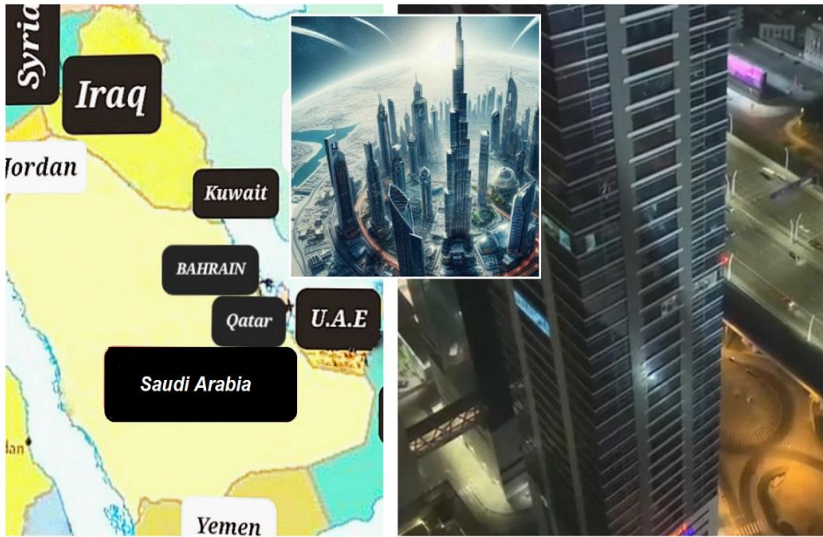




## Dubai dazzles, draws the world : Emerges as financial hub, now aiming to be the centre of global economy

In 1950, Dubai's population was 20,000. Touched 100,000 in 1972. Now its 3.5 million & greater urban metro area is close to 6 million.



### The Asian Tribune

**F**rom a settlement of barely 20,000 people in 1950, Dubai's steady growth during the next couple of decades and the major leap, later, that turned it into one of the most advanced cities in the world, has been a stunning story.

It became a hub of business that attracts professionals, workers and investors from all over the world. A world class city that is known for planned development and ease of business, Dubai became a dream destination for people from across the countries in Asia, Africa and even Europe.

In the 21st century, Dubai continued to grow faster and is now a metropolis that has a population of nearly 3.5 million. If adjoining urban areas are included, then, the population is close to six million. The incredible rise of Dubai in the midst of desert, from a small port city to the 'town of gold' and ultimately becoming a place that is a meeting point of East and the West, is a

result of years of hard work, careful infrastructure development, clarity of clear vision and serious planning. Not dependent on oil, but investing in construction, education, tourism and multiple sectors, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) managed to bring Dubai to a stage that it is fast on way to becoming a sort of world capital--due to its policies, law-and-order, the unique taxation system and the environment that facilitates business, open invitation to investors as well as the lifestyle of the modern era metropolis.

**Dubai continued to grow faster and is now a metropolis with a population of 3.5 million. If the adjoining urban areas are included, then, the population is close to six million.**

The success is chiefly because the leadership focused on expansion of business and ensuring opportunities to immigrants. It is a magnet for expatriates, a city that has people from 200 different nationalities and is already a nerve centre for international trade. Keeping an eye on future, the city was developed in a way that it's skyline fascinates the visitors. It is also a major transport and cargo hub, due to its location, and got reputation of the city of wealth and opportunity.

Dubai was already a financial hub in Asia and Arab World. Also, it is globally recognised as a place that has a booming business. But the UAE aims to turn it into a city that could rival the topmost business centres and overtake other big cities, the traditional hubs, and turn Dubai into a global financial capital. In fact, the 'D33' plan aims to take Dubai to the level of the four biggest global business hubs.

It is not unrealistic at all. People from across the world are flocking to Dubai. In Asia, the trade hubs were Hong Kong, Singapore, Tokyo, Shanghai and Seoul among others. But the centrally located Dubai, a port city, with good air connectivity and law-abiding citizens, is clearly having several advantages and his reflects on the ground. Investors are buying properties in Dubai, as it is considered 'safe'.

Real estate, investor friendly policies and tourism potential, focus on healthcare and education, have added to the image of Dubai as a place to settle. Construction of giant structures that startle the visitors, the connectivity and futuristic vision, have contributed to transformation of Dubai that now rivals the big cities of the world. Demographic trends suggest that the city would grow & become the preferred destination for trade and the centre of the financial world.

### El Dorado in the desert

The Middle East has several big countries and historically important cities.

From Ankara to Baghdad, Alexandria to Istanbul, metro cities that have been centres of trade. Cairo has a population of over 20 million and Baghdad is also above 8 million. In sharp comparison, Dubai was a much smaller city. But the vision and ease of business in UAE, gave it an unprecedented edge in the region.

Few countries in the world have been so confident when it comes to allowing immigrant workers in such a large number.

Given the fact that UAE is a small country and the local population became a minority, even though there was no citizenship for the foreign workers, the step was the game changer in long term.

From South Asia viz. India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, East Asia and other parts, millions of people arrived and Emirates', its cities' became a melting pot of cultures.

## Malaysia PM upset over Meta 'removing' Facebook post on Ismail Haniyeh's assassination

Zuckerberg's social media platform censors content!

The Prime Minister of Malaysia has reacted sharply to the 'removal' of Facebook post on Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh's assassination.

PM Anwar Ibrahim said that the company, Meta, that runs Facebook, has acted unfairly and removed the post, showing the 'cowardice' of the social media company.

He said that a clear message has been given to Meta to stop such acts. On Facebook, Anwar Ibrahim said that he earlier posted a video about expressing



condolence to the Palestine officials, following the assassination in Iran, however, this post was removed.

Earlier too, Malaysia has raised issue about Meta's content. Meta had then issued a statement and restored the post.

## Ismail Haniyeh's assassination leads to anger, Iran vows to avenge killing, fear of escalation in Middle East conflict

Iran has said that the political assassination was an attack on its soil & it will act.

The assassination of Hamas' leader and its political wing chief Ismail Haniyeh's, has the potential to further destabilize the region, inflame passions and worsen the ongoing conflict in Middle East. As Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Khamenei vowed to avenge the assassination, there was clear message that it could cause a fresh escalation. The brazen killing in Iran, has taken place just when efforts for ceasefire were on. The death of tens of thousands of people, including large number of women and children in Palestine, the near complete destruction of Gaza & daily deaths, hadn't stopped.

The Asian Tribune

← Post



Khamenei.ir  
@khamenei\_ir

Following this bitter, tragic event which has taken place within the borders of the Islamic Republic, it is our duty to take revenge.

Apart from Ismael Haniyeh, who was killed in missile attack in Tehran, Hezbollah commander Fuad Shukr has also been killed in a Israeli strike.



Still, there was a section that was hoping that negotiations may bring the situation under control and could reduce the scale of violence in Palestine.

But Israel's attack that led to the death of Ismael Haniyeh and his bodyguard, can throw the region in turmoil.

For Israel's PM, Benjamin Netanyahu, it may be an attempt to get support from the Israeli street. Haniyeh was in Tehran to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the Iranian President.

United States of America (USA) has said that it is watching the situation, closely.

Middle East experts feel that Haniyeh's killing will prompt the Axis of Resistance to retaliate.

In Arab world, people have seen the killings of women and minors, recovery of bodies on a regular basis, for months. If Hezbollah goes ahead with strikes, it may be start of another bloody chapter in the region.

South Asia

### Bangladesh observes day of mourning in memory of 200 students who died in protests

The Asian Tribune

A day of mourning was observed in Bangladesh to remember the sacrifice of nearly 200 students who died in the recent countrywide protests against quotas.

Angry youth had come out on the streets against the provision of reserving 30% seats to the descendants of those who participated in the country's 1971 war.

This led to wide unrest and the protests also turned violent. The police and security forces hit back and students were dealt with, sternly.



This further angered students and it took days before protests ended. The police have also been accused of atrocities and highhandedness. Many students were hit in the eyes, affecting their vision.

Protests continued for days. The students' anger, the size of the protests and the youths' sentiment on quota issue, were reasons enough to cause worry for the administration.

The intensity of protests & anger against government came as a surprise. Youth would come out, hurl stones at universities, hold demonstrations, while raising slogans and expressing anger. Youth opposed quota that existed for freedom fighters' descendants in services.

Asia

### Army leads multiple search operations in Kerala, as hundreds die in Wayanad



The Asian Tribune

Army has been pressed into service and is heading the search operations and rescue missions in Wayanad district of Kerala in Southern India.

The landslide has caused nearly 288 deaths & 1,000 ..

injured. Mundakkai is the region that has been most severely affected.

The death toll is around 288. Many people are still missing. Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi announced that they were on way to Wayanad to meet victims .