



# MIDDLE EAST DAILY BULLETIN

## GÜNLÜK ORTADOĐU BÜLTENİ

**Domestic Policy in the Middle East Countries**

**Bölge Ülkelerinde İç Siyaset**

**The Restructuring Procees of Iraq**

**Irak'ın Yeniden Yapılanma Süreci**

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**13 JANUARY 2016**

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## 1. IRAQ,

- **House Speaker Meets His Lebanese Counterpart**

House Speaker Salim al-Jubouri arrived in Beirut for an official visit in a one-day. A statement by the Office of al-Jubouri said that "the President of the Council met upon his arrival his Lebanese counterpart Nabih Berri to discuss the developments of the regional situation and ways to concerted efforts to overcome differences and the developments of the situation in Iraq and the recent victories achieved in Anbar and their implications."

More Details:

[http://www.ninanews.com/News\\_Details.aspx?Id%252b3F9jJb9vCOzQ9B7iZPA%253d%253d](http://www.ninanews.com/News_Details.aspx?Id%252b3F9jJb9vCOzQ9B7iZPA%253d%253d)

- **Bomb blast injures 3 civilians east of Baqubah**

A security source in Diyali province said on Tuesday, that three civilians have been wounded in a bomb blast that took place in a field east of Baqubah. The source said in a statement obtained by IraqiNews.com, "This evening, an explosive device that was planted inside a field in the village of Sha'a Ali (45 km east of Baghdad) has went off resulting in the injury of three persons," pointing out that, "A security source transferred the injured to a nearby hospital for treatment, while opened an investigation into the incident to determine the party that stands behind it."

More Details:

<http://www.iraqinews.com/iraq-war/bomb-blast-injures-3-civilians-east-baqubah/>

- **Abadi Heads to Basra**

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi headed on Tuesday morning to the province of Basra, at the head of a ministerial delegation. An Informed source told the National Iraqi News Agency / NINA / "The prime minister will head, in Basra today's, the Cabinet meeting in addition to meet the Governor of Basra and its council to discuss its positions in general and security, in particular," .

More Details:

[http://www.ninanews.com/News\\_Details.aspx?Lo2%252fxmwdkdS9pyi5h%252bcilA%253d%253d](http://www.ninanews.com/News_Details.aspx?Lo2%252fxmwdkdS9pyi5h%252bcilA%253d%253d)

- **11 people killed, wounded in bomb blast in southern Baghdad**

A source in the Iraqi Ministry of Interior announced, that 11 people had been either killed or wounded in a bomb blast in southern Baghdad. The source said in a statement received by IraqiNews.com, "This evening, a bomb exploded in Madain area in southern Baghdad, killing two people and wounding nine others."

More Details:

<http://www.iraqinews.com/iraq-war/11-people-killed-wounded-in-bomb-blast-in-madain-area-south-of-baghdad/>

- **Araji, Amiri Review the Field and Political Developments in Iraq**

Outgoing deputy Prime Minister Bahaa al-Araji discussed with the Secretary-General of the Badr Organization, Hadi al-Amiri the last field and political developments in Iraq and the victories achieved at the hands of the popular defense forces in a number of provinces of the country, and ways to strengthen those victories and sustain the momentum to complete elimination of all forms of terrorism and extremism.

More Details:

[http://www.ninanews.com/News\\_Details.aspx?9dPjelk9Pysf80H3Sdm8jA%253d%253d](http://www.ninanews.com/News_Details.aspx?9dPjelk9Pysf80H3Sdm8jA%253d%253d)

- **Anti-Terrorism Directorate evacuates 250 civilians from Ramadi**

The commander of the Third Special Operations of the Anti-Terrorism Directorate, Kazim al-Aradi, announced on Tuesday evacuating 250 civilians from the city of Ramadi. Aradi said in a statement followed by IraqiNews.com, "A force from the Anti-Terrorism Directorate and Anbar police had managed to evacuate 250 civilians from the areas of al-Sejariyah and al-Sufiyah east of Ramadi," noting that, "The force transferred them to al-Habbaniyah camp in the area of al-Khalediyah."

More Details:

<http://www.iraqinews.com/iraq-war/anti-terrorism-directorate-evacuates-250-civilians-ramadi/>

- **Qubad Talabani, a Czech Official Review the Current Situation in the Region**

Vice-President of the Kurdistan Regional Government Qubad Talabani discussed in Arbil with Deputy Defense Minister of the Czech Jacob Landowska the current situation in the region. They noted during the meeting which was also attended by the Czech ambassador to Iraq, Alexander Lanker according to a statement of the Kurdistan Regional Government, "the formation of a joint government team to organize and strengthen ties and deepen cooperation more and coordination, is essential, and also decided to formalize the government for the future in order to organize the work of this team.

More Details:

[http://www.ninanews.com/News\\_Details.aspx?%252fg8%252fAo0AdOy2Ohl%252b6C3K0g%253d%253d](http://www.ninanews.com/News_Details.aspx?%252fg8%252fAo0AdOy2Ohl%252b6C3K0g%253d%253d)

- **Abadi arrives in Basra to chair Council of Ministers session**

Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi arrived in Basra to hold the regular cabinet meeting in the province, along with a number of ministers. A statement received by IraqNews.com said, "This morning, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi arrived in Basra International Airport to hold the regular session of the Council of Ministers in the province, along with a number of ministers," noting that, "Abadi was received by the governor of Basra Majed Nasraoui, in addition to many local government officials.

More Details:

<http://www.iraqnews.com/features/abadi-arrives-to-basra-to-hold-the-council-of-ministers-session/>

- **Iraqi PM Vows to Rout IS After Mall Bombing, Mosque Attacks**

Iraq's prime minister vowed Tuesday to keep up the fight against the Islamic State group, a day after an IS suicide attack on a shopping mall in Baghdad killed 18 people and a wave of retaliatory attacks targeted Sunni mosques. Touring the bombed and destroyed mall in the eastern Shiite-dominated area of New Baghdad, Haider al-Abadi described the attack as a "desperate attempt" by militants after they lost control of the key western city of Ramadi, the capital of Anbar province.

More Details:

[http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN\\_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37457](http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37457)

- **Iraqi Embassy in Germany issues 1400 passports for Iraqi immigrants**

The German Foreign Ministry stated, that the Iraqi embassy in Berlin has recently issued 1400 passports for Iraqi immigrants wishing to return to their country. A ministry official said in a statement obtained by IraqNews.com, "150 passports had been issued here by the end of last October."

More Details:

<http://www.iraqnews.com/features/iraq-embassy-in-germany-issues-1400-passports-to-those-who-wanted-to-return/>

- **Two Al-Sharqia correspondents assassinated in Baquba**

Baquba police has found the abandoned bodies of a reporter and cameraman of Al-Sharqia channel north east of the city on Tuesday, January 12. A security source from Baquba told PUKmedia that the dead reporter was Said Talal and his colleague was Hassan Anbaki.

More Details:

[http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN\\_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37459](http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37459)

- **Tens of ISIL militants killed, wounded in Makhmor airstrikes**

Coalition airstrikes conducted a number of air-raids west of Makhmor district, causing large casualties and delivering heavy damage to IS. According to PUK's Rashad Gallali in Makhmor, coalition warplane airstrikes continued from 11 am and lasted till 3 pm in Mutantar, Dwezati, Talshi'air, and Sultan Abdullah villages which are located 30 kilometers west of Makhmor district.

More Details:

[http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN\\_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37455](http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37455)

- **Dyala: 70 casualties in two blasts, Intelligence director wounded**

Two consequent blasts in the center of Dyala's Miqdadia district resulted in tens of casualties. According to a security source, a suicide bomber performed the first explosion in a casino and after the arrival of security forces, a second explosion took place.

More Details:

[http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN\\_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37453](http://www.pukmedia.com/EN/EN_Direje.aspx?Jimare=37453)

- **Iraq endures deadliest day in three months as attacks claim 51 lives**

Gunmen set off suicide vests inside a Baghdad shopping complex and a car bomb exploded nearby in attacks claimed by the 'Islamic State' (IS) group in Iraq. Two bombs went off in the eastern town of Muqadadiya. The bombings and attacks on Monday left the biggest death toll in three months. Without naming IS, Interior Ministry spokesman Brigadier General Saad Maan blamed "this terrorist group after they suffered heavy losses by the security forces."

More Details:

<http://www.msn.com/en-za/news/national/iraq-endures-deadliest-day-in-three-months-as-attacks-claim-51-lives/ar-CCppM0>

- **Iraq: Ethnic Fighting Endangers Civilians**

Kurdish and Shia Turkmen armed groups have repeatedly harmed and endangered civilians in clashes in Iraq's Tuz Khurmatu district, in Salah al-Din province, since October 2015. The armed groups have killed, wounded, and abducted civilians and destroyed scores, if not hundreds, of homes and shops.n

“Some of those involved in the conflict in Tuz Khurmatu appear to be targeting civilians on the basis of their ethnicity,” said Joe Stork, deputy Middle East director. “They have been carrying out killings, abductions, and widespread property destruction with complete impunity.”

More Details:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/01/13/iraq-ethnic-fighting-endangers-civilians>

- **Police: M'sian children groomed as IS fighters in Syria, Iraq**

Malaysian children are being groomed as Islamic State (IS) fighters, said Bukit Aman Special Branch director Mohamad Fuzi Harun. Citing intelligence reports, Mohamad Fuzi was reported as saying by The Star today that initial probes found eight children are being trained at IS camps in Syria and Iraq.

More Details:

<https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/326488>

- **U.S.-led coalition airstrike destroys IS-held bank in Mosul, Iraq**

The U.S.-led coalition against the Islamic State conducted an airstrike Monday on a bank held by the militants in Mosul, Iraq, destroying millions in funds. A U.S. official told reporters coalition aircraft dropped two 2,000-pound bombs on the position, destroying it and incinerating millions of dollars within.

More Details:

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2016/01/12/US-led-coalition-airstrike-destroys-IS-held-bank-in-Mosul-Iraq/7101452629282/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/01/12/US-led-coalition-airstrike-destroys-IS-held-bank-in-Mosul-Iraq/7101452629282/)

- **UN envoy condemns attacks in Baghdad**

The Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Iraq (SRSG), Mr. Ján Kubiš, condemned the bombing of six mosques in Muqadadiya in the Diyala Province. "Once again, places of worship are being attacked. The perpetrators want to incite sectarian violence, in a desperate attempt to take the country back into the dark days of sectarian strife," Mr. Kubiš said in Baghdad today.

More Details:

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/113558/UN-envoy-condemns-attacks-in-Baghdad>

## 2. SYRIA

- **U.N. Relief Official Calls for 'Immediate' End to Blockades in Syria**

The head of the United Nations' relief efforts for Syria pleaded with all warring parties on Tuesday to lift their sieges on key towns and let aid agencies deliver food and medical care to people stuck behind front lines. "The immediate thing to be done is to lift sieges everywhere," the humanitarian

coordinator for Syria, Yacoub El Hillo, told reporters by phone from Damascus, the Syrian capital, where he is based.

More Details:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/13/world/middleeast/un-relief-official-calls-for-immediate-end-to-blockades-in-syria.html?partner=rss&emc=rss&r=0>

- **Unprecedented level of suffering in Madaya: paper**

A UAE newspaper has said that it is good that a UN humanitarian convoy has finally reached the besieged Syrian town of Madaya with life-saving health and food supplies, but what is also a matter of huge concern is the condition of about 4.5 million people living in hard-to-reach areas across Syria, including nearly 400,000 in 15 besieged locations without access to the aid that they desperately need.

More Details:

<http://www.wam.ae/en/news/emirates/1395290234167.html?>

- **UN Raises USD 250 Million to Educate Syrian Children**

Donors have pledged USD 250 million to educate over one million Syrian children this year but an additional USD 500 million is urgently needed to fund the program in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, the UN envoy for global education has said.

More Details:

<http://www.outlookindia.com/news/article/un-raises-usd-250-million-to-educate-syrian-children/926835?>

- **'If UN positions on Syria border fall to radicals, Israel will have to respond'**

The UN Disengagement Observer Force must retain control of its positions on Mount Hermon on the Syria-Israel border, since their capture by Sunni terrorist factions, or by elements from the radical Shi'ite axis, would form a "severe threat to IDF posts" in the area, a former senior military official warned. In a paper published in recent days at the Institute for National Security Studies, where he is a senior research fellow, Brig.-Gen. (res.) Assaf Orion said the IDF would have to "respond accordingly" if UNDOF's border posts on Mount Hermon in Syria fall to radical elements.

More Details:

<http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/If-UN-positions-on-Syria-border-fall-to-radicals-Israel-will-have-to-respond-441315>

- **Quebec Misses Syrian Refugee Target For 2015**

Quebec has failed to reach its publicly stated goal of welcoming 3,650 Syrian refugees to the province by the end of 2015. Immigration Minister Kathleen Weil said Tuesday roughly 2,800 Syrians have so far made it to Quebec, representing about 75 per cent of the provincial government's initial objective.

More Details:

[http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/01/12/quebec-misses-syrian-refugee-target-for-2015-but-hopes-to-catch-up-this-year\\_n\\_8964694.html?](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/2016/01/12/quebec-misses-syrian-refugee-target-for-2015-but-hopes-to-catch-up-this-year_n_8964694.html?)

- **UN Agencies warn humanitarian needs growing in Syria and region: Nearly US\$8 billion urgently needed in 2016**

With Syria's war heading towards a sixth year and with no end to the conflict in sight, UN humanitarian and development agencies today appealed to Member States for US\$7.73 billion in vital new funding for 2016 to help 22.5 million people in Syria and across the region. The appeal comprises two main elements: help for an anticipated 4.7 million refugees in neighbouring countries by the end of 2016 as well as 4 million people in communities hosting them, and support for 13.5 million displaced and conflict-affected people inside Syria itself.

More Details:

<http://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/un-agencies-warn-humanitarian-needs-growing-syria-and-region-nearly-us8>

- **Putin won't rule out granting Syrian president Assad asylum in Russia**

When asked by a German newspaper if he would grant asylum to Assad, the Russian president said it was too early to consider the issue. However, Mr Putin noted that Russia had given asylum to US whistleblower Edward Snowden, "which was far more difficult than to do the same for Mr Assad".

More Details:

<http://www.independent.ie/world-news/middle-east/putin-wont-rule-out-granting-syrian-president-assad-asylum-in-russia-34359831.html?>

- **Syrian army enters rebel bastion in Latakia province**

Syrian regime forces advanced on Tuesday into the main bastion of rebels in the northwestern province of Latakia, the coastal heartland of President Bashar al-Assad's clan, a monitor said. Supported by pro-regime militias, fighters with Lebanese movement Hezbollah and intense Russian air strikes, the army entered the town of Salma, the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said.

More Details:

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1232541/syrian-army-enters-rebel-bastion-in-latakia-province>

- **Once Accommodating Neighbors now Turn Back Syrian Refugees**

After taking in a million Syrian refugees, Lebanon has quietly changed course in recent months, forcing refugees to return to Syria - where they are at risk of persecution or death - or stay illegally, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.

More Details:

[http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML\\_LEBANON\\_UNWANTED\\_REFUGEES?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2016-01-13-01-52-04](http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/M/ML_LEBANON_UNWANTED_REFUGEES?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2016-01-13-01-52-04)

- **'Starve or surrender': UN war crimes investigators gather testimony from besieged Syrian town**

Residents of a besieged Syrian town have told UN investigators how the weakest in their midst, deprived of food and medicines in violation of international law, are suffering starvation and death, the top UN war crimes investigator said on Tuesday. An aid convoy on Monday brought the first food and medical relief for three months to the western town of Madaya, where 40,000 people are trapped by encircling government forces.

More Details:

<http://www.scmp.com/news/world/article/1900521/starve-or-surrender-un-war-crimes-investigators-gather-testimony-besieged?>

### 3. IRAN

- **Actions Speak Louder Than Words: Iran's Only War 'Was Started by the West'**

Iran is being punished because it refuses to submit to a US-government determined world order, and Washington will face a reckoning when the petrodollar system ends, political activist and former US marine Ken O'Keefe said. Iran is a peaceful nation which never sought conflict and it has been treated unfairly by the US and its allies, political activist and former US marine Ken O'Keefe told Radio Sputnik.

More Details:

<http://en.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13941022001508>

- **US may push Iran to reconsider N-deal: Iran Judiciary chief**

Iran's Judiciary chief says US talks of new sanctions against the Islamic Republic would force Tehran to reconsider implementation of a nuclear agreement reached last July. "For them to say, 'we have lifted sanctions as regards enrichment, but we can adopt new sanctions for missile activities and the human rights issue' is not sensible or acceptable," Ayatollah Sadeq Amoli-Larijani said.

More Details:

<http://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2016/01/12/445472/Iran-US-JCPOA-AmoliLarijani/>

- **US must apologize over marines entrance to Iran waters**

Rear Admiral Ali Fadavi said IRGC Navy will decide about detained US marines who illegally entered Iran waters once chain of command passes down its orders. "All vessels must give prior notice if they want to sail through another country's waters, especially if they are military," said Ali Fadavi, Commander of the IRGC (the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps) Navy, referring to the two American riverine command boats that had illegally crossed into Iranian territorial waters around Farsi Island in the Persian Gulf.

More Details:

<http://en.mehrnews.com/news/113561/US-must-apologize-over-marines-entrance-to-Iran-waters>

- **JCPOA does not limit Iran's missile programs: professor**

A political science professor believes that the terms of the nuclear deal between Iran and great powers do not limit Iran's missile program. Nader Entessar says according the nuclear accord, officially known as The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, Iran should not build missiles that would be capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

More Details:

[http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index\\_view.asp?code=252194](http://www.tehrantimes.com/Index_view.asp?code=252194)

- **Commander: US in new crisis if not for Iran's goodwill**

Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Major General Hassan Firouzabadi said what happened to American sailors on Tuesday proved how vulnerable the US is in front of powerful Iranian forces. Were it not for the good intentions of the Iranian commanders, he said, the US was facing yet another crisis now.

More Details:

<http://www.irna.ir/en/News/81919167/>

- **Iran to export surplus heavy water to US**

Iran plans to export about 40 tons of its surplus heavy water to the US through a mediator country, an Iranian atomic official said on Tuesday. "We annually produce about 20 tons of heavy water and we sell the surplus product to foreign customers," IRNA quoted Ali Asghar Zarean, a deputy head of Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), as saying.

More Details:

<http://www.iran-daily.com/News/134883.html>

- **Oil markets without any short-term perspective - ex-OPEC top official**

Oil markets are gloomy and without any short-term perspective, Parviz Mina, who served as a member of OPEC Long-Term Strategy Committee, told Trend. Mina said Jan.12 that the only chance for supporting oil prices is to decline the OPEC production, but considering the acceleration of Iran-Saudi Arabia issue, it seems impossible that Riyadh decreases its output.

More Details:

<http://en.trend.az/business/energy/2479670.html>

- **Playing the sectarian card**

Iran and Saudi Arabia are stoking the denominational conflict between Sunnis and Shias. Both sides are attempting to exploit an inner-Islamic conflict that has been raging for more than 1,300 years. And yet, as Andreas Gorzewski reports, it's not always about religion The words used by Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei were harsh. Following the execution of Shia cleric Nimr Baqr al-Nimr, he threatened that, "The unjustly spilled blood of this oppressed martyr will with no doubt show its effect and divine vengeance will befall Saudi politicians."

More Details:

<https://en.qantara.de/content/iran-saudi-conflict-playing-the-sectarian-card?>

- **Iran Set to Release Detained U.S. Sailors**

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps on Wednesday said it had released 10 U.S. sailors detained after their boats wandered into Iranian waters following an equipment malfunction. "After technical examinations, interaction with our political and national security officials and clarification that their entrance into [our] waters was unintentional... it was decided that they should be released," an IRGC statement said.

More Details:

<http://www.nasdaq.com/article/iran-set-to-release-detained-us-sailors-20160113-00077?>

- **Caspian energy hub proposed for Iran**

Iran can benefit by setting up an energy trade network in the Caspian Sea region, which could export electricity rather than natural gas to regional customers, according to an analyst. We can import natural gas from Caspian Sea to generate and export electric power, Mahmoud Khaqani, a member of the Iranian Association of Energy Economics , was quoted as saying by Irna, Irans official news agency.

More Details:

<http://www.energycentral.com/news/en/38433369/Caspian-energy-hub-proposed-for-Iran?>

## 4. ISRAEL – PALESTINE

- **Emails Reveal Clinton's Plan to Incite Palestinian Resistance**

The latest batch of controversial emails released by the US State Department shows that Hillary Clinton may have been seeking to encourage an anti-Israel atmosphere, and generate Palestinian protests, in order to force Israel to the negotiating table.

More Details:

<http://www.imemc.org/article/74550?>

- **3 Americans, Belgian suing Israel in US court over Mavi Marmara raid**

Three Americans and a Belgian are suing Israel in U.S. court for injuries sustained when Israeli naval commandos turned back a flotilla attempting to break Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip. The lawsuit was filed Monday in Washington, the Washington Post reported.

More Details:

<http://www.jta.org/2016/01/12/news-opinion/united-states/3-americans-belgian-suing-israel-in-u-s-court-over-mavi-marmara-raid?>

- **Sweden minister weighs into Israel deaths row**

Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallström has called for "thorough" investigations into the killing of Palestinians by the Israeli army in recent months. Wallström was responding to a question in parliament by an opposition member on the controversy raised in December by her statement on the need for Israel to avoid "extrajudicial executions".

More Details:

<http://www.thelocal.se/20160113/sweden-minister-weighs-into-israel-deaths-row>

- **Behind the Ban on the Islamic Movement in Israel**

The decision to outlaw the northern wing of the Islamic Movement in Israel was announced by Benjamin Netanyahu's government on November 17, 2015, days after attacks claimed by the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, left 130 dead in Paris. Although the ban had been long in the making, the timing was patently opportunistic, with Netanyahu even comparing Israel's Islamic Movement to ISIS.

More Details:

<http://dissidentvoice.org/2016/01/behind-the-ban-on-the-islamic-movement-in-israel/>

- **IAF takes out terror cell in northern Gaza**

Cell planting bombs on the border targeted in airstrike, with hits identified. One killed and three wounded according to reports. Israeli Air Force (IAF) fighter jets launched a strike on Wednesday morning against a terror cell in northern Gaza.

More Details:

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/>

- **Israel to force-feed imprisoned journalist on hunger strike**

The head of the Palestinian Committee for Prisoners' Affairs says Israel is due to force-feed a Palestinian prisoner who has been on a hunger strike for weeks now. Issa Qaraqe said on Tuesday that Palestinian prisoner Mohammed al-Qeq is in Afula hospital where a team has been tasked with force-feeding him, Palestinian Ma'an news agency reported.

More Details:

<http://www.albawaba.com/news/israel-force-feed-imprisoned-journalist-hunger-strike-792390>

- **Israel slams Swedish FM's call for inquiry into Palestinian murders**

Israel's Foreign Ministry Tuesday slammed Swedish Foreign Minister Margot Wallstrom's call for an investigation into the murder of Palestinians during the current wave of violence. Wallstrom called for an investigation into the murder of Palestinians by Israeli security forces and vigilantes Tuesday.

More Details:

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-01/13/c\\_135003124.htm?](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-01/13/c_135003124.htm?)

- **East Jerusalem Neighborhood Raided by Israeli Forces**

Muhammad Abu al-Hummus, a member of a local committee in 'Eesawiyya, said that dozens of Palestinians suffered from severe tear gas inhalation during the raid, adding that Israeli forces also fired rubber-coated steel bullets at youth. Abu al-Hummus alleged, according to Ma'an, that Israeli forces began firing the rubber bullets and tear gas "randomly," and for no apparent reason.

More Details:

<http://www.imemc.org/article/74557?>

- **Israeli forces kill three Palestinians in West bank in latest round of violence**

Israeli soldiers have shot dead three Palestinians in the occupied West Bank including one the military said had tried to stab a soldier. In recent months a wave of Palestinians stabbings, car rammings and shooting attacks have killed 24 Israelis. Over 140 Palestinian have been killed by Israeli forces as tensions between the two sides continue to simmer.

More Details:

<http://www.euronews.com/2016/01/13/israeli-forces-kill-three-palestinians-in-west-bank-in-latest-round-of-violence/>

- **Palestinian prisoner ends 50-day hunger strike**

A Palestinian hunger striker ended his 50-day strike on Tuesday after Israeli authorities reportedly agreed to some of the prisoner's demands, a lawyer with the Palestinian Prisoners' Society said. The lawyer said Kifah Hattab, who is also being held in Afula hospital for treatment, ended his hunger strike after meeting with a lawyer who had arranged several of Hattab's demands be met by Israel's Prison Service.

More Details:

<http://www.maannews.com/Content.aspx?id=769774>

- **Tel Aviv terrorist gets late night burial in Arara**

The small, low-key funeral of Nashat Melhem, the terrorist whomurdered three people in Tel Aviv on January 1, was held overnight Tuesday at Arara's cemetery. In accordance to the police's request, presence at the funeral was limited, and only 80 people showed up. Father, Mohammed Melhem, who is under house arrest, did not come to his son's funeral, with some participants claiming that he could attend but chose not to.

More Details:

<http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4752267,00.html>

## 5. JORDAN and LEBANON

- **Geagea Says he's Not Maneuvering in Endorsing Aoun Candidacy**

Lebanese Forces chief Samir Geagea denied that the LF was maneuvering on its possible backing for Change and Reform bloc leader MP Michel Aoun for the presidency. "We are not maneuvering on our choice to back Aoun as a candidate," al-Jourhouria daily on Wednesday quoted Geagea as saying. "We have many reasons for taking such a decision.

More Details:

<http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/199259-geagea-says-he-s-not-maneuvering-in-endorsing-aoun-candidacy>

- **Why a Nigerian cleric is Hezbollah's new cause célèbre**

Sheikh Ibrahim al-Zakzaky single-handedly brought Shiite Islamism to Nigeria. His arrest last month has analysts worried about a potential new insurgency.

More Details:

<https://now.mmedia.me/lb/en/reportsfeatures/566470-why-a-nigerian-cleric-is-hezbollahs-new-cause-clbre>

- **Iran central bank takes Beirut bombing case to U.S. Supreme Court**

The Republican-led Congress and President Barack Obama's administration, often at odds over Iran policy, are urging the U.S. Supreme Court to let the families of Americans killed in the 1983 bombing of a U.S. Marine Corps barracks in Beirut and other attacks collect nearly \$2 billion in frozen Iranian funds.

More Details:

<http://www.dailystar.com.lb/News/Lebanon-News/2016/Jan-13/331641-iran-central-bank-takes-beirut-bombing-case-to-us-supreme-court.ashx>

- **Rifi condemns Istanbul attacks**

Minister of Justice, Ashraf Rifi, sternly condemned the deadly terrorist attack that hit Istanbul on Tuesday, stressing that Turkey is capable of fatally countering terrorism.

More Details:

<http://nna-leb.gov.lb/en/show-news/55087/Rifi-condemns-Istanbul-attacks>

- **Hariri condemns Istanbul terrorist bombing**

In a press release by former Prime Minister Saad Hariri's Media office, it said: "Former Prime Minister Saad Hariri strongly condemned the terrorist bombing that targeted today the city of Istanbul."

More Details:

<http://nna-leb.gov.lb/en/show-news/55084/Hariri-condemns-Istanbul-terrorist-bombing>

- **King talks ties, anti-terror with US leaders**

His Majesty King Abdullah on Tuesday held a series of meetings in Washington with US administration officials and key lawmakers, with whom he discussed bilateral ties and regional challenges.

More Details:

<http://www.jordantimes.com/news/local/king-talks-ties-anti-terror-us-leaders#sthash.TIsDO05P.dpuf>

- **'No King-Obama meeting scheduled'**

No meeting was scheduled between His Majesty King Abdullah and US President Barack Obama during the Monarch's current visit to America, a source told The Jordan Times.

More Details:

<http://www.jordantimes.com/news/local/no-king-obama-meeting-scheduled%E2%80%99#sthash.SRnxkMtT.dpuf>

- **King condemns Istanbul terror bombing**

His Majesty King Abdullah II on Tuesday condemned as a terrorist attack a bomb blast in Istanbul's Sultan Ahmed district in Turkey, killing a number of civilians and wounding others.

More Details:

[http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public\\_News/Nws\\_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site\\_id=1&NewsID=232467&CatID=13](http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site_id=1&NewsID=232467&CatID=13)

- **Jordan condemns Istanbul terrorist bombing**

State Minister for Media Affairs and Government Spokesman, Mohammad Momani, expressed Jordan's sympathies with Turkish government and people and renewed the Kingdom's denunciation of all forms of terrorism. The minister said the terrorist bombing underlines the need to step up and coordinate international efforts to eradicate the menace which poses a growing threat to global peace.

More Details:

[http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public\\_News/Nws\\_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site\\_id=1&NewsID=232491&CatID=13](http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?lang=2&site_id=1&NewsID=232491&CatID=13)

## 6. ARABIAN PENINSULA AND THE GULF OF BASRA

- **Kuwait sentences two to death for 'spying for Iran'**

Kuwait on Tuesday sentenced two defendants to death, including an Iranian being tried in absentia, after they were convicted of "spying for Iran" and plotting attacks in the Gulf country.

More Details:

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=74655>

- **Gunmen kill Yemen police officer in violence-plagued Aden**

Unidentified gunmen on Tuesday killed a Yemeni police officer who worked at the airport in the violence-plagued second city of Aden, security officials said. Lieutenant colonel Amin Shaef, from the airport's investigation unit, was leaving his home in the Mansura district when the assailants opened fire before fleeing, the sources said.

More Details:

<http://www.middle-east-online.com/english/?id=74669>

- **Yemen peace talks postponed: U.N.**

Yemen peace talks originally slated for Jan. 14 will not happen on that date but may be held a week or more later, U.N. spokesman Ahmad Fawzi told a regular U.N. briefing in Geneva on Tuesday. "The 14th was mentioned as a date but I don't think it's on the table any longer," he said. "I don't think the 14th is a viable date any longer. (The U.N. special envoy to Yemen) is looking at a date after Jan 20," he said.

More Details:

<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/middle-east/2016/01/12/Yemen-peace-talks-postponed-U-N-.html>

- **Saudi executed for murder**

Saudi Arabia on Tuesday put to death one of its citizens convicted of murder, bringing to 51 the number of locals and foreigners executed this year. Mishari al-Anzi was convicted of shooting dead another Saudi during a dispute, the interior ministry said. Most executions in the country are carried out by beheading with a sword.

More Details:

<http://thepeninsulagatar.com/news/middle-east/365954/saudi-executed-for-murder>

- **Qatar will continue aiding Palestine, reconstructing Gaza**

Qatari Ambassador Mohammed Al-Emadi said yesterday that his country will continue aiding Palestine and reconstructing what the Israeli occupation destroyed in the Gaza Strip, Felesteen newspaper reported. Al-Emadi met with the Deputy Palestinian Parliament Speaker Ahmed Bahar in his office in Gaza and passed the greetings of the Qatari Emir to the Palestinians and to the people of Gaza, stressing that the Qatari support for Gaza will continue.

More Details:

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/news/middle-east/23293-qatar-will-continue-aiding-palestine-reconstructing-gaza>

- **Masked men firebomb Saudi intelligence building in Qatif**

A group of masked men threw firebombs at an intelligence service compound in the city of Qatif in eastern Saudi Arabia. A Saudi Interior Ministry spokesperson said: "There was a failed terrorist attempt to burn the building with Molotov cocktails", adding that one of the assailants was captured, Reuters reported.

More Details:

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/news/middle-east/23285-masked-men-firebomb-saudi-intelligence-building-in-qatif>

- **Political Leaders Call on Canada to Reveal Rights Report on Saudi Arabia**

Two Canadian political leaders urge Ottawa to lift "the veil of secrecy" over its 2015 assessment of Saudi Arabia's human rights situation and show "transparency" on ties with Riyadh. "I am deeply

concerned that government officials have refused to release own assessment on the state of human rights in Saudi Arabia,” Elizabeth May, the leader of the Green Party of Canada, said in a statement.

More Details:

<http://en.alalam.ir/news/1778282>

- **Ghana president defends decision to accept two Yemenis from Guantanamo**

Ghanaian president John Mahama defended Tuesday his country's decision to accept two Yemenis who have been released from the US military prison in Guantanamo Bay, saying criticisms and fear from Christian leaders were unfounded, Reuters reported. After more than a decade in Guantanamo, Mahmud Umar Muhammad Bin Atef and Khalid Muhammad Salih al-Dhuby were transferred to Ghana, according to the US Defense Department and the Ghana government.

More Details:

<http://www.albawaba.com/news/ghana-president-defends-decision-accept-two-yemenis-guantanamo-792296>

- **Former Qatari PM seeks immunity in UK torture case**

Former Qatari Prime Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber al-Thani’s legal team told a court in London on Tuesday that he has diplomatic immunity and should not face prosecution over allegations he had a rival imprisoned and tortured. Thani, who is often referred to as “Hbj,” is accused of falsely imprisoning British-Qatari dual national Fawaz al-Attiya in conditions amounting to torture, including being kept in solitary confinement and being subjected to sleep deprivation.

More Details:

<http://www.middleeasteye.net/news/former-qatari-pm-argues-immunity-uk-torture-case-267673158>

- **NGO: Sister of Jailed Saudi Blogger Imprisoned**

The sister of Saudi blogger Raif Badawi, who was recently sentenced to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashes, was arrested Tuesday, Amnesty International said, calling it "damning proof" of the kingdom's human rights abuses. Samar Badawi was detained in the morning in Jeddah with her two-year-old daughter and interrogated by police for four hours before being transferred to Dhaban prison, the NGO said in a statement.

More Details:

<http://www.naharnet.com/stories/en/199254-ngo-sister-of-jailed-saudi-blogger-imprisoned>

## 7. EGYPT

- **Egypt condemns Istanbul suicide bombing**

Egypt strongly condemned the “terrorist bomb attack” that rocked Istanbul Tuesday, calling on the international community to join hands against “terrorism,” according to a Foreign Ministry statement.

More details:

<http://thecairopost.youm7.com/news/188021/news/egypt-condemns-istanbul-suicide-bombing>

- **Shoukry meets with German Bundestag majority leader**

Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry met with the leader of the German parliament (Bundestag) majority, Volker Kauder, on Tuesday where they discussed ways of reinforcing bilateral relations between Egypt and Germany.

More details:

<http://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2016/01/12/shoukry-meets-with-german-bundestag-majority-leader/>

- **British diplomat visits Cairo to 'welcome Egypt to UN Security Council'**

Head of the International Organisations Department at the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office David Concar arrived Tuesday in Cairo to "welcome Egypt to the Security Council and underline the UK's interest in a close partnership with Egypt."

More details:

<http://english.ahram.org.eg/NewsContent/1/64/180835/Egypt/Politics-/British-diplomat-visits-Cairo-to-welcome-Egypt-to-.aspx>

- **State resorts to 'carrot and stick approach' as uprising's 5th anniversary looms**

In a speech he delivered in late December at the ministry of endowments to commemorate the birth of the Prophet of Islam, President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi asked the "group calling for a new revolution" if they want to "ruin this country".

More details:

<http://en.aswatmasriya.com/news/view.aspx?id=e66ee713-ce33-4b2f-a289-1f578e1be819>

- **Sisi extends Sinai state of emergency for 3 months**

Egypt's president Abdel Fattah al-Sisi issued a presidential decree on Tuesday extending the state of emergency in Sinai for three months as of Wednesday, Jan. 27.

More details:

<http://en.aswatmasriya.com/news/view.aspx?id=c263e137-cb0f-401f-a199-66c76f29c588>

- **China, Egypt to hold Cultural Year 2016**

China and Egypt are going to jointly hold a series of cultural events this year. More than 100 different kinds of events will be held to mark the China-Egypt Cultural Year. 63 events will be held in China, and another 39 in Egypt.

More details:

[http://www.china.org.cn/world/2016-01/13/content\\_37564597.htm?](http://www.china.org.cn/world/2016-01/13/content_37564597.htm?)

- **ISIS affiliate in Sinai threatens to stop Jordan's natural gas supply**

On January 8, the ISIS branch in Egypt, Sinai Province, attacked the El-Arish pipeline to Jordan, blowing up the pipeline which carries gas from Egypt to the Hashemite Kingdom.

More details:

<http://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/ISIS-Threat/ISIS-affiliate-in-Sinai-threatens-to-stop-Jordans-natural-gas-supply-441344?>

- **Saudi Arabia deports 12 Egyptians for violating residency laws**

Saudi Arabia deported 12 Egyptians for violating residency and labor laws; they arrived in Cairo Airport Tuesday, Youm7 reported.

More details:

<http://thecairopost.youm7.com/news/187963/news/saudi-arabia-deports-12-egyptians-for-violating-residency-laws>

- **Egypt's new parliament should amend protest, anti-terror laws**

Human Rights Watch urged Egypt's newly elected House of Representatives to "amend or revoke" what it described as "abusive laws" issued by either President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi or his predecessor Adly Mansour.

More details:

<http://en.aswatmasriya.com/news/view.aspx?id=5b6181f1-08b8-486f-aace-d76d8edee649>

- **Western Union transfers from Egypt to China curbed amid dollar shortage -sources**

Jan 12 Money transfers from Egypt to China via Western Union have been curbed in recent weeks to stop importers bypassing capital controls in place at Egyptian banks to manage a dollar shortage, banking and Western Union sources in Egypt said.

More details:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/egypt-currency-imports-idUSL8N14W2QQ20160112>

## 8. NORTH AFRICA

- **Erekat: Algeria to be at forefront of Palestinian action plan implementation**

The Secretary General of the Executive Committee and the head of the Negotiation Affairs Department of Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Saeb Erekat stressed Monday that "Algeria will be at the forefront of the implementation of a large part of the Palestinian action plan at both regional and international levels in order to reposition the State of Palestine with Al-Quds as its capital on the new world map.

More details:

<http://www.aps.dz/en/algeria/10287-erekat-algeria-to-be-at-forefront-of-palestinian-action-plan-implementation>

- **Algeria proposes constitutional reforms**

Algeria's government has published two significant draft constitutional reforms that seem intended to send out a message to critics of the country's commitment to democracy.

More details:

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/12/algeria-bouteflika-amazigh-berber-language-official>

- **Merkel supports political reforms in Algeria**

German chancellor Angela Merkel expressed, Tuesday, support to the process of political reforms in Algeria engaged by the President of the Republic, Abdelaziz Bouteflika.

More details:

<http://www.aps.dz/en/algeria/10285-merkel-brings-support-to-process-of-political-reforms-in-algeria>

Study On Tunisia in Ten Years Should Take Into Consideration Country's General Situation (caid Essebsi)

President Beji Caid Essebsi said the strategic study "Tunisia in Ten Years: An Emerging, Resilient and Re-united State," should take into consideration the general situation in the country and enjoy broad consensus.

More details:

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201601130163.html>

- **Popular Front to Lead Boycott of Revolution Day Ceremony**

A group of political parties, plus individual deputies, have announced their decision to boycott the festivities scheduled to be held at the Presidential Palace in Carthage on Thursday to mark the fifth anniversary of the revolution.

More details:

<http://www.tunisia-live.net/2016/01/12/popular-front-to-lead-boycott-of-revolution-day-ceremony/>

- **Royal Air Maroc Fined \$4,000 for 'Abandonment' of its Passengers**

Morocco's national airline Royal Air Maroc (RAM) has been sentenced a US \$4,000 fine by a court in Canada for "abandonment" of its passengers.

More details:

<http://www.morocoworldnews.com/2016/01/177293/royal-air-maroc-fined-4000-for-abandonment-of-its-passengers/>

- **Aeronautics Daher Aerospace to Open new Factory in Morocco**

Leading Aeronautics company Daher Aerospace will be opening a new plant in Morocco's industrial hub, the Tangier free zone, just 500 meters away from the company's first plant in said zone.

More details:

<http://moroccantimes.com/2016/01/17833/aeronautics-daher-aerospace-to-open-new-factory-in-morocco>

- **Colloquium On Peace and Crisis Resolution Initiatives in Mali, Libya Kicks Off in Algeria**

The works of a colloquium entitled "Mali-Libya, peace and crisis resolution initiatives: what prospects for regional stability", kicked off Tuesday in Algiers in the presence of General officers and executives of the People's National Army ANP).

More details:

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201601121427.html>

- **UN Condemns Attacks On Benghazi Power Plant**

Strongly condemning the recent attacks against a major power plant in Libya's eastern city of Benghazi, the top United Nations humanitarian official in the country said he is "deeply shocked by these actions that directly affect civilian life," and warned that such "ignoble" attacks may amount to war crimes.

More details:

<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/wn/newsworld.php?id=1206549>

- **Libya releases two European hostages, sends them to Malta**

An Austrian and a Serb who had been held in Libya since last March were released a few hours ago and are now in Malta.

More details:

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20160112/local/libya-releases-two-europeans-sends-them-to-malta.598530>

## 9. AFGHANISTAN – PAKISTAN

- **Gunfight Follows Deadly Explosion at Pakistani Consulate in Afghanistan**

A gun battle was underway near the Pakistani Consulate in the eastern city of Jalalabad after a deadly explosion on Wednesday morning, officials said.

More Details:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/14/world/asia/jalalabad-afghanistan-blast.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/14/world/asia/jalalabad-afghanistan-blast.html?_r=0)

- **Afghanistan: Set Out Concrete Plan to Involve Women**

The Afghan government should quickly remedy its missed deadline to produce a plan to include women in the peace process, Human Rights Watch said today. In September 2015, the Afghan government of President Ashraf Ghani promised its key international donors it would finalize an implementation plan by year's end and begin carrying it out in the first half of 2016.

More Details:

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2016/01/12/afghanistan-set-out-concrete-plan-involve-women>

- **Corruption Encourages Parallel Judiciary in Afghanistan**

The perception of corruption in Afghanistan's judiciary is leading citizens to turn to the Taliban to resolve their legal cases swiftly and with a lack of red tape.

More Details:

<http://www.voanews.com/content/corruption-encourages-parallel-judiciary-afghanistan/3142316.html>

- **Most of Daesh members entered Afghanistan from Pakistan, alleges Afghan Ambassador**

Addressing an event regarding Pak-Afghan ties in Islamabad, Afghan Ambassador to Pakistan Janan Mosazai on Wednesday claimed that terrorists from Pakistan's Mohmand and Orakzai agencies are joining Daesh in Afghanistan.

More Details:

<http://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/317488-Most-of-Daesh-members-entered-Afghanistan-from-Pak>

- **Afghanistan official says thinks Taliban interested in talks**

Afghanistan's chief negotiator in peace talks that began in Pakistan this week said on Tuesday that he was hopeful Taliban insurgents would join the process but warned that public support would wane if there were no quick results.

More Details:

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/afghanistan-official-says/2420370.html>

- **U.S. Forces Tied by Old Rules in Afghanistan**

As the Afghanistan war grinds into its 15th year, many U.S. military officers are telling Congress their hands are tied to go after the enemy, particularly the Islamic State, which is building up its presence in the country despite fierce opposition from the Taliban.

More Details:

<http://www.bloombergview.com/articles/2016-01-12/rules-of-engagement-in-afghanistan-limit-u-s-effectiveness>

- **14 killed in Quetta suicide attack**

At least 14 people, most of them police personnel, were martyred and 20 others sustained injuries in a suicide attack in Quetta's Satellite Town on Wednesday morning.

More Details:

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/90045-14-killed-in-Quetta-roadside-bomb#sthash.w8G07dBT.dpuf>

- **Pakistan not sending ground troops to any country: Sartaj Aziz**

Adviser to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs, Sartaj Aziz on Tuesday said Pakistan will not send ground troops to Saudi Arabia or any other country after having joined the 34-countries military alliance.

More Details:

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/89811-Pakistan-not-sending-ground-troops-to-any-country-Sartaj-Aziz#sthash.7tx3QTt0.dpuf>

- **Pakistan arrests Jaish members in connection with India air base attack**

Prime Minister's Office on Wednesday said the government wants to send a team of special investigators to the Pathankot air base in India for further investigation. In a statement, the PMO also confirmed the arrests of several members of the Jaish-i-Mohammad militant group, which India suspects of involvement in what was nearly week-long siege of the Pathankot Indian air base earlier this month.

More Details:

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1232709/pakistan-arrests-jaish-members-in-connection-with-india-air-base-attack>

- **No Reason to Distrust Pakistan: Indian Minister**

Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said there was no reason to distrust Pakistan's assurance of an "effective action" against those linked to the terror attack on the IAF base in Pathankot in the Punjab. "There is no reason to distrust them so early. We should all wait (for Pakistani action)," the minister told media persons here, IANS reported.

More Details:

<http://www.geo.tv/latest/9320-No-reason-to-distrust-Pakistan-Indian-minister#sthash.xyh17sR6.dpuf>

## 10.TURKEY AND THE MIDDLE EAST

- **Syrian suicide bomber kills 10 in Istanbul's tourist heart**

Ten people, mostly foreigners, were killed on Tuesday when a Syrian suicide bomber blew himself up in Istanbul's busiest tourist district, in the latest deadly attack to hit the country. Images showed several mutilated corpses lying on the ground close to the iconic Ottoman-era Blue Mosque in Sultanahmet, a district which is home to Istanbul's biggest concentration of historic monuments.

More Details:

<http://thepeninsulaqatar.com/news/middle-east/365984/syrian-suicide-bomber-kills-10-in-istanbul-s-tourist-heart>

- **Turkey arrests scores of alleged IS members after Istanbul blast**

Turkey has arrested 68 suspected members of the Islamic State (IS) group in nationwide raids, state media said on Wednesday. The crackdown comes after a suicide bomber killed 10 tourists and injured 15 others in a central Istanbul attack that was widely blamed on IS. Authorities are saying that they believed the 28-year-old suicide bomber crossed recently from Syria before registering as a refugee.

More Details:

<http://www.middleeasteye.net/news/turkey-detains-almost-70-alleged-members-after-deadly-istanbul-blast-1411497984>

- **Turkey detains three Russians over suspected DAESH links**

Three Russian nationals on Wednesday were detained by Turkish security officers over the suspected links with DAESH terrorist groups in Turkey's southern province of Antalya. The detentions came one

day after suicide bomb attack that targeted Istanbul's Sultanahmet Square on Tuesday. The attack killed 10 civilians and injured 15 others.

More Details:

<http://www.trtworld.com/turkey/turkey-detains-three-russians-over-suspected-daesh-links-26386>

- **Istanbul tourist guide's screams prevented deaths**

Sultanahmet district was rocked by a suicide bomber yesterday with 10 people killed. Many lives were saved when Sibel Satiroglu screamed for tourists to "run" when she noticed the suicide bomber at the last minute, preventing the death of many other people. According to a news report by Eyup Serbest and Burcu Purtul Ucar for Hurriyet newspaper, noticed the suicide bomber and screamed in German "Lauf Weg" meaning "run" preventing further deaths. Satiroglu was wounded in the leg in the explosion and has suffered from hearing loss in her ears.

More Details:

<http://www.worldbulletin.net/turkey/168355/the-last-ottoman-defending-medina-surrendered-today>

*\*This media summary is prepared by **ORSAM Middle East Research Assistant Firuze Yağmur Gökler**. It covers news and commentaries as reported by the national media sources publishing in the Middle Eastern countries. The views expressed are not those of ORSAM and their inclusion does not imply factual accuracy.*

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