

Funeral Held for Palestinian Killed by Zionist Troops

WEST BANK (Press TV) – Mourners have held a funeral in East Al-Quds for a former Palestinian prisoner who was killed by Zionist forces after being suspected of attempted murder, Press TV reports.

There are two things that I fear for you most: following one's passions and forever hoping, because following one's passions impedes truth, and forever hoping causes one to forget the Hereafter.

Amir al-Momeneen Ali (AS)

UN's Syria Envoy Proposes Action Plan

NEW YORK (Dispatches) – The United Nations special envoy to Syria, Staffan de Mistura, has proposed an action plan for areas where Syrian forces are fighting Takfiri terrorists.

De Mistura said on Thursday that the proposal includes "freeze zones" in Syria to allow deliveries of humanitarian aid, starting with the country's largest city Aleppo.

"It should be something that freezes the conflict in that area and gives an opportunity for some type of humanitarian improvement and for the people to feel that at least there, there will not be this type of conflict," said De Mistura.

Syrian Ambassador to the UN

Bashar Jaffari responded to de Mistura's comments, saying Damascus was ready to give the proposal "due consideration" and that he would receive more details of the plan during a meeting on Friday.

The UN envoy presented the proposal during his first briefing to the UN Security Council (UNSC) following a 40-day tour of the region, including visits to Russia, Iran and Syria.

According to UN figures, more than three million Syrians are said to have taken shelter in the neighboring countries of Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq since the onset of the Syrian crisis.

Peshmerga Poised to Enter Kobani

Fighters from Iraq's Kurdistan Regional Government forces, known as Peshmerga, are set to enter the Syrian town of Kobani to join the fight against the ISIL terrorists.

The Syrian Kurdish fighters in Kobani say a group of ten Peshmerga fighters entered the besieged town on Thursday through the border crossing with Turkey to study the geography of the area.

They later went back to the Turkish side of the border to prepare for the arrival of a group of 150 fighters who are awaiting deployment to the embattled town.

The Turkish government had long

been refusing the Kurds to join the anti-ISIL fight, but Ankara unexpectedly announced last week that it would allow the Peshmerga to enter Kobani through the Turkish border.

Kobani and its surroundings have been under attack since mid-September, with the ISIL terrorists capturing dozens of nearby Kurdish villages and killing hundreds of people. More than 200,000 people have also fled across the border into Turkey.

Syria has been grappling with a foreign-backed war for more than three years. The violence fuelled by Takfiri groups has so far claimed the lives of nearly 200,000 people, according to reports.

Zionist Regime Cancels Plan to Purchase US V-22 Ospreys

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – The Zionist regime has canceled a plan to buy military aircraft from the United States, amid already frosty relations with Washington.

According to Zionist media reports, Zionist war minister Moshe Ya'alon decided to back out of the decision to buy six US V-22 Osprey military aircraft from the US.

Negotiations between the two sides on the purchase of the aircraft had been held back in April 2013. Tel Aviv and Washington, however, had signed no deal over the issue.

Reports attributed Ya'alon's decision to drop the purchase of the aircraft to Israeli budget constraints and a change in the Tel Aviv regime's policies on devel-

oping weapons and equipping its army.

However, analysts say Tel Aviv's withdrawal came amid the increasing deterioration of relations between Israel and the US. The ties between Tel Aviv and Washington dropped to new lows after a senior US official was recently reported to have made a slur against Israeli Premier Benjamin Netanyahu, calling him "chickenshit".

Washington and Tel Aviv have recently exchanged heated arguments over the occupying regime's plan to build more than 1,000 settler units in the occupied Palestinian lands.

Netanyahu had earlier lashed out at Washington for condemning Zionist expansionist plans, saying US officials are "detached from reality."

Bombings Near Iraqi Capital Kill 15

BAGHDAD (Dispatches) – Iraq's police say at least 15 people have been killed in a series of bomb attacks near the capital, Baghdad, amid ongoing battle between the Iraqi army and the ISIL Takfiri terrorists.

A bomb explosion ripped through a sheep market in Baghdad's western suburb of Suweib at around noon on Friday. Five people died and 13 others were injured in the attack.

Police said another bomb went off at a commercial street in Radhawaniyah suburb, leaving two people dead and nine others wounded.

Earlier in the day, a bomb blast near a market in the town of Madain, situated just south of Baghdad, killed four people and wounded nearly a dozen.

Four people were also killed and 10 others wounded when an explosion struck an outdoor market in the town of Youssifiyah, locat-

ed 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of Baghdad, on Friday.

Iraqi officials usually blame similar terrorist attacks on Takfiri terrorists and former Ba'athists who Baghdad says have formed an alliance to destabilize the country.

Baghdad has also pointed the finger at Saudi Arabia, saying Riyadh is funding terrorists operating in Iraq.

Iraqi security forces, backed by Shia volunteer fighters, managed to push into the strategic northern town of Beiji, located some 210 kilometers (130 miles) north of Baghdad, on Friday, taking control of some of the town's southern districts.

Iraqi soldiers have been fighting the ISIL terrorists for nearly six months now. The troops have pledged to make more gains in their battle against ISIL, which has large swathes of land under control in Iraq and Syria.

Tensions Mount in al-Quds Over Zionist Restrictions

WEST BANK (Dispatches) – Tensions are mounting in al-Quds as the Zionist regime imposes restrictions on Palestinian worshippers attending Friday prayers.

Israeli authorities deployed security forces across al-Quds ahead of Friday prayers.

"Police have added a wide range of units and are continuing to implement security measures in Jerusalem (al-Quds), which will continue for as long as it takes for the situation on the ground to gradually become less tense," Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said.

This came a day after Tel Aviv announced the closure of al-Aqsa mosque compound to Palestinian worshippers for the first time since 2000, but later it promised to reopen the holy site to those over 50.

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas also warned that the Israeli move amounts to a "declaration of war."

"This dangerous Israeli escalation is a declaration of war on the Palestinian people and its sacred places and on the Arab and Islamic nation," Abbas' spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeina quoted him as saying on Thursday.

Tensions flared up in the city after



Zionist troops clash with Palestinian protesters in the occupied West Bank.

Israeli forces killed a Palestinian man suspected of attempting to kill an extremist Jewish rabbi.

Moataz Hejazi, 32, was seriously injured when Israeli forces stormed his home in the Abu Tor neighborhood and opened fire on him. He suc-

cumbed to injuries after being left on the scene for more than half an hour.

The city has been witnessing fierce clashes between Israeli forces and Palestinian protesters in recent days.

The al-Aqsa compound, which lies in the Israeli-occupied Old City of al-

Quds, is a flashpoint holy site in Islam. The location of the compound, known to Jews as the Temple Mount, is the holiest site in Judaism. The mosque is Islam's third holiest mosque after Masjid al-Haram in Mecca and Masjid al-Nabawi in Medina.

Al-Wefaq Slams Bahrain for Violating Shia Muslims' Rights

MANAMA (Press TV) – Bahrain's main opposition bloc has condemned the Manama regime for violating the religious freedom of its Shia population amid police attacks on preparations to mark the Ashura anniversary.

The al-Wefaq National Islamic Society called on the Bahraini regime to stop police from arresting civilians for their religious beliefs.

The opposition party said regime forces had destroyed and removed all banners, flags and black cloths commemorating the martyrdom anniversary of Imam Hussein, the third Shia imam, in different parts of the country.

Ashura marks the day when Imam Hussein, along with 72 of his companions, was martyred in a battle against the second Umayyad caliph in Karbala, Iraq, some 14 centuries ago.

Imam Hussein's martyrdom is widely interpreted by Shia Muslims as a symbol of the struggle against injustice and the need to preserve the purity of Islam.

The population of the tiny Persian Gulf kingdom is mostly constituted by Shia Muslims.

Shia Muslims have long com-

plained about what they call being discriminated against by the Bahraini regime when it comes to employment opportunities and the right to public office.

Since mid-February 2011, thousands of anti-regime protesters have held nu-

merous demonstrations in the streets of Bahrain, calling for the Al Khalifa royal family to relinquish power.

On March 14, 2011, troops from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates invaded the country to assist the Bah-

raini government in its crackdown on peaceful protesters.

Many Bahrainis have been killed and hundreds injured and arrested in the regime's ongoing crackdown on peaceful demonstrations.



Bahrain's main opposition group slams regime forces' attacks on preparations for Ashura anniversary.

Yemenis Protest Zionist Aggressions Against Palestinians



Thousands in Yemen protest against Israeli aggression against Palestinians.

SANAA (Dispatches) – In Yemen, thousands of people have taken to the streets to protest against the Zionist regime's ongoing aggression against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The Yemeni people staged protest rallies in the city of Sa'ada, the capital of the northwestern Sa'ada Governorate, as well the southwestern city of Dhahran.

The demonstrators slammed Tel Aviv's recent restrictions on the entry of Palestinian worshippers into the al-Aqsa Mosque in East al-Quds.

On Thursday, the al-Aqsa Mosque, a flashpoint holy site in Islam, was closed to Palestinians for nearly a day after right-wing Israeli activist Yehuda Glick was shot and wounded by gunmen on a motorcycle in East al-Quds.

Later in the day, Israeli forces shot dead Moataz Hejazi, a

32-year-old Palestinian man, after they accused him of being behind the attempted murder of Glick.

The anti-Zionist protesters chanted slogans against the occupying regime and the United States, holding Washington responsible for the rising number of attacks on Palestinians.

The Yemeni demonstrators also called on Arab nations in the region to unite in the face of Zionist brutalities and help end the crisis Tel Aviv has caused in the occupied Palestinian lands.

Thousands of Yemenis also held anti-Zionist protests back in August when Tel Aviv was carrying out a deadly war against the Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, which ultimately claimed the lives of more than 2,000 people and left 11,000 others wounded.