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# Obama calls on US voters to carry Clinton to White House

HAILS HILLARY AS HIS POLITICAL HEIR AND DEMOCRATS' BEST HOPE TO PROTECT DEMOCRACY

PHILADELPHIA

BY JONATHAN MARTIN AND PATRICK HEALY

President Barack Obama delivered a stirring valedictory address at the Democratic convention Wednesday night, hailing Hillary Clinton as his rightful political heir and the party's best hope to protect democracy from "homegrown demagogues" like the Republican Donald Trump.

Taking the stage to rapturous roars, Obama acknowledged that Democrats were still divided after a bruising nomination fight and that Clinton had made "mistakes".

But he vouched passionately for Clinton as a trusted and reliable ally not just for him but for all Americans who need a fighter to improve their lives and keep them safe.

Obama offered an optimistic portrait of America and a strong defence of his policies but also unleashed by far his most ferocious attack yet on Trump, even portraying the Republican nominee as a threat to the country. "That's why anyone who threatens our values, whether fascists or communists or jihadists or homegrown demagogues, will always fail in the end," he said.

In the most unmistakable declaration yet by Clinton that she is effectively seeking Obama's third term, she strolled on stage after his speech and embraced the president. It was a tableau of continuity and a vivid illustration of how dependent the two former rivals are on each other now.



■ Obama and presidential nominee Clinton waves to delegates at the conclusion of the US president's speech at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia.

While acknowledging that Clinton has "her share of critics" on the right and the left,

the president sought to transfer his prestige and political appeal to his long ago rival.

**'Yes we can'**

"Tonight, I ask you to do for Hillary Clinton what you did for me. I ask you to carry her the same way you carried me.

"And if you're serious about

our democracy, you can't afford to stay home just because she might not align with you on every issue. You've got to get in the arena with her, because democracy isn't a spectator sport. America isn't about 'Yes we will.' It's about 'Yes we can.'"

— *New York Times News Service*  
**SEE ALSO A12, 13 & THE VIEWS**

# Al Houthis torpedo Yemen peace talks

Government slams militia move to form supreme political council as a coup against negotiations

DUBAI

Gulf News Report

Yemen's rebels and their allies yesterday formed a 10-member "supreme council" to run Yemen, in the latest sign of the failure of UN-brokered peace talks with the government.

Al Houthi militia and the General People's Congress of former president Ali Abdullah Saleh have agreed to "form a supreme political council of 10 members", according to a statement carried by a militia-run news agency.

The move was condemned by the government. Foreign Minister Abdul Malek Al Mikhlafl, quoted by Sky News Arabia, said the declaration amounted to the failure of peace talks in Kuwait.

"The putchists have successfully convinced the world that they are against peace and are responsible for the failure of the talks," he said.

Othman Al Majalli, minister for parliamentary affairs, told Sky News Arabia that the declaration was "a coup against the negotiations", stressing that the government will strive to liberate the country from the Al Houthi occupation.

The UAE also condemned the Al Houthi move. "The setting up of a political council is a desperate attempt by those who turned against the legitimate government and dragged Yemen into violence. Their attempt to dodge the Kuwait negotiations has been exposed," Anwar Mohammad Gargash, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, tweeted.

UN-sponsored talks between the militia and representatives of the government began in April.

— *With inputs from agencies*

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**FROM THE COVER**

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Rebels and residents are sceptical of offers of humanitarian corridors and amnesty | A3



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**WORLD**

## Children caught in conflict zones

Thousands are held for months or years as security threats and many tortured | A11

**WORLD**

## Indian writer Mahasweta Devi dies at 90

She used her writing to give voice to oppressed poor tribal and forest dwellers | A16

# Beef festival costs student admission

Indian university says action stems from criminal case for violating court orders

HYDERABAD

BY MOHAMMAD SIDDIQUE  
Correspondent

A student from the southern Indian state of Kerala has been denied admission to a university in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, after he is alleged to have participated in a beef festival.

Jalees Kodur, who passed the entrance examination for a PhD programme in the English and Foreign Languages University, found his

name missing in the admission lists.

When he contacted the Proctor of the university, Kodur was told he was not granted admission as he had participated in a beef festival in the university the previous year. Kodur was a graduate student at the university last year.

Proctor Prakash Konur defended the university's action saying Kodur is facing a criminal case for violating prohibitory orders issued by a court. Kodur denied participating in the festival. "I was among the people who had gathered to watch," he said, adding that he is not aware of any criminal case.

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