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April 22, 2023
At Sea

We continued our navigation in the Gulf of Aden by sailing through the Bab-el-Mandeb Strait. Around 09:45 we passed by the Balfe Point (Yemen) visible at a distance of 1.8 nautical miles on the starboard side.

In the afternoon, at around 14:00 we passed by Suyul Hanish (Yemen) visible at a distance of 4.5 nautical miles, at around 14.30 Jazirat Jabal Zuqar (Yemen) was visible and we continued sailing in the Red Sea. The distance between Salalah and Aqaba: 1913 Nautical Miles.

The Gulf of Aden is a deepwater gulf on the Indian Ocean between Yemen to the north, the Arabian Sea to the east, Djibouti to the west, and the Guardafui Channel, Socotra and Somalia to the south.

In the northwest, it connects with the Red Sea through the Bab-el-Mandeb strait, and it connects with the Arabian Sea to the east. To the west, it narrows in the Gulf of Tadjoura in Djibouti.

The waterway is part of the important Suez Canal shipping route between the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Sea in the Indian Ocean, with 21,000 ships crossing the gulf annually.

Another rest day for me at sea.

Day 134 Page 1
April 23, 2023
At Sea

We continued sailing in the Red Sea to Aqaba with a Northern west course and a cruising speed of 18 knots. The Red Sea is a seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Asia. Its connection to the ocean is in the south, through the Bab el Mandeb strait and the Gulf of Aden. To its north lie the Sinai Peninsula, the Gulf of Aqaba, and the Gulf of Suez (leading to the Suez Canal). It is underlain by the Red Sea Rift, which is part of the Great Rift Valley.

The Red Sea has a surface area of roughly 438,000 km² and is about 2,250 km long, and at its widest point 355 km. It has an average depth of 490 m and in the central Suakin Trough it reaches its maximum depth of 3,030 m.

Jordan, officially the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan is a country in Western Asia. It is situated at the crossroads of Asia, Africa and Europe, within the Levant region, on the East Bank of the Jordan River. Jordan is bordered by Saudi Arabia to the south and east, Iraq to the northeast, Syria to the north, and the Palestinian West Bank, Israel, and the Dead Sea to the west. It has a 26 km coastline in its southwest of the Gulf of Aqaba's Red Sea, which separates Jordan from Egypt. Amman is Jordan's capital and largest city, as well as its economic, political, and cultural centre.

The sovereign state is a constitutional monarchy, but the king holds wide executive and legislative powers.

Jordan takes its name from the Jordan River, which forms much of the country's northwestern border, while several theories for the origin of the river's name have been proposed, it is most plausible that it derives from the Hebrew word Yarad meaning "the defender", reflecting the river's declivity.

Another rest day for me at sea.