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News

Questions of Influence in Abuse Case of Paterson Aide
Banks Bet Greece Defaults on Debt They Helped Hide
C.I.A. and Pakistan Work Together, but Do So Warily
India and Pakistan launch talks
Australia anger at Dubai killing
Whale kills trainer during show

Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Merriam-Webster's database contains 225,000 entries, including more than 10,000 new words and definitions. Try a search here! Or run a search from the site header and click on the Dictionary tab for access to a world of information.
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More in History & Society:

[The Great Recession of 2008–09](#)

Joel Havemann, a Former Editor and National and European Economics Correspondent for the Washington, D.C., and Brussels bureaus of the *Los Angeles Times*, examines last year's attempts to stabilize the global financial system.

For related coverage, see:

[Banking Emerges from the Worldwide Financial Crisis](#)

[Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008](#)

[Timothy Geithner](#)

[The Financial Crisis of 2008](#)

[Subprime Mortgages: A Catalyst for Global Chaos](#)

[Black History Month](#)

Historian Carter G. Woodson helped conceive this celebration of the history and achievements of African Americans back in 1926.

For related coverage, see:

[Civil rights movement](#)

[Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

[African American literature](#)

[Blues](#)

[Iwo Jima](#)

Tuesday marked the 65th anniversary of the [planting of the U.S. flag](#) on Mount Suribachi.

Today's Birthdays

- Spanish politician [José María Aznar](#) (1953)
- Argentine politician [Néstor Kirchner](#) (1950)
- American businessman [Jerry Reinsdorf](#) (1936)
- U.S. statesman [John Foster Dulles](#) (1888)
- Italian philosopher [Benedetto Croce](#) (1866)

More in Arts & Entertainment:

[Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games](#)

Britannica provides continuing coverage of the XXI Winter Games.

For related coverage, see:

[Updates from Vancouver](#)

[Vancouver](#)

[Video of Vancouver](#)

[Vancouver Olympic sites](#) (Interactive Map)

[Olympics Games](#)

[Romanticism](#) (Featured Article)

This intellectual orientation rejected the precepts of Neoclassicism and emphasized the importance of the individual.

[Green Architecture](#) (Featured Article)

Incorporating principles of sustainable development, this building philosophy seeks to lessen the impact of construction and habitation on the environment.

Today's Birthdays

- American runner [Lee Evans](#) (1947)
- Cuban writer [Severo Sarduy](#) (1937)
- British author [Anthony Burgess](#) (1917)
- French painter [Pierre-Auguste Renoir](#) (1841)

More in Travel & Geography:

[Cuba](#) (Featured Country)

This country of the West Indies, which includes the chain's largest island and some 1,600 islands, islets, and cays, is a bastion of communism, though it has loosened some of its more restrictive economic and social policies.

For related coverage, see:

[Cuba: 2009 in Review](#)

[Fidel Castro](#)

[Havana](#)

[Raul Castro](#)

[The Cuban Revolution: 50 Years Later](#)

[Crater Lake](#) (Featured Landmark)

Occupying a huge volcanic caldera in the Cascade Range of southwestern, Oregon, U.S., this clear and intensely blue lake is the deepest in the country and seventh deepest in the world.

[Samarkand](#) (Featured City)

This city, today a centre of agriculture in Uzbekistan, is one of the oldest cities of Central Asia, noted for its capture by Alexander the Great in 329 and for its occupation by Ghengis Khan in 1220.

More in Science & Technology:

[Life Sciences](#)

Experts in zoology, botany, biology, and paleontology chart the major advances in the life sciences in 2009, from the identification of one of the earliest societies to domesticate horses to the discovery of the largest-known snake.

[Electric Cars Gear Up](#) (Special Report)

Lee Hudson Teslik, Senior Editor and Analyst at Roubini Global Economics, examines the history of electric vehicles and the challenges they face if they are to replace gas-powered vehicles.

[Gymnosperm](#) (Featured Article)

This group of vascular plants, whose name means "naked seed," contains some of the world's most ancient life forms, including cycads, conifers, and *Ginkgo*.

[Water pollution](#) (Featured Article)

The release of sewage, toxic chemicals, and other substances into groundwater, rivers, lakes, and other sources can interfere not only with the beneficial use of water but also with the natural functioning of ecosystems.

Today's Birthdays

- British molecular biologist [Hugh Esmor Huxley](#) (1924)
- Russian-born American chemist [Phoebus Levene](#) (1869)
- Italian anatomist and pathologist [Giovanni Battista Morgagni](#) (1682)

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