# Top Stories

**India successfully test-fires Agni-III missile**  
India's most sophisticated ballistic missile, the Agni-III, which is capable of carrying up to 1000 kg of nuclear payload, is launched off the Orissa coast.

**Elderly man's mutilated body found in Wellington's south coast, NZ**  
A man's body was found in Wellington's south coast of New Zealand mutilated.

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# Wikipedia Current Events

- Several rescue units were sent to the scene.
- There is no intention to reoccupy Gaza in order to stay there, but if certain operations are needed they will be carried out.
- 300 members of the British activist group 'Jews for Justice for Palestinians' sign a petition condemning Israeli military actions in the Gaza Strip.
- An Israeli civilian is moderately wounded as a Qassam rocket strikes his private car in Sderot. Another rocket directly hits a house in Sderot, causing severe damage but no casualties. More than twenty rockets were launched against Israeli towns over the weekend by Palestinian militants, wounding several civilians.
- UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan demands that Israel take urgent action to prevent a humanitarian disaster in the Gaza Strip.
- 40 Sunni civilians massacred by Shia militiamen.
- The Indian government has banned export of pulses due to domestic shortages. This has led to price hikes for pulses in Bangladesh and other countries.
- A Sibir Airbus A310 crashes on landing in Irkutsk, Siberia, with many of the 200 passengers feared dead.

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# Featured story

**One year on, London remembers 7/7 victims**  
Londoners are commemorating the one year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on its transport networks that claimed 52 lives. On this day last year, a series of coordinated suicide bombings struck London's public transport system during the morning rush hour.

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# Italy and France draw 1-1; Italy wins FIFA World Cup on penalties

Italy converted five immaculate penalties to win the 2006 FIFA World Cup after a drawn game and thirty minutes of extra-time in the spectacular arena of the Olympiastadion Berlin, Sunday.

France's captain Zinedine Zidane did not help his team when, 20 minutes into Extra Time, he lost control of his emotions and got a red card.

The game was closely contested with the playmakers on both sides - Andrea Pirlo and Zidane, on his last game before retirement - not getting much space with which to dominate the play. For Italy and France Gennaro Gattuso and Claude Makelele tackled hard.

However; both creative midfield stars made important

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contributions to the only goals of the game. Zidane converted a chipped penalty after five minutes while Pirlo's magnificent corner, a quarter of an hour later, thundered into the net off Marco Materazzi's head.

Olympiastadion

Materazzi had previously conceded the penalty when he tapped Florent Malouda on his ankle as he ran past him in the penalty area.

In the first half Italy's left and right defensive backs Gianluca Zambrotta and Fabio Grosso penetrated down the French flanks. But after the break France came out the strongest. The flow of the game was disrupted when Patrick Viera pulled-up injured and Marcello Lippi made two substitutions on the hour. A deadlock resulted as teams tired and individuals battled for every ball without thinking too hard about constructing team attacks.

Materazzi was never far from the action in the final and though Italy had 55 percent of ball possession was one of the busier players on the pitch. France were slightly more potent offensively with 13 shots - outshooting the Azzurri by eight attempts.

In Extra Time France came closest to a goal - Zidane, unmarked, headed to goal from 12 yards but was tipped over one-handed by Gianluigi Buffon. Zidane's next contribution to the game was not so graceful and appeared to be sparked by the close marking of the ubiquitous Materazzi. After a verbal altercation the 34-year-old turned around and drove his head violently into the Italian's upper chest.

Horacio Elizondo ran to the touchline to consult with officials and returned waving a red card for the violent conduct of Zidane. It is likely FIFA used information from fourth and fifth official to confirm the decision.

The headbutt and red card was Zidane's last action in football as he had said he would retire after the tournament.

A penalty shootout was necessary to decide the winner. Eight shots went in; David Trezeguet missed the one that mattered. His shot hit the crossbar and unlike Zidane's penalty in the first half, bounced down inches the wrong side of the goal line.

While Zidane was hanging his boots up Marco Materazzi scored Italy's third. Grosso, who in the second round had won a last minute penalty against Australia, powered in the fifth to give Italy the crown.

The only goal Marcello Lippi's Italy conceded during free play in the tournament proved to be an own goal from Cristian Zaccardo against the United States of America.

Italy captain Fabio Cannavaro, on the occasion of his 100th cap, was instrumental in their defensive achievement. Amid wild scenes of joy on the pitch he jumped onto the podium and lifted the trophy, the fourth of Italy's history.

Missing French girls Emeline and Melissa found safe

Two small girls, who were reported as kidnapped on Saturday in the French western town of Bouille-Menard (Maine-et-Loire), have been found safe in their village.

A kidnap alert has been raised by French Ministry of Justice to be broadcast on radio, television and by print media, the first alert to be issued since the system was instituted in February.

The girls, Emeline and Melissa aged 10 and 8 years old respectively, were reported as missing from 3 p.m. CEST (1300 UTC) on Saturday and were found with neighbours. Police officer Bertrand Delpierre told LCI television the exact circumstances of the disappearance were going to be examined in detail.

"They seemed to be following, against their will, an individual of European type of an average height and size," read a statement from the Ministry of Justice. The statement also said that the suspect had tattoos on his arms, one of which appears to be that of
a ram. About 200 officers had been working on the case.

**Passenger airplane crashes in Siberia**

A Russian passenger plane has crashed after landing at Irkutsk Airport, in Siberia and up to 150 people are feared dead in the crash. At 7:44 a.m. local time (2244 UTC Saturday), the plane veered off the rain-slipped runway as it was landing, tore through a concrete barrier, and crashed into the nearby garage buildings, causing the plane to burst into flames. Witnesses have said that the aircraft appeared out of control shortly before touchdown, and was travelling at a terrific speed.

There were 192 passengers and 8 crew onboard the aircraft. So far, 68 passengers have emerged injured and 124 bodies have been recovered. Russian officials suggest that the final death toll is likely to be closer to 150. None of the crew has survived. Many of the passengers were holidaymakers, and there were many children onboard. A few of the survivors are said to owe their lives to a flight attendant, who managed to open the emergency escape hatch in the rear of the aircraft.

The Aircraft was an Airbus A310, travelling from Moscow airport.

A failure of brakes on a wet runway was the possible cause of the crash.

**Tory leader to make 'hoodie' plea**

A speech regarding social justice tomorrow, Conservative leader David Cameron is expected to call for better understanding of teenagers who wear "hoodies".

Mr Cameron will say that teenagers who wear hooded tops are trying to "blend in" rather than appear intimidating.

"The hoodie is a response to a problem, not a problem itself. We - the people in suits - often see hoodies as aggressive, the uniform of a rebel army of young gangsters," the 40 year-old is expected to state.

"But hoodies are more defensive than offensive. They're a way to stay invisible in the street. In a dangerous environment, the best thing to do is keep your head down; blend in.

"For some people, the hoodie represents all that's wrong about youth culture in Britain today. For me, adult society's response to the hoodie shows how far we are from finding the long-term answers to put things right," Mr Cameron will also say.

His comments resemble those shared by the Archbishop of York earlier this year.

"Ninety-nine per cent of those who wear hoodies are law-abiding citizens," Dr John Sentamu said while wearing a hooded top during a discussion on youth work in the Church.

Hooded tops are viewed by some as characterising anarchy and social disorder.

In 2005, the Bluewater Shopping Centre in Kent banned hoodies after claiming youngsters were using them to hide their faces from CCTV cameras while committing offences.

Mr Cameron is also expected to use the controversial film Kidulthood to illustrate the problems which young people face on a daily basis. The film, set in Notting Hill, was condemned for its harrowing representation of West London teenagers as criminals with no principles.

He will also praise charities that work with teenagers who live in inner cities, saying that the voluntary sector can succeed where New Labour's state has failed.

**Change in direction**

As well as attracting the attention of younger voters, Mr Cameron's speech highlights the compassionate direction in which he wants to steer the Conservative Party.

But according to Michael Brown, a former Conservative MP and newspaper columnist, traditional Tory voters may not share Mr Cameron's empathetic beliefs.

"David Cameron is pushing at the envelope with regard to his backbench support and the support in the grassroots constituencies," he told BBC Breakfast.

"I suspect this isn't going to go down well in the Bromleys and the Chislehursts"

"I suspect he's going to have to watch his back, and as he seeks new friends, as he seeks the new liberal constituency, he's got to make sure he doesn't lose his conservative constituency."

Mr Cameron's immigration spokesman, Damian Green, said the Conservatives are addressing the problems of both youth crime and alienated young people - issues which Prime Minister Tony Blair has failed to deliver on despite saying his party would be "tough on crime, tough on the
India successfully test-fires Agni-III missile

India's most sophisticated Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) to date, the Agni III was test-fired off the Orissa coast earlier today. The missile took off from a fixed platform at the Integrated Test Range at Wheeler Island at 11:05 IST (05:35 GMT) in the presence of Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee and his scientific advisor M. Natarajan.

The missile took off vertically into space before re-entering the atmosphere and splashing down near Nicobar Island in the Bay of Bengal. Three sophisticated radars, six electro-optical tracking systems and three telemetric data stations on the mainland at Dhamra, Chandipur and the Andamans, together with a ship anchored near the splash-down point monitored the missile's trajectory. According to eyewitnesses, the missile blasted off into the sky leaving behind a trail of thick yellow smoke and disappeared out of sight into the clouds within seconds.

The Agni-III, which has a range of 3,500 km and can carry upto 1000 kg of payload, has been described as the most powerful missile developed by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation. The missile, which is 16 metres long and has a diameter of 1.8 metres, has solid fuel boosters and is capable of carrying both conventional and nuclear warheads. The Agni-I and Agni-II, which were the earlier versions of the Agni series developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP), have already been inducted into the Indian Army. Boosters for the earlier two missiles had been provided by the Indian Space Research Organisation, however, the Agni-III uses an entirely new booster vehicle.

Communal tensions rise in Mumbai as Shiv Sainiks protest desecration of statue

Communal tensions have risen in Mumbai as the Shiv Sena (which is widely perceived as a Hindutva party) protested against the vandalism of a statue of Meenatai at Shivaji Park. Meenatai was the wife of Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray and a social worker. Shiv Sainiks blocked a main-road at Shivaji Park and forced many shops (especially in Sena dominated areas like Dadar and Navi Mumbai) to down their shutters. Reports say a bandh has also been enforced in Andheri. A tourist bus has been torched by the protestors and Sena leader and former Union Minister Manohar Joshi has threatened stringent action against those who hurled mud at Meenatai's statue.

Joshi said that Meenatai, whom the Shiv Sainiks reverently refer to as Maasaheb, was "like a God" to the party and that the insult to her would be invite a strong reaction. He also authorities should arrest the perpetrators of the incident whilst taking adequate measures to avoid the deterioration of the law and order situation in the city.

Executive President of the Shiv Sena, and Meenatai's son, Uddhav Thackeray said, "It's a question of sentiments, the Prophet cartoons sparked off a reaction in India, then if people react to this incident whom are you going to blame?" The activists also attacked a police station near the statue, accusing the police did not do enough to nab the culprits despite the station's proximity to the statue.

The Sainiks also shouted slogans against Samajwadi Party leader Abu Asim Azmi, who they claim incited a mob in the nearby town of Bhiwandi to violence against the police. Two policemen and five members of the minority community lost their lives when law-enforcement's authorities clashed. Muslims were protesting the construction of a police station allegedly on land belonging to a cemetery. The situation was brought under control after the intervention of the Rapid Action Force. DGP Maharashtra, P.S Pasricha said that police in the state were on high alert to prevent communal violence. Police in Mumbai fired tear-gas shells to disperse the crowd in Shivaji Park and two additional battalions have been summoned to control the situation in Dadar.

Elderly man's mutilated body found in Wellington's south coast, NZ

An elderly man's body has been found floating in the water near Owhiro Bay quarry car park, by a man walking alone. The man who found the body immediately called the police. The body of the man, determined to be in his 60s, was found at 8:30 a.m. NZST.

His body was found partially dressed and with both hands cut off at the wrists. The New Zealand Police report that there are signs
that someone had tried to decapitate him.

Harry Quinn, Detective Inspector said, "it is too early in the investigation to understand why the killing took place. It could have been carried out for a number of reasons and I would not like to guess why at this stage of the inquiry."

Detectives, Wellington Police Maritime and the Police National Dive Squad, totalling more than 40 officers, are working on the case. They are searching for items and the two missing hands.

The victim is European, in his 60s, grey hair, moderately built, between 175 and 180-centimetres tall and, when found, was wearing dark trousers and black leather shoes.

The police have yet to determine the man's identity, or how long the body had been in the water.

Police have yet to report how the man died.

Police are seeking any information on this death. If you have any information, you can call the hot line: 0508 Redrocks (0508 733 762).

**Belated New Jersey budget passes, ending most of the shutdown**

New Jersey â At around 7p.m. EDT July 8, Governor of New Jersey Jon Corzine signed a 30-billion USD budget for the fiscal year that began July 1.

Due to strife between the Governor and the majority-holding New Jersey Democratic Party in the New Jersey General Assembly, the budget was not passed before the previous one lapsed. Because of clauses in the New Jersey State Constitution, which state that the government cannot spend money without a full budget being approved beforehand.

As a result of this, Corzine shut down large swaths of state government, kept essential officers working without pay, and declared a statewide state of emergency.

The disagreement between the statehouse and Drumthwacket was over how to deal with the 4.5 billion USD budget deficit: Corzine advocated raising the sales tax from 6% to 7%, the Assemblers refused for a time. Under the final budget, the increase is implemented. Corzine states that all of the increased revenue will go towards covering the hole, while Assemblers want some of it to offset a planned decrease in the property tax.

Following the promulgation of the budget, Corzine then signed another executive order allowing the government to begin resuming normal operations. One of the first results of the budget's passing was the resumption of gambling in Atlantic City, which requires state monitors. The remainder of closed agencies and departments will come online again in the next two days; all government should be back to normal by July 10.

**Indian royal family disinherits gay scion**

Manvendrasinh Singh Gohil, the 40-year-old son of the erstwhile Maharajah of Rajpipla (India), was disowned by his formerly royal family for coming out as a gay man.

Homosexuality was effectively criminalized in India in 1861 under British colonial rule. The sodomy laws, which remain in force today, mandate penalties of up to 10 years in prison.

The Gohil family once ruled India's Rajpipla principality. Although India abolished royalty when it gained independence from Britain in 1947, the Gohil clan is considered to be one of the wealthiest families in the south Asian nation.

Gohil's mother put public notices in Gujarati language newspapers disavowing being his mother. "If any individual or organisation dares to (name me as his mother), it will invite contempt proceedings," the statement said.

He said as an AIDS activist, he felt it was his duty to come out. Gohil claimed that India anti-gay laws hinder AIDS prevention among gay men since many are afraid to admit they are homosexual for fear of being jailed or blackmailed.

Gohil, who runs a non-profit AIDS foundation, told reporters he wasn't interested in his family's money. "I will not stake my claim to the property. I have found a family in the (gay) community and am happy working for the community," he said in a Reuters interview.

UNAIDS estimated that 5.7 million Indians have been infected by the HIV virus. Gay organisations in India are currently trying to have the section of the Indian Penal Code that makes homosexuality a punishable offence nullified. Gay relationships are considered taboo in India's mostly conservative society. A number of Indian organisations, including two HIV/AIDS prevention groups, have complained of being subjected to police raids and arrests in recent years.
**The Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary adds 'google' as a verb**

Google became a verb in the Merriam-Webster dictionary yesterday.

First founded in September 1998, Google quickly became a phenomenon, overtaking the then top search engines Yahoo and Lycos etc.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary has added Google, along with Googling, to their dictionary. According to the dictionary, the correct pronunciation is goo-gle, with other forms including googled and googling.

The word 'google' is defined as a transitive verb meaning to use the Google search engine to look for information on the Internet.

This announcement comes on the heels of Merriam-Webster adding 'IM' as both a noun and a verb, and including 'santorum' as a noun, after usage of the word increased following Internet support of advice columnist Dan Savage's coining of term with a sexual connotation.

**Germany beat Portugal 3-1 to take FIFA World Cup bronze**

Two goals from Bastien Schweinsteiger and his assist on a Petit own goal won bronze for Germany in the 2006 FIFA World Cup, Saturday.

The excitement began in the second half when the hosts who had captain Michael Ballack missing through injury got three goals in 20 minutes from the right boot of the 21-year-old Bayern Munich left midfielder.

Schweinsteiger was dropped by coach Jurgen Klinsmann from his semi-final line up against Italy, a game Germany lost while Schweinsteiger was on the field late in extra time, won the third-place playoff game on his own with two individual efforts from 30 yards.

Twice Schweinsteiger cut in from the left and fired right-footed at the net; twice he beat Ricardo. The first beat the Portugese with pace over his head; the second swerved away to the keeper's left. An own goal from a freekick 30 yards out from the left side of the penalty box netted what proved to be the game-winning goal. Driven low across goal it connected with Petit's knee and Ricardo could not stop it going in.

Portugal were strong in possession but lacked punch in attack; unable to convert 57 per cent possession into goals. Pauleta had two clear chances from 15 yards but both times hit tame shots that did not trouble Oliver Kahn.

Kahn, FIFA player of the tournament at the 2002 World Cup, captained the side on his first appearance for Germany at the 2006 World Cup. After substitutions the host nation had used all outfield players in the squad in the competition.

Portugal were to get a consolation goal with help of substitute Luis Figo, who made his 127th and final cap for the Port shirts.

The veteran right winger almost immediately provided the precise distribution needed to unlock the German defence. A cross from the ring wing on 75 minutes found fellow substitute Nuno Gomes at the far post, who dived in for the consolation goal.

**Ronaldo jeers**

In the match the Portuguese left winger Christiano Ronaldo was booed and jeered each time he got the ball by a section of the 52'000 crowd.

During the tournament the player had gained a reputation for being a showman but a bad sportsman guilty foul simulation (diving). The allegations made by players and media were denied by Ronaldo and his coach Luiz Felipe Scholari.

However it seemed to affect his performace. By the end of the match Ronaldo's famous multiple step-overs were gone although he remained dangerous with three out of four shots on target.

**FIFA Young Player of the Tournament**

German striker Lukas Podolski before the match was named by FIFA as Young Player of the Tournament. He scored three goals during Germany's run to the bronze.

**Oliver Kahn retires**

Oliver Kahn, 37, captained the German team for the occassion and stated after the game that he would retire from international football. Kahn was popular with the German fans in the arena and cheered by the Stuttgart crowd for almost every touch.

**U.S. Army Surgeon General:**

Many soldiers with personality disorders can perform well

he U.S. Army's surgeon general, Lt. Gen. Kevin C. Kiley, told
Western Province defeated the Blue Bulls in a regular season Currie Cup fixture between the old rivals at the Bulls' home of Loftus Versfeld in Pretoria. Western Province won the match 15 points to 10, and became Western Province's first win over the Bulls in three years, and their first win at Loftus Versfeld since 2001.

The Bulls entered the match as favourites, however, it was the Western Province that scored the first try of the match, when Egon Seconds made it over the line after 12 minutes of play in the first half. Western Province's second try came in the 37th minute of the match, minutes from the half-time break, with Joe Pietersen getting the try. Western Province entered half time with a 15 points to three lead over the Bulls. 10 minutes into the second half, two Blue Bulls found themselves with yellow cards; Frikkie Welsh and Heini Adams. The Blue Bulls scored their first try in the second half, with Stefan Basson scoring two minutes from full-time. The final score was 15 points to 10, with Western Province scoring two tries, along with a conversion and penalty goal from Naas Olivier, whilst the Blue Bulls scored one try, with a conversion and penalty goal from Morne Steyn.

All Blacks defeat Australia in Tri Nations rugby opener
The All Blacks have defeated Australia 32 points to 12 in the opening match of the rugby union 2006 Tri Nations at Jade Stadium in Christchurch, New Zealand. This victory cements them as favorites to take out the Tri Nations this year- a competition which has adopted an expanded three round format this year. The All Blacks entered the match as firm favorites despite the Wallabies strong start to the season-winning three from three under new coach John Connolly.

The All Blacks performed a spirited rendition of their much talked of Kapa O Pango haka before the match, but it was Australia who opened up the scoring in the match, when Chris Latham regathered the ball off a chip kick and handed it to Mat Rogers who sprinted down the left sideline and passed to Lote Tuqiri who scored the try. Stirling Mortlock converted the try to take Australia out by seven points. Australia's Rocky Elsom was sent to the sin bin in the 27th minute. Down one man Australia were not able to hold out the All Blacks after a messy line out. Keven Mealamu pounced on loose ball to score the All Blacks' first try. Daniel Carter, after missing two previous penalty goals, successfully converted the try. Five minutes from half-time, Mealamu barged over to score his second try of the match with Carter again converting. The All Blacks entered the half-time break leading the Wallabies 14 points to seven.

The All Blacks extended their lead over Australia seven minutes into the second half, with Carter kicking a successful penalty goal, to take the score to 17 points to seven. The television-match-official then awarded New Zealand another try after Richie McCaw grounded the ball through the legs of Stephen Larkem. Carter converted to take New Zealand's lead to 24 to seven with 30 minutes left on the clock. Scott Fava came on for Australia in the 50th minute, and soon scored a try for Australia. Mortlock missed the conversion, and the score was at 24 to 12 in favour of the All Blacks. Carter added another penalty goal for the All Blacks in the 55th minute to take the score to 27 points to 12. A re-gathered
charge down of an Australian kick saw Carter pass to Isaia Toeavo who ran down the field to score a late try. Carter's conversion hit the upright and bounced out leaving the final score at 32 to 12 to the All Blacks. Australia face South Africa at Suncorp Stadium in Brisbane next week.

**Today in History**

48 BC - Caesar's civil war: Julius Caesar barely avoided a catastrophic defeat to Pompey in the Battle of Dyrrhachium in Macedonia.

1584 - William the Silent, the Prince of Orange, was assassinated at his home in Delft, Holland by Balthasar Gerard.

1925 - Meher Baba began his silence of 44 years. His followers still observe Silence Day on this date in commemoration.

1962 - Telstar, the world's first active, direct relay communications satellite, was launched.

1985 - Greenpeace vessel Rainbow Warrior was bombed and sunk in New Zealand by French intelligence agents.

July 10 is Independence Day in the Bahamas (1973)

**Quote of the Day**

"The scientific man does not aim at an immediate result. He does not expect that his advanced ideas will be readily taken up. His work is like that of the planter â for the future. His duty is to lay the foundation for those who are to come, and point the way. He lives and labors and hopes."

~ Nikola Tesla

**Word of the Day**

niche; n

1. A hollow or recess, generally within the thickness of a wall, for a statue, bust, or other erect ornament.

2. (ecology): A function within an ecological system to which an organism is especially suited.

3. (by extension): Any position of opportunity for which one is well-suited.