

No reprieve from hardship in South Sudan for people fleeing Sudan conflict

NAIROBI: Civilians displaced by the conflict in Sudan have sought sanctuary in the world's youngest country next door, the Republic of South Sudan, only to face a daunting new set of challenges.

An estimated 250,000 people – including a large number of South Sudanese who had been living in Sudan – have crossed the border since fighting erupted in Sudan in April, with many now housed in overcrowded camps lacking food, sanitation and basic healthcare services.

Dozens arrested as protesters mark Iran's 'Bloody Friday': activists

PARIS: Iranian security forces made dozens of arrests Saturday as protesters in the southeast commemorated the killing of dozens of demonstrators in the region one year ago, human rights groups said.

At least 104 people were killed, according to the Norway-based Iran Human Rights NGO, in what is known as "Bloody Friday," when security forces fired on a protest in Zahedan, the main city of Sistan-Baluchistan province, on September 30 last year.

The violence marked the single deadliest day of months-long protests that erupted in Iran last year.

Algeria expands English-language learning as France's influence ebbs

ALGIERS: More than a year after Algeria launched a pilot program to teach English in elementary schools, the country is hailing it as a success and expanding it in a move that reflects a widening linguistic shift underway in former French colonies throughout Africa.

Lion cubs, rare eagle in illegal shipment seized in Lebanon

BEIRUT: Lebanon has pledged to crack down on trafficking in wild animals following the seizure of an illegal shipment that included two lion cubs and a rare eagle near the border with Syria.

Agriculture Minister Abbas Hajj Hassan said on Saturday that Lebanon will adhere to international agreements to prevent smuggling of wildlife, and convicted smugglers will be punished.

Houthis told to release citizens detained for celebrating revolution

AL-MUKALLA: Yemeni officials and international human rights organizations have demanded the Iran-backed Houthis release hundreds of detained citizens who took to the streets of Sanaa and other Yemeni cities last week to commemorate the 61st anniversary of the Sept. 26 revolution. Yemenis marched through the streets of Sanaa with flags and chanted slogans in praise of the republic.