

# [UAE ministry sends out weather warning ahead of papal visit](#)

Sun, 2019-02-03 16:19

DUBAI: The United Arab Emirates' Ministry of Interior warned motorists on Sunday to be cautious on the roads due to unstable weather conditions.

Thunderstorms and heavy rainfall swept across the UAE on Sunday morning, with satellite images from the National Centre of Meteorology showing more showers expected to come.

Pictures and videos of flooded streets were shared across social media.

[شلالات جبل جيس حاليا شمال رأس الخيمة #منخفض\\_التسامح #مركز\\_العاصفة](#)

٣ فبراير ٢٠١٩ [pic.twitter.com/x8LWbMBpQn](https://pic.twitter.com/x8LWbMBpQn)

– مركز العاصفة (@Storm\_centre) [February 3, 2019](#)

Due to weather conditions Global Village – Dubai's multicultural festival park – closed for the day.

The weather is also expected to drop over the next two days with strong winds at a speed of 25 – 35 kmh.

The rainy weather comes as Pope Francis is expected to arrive in Abu Dhabi at 10pm local time on Sunday.



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[Pope Francis visits the UAE](#)

Severe weather sweeps across Saudi ArabiaEgypt reopens five ports after weather improves

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## [Fifth of Egypt's MPs back bid to amend constitution](#)

Author:

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1549137057604044800

Sat, 2019-02-02 22:49

CAIRO: More than a fifth of Egyptian MPs have backed a request seeking amendments to the country's constitution.

Abdul Hadi Al-Qasabi, head of the majority Support Egypt parliamentary bloc, on Friday obtained the signatures of at least a fifth of Egyptian MPs in support of the amendments.

Al-Qasabi did not disclose which articles were the subject of proposed amendments. However, there have been repeated calls in recent years to amend article 140, which limits the presidential term to four years.

Dr. Ali Abdel Aal, the speaker of Egypt's parliament, called for extraordinary sessions next week beginning on Sunday.

Al-Qasabi will request the amendments next week and has the "required constitutional ratio" to make the request.

MP Mahmoud Badr said on his Facebook page that he and a group of "colleagues" had signed a request to amend some articles of the constitution that will be submitted on Sunday.

Article 226 of the Egyptian constitution states that the president of the republic or a fifth of parliament can request an amendment to an article or articles of the constitution. The amendment is then discussed 30 days from the date of submission.



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[constitution](#)

Egypt army says kills 8 militants in desert air strikes  
Egypt to launch foreign currency bond offering in first quarter of 2019

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## [Egypt army says kills 8 militants in desert air strikes](#)

Author:

AFP

ID:

1549128809633314900

Sat, 2019-02-02 17:18

CAIRO: Egypt's military said Saturday it had killed eight militants in air strikes in the Western Desert, as it leads a major campaign against Daesh. "The air force targeted the terrorist base... the completed operation has killed eight very dangerous terrorists", the military said in a statement. The military said "other people" had been arrested during the operation, but did not give details.

“The terrorist cell ... planned hostile actions that aimed to destabilise the country’s security and stability”, the army said, without elaborating. Egypt launched an operation dubbed “Sinai 2018” a year ago, in a bid to dislodge Daesh from the northeastern Sinai Peninsula and other parts of the country, including the Western Desert bordering Libya. The security forces regularly announce that alleged extremists have been killed, but rarely identify the deceased, the groups they support, or the operations they were purportedly planning. It is impossible to verify information on military operations through independent sources. Groups including Human Rights Watch have denounced extra judicial killings, particularly in the Sinai peninsula.

Operation Sinai was launched on February 9 last year and was supposed to last three months, but is still ongoing.



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[Army](#)

[Sinai](#)

[Daesh](#)

Egypt unveils Pharaonic tomb, home to 50 mummies  
Organization of Islamic Cooperation to hold first festival in Egypt next week



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## [Algerian President Bouteflika, 82, to run for 5th term](#)

Author:

Associated Press

ID:

1549123137942706100

Sat, 2019-02-02 (All day)

ALGIERS: Algeria's prime minister says 82-year-old President Abdelaziz Bouteflika will seek a fifth term in this year's election through a letter to the Algerian people in the coming days.

Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia told a press conference Saturday about his "strong belief" that Bouteflika will run in the North African nation's April 18 election. He says "all signs show it and with a little bit of analysis we can easily understand that he's in and that it's only a matter of time." Ouyahia added that he thinks Bouteflika remains "the best candidate" despite ailing health. The Algerian leader is partially paralyzed from a stroke and is rarely seen in public.

Two other candidates, former Prime Minister Ali Benflis and Ret. Gen. Ali Ghediri, have already declared they are running for president.



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[Abdelaziz Bouteflika](#)

[Algeria](#)

Algeria plans solar energy tenders to tackle rising electricity needs  
Algerian opposition names its candidate for presidential poll

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## [Sudanese man dies in detention after protests](#)

Author:

Reuters

ID:

1549109508291407700

Sat, 2019-02-02 12:06

KHARTOUM: A Sudanese school teacher died in detention after being arrested in connection with protests in the east of the country, members of his family said on Saturday.

The 36-year-old man was arrested at his home on Thursday after protests in the town of Khashm Al-Qirba, the family members said, adding that security officials had told them he died of poisoning.

He had marks of being beaten on his body, the family said. The man's funeral took place on Saturday.

Security officials did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Students, activists and other protesters have held almost daily demonstrations across Sudan since Dec. 19, calling for an end to economic hardships and mounting a sustained challenge to President Omar al-Bashir's three decades in power.

Rights groups say at least 45 people have been killed in the protests, while the government puts the death toll at 30, including two security personnel. Bashir has shown no sign of being prepared to concede any power and has blamed the protests on foreign agents, challenging his rivals to seek power through the ballot box.

The information ministry said on Tuesday Sudan's intelligence and security chief had ordered the release of all those detained during the protests. However, the next day security forces detained the daughter of opposition leader Sadiq Al-Mahdi, her family said.

Bashir is wanted by the International Criminal Court over charges, which he denies, of masterminding genocide in the Darfur region. He has been lobbying to have Sudan removed from a list of countries, along with Syria, Iran and North Korea, that Washington considers state sponsors of terrorism.

That listing has deterred the influx of investment and financial aid that Sudan was hoping for when the United States lifted sanctions in 2017, economists say.

Sudan has been rapidly expanding its money supply in an attempt to finance

its budget deficit. But that has caused spiralling inflation and a steep decline in the value of the country's currency on foreign exchange markets.



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Sudan police fire tear gas on protest after prayers  
Sudanese opposition leader's daughter detained: family