jamaica Muslim Center shared its appreciation for the students in a public message, writing, "Alhamdulillah, celebrating the students of Jamiah Qurania Academy at their Hifz Graduation Ceremony." The post reflected the pride surrounding the graduates and the significance of their achievement within the community.

The message also offered prayers for the students and those who supported them. "May Allah ﷻ accept their dedication to memorizing His Book, make the Qur'an the light of their hearts, and grant immense reward to their parents, teachers, and everyone who supported them on this beautiful journey," the center stated. The ceremony highlighted more than individual accomplishment. Hifz education depends on close cooperation among students, teachers, parents, and religious institutions. Daily study, regular review, and long-term encouragement all play important roles in helping students complete the memorization process. For the wider community, the graduation served as a reminder of the importance placed on preserving Qur'anic learning and passing religious knowledge to younger generations.

The students' achievement also offered encouragement to others beginning or continuing their own studies.By recognizing the graduates publicly, Jamiah Qurania Academy and Jamaica Muslim Center celebrated a milestone rooted in faith, education, and perseverance. The event honored the students for what they had achieved while also acknowledging the families, teachers, and supporters who stood beside them throughout the journey.








Jamaica Bangladesh Friends Society, Inc. New York
জামাইকা বাংলাদেশ ফ্রেন্ডস সোসাইটি ইনক, নিউইয়র্ক
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LEARNING

Jamaica Families Mark Back-to-School Season

Community program focuses on students and the new academic year

NYN Desk Report



As students prepared to return to classrooms for another academic year, Jamaica Bangladesh Friend Society Inc. New York brought the community together for a Back-to-School program focused on children, families, and education. The event offered a community setting for families to mark the beginning of the new school year while placing young students at the center of attention. Organized by the Jamaica Bangladesh Friend Society, the gathering reflected the group's continuing involvement with families in the Jamaica, New York community. Back-to-school season represents an important transition for children and parents alike. Community programs surrounding the start of the academic year help create enthusiasm among students while reminding families of the value placed on education and youth development.

The Jamaica Bangladesh Friend Society's program also highlighted the role local community organizations play beyond cultural and social gatherings. By organizing an event centered on students, the organization brought families together around a shared priority: helping the younger generation begin the school year with encouragement and community support.

For immigrant communities, local organizations often serve as meeting points where parents, children, and neighbors develop stronger relationships. Events centered on education provide another opportunity for those connections to grow while keeping young people engaged with the wider community.

The Back-to-School event also carried a broader message about collective responsibility for children. Parents and schools remain central to a student's education, while community organizations provide another layer of encouragement by creating spaces where academic progress and youth participation receive public recognition.

For Jamaica Bangladesh Friend Society Inc. New York, the program added an education-focused initiative to its community activities and placed attention on the needs and aspirations of local students.

As children headed toward a new year of classes, assignments, and new experiences, the gathering offered them something equally important: a visible reminder that their community values their education and wants to see them succeed.















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Life Continues on the Edge of the Jamuna

Education, healthcare, and survival shape daily life



NYN Staff Reporter

HUMAN CONCERN INTERNATIONAL

Life on Shushuar Char in Tangail is shaped by a simple reality: the river takes, and the people begin again. A recent visit by journalists and development workers brought renewed attention to a community built through decades of migration, erosion, rebuilding, and determination along the Jamuna River.

The journey began from Dhaka, continued through Bhuapur Upazila and Nalin Bazar Ghat, and ended by motorboat on the char. The visiting group included journalists, development workers, British journalist and influencer Sami Hamdi, and Human Concern International executives Mahmuda Khan and Masum Mahbub.

Residents described a history shaped by migration and repeated loss of land. The settlement grew from families who had once moved in search of safer farmland before returning to the river region and establishing new homes. Over time, the char developed houses, schools, mosques, farmland, and local markets. Today, roughly 5,000 people live across an area stretching about five to six miles, cultivating jute, corn, and rice while facing the constant threat of erosion.

One elderly resident summed up the community's biggest concern when asked what single change he wanted most. "If the government would come forward to protect the char from the river current with an embankment," he said.

The visit also highlighted signs of progress. Girls are advancing in education, students are learning computer coding, and residents are receiving care through a mobile medical center. These initiatives have received support from Human Concern International, linking local needs with humanitarian assistance from abroad.

The history of the char is also closely tied to Bahaj Uddin, a son of a poor local family who went on to study at Dhaka University, joined the Liberation War, and later entered the civil service. Residents continue to regard him as a source of pride and an example of what can emerge from a community shaped by hardship. For visitors, the trip offered more than a view of rural Bangladesh. It revealed a population living with uncertainty while continuing to educate children, grow food, seek medical care, and rebuild after loss.

On Shushuar Char, resilience is not an abstract idea. It is part of everyday life.




















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RESILIENCE

Shushuar Char Tells a Story of Survival





















All Photo Credit : Ibrahim Chowdhury

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CALL TO ACTION!



NEXT BOE Meeting

END RACISM & DISCRIMINATION TOWARDS EVERY CHILD.

Every child deserves to feel safe, valued, respected, and supported.

OUR CHILDREN. OUR SCHOOLS. OUR FUTURE.

WHEN:
AUGUST 25TH AT 8PM

WHERE:
MEMORIAL JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
320 FLETCHER AVENUE
VALLEY STREAM, NY 11580

WHO:
PARENTS, STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, COMMUNITY MEMBERS—EVERY VOICE MATTERS!

BE HEARD. BE PRESENT. BE THE CHANGE.



TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD A SCHOOL DISTRICT
WHERE EVERY CHILD THRIVES—FREE FROM RACISM AND DISCRIMINATION.

ONE COMMUNITY. | ONE VOICE. | ONE VALLEY STREAM.

NATURE

Whales Move Into Greenland Waters

Melting sea ice opens new feeding grounds

NYN Digital Desk

A coastline once sealed off by sea ice is becoming a summer feeding ground for some of the largest animals on Earth, as warming waters draw thousands of whales into East Greenland.A decades-long study found dramatic increases in humpback, fin, and minke whales along the region's coast, where heavy ice once kept these species away. Researchers described the change as a major ecological shift linked to rising sea temperatures, shrinking ice cover, and changing food supplies. The transformation has been rapid. Ship-based surveys recorded no humpback whales in the area before 2006. Seven were spotted in 2007, while by 2024 researchers documented 150 ship-based sightings. Scientists combined aerial surveys from 2015 and 2024, satellite tracking from 15 tagged whales, and observations from Inuit hunters. Their findings suggest large baleen whales are taking advantage of newly accessible feeding grounds.



Fin whales feed in ice-free East Greenland waters, as scientists observe from their boats

Researchers estimated that about 4,000 humpback whales, 6,000 fin whales, and 6,000 minke whales entered the Greenland Sea during the summer of 2024. Together, the three species consumed at least 800,000 tons of fish and krill over the feeding season.

Prof. Mads Peter Heide-Jørgensen of the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources described the changes as among the most radical seen anywhere in the subarctic.

The whales appear to be following fish populations moving into warmer waters.

The shift has created clear winners and losers. Large baleen whales are adapting quickly and appear to benefit from new feeding opportunities. Arctic species such as narwhals and belugas, by contrast, face increasing pressure as their traditional habitat changes and new competitors arrive.

"For some species, climate change is not necessarily a problem, it opens up new opportunities," Heide-Jørgensen said. "But other species are losing their habitat."

The study does not establish whether overall whale populations are increasing or whether animals are moving from other regions, including West Greenland. Still, the findings provide strong evidence that warming seas are reorganizing marine life around East Greenland.

The research, published in Frontiers in Marine Science, shows how quickly Arctic ecosystems are changing as sea ice retreats and new species move into waters once beyond their reach.



A humpback whale feeding in coastal subarctic waters



The researchers fitted satellite tracking devices to some whales to follow their seasonal movements



While some whales are benefiting from warming waters, Arctic species like narwhals are losing habitat

Rare Baby Whale Shark Found in Indonesia

Discovery offers clues to a hidden nursery

NYN Digital Desk

A baby whale shark only about 5 feet long has given scientists one of their strongest clues yet in a mystery surrounding the world's largest fish: where whale sharks begin their lives.

The rare sighting occurred in Saleh Bay on the Indonesian island of Sumbawa on September 6, 2024, when local fishers alerted researchers after spotting the young shark near a traditional floating fishing structure known as a bagan. The animal, estimated to be around four months old, became the first neonatal whale shark formally documented in Indonesian waters.

For marine scientist Mochamad Iqbal Herwata Putra of Konservasi Indonesia, the discovery offered a rare look at a life stage scientists almost never observe. Despite decades of research, no one has directly witnessed whale sharks mating or giving birth in the wild.

Saleh Bay presents several features suited to young whale sharks. Rich waters support krill, mackerel, squid, and other food sources, while the enclosed bay offers shelter from larger predators. Researchers have tagged 25 whale sharks in the area, with many spending long periods inside or near the bay before returning after short journeys elsewhere.



Low oxygen zones may act as "oceanic cloaks", where newborn whale sharks can hide from predators (Credit: Jonathan Irish)

"This area is like home for the whale sharks," Herwata Putra said.

The discovery carries added importance because whale sharks remain endangered. Global populations have fallen by more than 50 percent since the 1980s, driven by fishing, ship strikes, climate pressures, and other threats.

Scientists have recorded only about 33 neonatal whale sharks worldwide. Those rare sightings have occurred across tropical waters, including the Atlantic, Arabian Sea, Pakistan, and the Galapagos.

Researchers now suspect some newborns seek areas with low oxygen deeper in the water column, where fewer predators travel and food often gathers along the edges.

The Indonesian discovery also highlighted cooperation between researchers and local fishing communities. Attitudes toward whale sharks in Saleh Bay have shifted as ecotourism and conservation programs have grown.

Konservasi Indonesia is now working toward a marine protected area in northern Saleh Bay focused specifically on whale shark protection.

For scientists, the newborn sighting offers no final answer yet. Still, the small shark has brought researchers closer to understanding one of the ocean's longest-standing reproductive mysteries.



When fully grown, this four-month-old whale shark could be 10 times the length it is now (Credit: Abdy Hasan/ Konservasi Indonesia)



Each whale shark has its own unique constellation-like pattern of dots, and Nasa star-mapping tech can been used to ID them (Credit: Noemi Merz/ Ocean Image Bank)



This neonate whale shark is one of just a handful ever seen, and the first in Indonesian waters (Credit: Diaz Adiyoga/ Konservasi Indonesia)



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END PAGE

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Photo: The T1 phone from Trump Mobile
Image Source : Online

Trump Mobile Faces Scrutiny

Promised American Smartphone Details Shift

Amkel Nourush

A high-profile tech venture launched by the family of President Donald Trump is facing growing scrutiny over unfulfilled promises and shifting specifications. Trump Mobile, introduced in the summer of 2025 by the president's eldest sons, Donald Trump Jr. and Eric Trump, heavily promoted its flagship T1 smartphone as a "Made in the USA" alternative to mainstream mobile devices.

Initially, the company assured consumers that the devices would be manufactured domestically and shipped within a few months. However, an investigation has revealed that key details regarding the phone's design, technical specifications, manufacturing origin, and release dates have repeatedly changed over the past year.
Despite the initial marketing blitz, numerous customers who pre-ordered the device are reportedly still waiting for delivery. The shifting narrative surrounding the T1 has raised questions about the feasibility of the domestic supply chain promised by the startup. Neither Trump Mobile representatives nor the Trump brothers have released a definitive timeline for resolving the outstanding shipments, leaving early backers in limbo.



Photo: American Airlines Flight 2398, an Airbus A321 like the plane pictured here, landed safely at Dallas Forth Worth airport
Image Source: Kevin Carter/Getty Images

Laptop Fire On Flight

Passenger Treated After Safe Landing

Charles Lewis

An American Airlines flight from Atlanta, Georgia, was forced to make an emergency response landing on Friday, August 21, 2026, after a passenger's laptop caught fire in the cabin.
The pilot of American Airlines Flight 2398 reported a "cabin fire in the back of the airplane" to air traffic control, noting that flight attendants were actively working to extinguish the flames. Although initial cockpit audio suggested up to five passengers may have suffered burns, officials later confirmed that only one passenger required medical attention on site. That individual was treated and released immediately after the aircraft landed safely at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport in Texas.
American Airlines commended the crew's professionalism and swift response in containing the device. Following standard safety protocols, emergency personnel met the aircraft upon arrival.
The incident highlights ongoing concerns regarding lithium-ion batteries. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has recorded 58 verified lithium battery air incidents involving smoke, fire, or extreme heat so far this year. Over the past two decades, the regulator has documented 84 laptop-related battery incidents, reiterating that such devices must be stowed exclusively in carry-on baggage.

Robots Dominate Beijing Conference

Humanoids And Mechanical Horses Shine

Nassr Al Shams

The global robotics industry took center stage in Beijing, China, as the 2026 World Robot
Conference began its five-day run with more than 300 companies showcasing their latest technological breakthroughs. A humanoid robot riding a mechanical horse became one of the event’s biggest attractions.



Photo: A humanoid robot riding a mechanical horse in front of onlookers Image Source: BBC News

The conference opened on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, highlighting China’s rapid expansion in the robotics sector. On the same day, Unitree Robotics, described as the world’s largest humanoid robot manufacturer, made its stock market debut on the Shanghai exchange.
The 2026 World Humanoid Robot Games also
began on Saturday, August 22, bringing together more than 2,000 robots from 16 countries.
The machines competed in events ranging from athletic sprints to complex technical maneuvers, demonstrating the growing capabilities of modern robotics.

Chelsea Faces New Era

Alonso Takes Stamford Bridge

Henry Bob

Following their worst Premier League run in 30 years, Chelsea Football Club is preparing for a transformative 2026-27 season under newly appointed manager Xabi Alonso. Named manager on July 13, 2026, Alonso becomes Chelsea’s seventh permanent head coach since May 2021.
After finishing 10th last season, Chelsea will compete without European football. Alonso is expected to introduce a 3-4-3 formation, with Cole Palmer remaining central to the club’s hopes of returning to the top four.
Chelsea also signed England forward Morgan Rogers from Aston Villa for a reported £117 million. Building an effective partnership between Rogers and Palmer will be a major challenge for Alonso as the club begins a new era at Stamford Bridge.



Photo: Xabi Alonso, manager of Chelsea Football Club, poses at Stamford Bridge, London, UK, following his appointment, July 13, 2026 Image Source: Neil Hall/EPA



Photo: If the water on the moon is in enough quantity and realistically accessible, it can serve as drinking water on crewed lunar missions. Image Source: Esteban Felix/AP

China Targets Lunar Ice

Chang'e-7 Mission Set To Launch

Julian Alvez

China is preparing to launch its ambitious Chang'e-7 robotic space mission, with a launch window opening between August 24 and August 31, 2026. The unmanned mission will explore permanently shadowed regions near the lunar south pole in search of water ice.
The spacecraft will target Shackleton Crater, a 21-kilometer-wide crater known for extreme terrain and permanent darkness. The mission includes an orbiter, lander, rover, and a specialized six-legged hopper designed to jump into craters that conventional rovers cannot reach.
Finding accessible lunar water ice could play a major role in future deep-space missions by providing drinking water, cooling resources, and materials that could be processed into hydrogen fuel and oxygen for future crewed bases and missions to Mars.