

Source:

Iraqi PM Maliki to Form New Gov't

BAGHDAD (FNA) – Newly-elected Iraqi President Fuad Masum will entrust Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki with the job to form the new government, a source said. An informed source told the Iraqi Sumeriya news website that Masum is seeking to inform Maliki of his decision soon. No other details were released in the report but Mahmoud al-Hassan, an Iraqi legislator and member of the State of Law Coalition, said that Maliki has writ-

ten a letter to Masum and asked him to entrust the State of Law Coalition's nominee for the formation of the new government. The State of Law Coalition managed to win 92 parliamentary seats in the recent elections. Earlier this month, the Iraqi State of Law Coalition reached consensus on Nuri al-Maliki's premiership for a third term. "An unofficial consensus on candidacy of Al-Maliki for the post of prime minister has been

reached," a source close to the State of Law Coalition, who asked to remain anonymous, told FNA. He said despite some oppositions to Al-Maliki's premiership, most political currents which are under the umbrella of the State of Law Coalition have reached consensus on Maliki's premiership for another term. Earlier this month, Ayatollah Sistani called for faster steps by the Iraqi officials to form a new

government within the framework of the constitution. In a statement read by his representative in the Southern city of Karbala Seyed Ahmad Safi, Ayatollah Sistani asked the political streams to increase efforts to save Iraq from the current crisis as soon as possible, al-Iraqiya TV channel reported. The Iraqi religious leader also voiced regret over the parliament's failure in electing a speaker and his deputies.

Turkish PM's 'Insults' Anger Egypt

ANKARA (FNA) – Egypt once again summoned Ankara's charge d'affaires in protest at the recent remarks by Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan over Cairo's handling of the situation in Gaza amid Zionist regime's raids. In a strongly worded statement, the Egyptian Foreign Ministry lashed out at Erdogan for calling President Ab-

del Fattah Al-Sisi a "tyrant", warning that their already sour bilateral ties could worsen further, press tv reported. The Egyptian ministry also said it had called in the Turkish envoy to voice Cairo's strong objection over the Turkish premier's "insults" to Sisi. The statement said "the continua-

tion of the insults against Egypt and its elected leadership will undoubtedly lead to more measures from Egypt, leading to limited progress of bilateral relations". The Egyptian Foreign Ministry also accused Erdogan of "repeatedly" meddling in the North African country's domestic affairs, saying such moves are "unacceptable".

In an interview with the CNN earlier this month, Erdogan described Sisi as an "illegitimate tyrant", saying Egypt's current rulers are blocking humanitarian aid channels into Gaza. The Turkish leader also said Cairo could not be relied upon to negotiate a truce with Zionist regime. Egypt's Foreign Ministry first summoned the Turkish envoy on July 20.

Pope: Please Stop Fighting Worldwide

VATICAN (Dispatches) – Pope Francis made a direct appeal for fighting to end all around the world. During his weekly Angelus address in Saint Peter's Square on Sunday, the pontiff made an emotional plea for peace around the world, saying his thoughts are on the Middle East, Iraq and Ukraine in particular. "Please stop!, I ask you with all my heart, it's time to stop. Stop, please," he said. The Pope made no direct reference to the bloodshed in the Gaza Strip, but his comments came after a humanitarian truce, brokered by the United Nations, broke down on Sunday. "Brothers and sisters, never war, never war! I am thinking above all of children, who are deprived of

the hope of a worthwhile life, of a future," the pope said. "Dead children, injured children, mutilated children, orphaned children, children whose toys are things left over from war, children who can't smile anymore," he added. The pope's comments come as Palestinian death toll from three weeks of Israeli strikes has reached about 1,050. At least 6,000 Palestinians have been injured in the onslaught. On July 17, thousands of Israeli soldiers also launched a ground incursion into the densely-populated Palestinian territory. The Ezzedine al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of the Palestinian resistance movement, Hamas, has been launching retali-



Pope Francis made a direct appeal for fighting to end all around the world.

tory attacks against Israel. While Israel confirms 40 Israelis

have been killed in the war, Hamas sources put the number at about 90.

Zionists... (Continued From Page One)

are its goals in Gaza? And how long does it intend to remain there to achieve them? "The more you drag on, the more you stay there, the more the exit strategy becomes a blur," said Yossi Melman, an Israeli intelligence analyst. "We will be trapped there, and we will have more casualties. If we don't have a clear vision of what we want to achieve, we unwittingly will find ourselves reoccupying Gaza again." The Zionist regime and its allies don't want that. In Paris, envoys from Qatar, Turkey, France, Britain, Germany, Italy and the United States worked late into the night Saturday in an attempt to win an extension of the ceasefire, despite the reignited tensions. They viewed a truce lasting several days — the goal of diplomatic efforts that fell short last week in Cairo — as a bridge to a sustainable ceasefire. The occupying regime of Israel wants to see Hamas demilitarized, while Hamas's core demand is the lifting of Israel's economic blockade of Gaza. As a diplomatic breakthrough was sought, Gazans seized advantage of the pause in fighting. In the three hardest-hit towns, residents rushed back to gather belongings and search for missing relatives after 24 hours of intense fighting and heavy bombing by Israel that left deep impact craters where apartment blocks once stood. Whole neighborhoods were transformed into acres of twisted metal and concrete dust. More than 180 bodies were pulled from the rubble. In the Shejaiyah neighborhood, east of central Gaza City, three brothers stood at the edge of a deep crater left by a large Israeli bomb. The day before it was their four-story

apartment house, home to 30 family members. "We have nothing left," said one of the brothers, Said Helou, 32, a baker. Even as it faces diplomatic pressure to agree to a durable truce, the Zionist regime has given mixed signals about its exit strategy from Gaza. Melman, the analyst, said he hoped there was "no hidden agenda to topple the Hamas regime," because that could lead to radical militants taking control. "After Hamas, you could have ISIS," he said, referring to the group that has seized large swaths of Iraq. It would be virtually impossible, he added, to get Hamas to give up its weapons. In killing 43 Israeli soldiers, Hamas already believes it is the victor and has the upper hand, he said. The UN-brokered deal that ended the Lebanon war called for Hezbollah to be disarmed. Today, it is believed to be stronger than ever, its rockets still pointed at Zionist targets.

Protesters... (Continued From Page One)

Protesters were seen waiving Palestinian flags, chanting "We are all Palestinians" and carrying placards reading: "Zionists, terrorists". At least one Zionist flag was burned, a Reuters photographer said. "It's a scandal that they're banning protests. It's our right. We were attacked with tear gas even though we didn't do anything," said 24-year old temp worker Sabrina, who declined to give her full name. In the Mediterranean port city of Marseilles, some 2,000 people marched peacefully on Saturday in an authorized demonstration. France has both the largest Jewish and Muslim populations in Europe and flare-ups in the Middle East have often in the past added to tensions between the two communities.

Iraqi... (Continued From Page One)

Trading sources in Texas, New York, London and Geneva have been unable to identify the buyer of the United Kalavrvta's cargo. The oil could go to any one of the many refineries located along the U.S. Gulf Coast. The ship carries approximately 1 million barrels of crude, which would fetch more than \$100 million at international prices. Any sale of Kurdish crude oil to a U.S. refinery would infuriate Baghdad, which sees such deals as smuggling, raising questions about Washington's commitment to preventing oil sales from the autonomous region. Washington has ostensibly pressured companies and governments not to buy crude from the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG), but it has stopped short of banning U.S. firms from buying it outright. The KRG has renewed its push for an independent state amid the latest violence roiling Iraq. Baghdad has threatened to sue anyone that buys Kurdish oil. In June, the KRG took control of the long-disputed oil city of Kirkuk and expanded its territory by more than a third as Iraqi forces fled the insurgent onslaught. They have so far declined to commit their Peshmerga forces to help Baghdad fight the ISIL.

Iran... (Continued From Page 2)

"Our foreign legal team is watching closely the movement of the vessel and is ready to target any potential buyer regardless of their nationality," an official from Baghdad's state oil marketer SOMO told Reuters, calling the potential sale "illegal". The first tanker carrying crude from the Kurdish pipeline set sale from Ceyhan in May. Three others have sailed since then, but only one of the four has been delivered so far — into a port in Occupied Territories for the occupying regime of Israel after a ship-to-ship transfer. Iraqi Kurdistan began selling its oil independently of the federal government in 2012, trucking first small amounts of condensate through Turkey and then two types of crude oil. At least one tanker of Kurdish crude, the United Leadership, attempted to reach the United States earlier this year, but reversed course south of Portugal. KRG President Massoud Barzani this month pledged a referendum on independence and dispatched top aides to the White House. The Zionist regime was the first foreign regime to welcome an independent Kurdistan.

is doing to the Palestinian people at the International Criminal Court," he said, referring to the ministry's request to the ICC to open an investigation into Israel's war crimes in Gaza. "The savage massacres and crimes committed by the Zionist entity cannot be tolerated and should not be accepted by any Arab or Muslim country," he said, as he condemned international silence over events in Gaza and assistance to Israel. "If the Zionist entity continues with its aggression, and the conditions set out by the Palestinian resistance in Gaza are not taken into consideration, then the Palestinian resistance will behave in the way Israel deserves in the coming phase." Abdolahian also spoke about Iran's willingness to send medical aid and food to Gaza, and receive wounded Palestinians pending an Egyptian approval. "Medical aid and food were prepared and are ready to be shipped to Gaza, and we also announced our readiness to receive hundreds of wounded Palestinians to be treated at Iranian hospitals," he told reporters after meeting Berri in Ain al-Tineh. "We are still waiting for permission from the Egyptian government to allow us to send the aid to Gaza and transport wounded into Iran." He said he discussed with Berri recent developments in Iraq and ISIS' takeover of Mosul, which forced hundreds of Christian families to flee persecution. "We spoke about the recent conspiracy targeting Iraq and the unfortunate developments in Mosul, everyone knows ISIS is a terrorist Takfiri, radical, Israeli group," he said. "While we see Israel's massacres in Gaza ... ISIS, which claimed to be liberating, revolutionary forces, has not yet taken any action or said anything about the Israeli aggression." "The world should come together to help Iraq, as people and government, to confront terrorism. We support the political process in Iraq."

Norway... (Continued From Page 2)

statement issued early June, the service confirmed dozens of Iranian students hoping to go to Norway to study this academic year had also been refused visas based on its advice. "Since 2012, we have noted an increase in the number of Iranian applicants for advanced technological university programs in Norway," the statement read. "In 2013, basing ourselves on UN resolutions, we recommended that applications from approximately 60 students and researchers be rejected." For academics at some of Norway's leading universities this is not good news. "Norway needs input from well qualified people," says Professor Torgeir Moan, who heads NTNU's Center for Ships and Ocean Structures, and has had many Iranian post-grad students in the past. "Most of the foreign students that come here stay and work in Norway after their education and contribute to Norwegian development. So for us the recent Iranian cases were a surprise." There are around 200 Iranians studying at NTNU and hundreds more at other institutions across the country. Even for those not so far affected by the Immigration Department's new rulings, it's a worrying time. Many fear their long-term job prospects are being damaged. "The entire atmosphere is so negative towards Iranian students now," says one a PhD student at NTNU, who asked not to be named. "Norwegian companies and employers are not interested in hiring us, even people who've been living here for a long time. Our job applications are getting rejected because the employers know that Iranians might not get work permits." Inside universities there are also fears that there will be fewer opportunities for Iranian post-graduates, however talented, because of the complications surrounding their work and resident permits. Professor Moan acknowledges that it is becoming a problem. "I must confess that yes, it has impacted on us," he told the BBC. "It is very unfortunate because we would really like to hire (Iranian students) but of course we are in a different situation with obligations to make." While Hamideh and her fellow students await the outcome of their appeal the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research has announced that it has called a meeting this autumn to seek clarity on the issue. They have invited representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Security Service and the Immigration Department. Iranian students and their Norwegian lecturers will be watching the outcome very carefully.



ISIL Takfiri terrorist have demolished two more religious sites in the volatile Iraqi city of Mosul.

BAGHDAD (Press TV) – ISIL Takfiri terrorists overrunning parts of the troubled northern Iraq have demolished two more religious sites in the volatile city of Mosul. Local security officials in the restive Nineveh Province say the ISIL terrorists destroyed the shrine of Prophet Jersis known as Saint George by Christians. Latest reports say the terrorists also bombed the burial site of Prophet Seth, the third son of

Adam and Eve in the flashpoint city. Earlier, the terrorists had leveled the tomb of another prophet called Yunus in the Qur'an and Jonah in the Bible. Sources say the terrorists have now destroyed or badly damaged more than 30 shrines, as well as 15 mosques and places of worship in and around Mosul after capturing the city last month. The ISIL and its associated terrorist groups are blamed for numer-